

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## *The Lord's Day, April 6, 2025*

### Welcome and Announcements

**\*God Calls Us to Worship Him:** Responsive Reading of Romans 1:16-17

**Pastor:** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**Congregation:** who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

**Pastor:** even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world

**Congregation:** that we should be holy and blameless before him.

**Pastor:** In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the

purpose of his will,

**All:** to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

**\* We Sing in Response:** #100 Red Hymnal *"Holy! Holy! Holy!"*

**\* We Seek God's Presence in Prayer**

**We Confess Our Sins Together:** Jesus, forgive our sins. Forgive the sins we remember, and the sins we have forgotten. Forgive our many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when we have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times we are proud of our own achievements and those when we have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments we make toward others, and the leniency we often show ourselves. Forgive the half-truths and dishonest things we say, and the truths we have avoided. Forgive us the pain we have caused others and the indulgences we show to ourselves. Jesus, have mercy on us and make us whole. Amen.

### We Pray Silent Prayers of Confession

**God Assures Us We Are Forgiven:** Ephesians 1:7-9

**\* We Sing In Response to God's Forgiveness:** Handout *"Only a Holy God"*  
(please leave sheets in pews so we can reuse in the future)

**\* We Confess Our Faith Together:** We confess the mystery and wonder of God made flesh and rejoice in our great salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. With the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Son created all things, sustains all things, and makes all things new. Truly God, He became truly man, two natures in one person. He was born of the Virgin Mary and lived among us. Crucified, dead, and buried, He rose on the third day, ascended into heaven, and will come again in glory and judgment. For us, He kept the Law, atoned for sin, and satisfied God's wrath. He took our filthy rags and gave us His righteous robe. He is our Prophet, Priest, and King, building His church, interceding for us, and reigning over all things. Jesus Christ is Lord; we praise His holy name forever. Amen.       -Ligonier Statement on Christology

**Missions Moment:** Kurt and Jill (MTW Missionaries in Europe) – *Donna Krieger*

**We Read From God's Word:** Ephesians 3:1-21

**We Pray For The Congregation and Community**

**We Memorize God's Word:** Romans 8:7-8—For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

**We Present Our Tithes & Offerings In Worship**

**We Worship Through the Music of Offertory**

\* **We Sing the Doxology:** #731 Red Hymnal "*Doxology*"

\* **We Give Thanks to the Lord**

\* **We Sing In Preparation for the Word:** #726 Red Hymnal "*Spirit of the Living God*"

**Pastor Reads the Sermon Text:** Acts 11:1-18

**Pastor Preaches God's Word:** "*The Gospel Breaks Down Ethnic and Cultural Barriers*"  
- *Pastor Wes James*

**We Celebrate the Lord's Supper**

\* **We Sing In Response to the Word:** #133 Black Hymnal "*All Glory Be to Christ*"

\* **The Lord Sends Us Out (Benediction)**

**Sermon Outline**  
**Acts 11:1-18**  
***“The Gospel Breaks Down Ethnic and Cultural Barriers”***  
**04-06-25**

**Proposition:** The mysterious wonder of the gospel is unveiled as it breaks down ethnic and cultural barriers to unite God’s people together in the glory of Christ.

**Main Point One: The Jews “Unrest”**

Sub Point One: The News Circulating Jerusalem

Sub Point Two: The Circumcision Party Objects

Sub Point Three: Peter’s Defense

**Main Point Two: The Gospel Message**

Sub Point One: The Direction of the Holy Spirit

Sub Point Two: The Providential Hand of God

Sub Point Three: Cornelius’ Household Gets Saved

**Main Point Three: The Holy Spirit’s Work**

Sub Point One: The Spirit’s Baptism

Sub Point Two: The Will of God

Sub Point Three: The Jerusalem Church’s Joy

Sub Point Four: The Gospel is For Gentiles Too