

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Separated from the Congregation
Ascension Sunday (May 24, 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

Hebrews 1:1-13

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶ And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

⁷ Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

⁸ But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰ And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,

¹² like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will have no end.”

¹³ And to which of the angels has he ever said,
“Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”?

ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles

OPENING HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

Text: Isaac Waats (1719); Tune: DUKE STREET

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run,
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.
5. Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honors to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

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 things 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; he was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day he rose again according to 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

SONGS & HYMNS

Everlasting God

Text and Music: Brenton Brown, Ken Riley; Copyright © 2005 | CCLI Song #4556538

1. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord

Pre-Chorus

Our God You reign forever
Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

Chorus

You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint
You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

He Leadeth Me

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore (1862); Tune: HE LEADETH ME, O BLESSED THOUGHT

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me;
by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's flowers bloom,
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

3. Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

Refrain

4. And when my task on earth is done,
when, by thy grace, the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Refrain

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 138

OF DAVID.

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;
² I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.
³ On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.
⁴ All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,
⁵ and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.
⁶ For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.
⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life;
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.
⁸ The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles

SCRIPTURE READING

Daniel 9:1-19

In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, by descent a Mede, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans—² in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, perceived in the books the number of years that, according to the word of the Lord to Jeremiah the prophet, must pass before the end of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years.

³ Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. ⁴ I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying, “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁵ we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and

rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. ⁶ We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. ⁷ To you, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us open shame, as at this day, to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to all Israel, those who are near and those who are far away, in all the lands to which you have driven them, because of the treachery that they have committed against you. ⁸ To us, O Lord, belongs open shame, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against you. ⁹ To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him¹⁰ and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by walking in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. ¹¹ All Israel has transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to obey your voice. And the curse and oath that are written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out upon us, because we have sinned against him. ¹² He has confirmed his words, which he spoke against us and against our rulers who ruled us, by bringing upon us a great calamity. For under the whole heaven there has not been done anything like what has been done against Jerusalem. ¹³ As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this calamity has come upon us; yet we have not entreated the favor of the Lord our God, turning from our iniquities and gaining insight by your truth.¹⁴ Therefore the Lord has kept ready the calamity and has brought it upon us, for the Lord our God is righteous in all the works that he has done, and we have not obeyed his voice.¹⁵ And now, O Lord our God, who brought your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and have made a name for yourself, as at this day, we have sinned, we have done wickedly.

¹⁶ “O Lord, according to all your righteous acts, let your anger and your wrath turn away from your city Jerusalem, your holy hill, because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and your people have become a byword among all who are around us. ¹⁷ Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate. ¹⁸ O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. ¹⁹ O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”

ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles

SERMON

“Daniel and the Triumph of God’s Wisdom”

Pastor Joe

CLOSING HYMN

Victory in Jesus

Text: E. M. Bartlett (1939); Tune: HARTFORD

1. I heard an old old story
How a Savior came from glory

How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning
Of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory

Chorus

O victory in Jesus
My Savior forever
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood

2. I heard about His healing
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see
And then I cried dear Jesus
Come and heal my broken spirit
And somehow Jesus came and brought
To me the victory

Chorus

3. I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea
About the angels singing
And the old redemption story
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory

Chorus

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 Nehemiah 12-Esther 5; Luke 8-15
- Sing “O Victory in Jesus”

- 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 138

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

Gathering for Communion: We believe it is vital that we gather for worship and celebrate Communion, even if it's limited to gatherings of five and observes physical distancing guidelines. If you are willing and able to come to the church on Sundays for a Communion Service with an elder and three other people, please email Stefanie in the church office: office@westminsterchapel.ca. She will reply with a time to come (e.g., 2:30 pm).

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 previous church e-newsletters or email the church office: office@westminsterchapel.ca.

Counselling Ministry: Pastor Trevor has now transitioned to part time; however, he continues to serve in his counselling ministry. This has been a difficult time for many of us and counselling is available via video conference. To make an appointment contact Trevor: trevor.bertenshaw@westminsterchapel.ca.

Pregnancy Care Centre Relay Fundraiser: On Saturday, June 20 from 9:00-11:00 a.m, the Pregnancy Care Centre will be hosting a Virtual First Response Relay. The live webcast will kickstart at 9:00 am. If you'd like to join the Westminster relay team and are able and willing to make a donation online, please visit this link: [Westminster Team](#). If you would like to make a one-time donation, you can do so [here](#). For more information, please contact Sydney Wellman: wellman.sydney@gmail.com. Join us on Saturday, June 20th as we run or walk 5km anywhere in support of the PCC!

Westminster Covid Challenge: It isn't too late to submit your videos or written testimonies to George Simopoulos for a chance to win the coveted Calvin and Luther fridge magnets. We're looking for a video or written testimony of something you have been doing or something God has taught you during self-isolation. For example, if you have started doing scripture memorization, record a video of what you've memorized. If you've been reading more, send a book review. If God has taught you about patience, record or write a testimony. **Pastor David will judge whose submission wins on July 1.** Email your videos to george.simopoulos@westminsterchapel.ca. Check out the videos on Westminster Chapel's YouTube channel [here!](#) The YouTube link can also be found on the website (under "News and Notes" on the COVID-19 page).

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.

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.

COVID-19 & Communication: 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. A reminder to check your junk mail folder if you are not receiving the weekly e-newsletter to your email inbox.