

Worship Themes

Attributes of the Triune God

God Is Beautiful

Call to Worship Texts

2 Chronicles 3:6; 20:21

Job 40:9-10

Psalm 8:1; 27:4; 29:1-2; 36:7; 90:17; 96:6; 145:5

Isaiah 35:2

Zechariah 9:16-17

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Let us lift our voices this hour to praise the triune God who is the source of all beauty in the world he has created and who is inherently beautiful in his being and character.

People: O Lord our God, how excellent is your name in all the earth. You have set your glory above the heavens

Leader: We praise the beauty of your holiness.

People: You are surrounded with majesty and excellence.
You are arrayed with glory and beauty.

Leader: How great is your beauty.

People: Open our eyes that we may see and appreciate your beauty.

Leader: Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us his bride.

Unison: One thing have we desired of you, that we will seek after—that we may dwell in your house all the days of our lives, to behold your beauty. We adore, praise, and honor you, the source and perfection of all that is beautiful. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Father God Most High, who are we as unworthy sinners to come into your presence? Yet you have made it possible for us to boldly approach your throne because of the perfect work and righteousness of Jesus Christ which has been credited to our account. We enter your presence because Christ has forgiven us and granted us access.

Lord, as we come before you we are overwhelmed at the awesome sight of your beauty. You are the perfect source of all beauty and the creator of all that is beautiful in the world of nature that surrounds us. You have given us senses by which we can learn to perceive and appreciate beauty. How we thank you for the beauty of sunsets, fields of wildflowers, snow capped mountains, works of art on canvas, symphony

orchestras, and words artfully expressed in prose and poetry.

But above all these, we pause to express appreciation for you, the source of everything that possesses beauty. To look on you is to gaze on unmeasured beauty. You are perfection at the highest level, the personification of absolute delight. Words cannot describe you because you are transcendently beautiful.

Therefore we join the psalmist in saying that our desire is to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives to behold your beauty. During this hour may your beauty rest upon us as we lift up adoration in your presence through Christ. Amen.

God Is Eternal

Call to Worship Texts

Deuteronomy 33:26-27

1 Chronicles 29: 10

Nehemiah 9:5

Job 36:26

Psalms 33:11; 90:1-2, 4; 92:8; 93:2; 102:12, 24-27;

135:13; 145:13

Isaiah 26:4; 40:28; 41:4; 44:6

Lamentations 5:19

1 Timothy 1:17

Hebrews 1:10-12

Revelation 1:8; 4:8; 22:13

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: We have assembled this Sunday to praise the timelessly eternal one who is the first and the

last. Praise belongs to him from everlasting to everlasting. Before the mountains were born or he brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, he is God. He remains the same and his years will never end.

Congregation: Let us praise the Alpha and the Omega, who is, and who was, and who is to come-Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever. We worship our Lord who transcends **all** finite time.

Prayer of Adoration

Our eternal Father, we **call** on you and enter your timeless presence through Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. We pray that you **will** help us to focus our thoughts on you and on eternal realities this hour. We set aside this time on the first day of the week to express praise and thanksgiving to you. We pray for the supernatural ministry of the Holy Spirit to stir us to heartfelt praise and adoration. May we then leave this sanctuary with a fresh desire to invest time and possessions each day this week in ways that **will** count for eternity. For we pray this through the person and work of Christ Jesus. Amen.

God Is Faithful

Call to Worship Texts

Deuteronomy 7:9

Psalms 36:5; 89:1, 2, 5, 8, 33; 92:1-2; 119:89-90

Isaiah 25:1

Lamentations 3:23

- 1. Corinthians 1:9
- 2. Timothy 2:11-13
- Hebrews 10:19-23

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: God who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, is faithful.

People: He is a faithful Lord, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.

Leader: His faithfulness reaches to the skies and continues throughout all generations on into eternity.

Unison: We therefore praise the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus Christ in this assembly saying, Great is your faithfulness! We will exalt and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things. Great is your faithfulness to us, O Lord our God.

Prayer of Adoration

God of all grace, you who have called us into fellowship with Christ, are faithful. So we come this Sunday to honor you for the essential quality of your character which means so much to us. We rest with confidence on you and your Word-knowing that you are totally trustworthy.

How faithful you have been in sustaining the world of nature around us which we enjoy. You faithfully send sunshine and rain, day and night, winter and summer,

spring and fall. You have been so faithful in meeting our physical and temporal needs.

At the same time we thank you for establishing your covenant whereby we can come to know you through your faithful Son Jesus Christ. Even when we are unfaithful, we know that you remain faithful to forgive our sins as we confess and repent before you. In the midst of temptations which would pull us away from you, you remain faithful in providing a way out, so we can bear up under it. You have given us so many promises which you have faithfully kept and will keep on into eternity. You are never less than faithful, never unreliable. The thought of this fills our hearts to overflowing with love for you.

In response to your faithfulness stir our hearts in worship this hour. Stir our wills to be faithful to you all through this new week. This we pray in the name of our faithful Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom we offer all our praise this hour. Amen.

God Is Good

Call to Worship Texts

2 Chronicles 5:13-14

Psalms 25:8; 34:8; 86:5; 100:4-5; 106:1; 107:1;

118:1, 29; 136:1; 145:7-9

Lamentations 3:25

Nahum 1:7

Romans 11:22

James 1:17

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ,

People: Who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with
every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Leader: He who did not spare his own Son, but gave
him up for us all-how will he not also, along with
him, graciously give us all things?

People: Everything he created is good.

Leader: We acknowledge that every good and perfect
gift is from above.

People: So we present our worship this day to the One
who is good and a generous gift-giver. Thanks be
to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for all the good
and perfect gifts which he continues to give us.
We exalt you in this assembly!

Prayer of Adoration

Our Father God, the Blessed and only Ruler, we
gather with thanks this Sunday. How grateful we are for
the good and generous gifts you have given to us. We
come both young and old, male and female, to honor
you-the ultimate source of goodness and the source of
every good and perfect gift.

Thank you for your acts of creation by which you
formed the earth and all it contains out of nothing. How
appropriate that you pronounced it all good upon
completion. We have enjoyed your good earthly gifts this
week-including the tasty and nourishing food which we
have enjoyed from your hand. We thank you for the beauty
of these seasons including the

splendor of colors in the fall and the first signs of new life in the spring.

Thank you for your acts of goodness in giving us friends and families with whom we can share your gifts. By common grace you have showered blessings on all. But by your sovereign grace you have showered on us the gifts of salvation, the indwelling presence of your Spirit, and all the spiritual gifts with which you have endowed us. How generous you have been with us.

So we now unite our voices and hearts to worship you this hour. We thank you for every good and perfect gift. Receive our worship in the name of the unspeakable gift, even Jesus Christ. Amen.

God Is Great

Call to Worship Texts

Deuteronomy 10:17

2 Samuel 7:22

1 Chronicles 16:25; 29:11

Psalms 48:1; 77:13; 95:1-3; 96:1-4; 104:1; 135:5;
138:1-5; 145:1-3; 150:1-2

Isaiah 12:5-6

Jeremiah 10:6

Malachi 1:11

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Men: For the Lord is the great God, the great King
· above all gods.

Women: In his hand are the depths of the earth and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Men: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise, the great God, mighty and awesome.

Women: Praise him for his surpassing greatness which no one can fathom.

Unison: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. We extol you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

How majestic is your name, O Lord God. We come to extol you through the exalted name of Jesus Christ. We bow in awe of your majesty. We marvel at your greatness in creating the wonders of this planet and the galaxies that surround us. We marvel at the greatness of your plan to choose, save, and preserve us through union with Jesus Christ. We marvel at your plan to bring us into your majestic eternal kingdom. How small our largest problems become as we see them in the light of your awesome presence.

We confess that our limited grasp of who you are can't begin to comprehend your character. Each day holds forth new opportunities to grow in our understanding of your greatness. Each day offers occasions

to honor you. So we come this first day of a new week asking your help to honor you. Touch our minds and emotions and will as we worship you. Send us forth with hearts full of awe and overflowing with joy. Send us forth with firm trust because you are our majestically great and awesome Lord. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Gods Holy

Call to Worship Texts

Exodus 15:11

Leviticus 19:2

1 Samuel 2:2

Psalm 29:2; 30:4; 47:8; 48:1; 93:5; 97:12; 99:5, 9;
145:21

Isaiah 6:3

Ezekiel 39:7

Habakkuk 1:12-13

1 Peter 1:15-16

Revelation 4:8; 15:4

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Let us raise our voices to worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.

People: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Leader: Let us now worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

People: We have come to exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool.

Leader: We rejoice and praise his holy name through Christ, saying,

Unison: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come. Alleluia, Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Holy Father, we now accept your invitation to draw near to you. We do so because of the work of Christ and in his holy name. We come to adore you for the beauty of your holiness. We confess that the sum of all moral excellence is found in you. Not the slightest moral blemish or sin has ever been found in your Son or Spirit. So we gather to express thanks at the remembrance of your holiness.

Holy One, we come with a sense of reverence knowing we are treading on holy ground. We come asking that you accept the imperfect praise which we lift to you this hour. Help us to go forth at the end of the hour to glorify you with holy lives and holy speech all during this new week. This we pray in the holy name of Christ the spotless Lamb, whom we adore, and who taught us to pray, saying, Our Father . . .

God Is Jealous

Call to Worship Texts

Exodus 20:4-6; 34:14

Deuteronomy 4:24; 5:8-10; 6:15

Nahum 1:2

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Do not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.

Men: We will not make for ourselves an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

Women: We will not bow down to them or worship them.

Men: For the Lord our God is a jealous God.

Women: He is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Unison: So we come to worship and love the Lord our God with all our hearts and with all our souls and with all our minds. Praise belongs to the one and only Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who deserve our undivided allegiance!

Prayer of Adoration

Our loving Lord, receive the adoration which we now offer you through our one and only Savior, Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

We come to acknowledge that you by nature are a jealous God. Your name is Jealous. We realize that this is not the ugly, selfish jealousy we see exhibited among humans. But you are properly jealous for the affections of those with whom you have entered into covenant. After creating and redeeming us, you have a right to receive our total loyalty and allegiance.

We acknowledge how it must grieve you when your people turn their backs and give affection and loyalty to idolatrous objects and beings. How patient you have been when your bride has wandered astray and

committed spiritual adultery. You are rightly jealous because you love us and care so much for us as our Creator and Redeemer.

So we desire to give you all the praise and adoration you deserve with all our hearts, souls, and minds. We love you and desire to serve you. Receive our sincere worship as we raise our voices to pray through Christ the prayer he taught us, saying, Our Father . . .

GodsJust

Call to Worship Texts

Deuteronomy 32:4

2 Chronicles 19:7

Nehemiah 9:33

Job 37:23

Psalms 7:17; 9:8-9; 11:7; 67:4; 89:14; 97:1-2, 6;
98:8-9; 99:4; 129:4; 145:17

Jeremiah 9:24

1 John 1:9

Revelation 15:3-4

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Lift your voices to praise the Lord God because all his ways are just.

People: We give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness and justice. We will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.

Leader: You have promised to judge the world in righteousness and govern the people with justice.

People: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. As we confess our sins you are faithful and just to forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Therefore we enter your presence this morning to honor you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, because all your ways are just.

Prayer of Adoration

Lord God Almighty, we bow in adoration because you by nature are a just God. Everything you do is ultimately fair and just. We praise you for the purity of your justice. You conform fully to what is morally and legally right because you are just. The psalmist reminds us that righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Your justice upholds the order of the universe and guarantees the safety of all who put their trust in you.

Judge of all the earth, you know we live in a world in which we often see an absence of justice. We endure times of being treated unfairly. But we will never have to face that in your treatment of us. You will one day balance the present scales of injustice. Thank you that you are faithful and just to forgive us our sins. You treat us not only justly, but you go beyond that and extend mercy, giving us what we don't deserve. Therefore we set aside this hour to praise and worship and adore you for the purity of your justice. Please accept our homage which we offer in the holy and just name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

God Is Light

Call to Worship Texts

Psalm 18:28; 27:1; 104:1-2

Isaiah 45:5-7

Habakkuk 3:4

Matthew 4: 16

John 1:4-5; 8:12

1 Timothy 6:16

1 John 1:5

Revelation 22:5

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: God said, Let there be light! And there was light.

People: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

Leader: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

People: Christ came as the light of our world. Who ever follows him will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Leader: So we come into the light of his presence to worship him saying,

Unison: We praise you, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit that you are light and in you is no darkness at all.
Alleluia.

Prayer of Adoration

God of heaven, we call upon your name through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Out of the void of darkness you spoke and light appeared on this planet.

Out of the darkness of sin you spoke through the prophets and predicted the coming of a great light. You fulfilled that promise as the light of the star guided the wise men to find the child who had been born, the one who later claimed to be the light of the world.

Father, we acknowledge that we have now entered into the light of the presence of Jesus Christ. We have come to worship you. Please manifest the light of your presence this hour. Please shine the light of your presence into our lives so we might leave this place glowing with the light of having been with you. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

God Is Living (Source of Life)

Call to Worship Texts

Nehemiah 9:5-6

Psalm 18:46; 42:1-2; 84:1-2

Jeremiah 10:10

John 5:24-27; 10:10; 11:25-26; 14:6

Revelation 1:17-18

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

People: Then God said, Let us make man in our image, in our likeness.

Leader: So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Worship Planning Resources

People: And the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

Leader: And man became a living being.

People: When we consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

Leader: What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?

Unison: You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. Therefore we raise our voices to honor you as the Creator of all human life. O living Lord, receive our praise this hour!

Prayer of Adoration

Our Father and living God, we now draw near to you knowing that you have drawn near to us. As Creator you have breathed into us the breath of life. Now we wish to use that breath to praise you.

You as the living God are the ultimate source of all life, the Creator of all living plants, animals, and humans. From the smallest, simplest forms of life to the most complex, we see evidence of your creative hands. Thank you for giving to us the gift of life, not only physical life, but especially for taking us who were spiritually dead and raising us to new life. We have crossed over from death to life. We can now live forever. You have filled us with newness of life which we desire to exhibit to a dying world. May the full-

ness of your life show in our lives, not only during this service, but throughout this new week.

O living God, Father, Son, and Spirit, how we long to enjoy fellowship with you. Fill us with adoration as we honor you in the name of your resurrected Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

God Is Love

Call to Worship Texts

Psalm 103:8, 13, 17

Proverbs 15:9

Jeremiah 31:3

John 3:16; 14:21

Romans 5:8; 8:39

Ephesians 2:4-5

1. John 3:1

1 John 4:8-10, 16

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

People: He has loved us with an everlasting love; he has crowned us with loving-kindness.

Leader: Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions.

People: God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us.

Leader: Neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything⁸¹

else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Unison: Therefore we assemble this Sunday to rejoice and worship our Lord Jesus Christ for his loving nature and countless acts of love for us. Alleluia. Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Lord God and beloved Father, we come into your presence with hearts overflowing with love. We recall your many demonstrations of unchanging love for us. Year after year you have acted in love toward us, even during those periods when we have failed to return your love as we should have. You have loved us with everlasting love from before the foundation of the world. You have chosen and adopted us in love not because of any act of faith or even any good which you foresaw in us, but purely out of love according to the good pleasure of your will. While we were still sinners you supremely demonstrated love for us in the sacrifice of your only beloved Son on Golgotha. We are challenged by Christ's love for needy and hurting people during his earthly ministry-reaching out to the lonely and the hungry and the frightened and the guilty.

We now come asking for your help to grow in our love for you this year. Help us during this hour to express adoration in ways that will stir us to love you in all we do during the week. Help us to reflect your love toward others. This we pray because we love the One who taught us to pray, saying, Our Father . . .

God Is Merciful

Call to Worship Texts

Exodus 34:6-7

1 Chronicles 16:34

2 Chronicles 5:13

Nehemiah 9:17

Psalms 57:9-11; 103:2-4, 11; 116:5; 145:8-10

2 Corinthians 1:2-3

Ephesians 2:4-5

Hebrews 4:16

1 Peter 1:3

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy.

People: We approach the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion, and sin.

Leader: God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in trespasses.

People: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope.

Leader: So as a church family we worship him saying,

Unison: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! He has demonstrated the riches of his mercy to us. Praise be to the merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Prayer of Adoration

Our Father of mercies, we give thanks to you for your mercy which endures forever. We come, both married and single, both men and women, both young and old, and unite our voices to praise you for the mercy you have shown to us.

We acknowledge your general mercies which you have given to all people-the temporal blessings of health, food, homes, families, and the ability to laugh. Even those who ignore you have benefited from your general mercies.

But most of all we thank you for your sovereign mercies given to your special people through Christ. You have taken the initiative to forgive us our sins time and again. How merciful you have been to us when we deserved punishment. Our hearts are stirred with deep gratitude. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is your mercy toward each of us in this room who fear you. So we've entered into your special presence to praise you. Please accept our worship and fill us with new devotion to you. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Master. Amen.

God Is Omnipotent

Call to Worship Texts

Deuteronomy 3:24

Joshua 4:24

1.Chronicles 29:11- 12

2.Chronicles 20:6

Job 9:4-9; 26:12, 1

Psalm 21:13; 29:1-4; 62:11; 66:3, 7; 77:14; 93:1;
147:5

Jeremiah 10:6, 12-13; 27:5

Nahum 1:3-4

Romans 1:20

Ephesians 1:19-21

Revelation 4:11; 11:16-17; 19:1, 6

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Let us, the people of Christ's church, lift our voices this hour to magnify the unlimited power of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Congregation: We acknowledge your incomparably great power at work in us who believe. That power is the same divine energy which was demonstrated in Christ when you raised him from the dead and gave him the place of highest honor in heaven—a place that is infinitely superior to any command, authority, power, or control. We praise you for the strength of the Spirit's inner reinforcement.

Leader: Therefore we lift our voices to now sing:

Sing in unison: All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall. Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown him Lord of all; Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown him Lord of all! Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Lord God Almighty, Lord Sabaoth, it's with a sense of wonder that we approach your throne. We come before your face only through the name and merits

of Jesus Christ. We come desiring to sense your presence and experience your power.

We praise the fullness of your universal power. All that you are is saturated with eternal energy and forceful effectiveness. Nothing is too hard for you. You are supreme in your authority and absolute in your ability.

Please fill us anew with the power of your indwelling Holy Spirit. Help us magnify your name this hour as we worship through Christ whose power is at work in us to do above and beyond all that we ask or think. This we pray in his mighty name. Amen.

God Is Omnipresent

Call to Worship Texts

Psalm 95:1-2; 100:1-2; 140:13

Isaiah 66:1

Jeremiah 23:23-24

Matthew 18:20; 28:20

1 Corinthians 16:22-23

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Come, O Lord!

Men: Let us sing with joy to our Lord.

Women: Let us come before his presence with joyful songs.

Men: Because the Lord of heaven and earth does not live in temples built by hands.

Women: Heaven is his throne and the earth is his foot stool.

Men: His presence fills heaven and earth. No one can hide in secret places so that the Lord cannot see him.

Women: Yet the omnipresent God has promised us that where two or three come together in the name of Christ he is among us.

Unison: Praise be to Christ, who is with us in this assembly, and who has promised to remain with us always to the very end of the age.

Prayer of Adoration

As a deer pants for streams of water, so our souls pant for you, O Lord God. We have looked forward to entering your presence with thanksgiving. What a privilege to come before you through Jesus Christ, who is among us in this church this very hour. Grant us a growing awareness of your presence throughout this service.

We know that the whole universe is alive with your personal presence. You are not confined to any one geographical location. As transcendent Creator you are also imminent in all places. You have promised never to leave us. You have promised to come among us in a special way when we assemble like this on the first day of the week. In your presence we experience fullness of joy. So please help us to set aside distracting thoughts. Defeat any hindrances of the arch enemy. Fill us freshly by the power of your indwelling Spirit that we might magnify you—in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

God Is Omniscient

Call to Worship Texts

1 Samuel 2:3

1.Kings 8:39

Job 21:22; 36:4

Psalm 1:6; 44:21; 139:1-6; 147:4--5

Isaiah 46:9-10

Luke 16:15

Romans 11:33-36

2.Timothy 2: 19

Hebrews 4: 13

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Men: The Lord is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed.

Women: He knows the secrets of the heart.

Men: And yet he still accepts us by his grace.

Women: The Lord knows those who are his; he knows the way of the righteous.

Men: He knows the end from the beginning.

Women: He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by its name.

Leader: His understanding has no limit.

Unison: Therefore we lift our voices in adoration proclaiming, O the depth of the riches of the wis-

dom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Lord God, we bow before you to express our adoration. You are the God of unlimited knowledge, knowledge of the past, present, and future. You know everything about us. You know when we sit and when we rise. You perceive our thoughts in advance. Before a word is on our tongue, you know it completely. Such knowledge is too wonderful for us. How we praise you. This Lord's Day we marvel that your knowledge extends to every scientific theory, every technological advance, every medical discovery. Knowledge as yet uncovered by the most brilliant of humans is already in your possession and has always been. Even the secrets we have hidden are open to your gaze. How we marvel at your omniscience.

Help us this day to give you that honor you deserve, to worship you in spirit and in truth. May we be sent forth to praise you wherever we go in the days of this new week. We turn our attention away from ourselves and toward you. We rejoice in your presence and lift our praise in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

God Is Patient

Call to Worship Texts

Exodus 34:6

Numbers 14:18

Worship Planning Resources

Nehemiah 9:17

Psalm 86:15; 103:8-10

Joel 2:13

Nahum 1:3

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Let us join in praising the triune God who by nature is patient.

People: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

Leader: He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever.

People: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Leader: As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him. For he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

Unison: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give us a spirit of unity as we follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth we may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. We thank him for his patience in dealing with us! May he be exalted!

Prayer of Adoration

Father, we enter your presence this Sunday to honor you in the name of your Son and in the power of your Spirit. We thank you for the patience which graces your perfect character. We address you as the God of patience. You have demonstrated patience countless

times down through history in your dealings with your people. From earliest times in the days of Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jonah, and David you have exercised your powers of self-restraint. You were patient in dealing with the wayward and rebellious children of Israel. You were willing to bear and forbear with them. You were slow to anger, slow to punish.

Father, we acknowledge that you have also been patient in dealing with us. How patient and merciful and loving you have been when we were slow to learn and sometimes stubborn. We ask your forgiveness for the sins which we have repeatedly committed against you and others. We have not always been patient in times of testing. We have even complained against you on occasion and withdrawn from the race. Forgive us through Christ. Thank you for the patience of your Spirit in transforming us into the image of Christ. Help us to reflect the Spirit's fruit of patience this week as we grow in grace and the knowledge of Christ. We pray this in his name and with the words he taught us, saying, Our Father . . .

God Is Sovereign

Call to Worship Texts

Exodus 15:18

Deuteronomy 4:39

Joshua 2:11

1.Samuel 2:6-8

2.Kings 19:15

1Chronicles 29:11-12

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2 Chronicles 20:6

Nehemiah 9:5--6

Job 12:9-10

Psalm 22:28-29; 24:1; 47:2-3, 7-8; 66:7; 74:12;
83:18; 89:11; 93:1-2; 115:3; 135:5--6

Isaiah 40:21-23

Jeremiah 10:10; 18:6

Lamentations 5:19

Ezekiel 17:24

Acts 17:24

Romans 14:11

Ephesians 4:6

1 Timothy 6:15-16

Revelation 4:11; 19:6

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us bow down and worship the One seated on the throne above, the One whom we own as our sovereign King and Lord.

Unison: You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we in this church set aside this hour to give you thanks and to praise your glorious name as our sovereign Lord and King. To you we lift our homage. Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Lord God, our Sovereign King, we who are subjects of your kingdom bow before your exalted throne. We gather to lift our prayers and praise in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and with the aid of your indwelling Spirit.

Today we focus on your sovereignty. You are now exalted on your throne, above all creatures in heaven and on earth. You rule over all nations. No king, president, or dictator occupies an equal position with you. You are supreme, even over Satan and his forces of darkness. Thus we acknowledge that you have the right to do only and always what pleases you. The counsel of your will is always good and wise. In all things you are able to work for the good of those who love you.

We thank you for the way your sovereign hand worked in the lives of Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Daniel, Peter, and Paul. But we also thank you that you continue to work sovereignly in our lives today, sustaining us through our most difficult times of testing. Help us to recognize and submit to your supremacy over us.

We ask that you might now receive the adoration that comes from our hearts. We bow before your throne to acknowledge you as the reigning sovereign. We exalt you through Jesus Christ whom we own as Lord of lords and King of kings. Amen.

God Is Truthful

Call to Worship Texts

Numbers 23:19

Deuteronomy 32:4

1 Samuel 15:29

Psalm 25:10; 31:5; 117

Jeremiah 10:10

John 14:6; 17:17

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: We assemble to worship the triune God who is the source of all truth.

Congregation: We acknowledge that our God is not a human that he should ever lie or change his mind. When he speaks he acts. When he promises he brings it to fulfillment. He is the God of truth whose truth endures forever. We honor you, O Lord, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Our Father in heaven, accept our worship this hour which we desire to present in spirit and in truth through Christ. We render worship because you by nature are a truthful God. Your character is marked by unblemished integrity. You aren't human that you should ever lie. Not only is truth inherent in your being, but truth is evident in your Word as well. We can trust your character and trust your Word. We can trust the veracity of every word which you have ever spoken. All of your promises and all of your commands are totally true. How we praise you that your truth will endure from generation to generation. Help us to reflect your truth in all of our words and deeds throughout this new week. This we pray, worshipping

you through the name of Jesus Christ who is the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

God Is Unchanging

Call to Worship Texts

Numbers 23:19

Deuteronomy 32:3-4

1.Samuel 15:29

2.Samuel 22:47

Psalms 33:11; 102:25-27

Isaiah 40:7-8

Malachi 3:6

Hebrews 13:8

James 1:17

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: We lift our voices to praise the One who said, I the Lord do not change.

People: He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a human, that he should change his mind.

Leader: The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

People: Even the heavens and the earth will perish, but the Lord remains. They will all wear out like a garment. But he remains the same.

Leader: He is the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Unison: Praise be to the Lord our Rock! Exalted be God the Rock through Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday and today and forever. Amen

Prayer of Adoration

We rejoice, Lord God our Rock, at the thought of your unchanging nature. We can totally trust and rely on you without any fear that you will be inconsistent or fickle in dealing with us. We can depend on you to keep your word and to continue to show the same traits of character which you have revealed in Scripture and which you have demonstrated in dealings with your people down through history.

We come before your throne through Christ, the one who is the Alpha and Omega, who always has existed without finite beginning and who always will exist.

Father, we are bombarded in our daily lives with change on every hand—changes that are exciting and beneficial for humans and other changes that are to our detriment. We struggle to keep up with the knowledge explosion in the workplace and are concerned about our job security—if we are fortunate enough to have a job. We see changes in people who we once thought were our friends, and whom we no longer can trust. So today in the midst of the whirling changes which surround us we especially appreciate the stability and reliability we have come to experience in your unchanging character as our Rock.

Open our eyes and ears this hour as we look into your Word. May you, the One who changes not, use your Word to change us in ways that will result in your glory. Use your Word in this service to infuse us with new hope in your ability to change our lives and the lives of those around us. May Jesus Christ be exalted

in this assembly. We worship and now pray through the name of the One who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.

God Is Unified

Call to Worship Texts

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

1 Kings 8:60

Isaiah 44:6; 45:5

Mark 12:29-30

1 Corinthians 8:6

Galatians 3:20

1 Timothy 2:5

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: God is one! Let us unite our voices to praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for existing in perfect unity and harmony.

Congregation: For us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things come and for whom we live; there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. May all the peoples of the earth know that the Lord is our God and there is no other. We unite our hearts as we proclaim that we love the Lord our God with **all** our heart and with all our soul and with all our strength. Blessed be the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who continue to live in perfect harmony, today and forevermore.

Prayer of Adoration

Lord God, we assemble to unite our voices in your presence. In spite of outward differences in appearance and inward differences in tastes and interests and backgrounds, we agree on your worthiness to be honored as our one and only true God. We believe that you exist in three persons yet as one being in perfect harmony. The mystery of the triunity is beyond our human categories to exhaust. So we bow in hushed silence, conscious of your transcendence.

We worship you for the perfect harmony which has existed in your being from eternity. Friction does not spoil the unity inherent in your being. Mutual love between you and your Son and Spirit challenges us to display unity in the church which bears your name. We now unite in worship, conscious of our unity with all true believers in all places and times, in heaven and earth, many of whom are gathering in worship on this day. As members of the one, holy, universal and apostolic church, we lift our voices in praise. Along with the hosts of heaven above we render adoration through Jesus Christ, who now lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit, one God, who is now in our midst. Amen.

God Is Wise

Call to Worship Texts

Job 12:13

Psalm 104:24

Proverbs 3:19-20; 9:10

Isaiah 28:29; 40:28
Jeremiah 10:12
Daniel 2:20-21
Romans 11:33-34
Ephesians 3:10-11
Colossians 2:3
Revelation 5:11-12; 7:12

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Praise be to the name of God forever and ever.
All wisdom is his. Let us now worship him
through Jesus Christ in whom are hidden all the
treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Congregation: The Lord gives wisdom to the wise and
knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and
hidden things. He knows what lies in dark ness.
Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and
knowledge of God! Who has been his counselor?
His intent was that now, through the church, the
manifold wisdom of God should be made known
to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly
realms. May the Lord's manifold wisdom be
known through this church as we worship him
this day!

Prayer of Adoration

We bow to acknowledge, O Father, that the reverent
fear of you is the beginning of wisdom. So we come
with humble reverence. We come from a busy week to
set aside time to honor you through Christ. We praise
you for the unlimited wisdom that per-

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vades your being-the wisdom which you have made available to us as well. How we need your wisdom in facing the decisions, challenges, and tests of daily life.

We come marveling at your magnificent wisdom evident in the universe which surrounds us. How wisely you created plant and animal life. How wisely you ordained the laws of physics and chemistry. How wisely you suspended the planets and stars in space. How wisely you made us in your image. The more we study your works of nature, the more we stand amazed.

But we especially thank you for the wisdom displayed in your plan to redeem us sinners through Jesus Christ. You have chosen the weak and foolish things of the world to confound the wise. Your intent was that through the church your manifold wisdom should be made known to rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms. Help us to reflect your wisdom. Accept the sincere praise we now lift to you through Christ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Amen.