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# Worship Service

BY DAVID G. MILLER

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## *Readings from the Prophets:*

Hear the words of God to the prophets:

Amos 8:1-7; 9:13-15

Hosea 14:1-9

Malachi 2:17-3:4

Joel 2:12-17, 28-32

All Readers: These are the words of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## *Hymn:*

“Come, Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire”

Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire,  
let us Thine influence prove:  
source of the old prophetic fire,  
fountain of life and love.

Come, Holy Ghost, for moved by Thee  
the prophets wrote and spoke;  
unlock the truth, Thyself the key,  
unseal the sacred book.

Expand Thy wings, celestial Dove,  
brood o'er our nature's night;  
on our disordered spirits move,  
and let there now be light.

God, through Himself, we then shall know  
if Thou within us shine,  
and sound with all Thy saints below,  
the depths of love divine.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*  
*Suggested tune: AZMON*

*Invocation:*

**Come, Holy Lord, Fire and Fountain,  
through the power of your Spirit:  
help us to worship you in spirit and in truth,  
help us to hear the words of truth,  
help us to speak the words of love.  
Inspire us, move us, shine within us.  
We open ourselves to you;  
you know all, see all, and love all.  
Make us instruments of your peace. Amen.**

*Hymn:*

*"In Their Speaking, Art, and Writing"*

*Terry W. York*  
*(text and tune pp. 52-53 this volume)*

*Epistle Reading:* 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Prayer of Confession:*

Leader: Hear, O Lord, our prayer of confession.

People: Lord, we confess to you  
in the presence of our sisters and brothers  
that we have sinned.  
We have done things we ought not to have done.  
We have left undone good things that should have been completed.  
We are out of tune and out of focus.  
Forgive us, Lord, for misusing your gifts, our talents and time,  
to fulfill our own selfish ends.

Lord, we confess to you  
that we would prefer not to confess.  
We hide our sins from ourselves,  
just as we hide them from each other.  
Forgive us, Lord, for we have marred the picture of fellowship  
and misheard the melody the would help us dance closer to you.

Lord, we confess to you  
that we have not heeded your words.  
We hear the prophetic call to return  
to your ways of humbleness, generosity, and peace;  
yet we turn to other voices that promise us  
power, wealth, and control.  
Forgive us, Lord, for our weakness when we are so easily tempted.

Lord, we pray that you would hear these words of confession.  
Burn within us.  
Send your Spirit  
into eyes that will see visions of the people we should be,  
into hands that will help lead us back onto the path,  
into voices that will sing songs enticing us to holiness,  
and even into us, that we might grow to know your love.  
Amen.

Leader: Hear the words of assurance:

“If the confession ‘Jesus is Lord’ is on your lips, and the faith that God raised him from the dead is in your heart, you will find salvation. For faith in the heart leads to righteousness, and confession on the lips leads to salvation.”

*Offering and Solo Meditation:*

“The Day of the Lord is At Hand”

The day of the Lord is at hand, at hand;  
its storms roll up the sky.  
The nations sleep starving on heaps of gold;  
all dreamers toss and sigh.  
The night is darkest before the morn;  
when the pain is sorest the child is born,  
and the day of the Lord is at hand, at hand,  
the day of the Lord is at hand.

Who would sit down and sigh for a lost age of gold,  
while the Lord of all ages is here?  
True hearts will leap at the trumpet of God,  
and those who can suffer can dare.  
Each old age of gold was an iron age, too,  
and the meekest of saints may find stern work to do  
in the day of the Lord at hand, at hand,  
in the day of the Lord at hand.

*Charles Kingsley (1819-1875)*  
*Tune: REMEMBER THE POOR*

*Offering Response:*

Today will be the Lord’s own day:  
God’s power revealed, God’s word proclaimed,  
God’s people loving, giving all—  
We pledge to live into God’s call. Amen.

*David G. Miller*  
*Tune: OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>*

*The Gospel Reading: John 14:13-26*

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon*

*Hymn of Response:*

“Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”  
(verses 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7)

Lord, speak to me that I may speak  
in living echoes of your tone;  
as you have sought, so let me seek  
your erring children lost, alone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead  
the wandering and the wavering feet;  
and feed me, Lord, that I may feed  
your hungry ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach  
the precious things that you impart;  
and wing my words, that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with your fullness, Lord,  
Until my heart shall overflow  
In kindling thought and glowing word,  
your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me,  
Just as you will, and when, and where,  
Until your blessed face I see,  
Your rest, your joy, your glory share.

*Francis R. Havergal (1836-1879), alt.*

*Tune: CANONBURY*

*Benediction:*

**Leader:** Let all who have ears to hear, hear.

**People:** We have heard the words of the prophets calling us back to  
God's way.

Leader: Let all who have ears to hear, hear.

**People: We have heard the words of Scripture, urging us to mend our lives.**

Leader: Let all who have ears to hear, hear.

**People: We have heard the words of the Gospel, promising us God's saving help.**

Leader: Now that you have heard, what will you do?

**People: Challenged and changed, rebuked and restored, we go out  
to live in God,  
to be with God,  
to love the world that God has loved.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Postlude*

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**DAVID G. MILLER**

*is Associate Professor of English at Mississippi College and Liturgist at Northside Baptist Church in Clinton, Mississippi.*