



BCRC Family Worship Guide

February 16, 2025

Preparing for Morning Worship

This Sunday morning, Pastor Milgate will preach from the book of Matthew. Take some time to read and think about this text as we approach the preaching of God's Word.

Matthew 7:12-20 (English Standard Version)

The Golden Rule

¹² "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

¹³ "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

A Tree and Its Fruit

¹⁵ "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.



The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Songs, Hymns and Spiritual Songs

...Address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord

Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:19-21

We Come, O Christ, to You

He Is Exalted

O Great God

Behold the Lamb

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow



Approaching Worship with Preparation

Before coming to God's house to hear His Word, prepare yourself and your family with prayer. The Puritans said we should dress our bodies for worship and our souls with prayer.

Pray for:

- *The conversion of sinners*
- *The edification of saints*
- *The glorification of God's triune name*
- *Listening ears and understanding hearts*
- *An outpouring of the Spirit's conviction, quickening, humbling, and comforting power to work through God's ordinances (Preaching, prayer, sacraments) in the fulfillment of His promises.*

-from "The Family at Church" by Joel R. Beeke

Liturgy Focus

Prelude

Call to Worship

Gathering Hymn

God's Greeting

Song of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Assurance

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Children's Blessing

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

Song of Response

Parting Words

Doxology

Postlude



As the worship service closes we have one more opportunity to respond. Having gathered in God's presence and been welcomed by him with words of grace, mercy and peace; having heard his call to confess our sins and receiving his words of good news; having heard his words to us through the preaching of the Word and been fed at the table; having been blessed by him and given his name, what is our response? Doxology! Praise to the triune God for all that He has done to us and for us in this time of worship. The doxology is always Trinitarian because all three persons of the God-head have been at work in the worship of his people. What a glorious gift that God has given us in worship. May we worship him the way He desires, and may we be faithful in offering our whole selves (mind, body and spirit) before him every time the church gathers!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost .

Amen!



Preparing for Evening Worship

This Sunday evening, Pastor Milgate will preach from 1 Thessalonians. Take some time to read this article as we approach worship.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (English Standard Version)

The Day of the Lord

5 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers,^[a] you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children^[b] of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

HEIDELBERG

CATECHISM

WEEKLY

Lord's Day 7

Q&A 20

Q. Are all saved through Christ just as all were lost through Adam?

A. No. Only those are saved who by true faith are grafted into Christ and accept all his blessings.¹

¹ Matt. 7:14; John 3:16, 18, 36; Rom. 11:16-21

Q&A 21

Q. What is true faith?

A. True faith is not only a knowledge and conviction that everything God reveals in his Word is true;¹ it is also a deep-rooted assurance,² created in me by the Holy Spirit³ through the gospel,⁴ that, out of sheer grace earned for us by Christ,⁵ not only others, but I too,⁶ have had my sins forgiven, have been made forever right with God, and have been granted salvation.⁷

¹ John 17:3, 17; Heb. 11:1-3; James 2:19

² Rom. 4:18-21; 5:1; 10:10; Heb. 4:14-16

³ Matt. 16:15-17; John 3:5; Acts 16:14

⁴ Rom. 1:16; 10:17; 1 Cor. 1:21

⁵ Rom. 3:21-26; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-10

⁶ Gal. 2:20

⁷ Rom. 1:17; Heb. 10:10

Q&A 22

Q. What then must a Christian believe?

A. Everything God promises us in the gospel.¹ That gospel is summarized for us in the articles of our Christian faith— a creed beyond doubt, and confessed throughout the world.

¹ Matt. 28:18-20; John 20:30-31