

WELCOME TO...

GOD IN CHRIST



The Presbyterian Church of Saint David
Early Morning Service December 04, 2011
In Search of Living Faith

Silent Preparation for Worship: Reflect on the Reformation doctrine:

Solus Christus is the teaching that Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and humanity. How do we understand this in a world of many religious expressions?

Introduction: *We are invited to the supper of the Lamb. Let us approach this communion in the spirit of humility and confession and in the garments of forgiven lives. As we come together as God's family, let us, with confidence, ask for forgiveness, for the Lord is full of mercy and compassion. We call on your holy name, Prince of Peace, Lamb of God, Yeshua Suffering Servant, because you were willing to humble yourself, to become human, to make yourself nothing, **May we not think of ourselves more highly than we ought, but humbly serve you by serving each other.***

*Because you were born poor, weak, and homeless, **May we see the poor through your eyes, being generous and willing to share.***
*Because God out of great love for us sent you to live among us and die for us, **May we believe that you are the Messiah, and therefore not perish, but have eternal life.***

*Because those infant hands of the babe in the manger were pierced on the cross as you bore our sins, **May we, healed by your wounds, die to sin and live for righteousness.***

*Because you, the infant in swaddling clothes, are our great high priest, who was tempted in every way just as we are, yet was without sin, **May we approach your throne of grace with confidence, knowing you sympathize with all our weaknesses, and will grant mercy and grace to help us in our time of need.***

*Because God has raised us with you on account of your sacrifice, seating us with you in the heavenlies above all powers and authorities, **May we stand against evil's schemes, living lives worthy of your calling, being made new in the attitude of our minds.***

*Because you are the promised Messiah, the creator of life, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end, **May we adore you, praise you, and bless you, today and throughout the coming year.***

*Because you, the Root and Offspring of David, the bright Morning Star, have promised to come again soon, **May we all live in eager expectation of your return. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.***

Sung response: *Lord, have mercy*

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Passing the Peace Let us share the peace of the Lord with one another. **The peace of the Lord be with you.**

Hymn: Jesus bids us shine

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Prayer of Confession:

*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 to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.***

Our journey to understanding: Mark 8:27-33

Reflection: What's in a Name? Listen...Christ, Lord, Logos (the Word), Son of God, Son of Man, Lamb of God, New Adam / Second Adam, Light of the World, King of the Jews, Rabbi Great "I am", Prophet.

Hymn: There is a Redeemer 358

Affirmation of Faith:

God became man
and dwelt among us.
In silence we ponder,
in awe we confess
this amazing truth.
Conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
the eternal Son of God
humbled himself
to be one with us.
To Israel and to the world
came God in Christ.

Hymn: Break now the bread of life 507

As we prepare to partake in the Lord's Supper we recognize that we must be one with him and with all our brothers and sisters in the Church. Under one God we stand. Together, let us pray in confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour taught us.

Our Father who art in heaven...

Lord Jesus Christ you give us contentment and life. You are the One who gives us nourishment. We open our hearts to taste the offering of life you bring. God be with us!
Let us lift up our hearts. We lift our hearts to God.
Let us give God thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving (concluding with)

Come, Holy Spirit, come! Bless our food, and bless our drink.

Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, and in each other.

Presentation of the Bread and Wine (the bread is lifted up)

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world

Have mercy on us

(the wine is lifted up) Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world **Have mercy on us**

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world

Grant us peace

Together, let us proclaim the mystery of our faith

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

(the bread and wine are taken)

Hymn: Now to Christ who loved us 554

Dismissal: The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

We have heard God's voice beneath the human word. We have seen the way of Jesus in his deeds of kindness. We have been touched by the Spirit in prayer and song. We go forth to witness to what we have seen and heard. We go forth to proclaim the peace of the Risen Christ.

Hymn: Now thank we all our God 457