

*Call to Worship – Hebrews 8:3-6*

*Priestly ministry on earth is over. There was an earthly priesthood for the earthly copy of the real tent. But since our Priest leads our services in the REAL tent, those who offer Scriptural worship in Jesus have the promise of God's presence no matter where on earth they happen to be!*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Song – #290, Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him*

*Serial Reading – Mark 14:26-72*

*Intentions (v29). Sincere passion (v31). Strength (vv37-38). Formal address or affection (v45, Judas!). Past Performance (v54). We can present none of these to God for salvation, or to our own consciences for assurances. They all fall in rapid succession, and Jesus started this all by telling us why: the sheep had to be scattered in order that salvation might come only through the Shepherd being struck (v27). Jesus' death and resurrection mean our failing is a temporary condition (v28), miserable though it may be for now (v72). Will you still be in your sin when you see Jesus as your Judge (v62)*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Song – #500, Rock of Ages*

*Weekly Prayer of the Congregation*

*Preaching – Genesis 26:24e*

***Christ's Offspring***

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Song – #172, Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder*

*Baptism of Jonathan Isaac and Beatrice Christi Hakim*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Song – #526, Blessed Are the Sons of God*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Pronouncement of God's Blessing upon His People*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Parting Song, #717, Blessed the Man That Feared Jehovah*

After the announcements, the elders of the church gather to ask God, on behalf of the congregation, for His help for the service and His blessing upon it. During this time, it would be appropriate for you to do the same for yourself and your children, teaching them to do the same. The hope of this guide is that (among other things) it will help you think and pray through the service as we prepare together.

**Call to Worship**—The entire book of Hebrews was originally a sermon about the gathered worship services of Christian congregations; and, the Holy Spirit included it in Scripture as a letter. So every phrase of this book has a direct application to what we do in our gathered Lord's Day services. Last year, we began by taking a series of selections through the book as the Scriptures that called us together to mark the start of the service. Then, we returned to the beginning of the book to take it phrase by phrase. In the current section, God is telling us about how Jesus' priesthood connects our worship services to glory.

**Song, Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise**—Have you ever wondered what the big deal is about Christ's ascension? It's that He was ascending both to sit in triumph on high and to enter in on the Priestly work described in our call to worship. So let us sing with joy of how our Lord rose to His throne and now lifts His hands in priestly leadership and blessing upon our worship services.

**Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him**—we ask God to accept our worship through Jesus, even as He has promised. And with hearts inflamed with grateful love, we ask that God—also for Jesus' sake—will help us offer worship that is according to God's instructions and therefore fitting and excellent and beautiful in the sight of God.

**Bible Reading, Mark 14:26-72**—although the entire Bible teaches the good news that GOD SAVES SINNERS, we are always reading in those books that specifically focus on what Jesus did and taught (including Acts and Revelation, which describe Christ's completion of His work in the history of the church) for our salvation.

**Song, Rock of Ages**—We have absolutely nothing in ourselves to which we might cling. But in clinging to Christ, even such spiritual paupers as we are can and do have everything!

**Weekly Prayer of the Congregation**—just as God especially sets apart His Word and sacraments to be used for His work in us, so also He sets apart congregational prayer. In this prayer, especially, we bring to our heavenly Father our congregation's weekly concerns.

**Preaching, Genesis 26:24e**—we continue to see God's grace at work in the life of Isaac, and to think about how God's grace is at work in our lives because of Jesus, the offspring whom Isaac was promised.

**Song, Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder**—Jesus holds before us His marvelous promises to sustain us through this life; for, He has done everything to secure those promises. They *completely* belong to *everyone* who is in Christ!.

**Baptism**—this Christ-commanded seal of the covenant of grace is applied to all members of His visible church, signing to them His promises and obligating them to obedience, both of which continually drive them to Christ throughout life on earth

**Song, Blessed Are the Sons of God**—Oh what a blessing to be admitted into the family of God! In this song, we sing our desire for the inward, spiritual, eternal reality of which baptism is that external sign and seal.

**Pronouncement of God's Blessing**—God sends us out of His called worship gatherings with a final, condensed announcement of His favor upon His people

Lord's Day Evening Worship

*Call to Worship – Psalm 148:14*

*How does this psalm of praise for God as Creator end? With a climax of praise for God as Redeemer. All creation rejoices in God's salvation of sinful men (cf. Rom 8:19)*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Song – #110, Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him*

*Serial Reading – Jeremiah 25*

*The story of vv1-7 is: all day long, God has held His hands out to a people refusing to submit and speaking contrarily (Rom 10:21). Nebuchadnezzar is about to devastate Judah, but it is neither because God is out of control nor being unfair. Rather, He is finally executing justice after showing extraordinary patience. Furthermore, this devastation will last (only!) a total of 70 years—because being used of God to execute His justice doesn't get Babylon off the hook for breaking God's law (vv8-14). Indeed, all nations stand condemned before God (vv15-33). Special judgment is reserved, however, for those whom God has put in places of responsibility for others (vv34-38). Indeed, God stops every mouth so that His Son Jesus, alone, may be the righteousness of God for all who believe!*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Song – #486, God Be Merciful to Me*

*Lord's Day Evening Prayer*

*Preaching – Romans 11:7-10*

**God Saves Self-Poisoners**

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Song – #485, O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Pronouncement of God's Blessing upon His People*

<sup>STANDING</sup> *Parting Song, #274, Thine Be the Glory*

Please stay to fellowship and celebrate the Lord's Day with us at the afterparty!

Guide to the Evening Service

What a blessing that as we who have the Spirit groan towards glory, our merciful Father has sprinkled throughout our straining forward: not Lord's hours, nor Lord's mornings, but entire and rich and joyful Lord's Days. So let us conclude the day together in worship!

**Call to Worship**—how are Christians to think and feel in various situations? God has given us an entire book of the Bible to show what it looks like for us sinners—by grace—to think and feel with the mind and heart of Christ. It is a book of songs, largely sung prayers, that provides the molds of grace within which our emotions can be shaped by the heart and mind of Jesus. What a wonderful gift! And so currently, we have our evening calls to worship from this songbook, especially using those texts in which there are commands for God's people to gather for worship.

**Song, Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah**—We sing this song one final time. Who is to praise God for His salvation of men? All creation!

**Prayer for God's Help to Worship Him**—confidently because of Christ, we ask God to accept our worship. And with hearts inflamed with grateful love, we ask that God—also for Jesus' sake—will help us offer worship that is according to the Bible and therefore fitting, excellent, and beautiful as defined by God.

**Bible Reading, Jeremiah 25**—with the exception of a few comfortable passages, the major prophets may be the least read and understood part of the Bible. But they are rich in the greatness of God's grace. They hold before us the greatness of our sin and danger, so that we will know the greatness of God's grace and mercy! Jeremiah in particular tells us about how we bring our own destruction upon our heads by listening to words that we like, instead of God's true words; by worship of other gods; and, by idolatrous worship of the true God. But he also tells us about a God of grace who insists on saving a people for Himself, which means that He intends to save a people that He actually *makes* righteous *from the inside out*.

**Song, God Be Merciful to Me**—God's wrath and judgment are just. This is what makes grace truly grace: we actually deserve the opposite of mercy, but God gives it to us anyway; we are sinners from conception, but God overpowers us and gives us a new Spirit. What makes the God of Romans 8 so amazing is that He is rightly also the God of Jeremiah 25, which allows us to sing Psalm 51 with all our hearts!

**Lord's Day Evening Prayer**—as we come to close the Lord's Day, we thank God together for the blessings of the day, and take one last opportunity to adore Him with united hearts in prayer, before asking Him for this blessing and adoration to penetrate and saturate our weeks, until we come together again—either for another Lord's Day and its gatherings, or for the Great Day of the Lord, and the gathering of the entire number of all the elect for our eternal Sabbath rest.

**Preaching, Romans 11:7-10**—Israel sought a law of righteousness and to establish their own righteousness and failed. The elect sought Christ for righteousness and obtained it. The difference? The elect didn't get what they deserved. They deserved to be *made worse* by the best blessings of God.

**Songs, O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry**—Another version of Psalm 51, which goes so well with both tonight's reading and tonight's sermon. We own that God's sentence is just. It's not so hard to swallow that God would damn sinners. What's amazing is that God hears when sinners cry, pardoning them by Christ's blood!

**Pronouncement of God's Blessing**—God sends us out of His called worship gatherings with a final, condensed announcement of His favor upon His people