

2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

[Refrain]

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

[Refrain]

PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Betsy Shores

(WN) Reformed worship moves quickly to confession because each of us has fallen short of God's glory and ought to bring our brokenness to Him before hearing scripture. The prayers in this section of worship are designed to fit today's scripture, the needs of the world and ourselves. They give voice to the voiceless, and enlarge our vision for God's kingdom.

Merciful and Holy God, We bow before You in heartfelt confession, acknowledging that we are a broken people, living in a broken world. This world is dark with the stain of sin. Your design for creation has been corrupted by the abuse of power, the appetite for lust, and the enslavement of our wills. We allow evil to go unchallenged, and become passive and indifferent to Your call to engage the world with the Gospel. Forgive our sinfulness. Our sins of commission and omission have separated us from You, from others, and from the world You seek to redeem. Now hear us as we bring to You our confessions in silence...

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Betsy Shores

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Friends, hear and believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

* GLORIA PATRI

* STATEMENT OF OUR COMMON FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Betsy Shores

(WN) ECO is a member of the Reformed tradition, which helps us to express our common faith through creeds and confessions. Creeds and confessional statements lead us into confession of our sin as we realize how dependent we are on God's grace. We respond "Glory be to the Father" for this grace.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

HIS TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

(WN) One of the ways that we worship God is through giving. God has given us all we have and we are stewards of it. By returning to God His tithe and our offering, we surrender the first portion of what we have. With these offerings Bethel supports outreach ministries to the Charlotte region, international mission, and helps to connect children, youth, and adults to Jesus.

OFFERTORY

"He is Exalted"

Lloyd Larson

* THE DOXOLOGY

* THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION *Betsy Shores*

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

A MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN (Children in grades Preschool - 3rd may leave for Children's Worship)

RECOGNITION OF VETERANS

Susan Murrow

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 145

(WN) The scripture and sermon are the centerpieces of the worship service. The word "sermon" comes from Latin "sermo" for "talk." This teaching helps us both to understand scripture's meaning and to apply its meaning today.

SERMON

"Thankful for a Great God"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

FROM WORSHIP INTO SERVICE

WELCOMING THE NEW COVENANT PARTNERS

* CLOSING HYMN #31 *"Great is the Lord"*

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

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

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

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

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

* CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP AND BENEDICTION

(WN) We move from this worship service to a life of discipleship. God is with us, helping us to make an impact for Him through our daily rhythms.

POSTLUDE

"Hymn to Joy"

arr. Jason Payne