

Call to Worship (from Psalm 113)

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised

God raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

He seats them with princes, with the princes of his people.

He gives the barren woman a home

Making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

Marching to Zion

*Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.*

*The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields,
before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets,
or walk the golden streets. (Refrain)*

Refrain:

*We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.*

*Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's
ground,
we're marching through Emmanuel's
ground,
to fairer worlds on high,
to fairer worlds on high. (Refrain)*

*Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King,
but children of the heavenly King
may speak their joys abroad,
may speak their joys abroad.
(Refrain)*

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Reading – 1 Samuel 1:9-11,20; 2:1,4-8

After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside

the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly. She made this vow: "O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head" ... In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the Lord" ...

Hannah prayed and said,
"My heart exults in the Lord;
 my strength is exalted in my God...
The bows of the mighty are broken,
 but the feeble gird on strength.
Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
 but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.
The barren has borne seven,
 but she who has many children is forlorn.
The Lord kills and brings to life;
 he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
 he brings low, he also exalts.
He raises up the poor from the dust;
 he lifts the needy from the ash heap,
to make them sit with princes
 and inherit a seat of honor.
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
 and on them he has set the world."

Message

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Benediction (2 Peter 1:4)

By his own glory and goodness, God has given us great and precious promises. Let us, through them, escape from the corruption of the world with its desires, living God-infused lives as participants in God's mission to heal, restore, and make whole. Amen.
