



Order of Service
Sunday Evening, 28 November 2021 – Rev Harrison Perkins

Prayer of Invocation & Adoration

Call to Worship

Song of Praise: Psalm 149 (accompanied)

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| 1 Praise the LORD! Give him glory and sing a new song.
Praise the LORD with his saints in the worshipping throng. | 5 Let the saints shout for joy at the grace he bestows;
Let them sing and rejoice while they take their repose. |
| 2 To their Maker let Israèl joyfully sing;
Let the people of Zion be glad in their King. | 6 May their mouths be employed in the praise of the LORD,
And their hands be equipped with a double-edged sword. |
| 3 Let his people with dancing give praise to his name,
As with harp and with timbrel their God they acclaim. | 7 They will punish the nations and captive will bring |
| 4 For the LORD in his people takes special delight,
And he crowns with salvation the meek in his sight. | 8 All the peoples of earth, every noble and king.
9 They will execute judgment commanded by God.
Thus his saints will be glorified. Worship the LORD! |

Bible readings

Genesis 11:1-9

11 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. ²And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. ⁴Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." ⁵And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. ⁶And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. ⁷Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

Isaiah 28:1-13

28 Ah, the proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim,
and the fading flower of its glorious beauty,
which is on the head of the rich valley of those overcome with wine!
²Behold, the Lord has one who is mighty and strong; like a storm of hail, a destroying tempest,
like a storm of mighty, overflowing waters, he casts down to the earth with his hand.
³The proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim will be trodden underfoot;
⁴and the fading flower of its glorious beauty, which is on the head of the rich valley, will be like a first-ripe fig
before the summer: when someone sees it, he swallows it as soon as it is in his hand.
⁵In that day the LORD of hosts will be a crown of glory, and a diadem of beauty, to the remnant of his people,
⁶and a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgement, and strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.
⁷These also reel with wine and stagger with strong drink; the priest and the prophet reel with strong drink, they
are swallowed by wine, they stagger with strong drink, they reel in vision,
they stumble in giving judgement.
⁸For all tables are full of filthy vomit, with no space left.
⁹"To whom will he teach knowledge, and to whom will he explain the message? Those who are weaned from the
milk, those taken from the breast?
¹⁰For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little."

¹¹For by people of strange lips and with a foreign tongue the LORD will speak to this people,
¹²to whom he has said, "This is rest; give rest to the weary; and this is repose"; yet they would not hear.
¹³And the word of the LORD will be to them precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little, that they may go, and fall backwards, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

Song of Confession: Psalm 5:8-12

8 LORD, lead me in your righteousness
or I will go astray
Because of all my enemies;
Make straight the path in front of me,
and guide me in your way.

9 No word that issues from their mouth
can anyone believe;
Destructive thoughts control their heart.
Their throat is like an open grave;
their tongue speaks to deceive.

10 O God, declare their guilt; let them
by their own schemes be caught.
Expel them from your presence, LORD,
For in committing many sins
rebellion they have wrought.

11 But let all those who flee to you
rejoice with confidence;
Let them at all times sing for joy.
Spread your protection over them
and be their strong defence.

So those who truly love your name
will give a joyful shout.
12 Surely you bless the righteous, LORD;
Your favour keeps them safe from harm
and shields them round about.

Prayer of Confession & Supplication

Song of Thanksgiving: Psalm 75

1 We give you thanks, O God,
because your name is near.
All speak of your majestic deeds;
your voice we also hear:

2 "I choose the appointed time;
I judge with justice sure.
3 When earth and all its people quake,
its pillars I secure.

4 " 'Boast not!' I tell the proud;
the wicked I address:
5 'Do not lift up your heads with pride,
or speak with haughtiness'."

6 No one in all the earth
can truly give renown.
7 God is the judge; he raises one
and puts another down.

8 The LORD's hand holds a cup
with wine of powerful blend;
He pours it out, and wicked ones
must drink it to the end.

9 God's works I will proclaim,
and Jacob's God I'll praise.
10 The wicked's strength I will destroy;
the righteous I will raise.

Bible reading

1 Corinthians 14:1-25

14 Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. ²For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. ³On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. ⁴The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church. ⁵Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up.

⁶Now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching? ⁷If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? ⁸And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? ⁹So with yourselves, if with your tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is said? For you will be speaking into the air. ¹⁰There are doubtless many different languages in the world, and none is without meaning, ¹¹but if I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me. ¹²So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.

¹³Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret. ¹⁴For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful. ¹⁵What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also. ¹⁶Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say "Amen" to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? ¹⁷For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up. ¹⁸I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. ¹⁹Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue. ²⁰Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature. ²¹In the Law it is written, "By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners will I speak to this people, and even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord." ²²Thus tongues are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign not for unbelievers but for believers. ²³If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds? ²⁴But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, ²⁵the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.

Sermon Series: *The Pastoral Project: 1 Corinthians*

Sermon: *Gifts & Spiritual Maturity*

Song of Response: O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

(Charles Wesley, 1739, Public Domain)

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honours of Thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.

He speaks, and, listening to His voice,
New life the dead receive,
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
The humble poor believe.

Benediction