

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is a physical action, instructed by Jesus, through which God acts to nourish, sustain, comfort, challenge, teach and assure us.

The celebration of the Lord's Supper nourishes our faith and stirs our imaginations to perceive the work of God and the power of the Gospel more clearly.

It is an act that helps pave the way for revival and renewal.

East Cooper Baptist Church welcomes to the Lord's Table all who have trusted in Jesus Christ as Savior.

Please hold both elements until directed to take them together as a corporate act of worship.

If you are uncertain where you stand in your relationship to Christ, or are not ready to take the Lord's Supper this morning, please allow the elements to pass and use this time to seek the Lord in prayer.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

Each Sunday after the sermon, we offer a closing song to respond to the Lord's Word and His Spirit's working in all our lives.

During that song we have men and women who will come and stand at the front of the church ready to pray with anyone who has a question or need on their heart.

You can come pray with them as we are singing or after our closing song during the postlude.

They are here for you.

Take advantage of this opportunity to pray with someone or have them pray for you.

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*"For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."*  
1 Corinthians 11:26

1. Je - sus, the ver - y thought of Thee With sweet - ness fills my breast;  
 2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the mem - ry find  
 3. O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite heart! O Joy of all the meek!  
 4. But what to those who find? ah! this, No tongue or pen can show

But sweet - er far Thy face to see, And in Thy pres - ence rest.  
 A sweet - er sound than Je - sus' name, O Sav - ior of man - kind!  
 To those who fall, how kind Thou art! How good to those who seek!  
 The love of Je - sus, what it is None but His loved ones know.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

THE MAJESTY AND GLORY OF YOUR NAME • PSALM 8  
EAST COOPER CHOIR AND ORCEHSTRA

*When I gaze into the night skies  
and see the work of your fingers;  
The moon and stars suspended in space.  
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?*

*You have given man a crown of glory and honor,  
And have made him a little lower than the angels.  
You have put him in charge of all creation:  
beasts of the field, The birds of the air,  
The fish of the sea.  
Oh, what is man?*

*Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?*

*O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name  
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.  
O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly,  
And so would we.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## CONGREGATIONAL GREETINGS

### THE MORNING SERMON

LELAND BROWN, YOUNG ADULT PASTOR

### RESPONSE HYMN

FAIREST LORD JESUS

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature  
O Thou of God and man the Son  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor  
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations  
Son of God and Son of Man  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be thine

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

## THE POINT OF CREATION

JOHN PIPER

*So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.*  
(Genesis 1:27)

God made humans in his image so that the world would be filled with reflectors of God. Images of God. Seven billion statues of God. So that nobody would miss the point of creation.

Nobody (unless they are stone blind) could miss the point of humanity, namely, God — knowing, loving, showing God. The angels cry in Isaiah 6:3, *"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"* It is full of billions of human image-bearers. Glorious ruins.

But not only humans. Also nature! Why such a breathtaking world for us to live in? Why such a vast universe?

I once read that there are more stars in the universe than there are words and sounds that all humans of all time have ever spoken. Why are there so many? So large? So bright? At such unimaginable distances? The Bible is crystal clear about this: *"The heavens declare the glory of God"* (Psalm 19:1).

If someone asks, "If earth is the only inhabited planet and man the only rational inhabitant among the stars, why such a large and empty universe?" The answer is: It's not about us. It's about God. And it's an understatement. He is more glorious. Greater in power. Greater in scope. Greater brightness. Than all the galaxies combined. One wise man said, the universe is like a peanut that God carries around in his pocket.

God created us to know him and love him and show him. And then he gave us a hint of what he is like: the universe.



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Equipping people to pursue Jesus Christ passionately as they impact the culture.  
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WORSHIPGUIDE



# EAST COOPER BAPTIST CHURCH

The Church in Corporate Worship | JULY 14, 2019

Please use the following prayer to prepare your hearts for worship:

**CREATOR GOD,** As we come before you this day to worship You as our Mighty Creator, we acknowledge that Your power made everything from the tiniest atom to the vast expanse of the universe.

You also created us in your image, not because you needed us... but because you wanted us.

Remind us that Your mark is upon us. May we delight in the beauty of Your creation, as it points us to the worship of the One whose hands formed it all.

For the beauty of the earth For the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies. Christ, our God, to Thee we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise.

*Amen.*

## THE CHURCH IN COMMUNION WORSHIP

We gather for worship this day to magnify the glory of our Great Creator God, and thank Him for His goodness to us through the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

*When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!* (Psalm 8:3-9 ESV)

## REFLECTION THOUGHTS FOR WORSHIP PREPARATION

God takes pleasure in his creation. Genesis 1 describes for us not only the fact of an ordered creation by God, but also God's response to his creation. Five times, you recall, God stands back, as it were, and takes stock of his creation. Each time the text says, "And God saw that it was good" (vv. 4, 12, 18, 21, 25). And when all was finished and man and woman were created in his own image, it says, "And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good." I take this to mean that God was delighted with his work. When he looked at it, it gave him pleasure. He was pleased and happy with his creative effort.

I have been picking up little things in Scripture that show God's intimate involvement in creation. For example, in 1 Corinthians 15:38 Paul is comparing how a seed is planted in one form and comes forth in another form with a "body" different from all other bodies. He says, "God gives it a body just as he wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own." This is a remarkable statement of God's involvement in the way God designed each seed to bring forth its own unique plant (not just species but each individual seed!). Paul is not teaching about evolution here, but he is showing how he takes God's intimate involvement with creation for granted. He cannot imagine, evidently, that any natural process should be conceived without God's doing it.

Again in Psalm 94:9 it says, "He who planted the ear, does he not hear? He who formed the eye, does he not see?" The psalmist assumes that God was the designer of the eye and that he designed the way the ear is planted in the head to do its hearing work. So when we marvel at the wonders of the human eye and the remarkable structure of the ear, we are not to marvel at the processes of chance but at the mind and the creativity of God.

Similarly in Psalm 95:5, "The sea is his for he made it; and his hands formed the dry land." The involvement of God in making land and sea is such that the present sea is his. It is not as though he in some impersonal way set it all in motion a billion years ago. Rather he is the one who owns it because he made it. It is today his handiwork and bears the marks of his creator claim on it, like a piece of artwork belongs to the one who painted it until he sells it or gives it away.

I point out these things to call you to be God-centered in your admiration of the wonders of the world. God decided what the Iris beside our fence should look like this week when it came to flower. God means for the beauty of that plant (not just that kind of plant)—that very plant to be an occasion for our worshipping his specific creativity.

-- John Piper

## CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Once we understand that God is the all-powerful Creator, it seems reasonable to conclude that he also preserves and governs everything in the universe as well.

The term providence has been traditionally used to summarize God's ongoing relationship to his creation.

When we accept the biblical doctrine of providence, we avoid four common errors in thinking about God's relationship to creation: The biblical doctrine is not deism (which teaches that God created the world and then essentially abandoned it); nor pantheism (which teaches that the creation does not have a real, distinct existence in itself, but is only part of God); but providence which teaches that though God is actively related to and involved in the creation at each moment, creation is distinct from him.

Moreover, the biblical doctrine does not teach that events in creation are determined by chance (or randomness), nor are they determined by impersonal fate (or determinism), but by God, who is the personal yet infinitely powerful Creator and Lord.

We may define God's providence as follows: God is continually involved with all created things in such a way that he (1) keeps them existing and maintaining the properties with which he created them; (2) cooperates with created things in every action, directing their distinctive properties to cause them to act as they do; and (3) directs them to fulfill his purposes.

-- Wayne Grudem

## PRELUDE

ELENA CRUDGE, ORGANIST

## MORNING WELCOME AND SERVICE PREPARATION

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP PSALM 148

## GIVE TO THE LORD IMMORTAL PRAISE DUKE STREET

Give to our God immortal praise; Mercy and truth are all His ways; Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat His mercies in your song.

He built the earth, He spread the sky, And fixed the starry lights on high; Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat His mercies in your song.

He fills the sun with morning light, He bids the moon direct the night; His mercies ever shall endure When suns and moons shall shine no more.

He sent His Son with pow'r to save From guilt and darkness and the grave; Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat His mercies in your song.

Let every creature rise and bring Honor and glory to our King! Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud "Amen!"

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH HEIDELBERG CATECHISM Q. 26

**LEADER:** *Who is God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?*

**CONGREGATION** [God is] the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them<sup>1</sup>, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence<sup>2</sup>, is my God and Father<sup>3</sup>because of Christ his Son. I trust him so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul<sup>4</sup>, and he will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this sad world<sup>5</sup>. He is able to do this because he is almighty God;<sup>6</sup> he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:11; Ps. 33:6; Isa. 44:24; Acts 4:24; 14:15  
<sup>2</sup> Ps. 104; Matt. 6:30; 10:29; Eph. 1:11  
<sup>3</sup> John 1:12-13; Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:4-7; Eph. 1:5  
<sup>4</sup> Ps. 55:22; Matt. 6:25-26; Luke 12:22-31  
<sup>5</sup> Rom. 8:28  
<sup>6</sup> Gen. 18:14; Rom. 8:31-39  
<sup>7</sup> Matt. 7:9-11

## ALL PRAISE TO CHRIST, OUR KING Romans 11:33-36

I have always loved this passage from Romans 11 that exclaims the providence of God in creation and redemption.

When I consider how God works in all our lives to create us, to protect us, to guide us, to chasten us, to redeem us, to prepare us, to sustain us, to love us, and to bring us home at last to His glory... how can we even begin to fathom that sort of grace and goodness?

Who has known the mind of God?

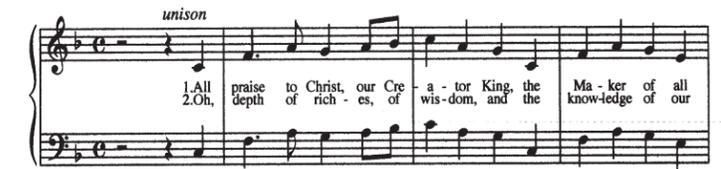
I set this Scripture to a new tune I wrote that hopefully brings out the strength of the text in a new way.

After every statement of what God has done and the mystery of His working in our life, we respond ALLELUIA! ALL PRAISE TO CHRIST, OUR KING!

How can we keep from singing?

-- Dean Henderson

## ALL PRAISE TO CHRIST, OUR KING CLANTON • ROMANS 11:33-36



**3.** The mind of our Lord, oh, who has known? His coun-s'lor who has been? Or who has giv'n God an-y-thing that God should repay Him? (refrain)

**4.** From Him, and through Him, and to Him, all created things adore, All glory be to our great God, both now and forevermore. (refrain)

**5.** All praise to Christ, our Redeemer King; The One who sets us free To find our joy in Him alone, from now to eternity! (refrain)

Dean K. Henderson, 2001

CLANTON

## HOW GREAT THOU ART O STORE GUD

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder Thy power throughout the universe displayed

**Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art**

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart Then I shall bow on humble adoration And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER TIME FOR COMMUNION PREPARATION