

Call to Worship

One: I will always praise the Lord.

All: With all my heart, I will praise the Lord.

One: Let all who are helpless, listen and be glad.

All: Honor the Lord with me! Celebrate his great name.

Psalm 34:1-3 from the *Contemporary English Version*®
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Rise, now, in body or spirit, and let us sing:

“We praise thee, O God”

Hymn #99

Opening Prayer

God of unfailing light,
in your realm of glory
the poor are blessed,
the hungry filled,
and every tear is wiped away.
Strengthened by this vision,
may we follow in the way of holiness
that your Son made known in life and death. Amen.

from *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*
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Affirmation

One: I asked the Lord for help, and he saved me from all my fears.

All: Keep your eyes on the Lord!

One: You will shine like the sun and never blush with shame.

All: I was a nobody, but I prayed, and the Lord saved me from all my troubles.

One: Come, my children, listen as I teach you to respect the Lord.

Psalm 34:4-6, 11 from the *Contemporary English Version*®
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Presenting a Bible to Rory Lane

Reading a story from it

“Jesus the Teacher”

“More and more people heard about Jesus. Soon, great crowds came to hear him speak. They came from places near and places far away.

“Jesus and his twelve disciples went up a mountain. Men, women, and children followed them. Jesus sat on the side of the mountain and the people sat below him. He had many lessons to teach them.”

The Beatitudes

“God blesses all who depend only on Him.
They belong to the Kingdom of Heaven.”

“God blessed all who feel sadness.
They will find comfort.

“God blesses all who are humble,
who do not boast or brag.
The earth will belong to them.”

“God blesses all who want to do right
more than they want to eat or drink.
They will be given what they want.”

“God blesses all who show compassion and forgive.
They will be treated with mercy.”

“God blesses all whose hearts are pure.
They will see Him.”

“God blesses all who make peace.
They will be called His children.”

“God blesses all who are treated badly for doing right.
They belong to the Kingdom of Heaven.”

from the **Read and Learn Bible:**
Stories from the Old and New Testaments, p. 295-298
Story retold by Eva Moore
Beatitudes adapted by Dr. Steven Berneking
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Children leave for some Activity Time

“*The Happy Puppy*”

The Beatitudes
Matthew 5:1-12

<https://www.sermons4kids.com/happy-puppy.html>

Sharing a joy, a concern,
a word of testimony or praise

Silently pray for others

TERESA'S PRAYER

St. Teresa of Avila



Text: St. Teresa of Avila
Music: Joseph Helfrich
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In the following moments of silence, hold in the light of Christ those in need of prayer – whether we have mentioned them just now, or they reside in your heart...

a Spoken Prayer

Thank you, O God, for that great "cloud of witnesses" who have preceded us on this Christian walk. We are grateful for their testimony, their strong example. Grant that we too shall be able to face the future with new courage, the courage whose foundations have already been established in Jesus Christ, the courage that helps us greet our tomorrows with trust in your mercy, even though the way ahead is dark and fearsome.

Thank you, O God, for making us members of the "body of Christ." In that body, that covenant family, we have our wholeness, we have our strength and our victory. For Christ has conquered every enemy of your will, even death itself. As members of that body we know a peace that passes all understanding, we know that morn shall tearless be.

Reassure us that we are members one of another, held firm by cords of compassion and ropes of love that nothing in all creation can ever tear apart. Through Christ, the head of the body and source of our life. Amen.

by Warren F. Groff
from *Prayer: God's Time and Ours*
Copyright © 1984 Brethren Press

Returning our Tithes and Offerings

¹ See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

1 John 3:1-3 from the *New International Version*®, NIV®
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With God's great love lavished upon us, and the knowledge that God is not finished with us yet, let's respond with what love we have and our willingness to keep on keeping on. Ushers, please come forward and receive our offerings.

Offertory

From the Last Word

Revelation 7:9-14

Reader 1: After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

Group: "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Reader 2: And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

Group: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Reader 1: Then one of the elders addressed me, saying,

Reader 2: "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"

Reader 1: I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me,

Reader 2: "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Singing a Refrain:

Who are these

OTO SA BARANKI Irregular

Refrain

Who are these who are be - liev - ers now?

These are they who have been shout - ing "Al - le - lu - ia!"

They have seen the Sav - ior and have been filled with splen - dor.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: anonymous, *Ad coenam Agni*, 5th-6th c.
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 Music: Jacek Gafuszka, O.P., 1989
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From the Last Word

Revelation 7:15-17

Reader 2: For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

Reader 1: They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

Reader 2: for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 7:9-17 from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*,
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 National Council of the Churches of Christ
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Message

"Hallow"

Hymn #636

"For all the saints"

Benediction

1 - Go now to be saints of God this week.

2 - Not to be holier-than-thou folks, but people
who keep an eye out for those
the world has overlooked.

1 - Go now to be servants of Jesus this week.

2 - Not to be those who are better than others,
but those who humble themselves in service.

1 - Go now to be companions of the Spirit this week.

2 - Not those who are on the inside path,
but those who walk with all who have lost their way.

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Postlude