

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

January 7, 2007

*Epiphany Observed<sup>1</sup>*

### Welcome and Silent Preparation

The Reverend Per Almquist

*A Word About Worship and this time of Preparation: We have the incredible privilege of coming into the presence of the living God. Please take a few moments now to silently prepare your heart. As others around you are in prayer and contemplation, please consider their need for quiet.*

*A Note to Parents: There is a **nursery** available at your discretion throughout the service. Please ask one of the greeters if you need help finding your way. There is also a class called **Kids’ Quest** for children (3 and up) during the sermon. Children are welcome to come forward during communion to be prayed for by the pastor, but should not partake of communion until they have professed their faith publicly and been approved by the session.*

### GATHERING TO WORSHIP THE REDEEMER

#### Prelude

“Grave/Allegro”

*A. Corelli<sup>2</sup>*

#### \*Call to Worship

Isaiah 6

Rev. Almquist

Minister: I saw the Lord, seated on a throne, high and exalted,

**All: And the train of his robe filled the temple.**

Minister: Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

**All: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”**

#### \*Hymn of Exultation (310)

“Rejoice, The Lord is King”

*Darwall*

#### Prayer of Adoration

*(concluded by praying together):*

Mr. Doug Tedder

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

### REPENTING TOGETHER BY GOD’S GRACE

#### Scriptural Call to Repentance

Isaiah 30:15, 18

Rev. Almquist

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is God of justice. Blessed are those who wait for Him!

#### Song of Preparation (726)

“Spirit of the Living God”

*Iverson*

#### Corporate Confession

Rev. Almquist

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open us to a future in which we are changed by Your Spirit; and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

#### Silent Reflection/Confession

*Please take a few moments to pray privately*

<sup>1</sup> Epiphany is the Church’s celebration of the wise men coming to Jesus in adoration. That act of worship signified the submission of all the gentile nations to the true and rightful king. Let us encourage one another to likewise bow before Him and offer all of our lives in service of the King.

<sup>2</sup> From Trio Sonata III, Op. 1, No. 3, earlier selection was “Allegro” from the same sonata.

\* **Please stand, if you are able. Thank you.**

#### Proclamation of Forgiveness

John 1:9, 12

Rev. Almquist

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.  
To all who have received Him, to those who believe in His name,  
He gave the right to become children of God.

#### \*Song of Renewal

“There is a Redeemer”

*Green<sup>3</sup>*

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

*Chorus*

Thank You, oh my Father,  
For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit  
’Til the work on earth is done.

3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face,  
And there I’ll serve my King forever,  
In that holy place. *chorus*

#### \*The Peace of God

*This is an opportunity to extend the grace of Christ to one another.*

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you!

**People: *And also with you!***

#### Prayers for Christ’s Church and the World

Rev. Almquist

Minister: Let us pray for the Church and the world: Grant almighty God, that all who confess Your name may be united in Your truth, live together in Your love, and reveal Your glory in the world.

*[Silence]*

**People: Lord, in Your tender mercy, hear our prayer.**

Minister: Guide the people of this land, and all nations, in the ways of justice and peace as Your gospel goes forth.

*[Silence]*

**People: Lord, in Your tender mercy, hear our prayer.**

Minister: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit who call upon You; give us hope in our troubles, and bring us all the joy of Your salvation.

*[Silence]*

**People: Lord, in Your tender mercy, hear our prayer.**

#### Greeting and Announcements

Mrs. Terry Cosgrove

Children ages 3-9 are excused to **Kids’ Quest** at this time.

### PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

#### \*Scripture Reading (insert)

Acts 1:1-11

Mr. Brian Cosgrove

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

#### The Sermon

“The Essence of the Church”

Rev. Almquist

#### The Offertory

“Adagio”

*A. Corelli<sup>4</sup>*

#### \*Affirmation of Faith The Heidelberg Catechism & The Westminster Larger Catechism<sup>5</sup>

Minister: What do you believe concerning the “holy catholic Church” of Christ?

**People: That the Son of God from the beginning to the end of the world, gathers, defends, and preserves to Himself by His Spirit and Word,**

**out of the whole human race, a Church chosen to everlasting life, and agreeing in true faith.**

Minister: What is the visible church?

**People: The visible Church is a society made up of all such as in all ages and places of the world do profess the true religion, and of their children.**

#### \*Doxology

*LAST UNS ERFREUEN*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Alleluia, alleluia

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

*A Word About Communion: This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, communion is a time to meet with their Savior by faith to be strengthened and renewed as they eat bread and drink wine. All those who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and are at peace with their fellow Christians are welcome to come forward. For those not taking communion, we invite you to consider the prayers found below.*

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

#### Words of Institution & Invitation

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Minister: O Lamb of God, that takes away the sin of the world,

**People: Have mercy upon us!**

Minister: O Lamb of God, that takes away the sin of the world,

**People: Grant us your peace!**

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

#### Approaching the King’s Feast

*Please listen carefully to the minister’s explanation of communion.*

*All those who are prepared to come to the Lord’s table can come forward. If you are not yet prepared to come, with all the responsibilities that entails, this is a loving environment within which to consider your estate before a holy and merciful God. Please use the prayers below as an aid. Both wine and grape juice are available (juice is in the outer circle of the trays).*

#### \*Communion Song

“He is Exalted”

*Paris<sup>6</sup>*

He is exalted,  
The King is exalted on high;  
I will praise Him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted,  
And I will praise His name!

He is the Lord;  
Forever His truth shall reign.  
Heaven and earth  
Rejoice in His holy name.  
He is exalted,  
The King is exalted on high

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

### COMMISSIONING FOR SERVICE

#### \*Concluding Prayer

Rev. Almquist

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<sup>4</sup> From Trio Sonata III, Op. 1, No. 3

<sup>5</sup> A catechism is a Question and Answer format for teaching the truths contained in Scripture. The Heidelberg Catechism was written in Germany in 1563 for instructing young people. The Westminster Larger Catechism was written in 1647 in England and continues to provide a valuable guidebook to Christian thinking and living.

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