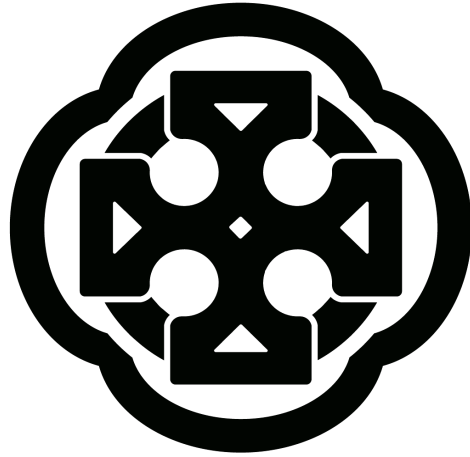




PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Ordinary Time
September 21st, 2025

Quotes for reflection:

You must not forget that though doubted, decried, and disowned, the Bible is the Word of God with power to recall a lost world from its state of exile and degeneracy and to dethrone sin from its ascendancy.

—Thomas Chalmers

The truth sounds like hate to those who hate the truth.

—Charlie Kirk

We ought to bring our minds free, unbiased, and teachable, to learn our religion from the Word of God.

—Isaac Watts

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves: the King opens His gates and welcomes us into His courts.

Gospel Invitation—Psalm 103:8

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Sung Response—In All The Land Rejoice (Psalm 100), Vs. 1

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system contains the first line of the song, and the second system contains the second line. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'In all the land re - joice and to the Lord cry out.' and 'In Wor-ship glad-ly serve the Lord for joy be-fore Him shout.'

In all the land re - joice and to the Lord cry out.

In Wor-ship glad-ly serve the Lord for joy be-fore Him shout.

Text: Psalm 100:1-5, *The Book of Psalms for Worship*, © 2010 Crown and Covenant Publications;
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1894.

Call to Worship—Psalm 103:1-5

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

Reader 1: He forgives all our iniquity. He heals all our diseases. He redeems our life.

Reader 2: He crowns us with steadfast love and mercy. He satisfies us with good so that our strength is renewed like the eagle's.

Pastor: The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

All: The Lord has established His throne in the heavens.

Pastor: His kingdom rules over all.

Congregational Psalm—O Lord Most High (Psalm 9)



O Lord most high, with all my heart, Your great works I will pro - claim;
The Lord, the ev - er - last - ing King, seat - ed on His judg - ment throne;
Je - ho - vah will a re - fuge prove, re - fuge strong for all op - pressed,
All they, O Lord, that know Your name, place their trust in the Word of truth,



I will be glad and give You thanks and sing the prais - es of Your name.
The right-eous judge of all the world will make His per - fect jus - tice known.
A safe de - fense, where wear - y souls in troub - led times may sure - ly rest.
For You have ne - ver turned a - way from those who tru - ly seek for You.

Chorus



Hope of the poor, to You we cry! A - rise, O Lord, de - fend the weak!



Sing Praise to the Lord en - throned on High! De - clare to all His might - y deeds!

Text: from Psalm 9:1-2, 7-11, 18-19, *The Psalter*, 1912;
Music: Nathan George, 2013.

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

The Bible is the means by which God graciously reveals Himself to His people—so we listen, read, and study with expectant hearts. In His Word, God particularly calls us to sing psalms: while all Scripture is appropriate for hymns and spiritual songs, there is a specific exhortation for us to use the Psalter as the church's songbook.

Congregational Psalm—Alleluia! How Blest The Man (Psalm 112)



A - le - lu - ia! How blest the man who great-ly fears the Lord!
Light to the up - right shall a - rise, though he in dark-ness be;
When e - vil ti - dings he shall hear, he shall not be a - fraid:
A - bun-dant wealth with - in his house shall ev - er be in store;



Who dai - ly finds de - light with - in Je - ho - vah's Ho - ly Word
Com - pass - ion - ate, and mer - ci - ful and ev - er just is he.
His heart is fixed, his con - fi - dence up - on the Lord is stayed.
And his un - spot - ted right-eous - ness en - dures for - ev - er - more.



His child - ren for their might shall be in all the land re - nowned;
There sure - ly is not an - y thing that ev - er shall him move:
Es - tab - lished firm - ly is his heart, a - fraid he shall not be,
The wick - ed ones shall see, and grieve: their teeth will gnash a - way,



The gen - er - a - tion of the just in bless - ings shall a - bound.
The right-eous man's me - mor - i - al shall ev - er - last - ing prove.
Un - til a - mong his en - e - mies, his tri - umph He shall see.
For what the wick - ed most de - sire shall ut - ter - ly de - cay.

Text: Psalm 112:1-4, 6-8, 10, *The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church*, 1887, alt. 2018;
Music: POTTSVILLE, Henry C. Haffner, 2018.

Baptism of Sophie Kiedis, daughter of Daniel & Katrina Kiedis

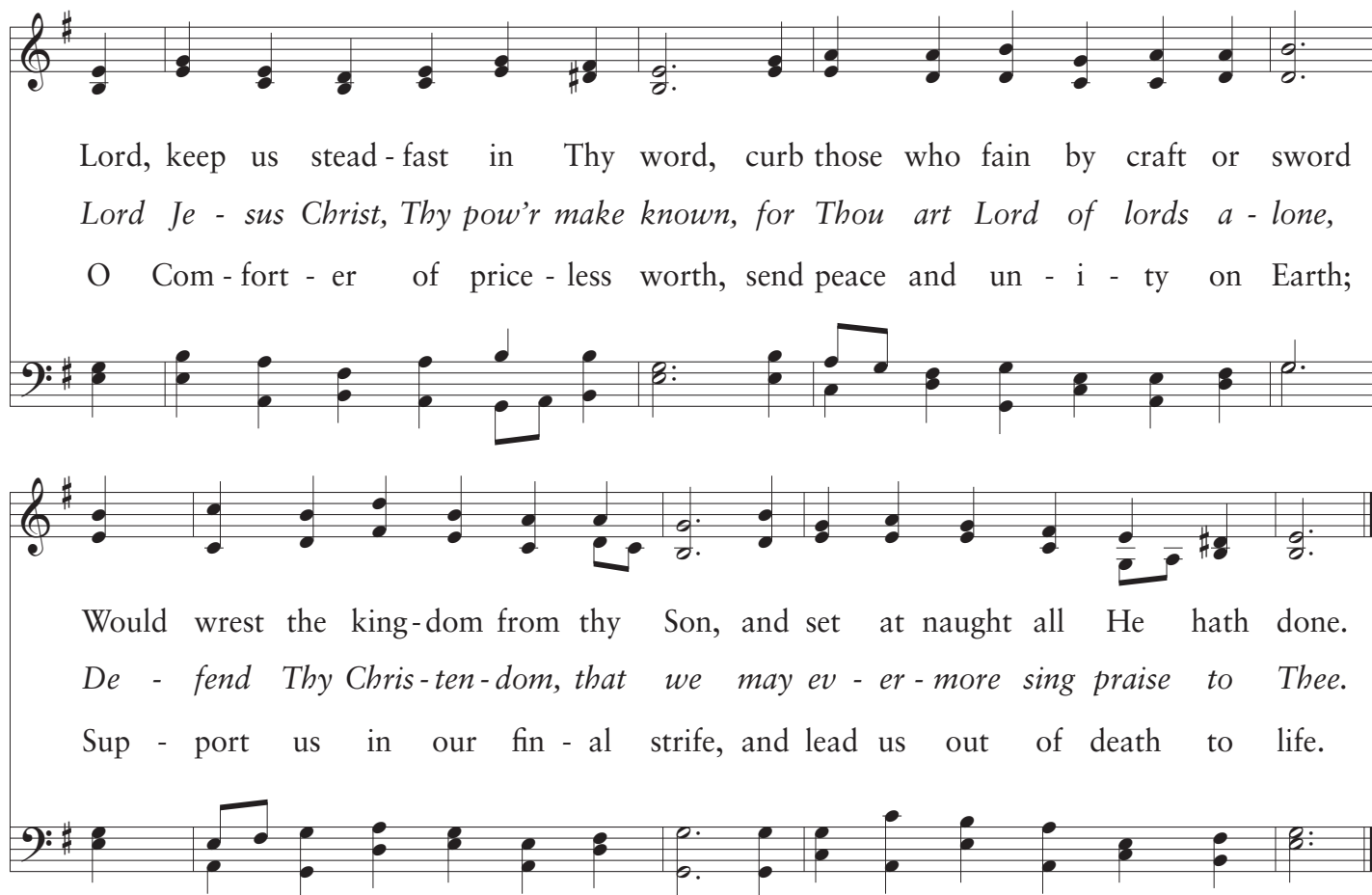
Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 3:15-17, 4:1-5

You have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. But as for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word



Lord, keep us stead - fast in Thy word, curb those who fain by craft or sword
Lord Je - sus Christ, Thy pow'r make known, for Thou art Lord of lords a - lone,
O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and un - i - ty on Earth;

Would wrest the king - dom from thy Son, and set at naught all He hath done.
De - fend Thy Chris - ten - dom, that we may ev - er - more sing praise to Thee.
Sup - port us in our fin - al strife, and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1541, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt. 2007;
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543.

Sermon Text—Acts 17:1-15

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ.” ⁴ And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵ But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶ And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, ⁷ and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.” ⁸ And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. ⁹ And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

¹⁰ The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. ¹² Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. ¹³ But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. ¹⁴ Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. ¹⁵ Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—May The Mind Of Christ, My Savior, Vs. 2

May the Word of God dwell rich - ly in my heart from hour to hour,

So that all may see I tri-umph on - ly through His pow'r.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, while the Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding staves. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line of music corresponds to the second line of lyrics. The score ends with a double bar line.

Text: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; Music: ST. LEONARDS, A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925.

Sermon—*Word Wedge*

—Pastor Emeritus, George Grant

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

The people of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 32:1-7

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. We know how blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. We know how blessed is the man against whom You, O Lord, count no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

All: When we kept silent, our bones wasted away through our groaning all day long. Day and night Your hand was heavy upon us.

Pastor: Our strength was dried up.

All: Therefore, we have acknowledged our sin to You, and we have not covered our sin.

Pastor: We confess our transgressions to You, O Lord.

All: You forgive all our iniquities.

Pastor: Even now, we offer prayer to You—at a time when You may be found.

All: You are our hiding place for us; You preserve us from trouble.

Pastor: You surround us with songs of deliverance.

Assurance of Pardon—Psalm 103:10-14; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

All: He is the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.

Pastor: He comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Sung Response—How Shall The Young (Psalm 119), Vs. 2



O bless - ed Lord, teach me Your law, Your righ - teous judg - ments I de - clare;

Your test - ti - mo - nies make me glad, for they are wealth be - yond com - pare.

Up - on Your pre - cepts and Your way my heart will med - i - tate with awe;

Your Word shall be my chief de - light, and I will not for - get Your law.

Text: Psalm 119:12-16, *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: DUANE STREET, George Coles, 1835.

GOD INVITES HIS PEOPLE TO FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM

God feeds the faith of His people by giving them a meal. As God fellowships with them in faith, His people pledge their obedience to God and their love for one another.

Profession of Faith—*The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
He was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered, died, and was buried;
and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and now sits on the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end;

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who together with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;

And we believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church—both seen and unseen;
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

WOMEN

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

MEN

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, Hea-ven and Earth are

Hea-ven and Earth are full of Your glo-ry, Ho - san-na in the high-est.

full of Your glo-ry, Ho - san - na, Ho - san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9;
Music: CLOVERCROFT SANCTUS, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S TABLE

This table is open to all baptized Christians who have made a profession of faith. You may come forward to receive the bread and wine or grape juice.

Congregational Hymn—Speak, O Lord



Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re-ceive the food of Your Ho - ly Word.

Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty;

Speak, O Lord, and re-new our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—



Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fash - ion us in Your like - ness,

Test our thoughts and our at - ti-tudes in the ra - di - ance of Your pur - i - ty.

Truths un - changed from the dawn of time that will ech - o down through e - ter - ni - ty.



That the light of Christ might be seen to-day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see Your ma-jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty.

And by grace we'll stand on Your prom-is-es, and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.



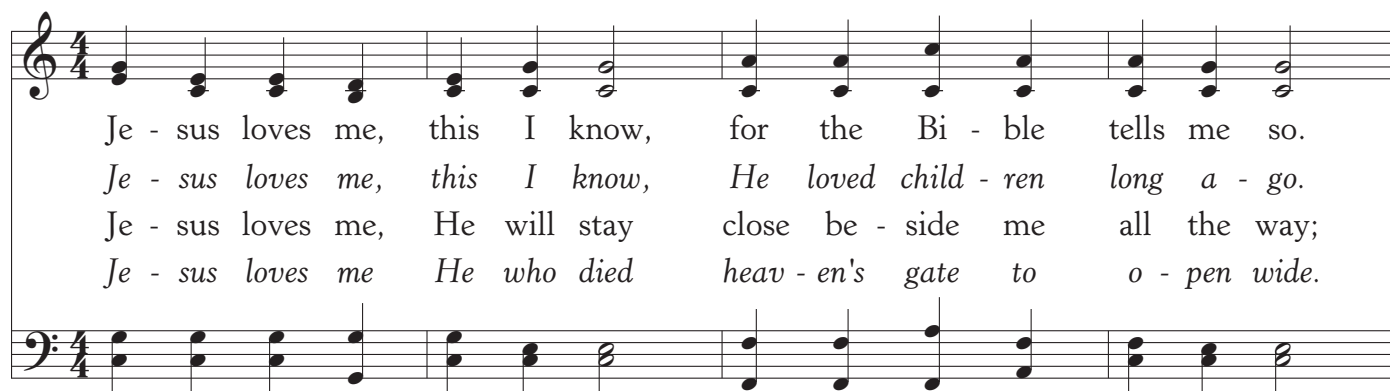
Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us all Your pur - pos - es for Your glo - ry.

Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail— let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.

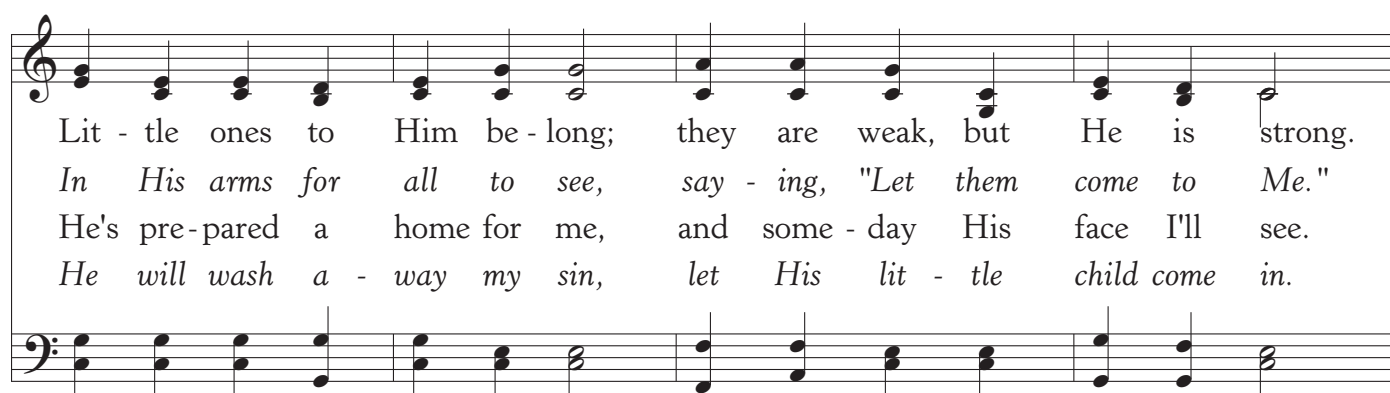
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the Earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

CCLI #2844402 ©2005 Thankyou Music,
Text and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2005.

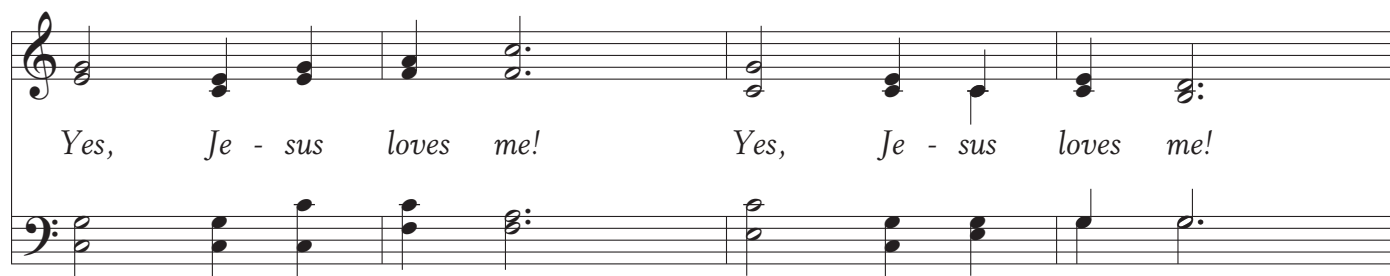
Congregational Hymn—Jesus Loves Me, This I Know



Je - sus loves me, this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
Je - sus loves me, this I know, He loved child - ren long a - go.
Je - sus loves me, He will stay close be - side me all the way;
Je - sus loves me He who died heav - en's gate to o - pen wide.



Lit - tle ones to Him be - long; they are weak, but He is strong.
In His arms for all to see, say - ing, "Let them come to Me."
He's pre - pared a home for me, and some - day His face I'll see.
He will wash a - way my sin, let His lit - tle child come in.



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna Bartlett Warner, 1859; Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William Bradbury, 1861.

GOD’S PEOPLE GRATEFULLY RESPOND WITH THEIR PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS, AND PRAISE

Praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship, moving our faith from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings. Offering boxes for both tithes and alms are located in the foyer.

Pastoral Prayer

Corporate Prayer—*The Lord’s Prayer*

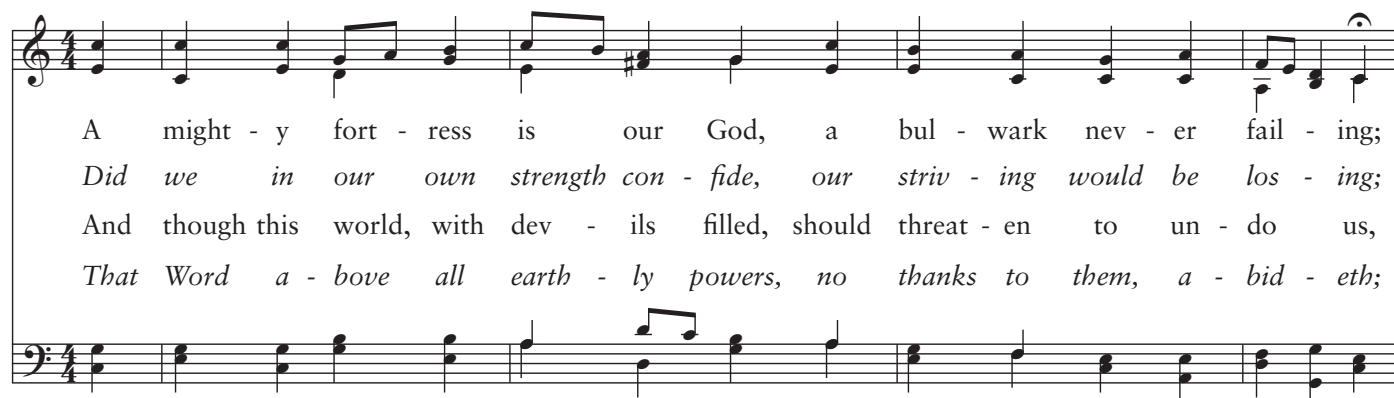
Our Father, who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done,
On Earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.

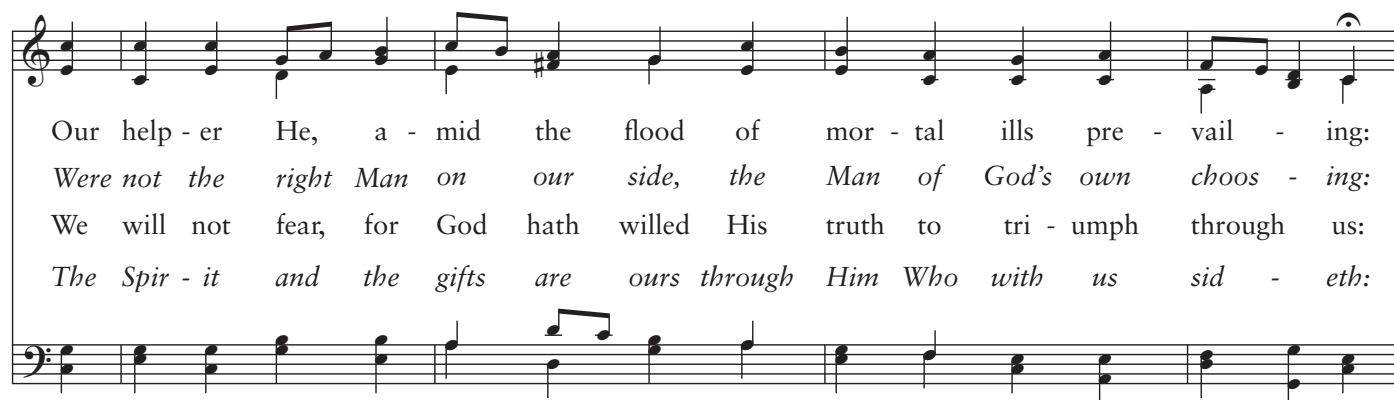
For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

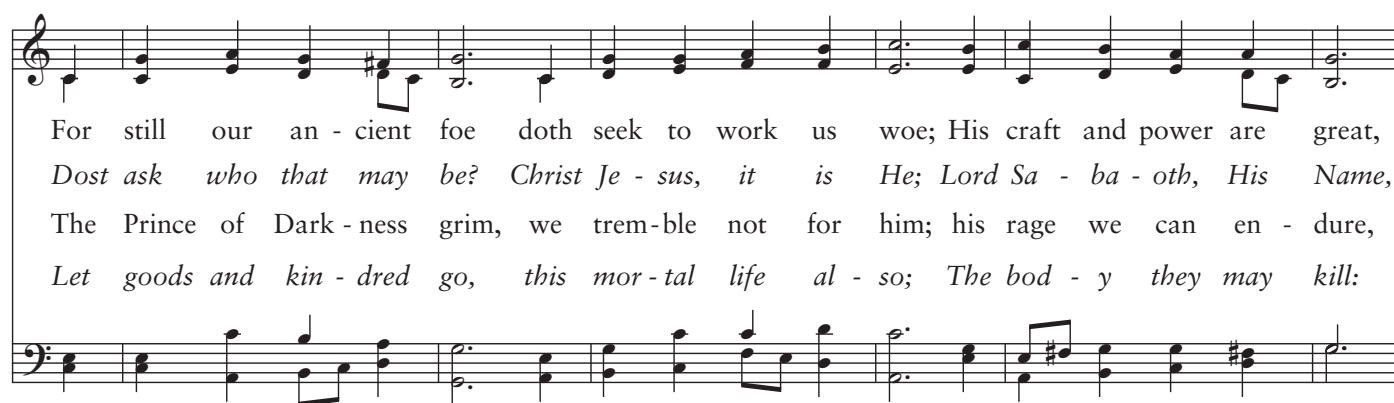
Congregational Hymn—A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



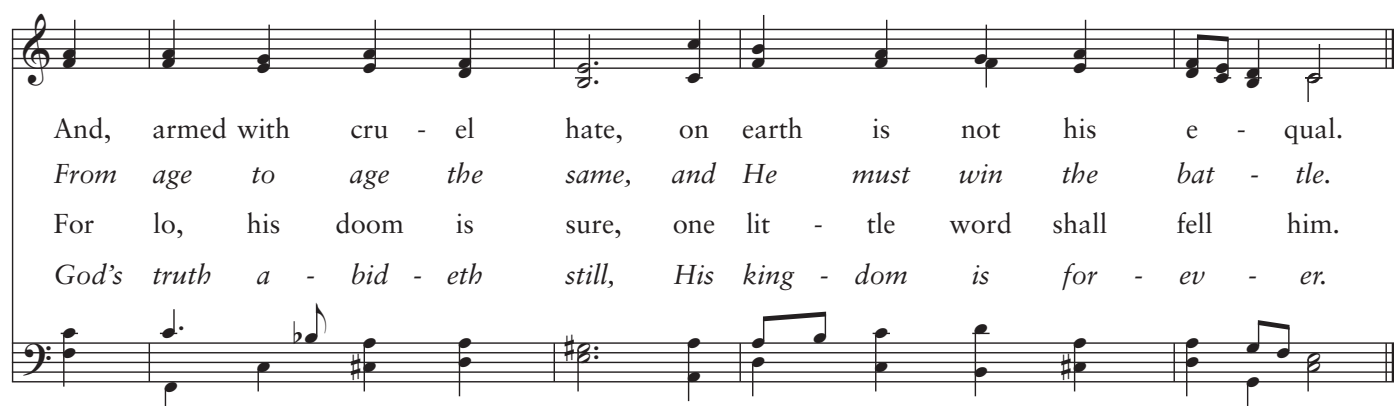
A might - y fort - ress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing;
And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,
That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth;



Our help - er He, a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing;
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choos - ing;
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us:
The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sid - eth:



For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great,
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sa - ba - oth, His Name,
The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill:



And, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
From age to age the same, and He must win the bat - tle.
For lo, his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 46, Martin Luther, 1529, tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853;
Music: EIN'FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1529.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—based on Psalm 103:17

The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting, and His righteousness to our children's children. Therefore, go forth covered by His perfect provision. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Gloria Patri

Glor - y be__ to the Fath - er, and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is__ now, and ev - er shall be,

World__ with - out end. A - men. A - - - men.

Text: Lesser Doxology, 2nd century; Music: Nathan George, 2015,
harm. Henry C. Haffner, 2015.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

The Supreme Judge, by which all controversies of religion are to be determined ... can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture.

—Westminster Confession of Faith, 1.10

The passages and hymns chosen for this morning's service all revolve around a fairly obvious theme: the centrality of the Scriptures to the Christian life. We begin the service by singing from the psalms, noting that all who know the name of the Lord will "place their trust in the Word of truth" and that blessings shall come to those who "daily find delight within Jehovah's Holy Word" (*O Lord Most High—Psalm 9; Alleluia! How Blest The Man—Psalm 112*). We read that "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). We pray in song, asking the Lord to keep us "steadfast in [His] Word" and that His Word might "dwell richly in [our] heart[s] from hour to hour" (*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word; May The Mind Of Christ, My Savior*). Further hymns remind us that His Word should be our "chief delight," that we desire His truth to be planted "deep in us" to "shape and fashion us," and that we know the love of Jesus primarily because "the Bible tells [us] so" (*How Shall The Young—Psalm 119; Speak, O Lord; Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*). I pray that this morning's service would encourage us to be like the Bereans in the sermon text from Acts, who "received the Word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."

—Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Explaining, Proving, Necessary, Jealous, Money, Noble, Examining

Keystone Verse: They received the Word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. (Acts 17:11)



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Miles Foltermann (281) 793-3280	Tom Goddard (218-3654)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserochi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)	

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Brandon Blair (336-0274)	Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)
Ben Crist (509-3040)	Ryan Gregory (714-5446)	Elliot Huck (843-540-6529)
Piotr Lorenc (931-996-9226)	Connor Neville (410-430-0760)	Nolan Reategui (829-0412)
Joshua Scheenstra (818-653-1113)	Robert Simmons (850-532-1075)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)
Jim Soyster (585-5980)	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	

Officers Emeritus

Steve Nelson, Elder Emeritus; Jimmy Allen, Tim Simmons, Deacons Emeritus

All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.