

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Separated from the Congregation
May 3, 2020



These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival. (Psalm 42:4)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 30

A PSALM OF DAVID. A SONG AT THE DEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE.

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up
and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

² O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.

³ O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;
you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,
and give thanks to his holy name.

⁵ For his anger is but for a moment,
and his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may tarry for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."

⁷ By your favor, O LORD,
you made my mountain stand strong;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

⁸ To you, O LORD, I cry,
and to the Lord I plead for mercy:

⁹ "What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the pit?

Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?

¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me!
O LORD, be my helper!"

¹¹ You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
you have loosed my sackcloth
and clothed me with gladness,

¹² that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Text: Robert Robertson (1758); Tune: NETTLETON

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
mount of God's redeeming love.
2. Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
bought me with his precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our fellow men, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten from the Father, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of the same substance as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came

down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE

HYMNS

How Great Thou Art

Text: Carl Gustav Boberg (trans. Stuart Kline, 1949); Tune: FOLKMELODI

1. O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee;
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee;
How great thou art! How great thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain

4. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain

Nearer, My God, to Thee

Text: Sarah Flower Adams (1841); Tune: BETHANY

1. Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
2. Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
darkness be over me, my rest a stone;
yet in my dreams I'd be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
3. There let the way appear, steps unto heaven;
all that thou sendest me, in mercy given;
angels to beckon me
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
4. Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise,
out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
so by my woes to be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
5. Or if, on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

OFFERING

“Here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.”¹⁵ Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:14-16)

Offerings can be given electronically by sending an e-transfer to admin@westminsterchapel.ca (with a memo, “tithes & offerings” or “benevolence”) or through Canada Helps (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/15609>). Cheques can be mailed to Westminster Chapel, 9 Hewitt Ave, Toronto ON M6R 1Y4.

Doxology

Text: Thomas Ken (1674); Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

PRAYER

Psalm 19

TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID.

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

² Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

³ There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.

⁴ Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple;

⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes;

⁹ the fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever;

the rules of the LORD are true,
and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² Who can discern his errors?

Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

¹³ Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;

let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless,

and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

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SCRIPTURE READING

1 Chronicles 21:1-22:1

Then Satan stood against Israel and incited David to number Israel. ² So David said to Joab and the commanders of the army, "Go, number Israel, from Beersheba to Dan, and bring me a report, that I may know their number." ³ But Joab said, "May the LORD add to his people a hundred times as many as they are! Are they not, my lord the king, all of them my lord's servants? Why then should my lord require this? Why should it be a cause of guilt for Israel?" ⁴ But the king's word prevailed against Joab. So Joab departed and went throughout all Israel and came back to Jerusalem. ⁵ And Joab gave the sum of the numbering of the people to David. In all Israel there were 1,100,000 men who drew the sword, and in Judah 470,000 who drew the sword. ⁶ But he did not include Levi and Benjamin in the numbering, for the king's command was abhorrent to Joab.

⁷ But God was displeased with this thing, and he struck Israel. ⁸ And David said to God, "I have sinned greatly in that I have done this thing. But now, please take away the iniquity of your servant, for I have acted very foolishly." ⁹ And the LORD spoke to Gad, David's seer, saying, ¹⁰ "Go and say to David, 'Thus says the LORD, Three things I offer you; choose one of them, that I may do it to you.'" ¹¹ So Gad came to David and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Choose what you will: ¹² either three years of famine, or three months of devastation by your foes while the sword of your enemies overtakes you, or else three days of the sword of the LORD, pestilence on the land, with the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the territory of Israel.' Now decide what answer I shall return to him who sent me." ¹³ Then David said to Gad, "I am in great distress. Let me fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is very great, but do not let me fall into the hand of man."

¹⁴ So the LORD sent a pestilence on Israel, and 70,000 men of Israel fell. ¹⁵ And God sent the angel to Jerusalem to destroy it, but as he was about to destroy it, the LORD saw, and he relented from the calamity. And he said to the angel who was working destruction, "It is enough; now stay your hand." And the angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁶ And David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, and in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces. ¹⁷ And David said to God, "Was it not I who gave command to number the people? It is I who have sinned and done great evil. But these

sheep, what have they done? Please let your hand, O LORD my God, be against me and against my father's house. But do not let the plague be on your people.”

¹⁸ Now the angel of the LORD had commanded Gad to say to David that David should go up and raise an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁹ So David went up at Gad's word, which he had spoken in the name of the LORD. ²⁰ Now Ornan was threshing wheat. He turned and saw the angel, and his four sons who were with him hid themselves. ²¹ As David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David and went out from the threshing floor and paid homage to David with his face to the ground. ²² And David said to Ornan, “Give me the site of the threshing floor that I may build on it an altar to the LORD—give it to me at its full price—that the plague may be averted from the people.” ²³ Then Ornan said to David, “Take it, and let my lord the king do what seems good to him. See, I give the oxen for burnt offerings and the threshing sledges for the wood and the wheat for a grain offering; I give it all.” ²⁴ But King David said to Ornan, “No, but I will buy them for the full price. I will not take for the LORD what is yours, nor offer burnt offerings that cost me nothing.” ²⁵ So David paid Ornan 600 shekels of gold by weight for the site. ²⁶ And David built there an altar to the LORD and presented burnt offerings and peace offerings and called on the LORD, and the LORD answered him with fire from heaven upon the altar of burnt offering. ²⁷ Then the LORD commanded the angel, and he put his sword back into its sheath.

²⁸ At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered him at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, he sacrificed there. ²⁹ For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses had made in the wilderness, and the altar of burnt offering were at that time in the high place at Gibeon, ³⁰ but David could not go before it to inquire of God, for he was afraid of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

^{22:1} Then David said, “Here shall be the house of the LORD God and here the altar of burnt offering for Israel.”

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SERMON

“True Worshippers”

Russ Hiebert

CLOSING HYMN

Onward, Christian Soldiers

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924); Tune: ST. GERTRUDE

1. Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus going on before!
Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe;
Forward into battle, see his banner go!

Refrain:

Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus going on before!

2. At the sign of triumph Satan's host doth flee;
On, then, Christian soldiers, on to victory!
Hell's foundations quiver at the shout of praise;
Brothers, lift your voices, loud your anthems raise!

Refrain

3. Like a mighty army moves the church of God;
Brothers, we are treading where the saints have trod;
We are not divided; all one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, one in charity.

Refrain

4. Onward, then, ye people, join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices in the triumph song;
Glory, laud, and honor, unto Christ the King;
This thro' countless ages men and angels sing.

Refrain

BENEDICTION

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-26)

PERSONAL & FAMILY WORSHIP THIS WEEK

- Read Ezra 8-Nehemiah 4; Matthew 24-28
- Sing “Glorious Things Are Spoken of Thee”
- Recite and memorize Question 46, 47, and 49 of the Heidelberg Catechism:

Q46. What do you mean by saying, “He ascended to heaven”?

A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.

Q47. But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?

A. Christ is true human and true God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth; but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is never absent from us.

Q49. How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand..

- Pray Psalm 19

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Studies

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: The Wednesday Evening Bible Study meets at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. We're studying the prophecy of Isaiah. For more info, contact Pastor David: david.robinson@westminsterchapel.ca.

Ladies Bible Study: The Ladies Bible Study meets at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. We are studying 1, 2, and 3 John following a study by Jen Wilkin called *Abide with Me*. There are audio sessions and a workbook of homework. The audio sessions can be found on Podbay: <https://podbay.fm/podcast/503752876>. If you would like to participate in the Zoom meeting each week, please contact Brittany Reid: dbreid@live.com.

Spanish Bible Study: Estaremos empezando un estudio bíblico sobre los fundamentos de la fe Cristiana. Para agregarse a la reunion Zoom los Domingos, por favor contactar a Julian Castaño: julicastano@hotmail.es.

Church Life & Ministry

Westminster Morning Prayer: Join us morning prayer via Zoom at 8:00 AM (Monday to Saturday). Our morning prayer will be 15 minutes and will be led by one of our elders. You can find the Zoom link in the church e-newsletter or email the church office: office@westminsterchapel.ca.

Prayer Calendar: We want to encourage the congregation to pray without ceasing (1 Thess 5:17) during these uncertain times. To that end, we've set up a prayer calendar and invite you to sign up to pray at particular times. Our hope is that at any given time, someone from the church is praying. You will be able to view the calendar and see the names of your brothers and sisters who have committed to pray on different days and times. All you need to do is sign for a prayer slot and we will add your name and time to the prayer calendar. The sign-up form and calendar can be found here: (<https://www.westminsterchapel.ca/covid-19-prayer>). If you have any questions, or need assistance, please email the church office: office@westminsterchapel.ca.

WCCA Spring Banquet: As many of you are aware, last Friday, April 24th was the intended date for the 6th Annual WCCA Spring Banquet. This is an annual event where we gather and enjoy wonderful food together, while being inspired as we see and hear how the school is growing and developing. Although we have not been able to gather, would you consider donating instead? Any amount you can give would be greatly appreciated. As always, all donations made will be eligible for a donation receipt. You can make a donation by visiting www.canadahelps.org or call the WCCA Office at 416-466-8819 x306, or send a cheque made out to "Westminster Classical Christian Academy" with Spring Banquet in the memo line to:

Westminster Classical Christian Academy
9 Hewitt Avenue, Toronto, ON M6R 1Y4

Zoom Dinners for 6 to 8: A global pandemic isn't going to stop this Westminster staple! Enjoy a time of fellowship with others from church by joining a Zoom dinner this **Thursday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m.** The way it is going to work is, you prepare the food on your end, set up a laptop at the dinner table, and jump on the Zoom call in the link below. You will then be placed in a group of 6 to 8, where you will enjoy your meal and have fellowship with others! If you have any questions, please contact George Simopoulos: george.simopoulos@westminsterchapel.ca.

Signup: <https://forms.gle/Fukd8VZRLS33VVHB6>

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88953099474?pwd=N3VmN0pudGpGcnlzd0NyRkpvS1pNUT09>

Zoom Phone-in (for those without a laptop or internet): 1 647 374 4685, Meeting ID: 889 5309 9474, Password: 577264

Community Servant Team: I am sure that many of you are doing well, notwithstanding a little cabin fever. As we look forward into the next few weeks and months, however, we know that may change. We want to be wise and proactive with the time and start thinking through ways we can help one another spiritually and practically in the event that things continue as they are. That is why we are encouraging healthy and able of

Westminster Chapel to sign up to be part of the community servant team. We are going to need members of the church who will be able to provide help to others in and around their neighborhood. Prayerfully consider being part of the team! Sign up! <https://www.westminsterchapel.ca/ministries/community-outreach>.

Community Care: There are people all around us who don't have friends or family to help them during this time. This presents all of us with the responsibility and opportunity to offer help and love to those around us. We want to encourage you to interact with neighbours and reach out with help wherever you can. This is also a great opportunity to share the gospel, as this crisis presents us with a way to explain the reason for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15). To that end, we have created two fliers, (one for the Roncesvalles community and one for the non-Roncesvalles community) and we would like you to hand them out to neighbours. The cards can be found here: <https://www.westminsterchapel.ca/ministries/community-outreach>. If you don't have access to a printer, email the church office and we will mail you a batch of cards.

Westminster Covid Challenge: George and Sierra Simopoulos miss you all and want to encourage you to share the things you're doing during this time of physical distancing that are edifying and could help others. This is an official challenge and we want to see what you can bring. Aim to impress! Email your videos to George.simopoulos@westminsterchapel.ca. Check out the videos on Westminster Chapel's YouTube channel. The YouTube link can be found on the website (under "News and Notes" on the COVID-19 page).

COVID-19: We will be regularly posting news & notes on the website. Please click the red COVID-19 button of the homepage. You'll also find updates on prayer and community outreach there, along with the order of service for Sundays and the Sunday School resources.