



## Praying in Light of God's Rule

*"O my God, incline your ear and hear. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy."*

*(Dan 9.18)*

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## God Calls us to Worship

Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,  
who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

**Lift up your hands to the holy place  
and bless the LORD!**

**May the LORD bless you from Zion,  
he who made heaven and earth!**

*(Ps 134)*

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,  
to you all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Psalm 96

Sing unto the Lord a new song,  
Sing to Him, O all the earth!  
Bless the name of God forever;  
Sing salvation's wondrous worth.  
Tell His glory to the nations;  
Of His wonders, anthems raise.  
He is Lord of all creation,  
Great, and greatly to be praised.

Other gods fade as a vapor;  
There is none beside the Lord.  
In His dwelling, strength, and splendor,  
God exalted and adored.  
Give Him glory, all ye people;  
Give Him glory due His name.  
In His temple, as an off'ring,  
All His pow'r and might proclaim.

Worship God in holy beauty;  
Bow before His throne in fear.  
Now proclaim among the nations  
His dominion, ever near.  
By His word, the earth was founded,  
That it never may be moved;  
In His word is justice grounded,  
That He righteous may be proved.

Let the heavens shout, rejoicing,  
And the earth in joy aflame;  
Let the sea in thunder praise Him,  
Field and forest now acclaim.  
For the Lord, the Lord is coming;  
Let the earth resound again!  
To His people, He is coming  
In His righteousness to reign!

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## We Confess and Are Assured

“O LORD, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.” *(Ps 139:1-4)*

Have mercy on us, O God

**According to your unfailing love;  
According to your great compassion.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour, first in silence and then aloud together.

*Please kneel or be seated.*

## *Prayer of Confession*

**Almighty and most merciful God,  
We confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean,  
And that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed;  
Not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires  
that we are not able to understand, but which are all known to You.  
For this reason, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy,  
Seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

## *Assurance of Pardon*

*“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.” (Rom 5:8-9)*

## *Psalms 57*

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me,  
for in you my soul takes refuge; in the  
shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till  
the storms of destruction pass by.

**I cry out to God Most High, to God who  
fulfills his purpose for me. He will send  
from heaven and save me; he will put to  
shame him who tramples on me.**

God will send out his steadfast love and his  
faithfulness!

**My soul is in the midst of lions; I lie down  
amid fiery beasts— the children of man,  
whose teeth are spears and arrows,  
whose tongues are sharp swords.**

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let  
your glory be over all the earth!

**They set a net for my steps; my soul was  
bowed down. They dug a pit in my way,**

**but they have fallen into it themselves.**

My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is  
steadfast! I will sing and make melody!

**Awake, my glory! Awake, O harp and lyre!  
I will awake the dawn!**

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the  
peoples; I will sing praises to you among the  
nations. For your steadfast love is great  
to the heavens, your faithfulness to the  
clouds.

**Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let  
your glory be over all the earth!**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to  
the Holy Spirit;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and  
shall be forever, age after age. Amen!**

## God Speaks to us Through His Word

*First Reading: Jer 29:1-14, "A Letter to the Exiles"*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*Second Reading: Daniel 9:1-27*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon: Praying in Light of God's Rule (Mark Payne)*

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## We Respond to God's Word

*Oh the Mercy of God*

Oh the mercy of God,  
The glory of grace  
That You choose to redeem us,  
To forgive and restore  
And You call us Your children,  
Chosen in Him  
To be holy and blameless,  
To the glory of God

*To the praise  
of His Glorious Grace  
To the praise  
of His Glory and Power  
To Him be all Glory  
Honour and Praise  
For ever and ever  
and ever A-men*

Oh the richness of Grace,  
The depths of His love  
In Him is redemption,  
The forgiveness of sin  
You called us as righteous,  
Predestined in Him  
For the praise of His Glory,  
Included in Christ.

Oh the Glory of God  
expressed in His Son  
His image and likeness  
revealed to us all  
The plan of the ages  
completed in Christ  
That we be presented  
perfected in Him

## *Creed (Heidelberg Catechism)*

Believer, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ, who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and redeemed me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation.**

**Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.**

## *Prayers of Intercession*

*After each petition:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, for ever and ever,  
Amen.**

# We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

## *Invitation to the Table*

*All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.*

## *Gifts and Offerings*

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall. *"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you." (Deut 16:17)*

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The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died;**

**Christ is risen;**

**Christ will come again.**

*The stewards will distribute the wine and bread.*

*Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine until we all drink together.*

## *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your dear Son,  
Jesus Christ.**

**Through him, we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

**Amen.**

## *Psalm 57*

Be Thou, O God, exalted high;  
And as Your glory fills the sky,  
So let it be on earth displayed,  
Till You are here, as there, obeyed;  
Till You are here, as there, obeyed.

O God, my heart is fixed, 'tis bent  
Its thankful tribute to present;  
And, with my heart, my voice I'll raise  
To You, my God, in songs of praise;  
To You, my God, in songs of praise.

Awake, my glory; harp and lute,  
No longer let your strings be mute;  
And I, my tuneful part to take,  
Will with the early dawn awake;  
Will with the early dawn awake.

Your praises, Lord, I will resound  
To all the list'ning nations 'round;  
Your mercy highest heav'n transcends;  
Your truth beyond the clouds extends;  
Your truth beyond the clouds extends

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## **We Are Blessed and Sent Out to the World**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the Name of Christ,**

**Amen.**

# Sermon Notes

## **Consider Daniel's Prayer**

A Prayer Saturated in the Word

A Prayer of Genuine Confession

- Adopts a Posture of Utter Humility
- Depends on God's Gracious Mercy
- Identifies with God's People

A Prayer of Desperate Petition

**Next Time: Consider God's Answer**