

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 10, 2017

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time/Proper 18

---

*Please sign and pass the Friendship Book (“pew pad”) where you can also record any prayer requests. Our prayer is that you will experience the presence of the Living God as we worship together.*

*We invite you to focus your heart and mind in worship.*

*\* indicates please stand as you are able.*

---

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Scott Edminster**

**PRELUDE**    **"Variations on 'Austrian Hymn'"**

**Organ**

*Franz Joseph Haydn*

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

**Scott Edminster**

You are disciples of Jesus Christ.

Live in love, as Christ loved us  
and gave himself for us.

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing;

give thanks in all circumstances;

for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,

keep your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

—based on Ephesians 5:2; Philippians 4:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NRSV

*Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources*

**\*SONGS OF WORSHIP:**

**“GREAT IS THE LORD”**

*(Hymn #44)*

**(VERSE 1)**

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just,

By his power we trust in his love.

Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true

By his mercy he proves he is love.

**(CHORUS 1)**

**Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory!**

**Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise.**

**Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice,**

**Now lift up your voice;**

**Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!**

**(CHORUS 2)**

**Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory!  
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.  
Great are you, Lord, I lift up my voice,  
I lift up my voice;  
Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!**

CCLI Song #1149 © 1982 Meadowgreen Music Company Deborah D. Smith | Michael W. Smith For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights Reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) CCLI License #296507

**“TO GOD BE THE GLORY”**

*(Hymn #72)*

**(VERSE 1)**

To God be the glory, great things he hath done,  
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life gate that all may go in.

**(REFRAIN)**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his  
voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.**

**(VERSE 2)**

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God;  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

**(REPEAT REFRAIN)**

**(VERSE 3)**

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
and great our rejoicing in Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

**(REPEAT REFRAIN)**

**TIME OF PRAYER**

**Misty Rowley**

*Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources*

**Call to Confession**

The proof of God’s amazing love is this:

While we were sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with  
boldness,  
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in  
time of need.  
Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion,  
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

—based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV  
*Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources*

### **Prayer of Confession**

God of everlasting love,  
we confess that we have been unfaithful  
to our covenant with you and with one another.  
We have worshiped other gods: money, power, greed,  
and convenience.  
We have served our own self-interest  
instead of serving only you and your people.  
We have not loved our neighbor as you have  
commanded,  
nor have we rightly loved ourselves.

**Forgive us, gracious God,  
and bring us back into the fullness  
of our covenant with you and one another.  
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*[Silent Prayer]*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

God demonstrates his own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Since we have now been justified by his blood,  
how much more shall we be saved  
from God's wrath through him!

—Romans 5:8-9, NIV  
*Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources*

**SONG OF WORSHIP:**

*please remain seated*

**“WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE”**

*(Hymn #309)*

**(VERSE 1)**

Sing them over again to me,  
wonderful words of life;  
let me more of their beauty see,  
wonderful words of life.  
Words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty:  
Beautiful words, wonderful words,  
wonderful words of life.

**(VERSE 2)**

Christ, the blessed One, gives to all  
wonderful words of life;  
sinner, list to the loving call,  
wonderful words of life.  
All so freely given,  
wooing us to heaven:  
Beautiful words, wonderful words,  
wonderful words of life.

**(VERSE 3)**

Sweetly echo the gospel call,  
wonderful words of life;  
offer pardon and peace to all,  
wonderful words of life;  
Jesus, only Savior,  
sanctify forever:  
Beautiful words, wonderful words,  
wonderful words of life.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Rev. Don Meekhof**

**OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS**

**Jenny Edminster**

**Invitation to the Offering**

As God's dear children, then, take him as your pattern,  
and follow Christ by loving as he loved you,  
giving himself up for us as an offering  
and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God.

—Ephesians 5:1-2, NJB

*Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources*

**\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise him, all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication**

Almighty and most merciful God,  
from you comes every good and perfect gift.  
We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies.  
Your goodness has created us, your bounty has  
sustained us,  
your discipline has chastened us, your patience has  
borne with us,  
your love has redeemed us.  
Give us a heart to love and serve you,  
and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your  
goodness and mercy  
by giving up ourselves to your service  
and cheerfully submitting in all things to your blessed will,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources

*You may bring your offering and/or light a candle at the front or  
back of the sanctuary.*

*Junior Chapel is on summer break until Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. The nursery is  
available for your children during the worship service.*

**Offertory**      **“O Jesus, I Have Promised”**      **Organ**  
*on the tune “Angel’s Story”*

**READING OF THE SCRIPTURES**

**Scott Edminster**

**Romans 13:8–14** (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. <sup>11</sup> And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber,

because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

**Ephesians 5:1–2** (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children  
<sup>2</sup> and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**MESSAGE**

**Dave Pierson**

**“Live a Life of Love”**

**\*SONG OF WORSHIP:**

**“GIFT OF LOVE”**

*(Hymn #593)*

**(VERSE 1)**

Though I may speak with bravest fire,  
and have the gift to all inspire,  
and have not love: my words are vain;  
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

**(VERSE 2)**

Though I may give all I possess,

and striving so my love profess,  
but not be given by live within,  
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

**(VERSE 3)**

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,  
our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed;  
by this we worship, and are freed.

**BENEDICTION**

**David Pierson**

**POSTLUDE**

**"I Thank and Praise Thee"**

**Organ**

*Carl Simone*

\* \* \* \* \*

**In the pulpit today: Dave Pierson** serves as Executive Director of Alongside Ministries International ([www.alongside.org](http://www.alongside.org)) a ministry which Knox has actively supported with prayer, giving and participation (Matt Edminster) for over 35 years. While his childhood included stints in New Jersey, Brazil, Portugal and California he and his family now live on Whidbey Island in Puget Sound, where his wife Nanette grew up. Dave served one year as Youth Director at Knox in the mid-1980s before entering Fuller Seminary and was ordained at Knox in July, 1989. He has since served churches and other ministries in Alaska, North Carolina and California. Dave and Nanette have been married for 25 years and are blessed with 5 children. Dave's interests include cycling, coffee, Ignatian spirituality and listening to people's stories about what has shaped their lives and hearts.

**Today's Lectionary Readings**

**Exodus 12:1–14**  
**Psalm 149**

**Romans 13:8–14**  
**Matthew 18:15–20**

## *Questions for Reflection*

How do you reconcile a God who would “strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals” (Exod. 12:12) with a God who would die for the sins of the entire world?

### ***Household Prayer: Morning***

O God of this and every morning,  
as I begin this day, call my name;  
as I step into this day, guide my feet;  
as I live this day, care for those I love;  
as I learn this day, teach me your ways.  
In Jesus' name. Amen.

### ***Household Prayer: Evening***

God of stars and planets,  
the setting sun ends this day for us  
as it rises on a new day for others.  
For us and for them, be light in every darkness.  
In Jesus' name. Amen.

*The Morning & Evening Household Prayers and Questions for Reflection  
are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press  
from "Feasting on the Word Worship Companion." © 2014*