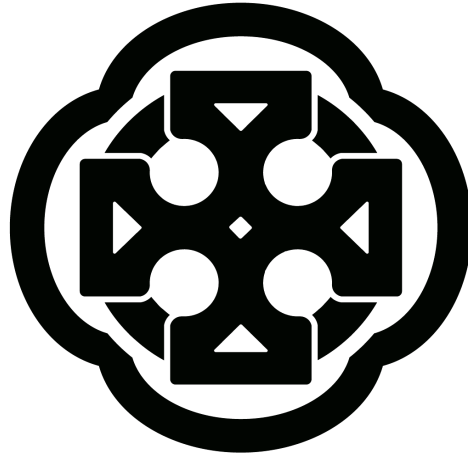




PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Ordinary Time
August 24th, 2025

Quotes for Reflection

Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore, seek not to understand that you may believe, but believe that you may understand.

—Augustine of Hippo

When the sun has come, darkness prevails no longer; the shadows are driven away. So also, now that the Divine Epiphany of the Word of God has taken place, the darkness of idols can no longer prevail, and all parts of the world, in every direction, are enlightened by His teaching.

—Athanasius of Alexandria

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—Revelation 11:15

The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever.

Sung Response—Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven, Vs. 1

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in 3/4 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, with the Bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Praise, my soul, the King of Heav - en, to His feet your trib - ute bring;

Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, His praise should sing?

Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise the ev - er - last-ing King.

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 103, Henry F. Lyte, 1834;
Music: LAUDA ANIMA, John Goss, 1869.

Call to Worship—Psalm 47:1-2, 5-9

Pastor: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

All: For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

Reader 1: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Reader 2: Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Pastor: For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!

All: God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne.

Pastor: For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is highly exalted!

Congregational Hymn—Praise To The Lord, The Almighty

The musical score is written for a congregational hymn in 3/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with a corresponding musical line. The first system includes the lyrics: 'Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion! Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly reign - eth, Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend thee! Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore Him!'. The second system includes: 'O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va - tion! Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain - eth! Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee; All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore Him!'. The third system includes: 'All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw near, Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have been Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y will do, Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a - gain;'. The fourth system includes: 'Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion. Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth? If with His love He be - friend thee. Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him.'.

Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly reign - eth,
Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend thee!
Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore Him!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va - tion!
Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain - eth!
Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee;
All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore Him!

All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw near,
Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y will do,
Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a - gain;

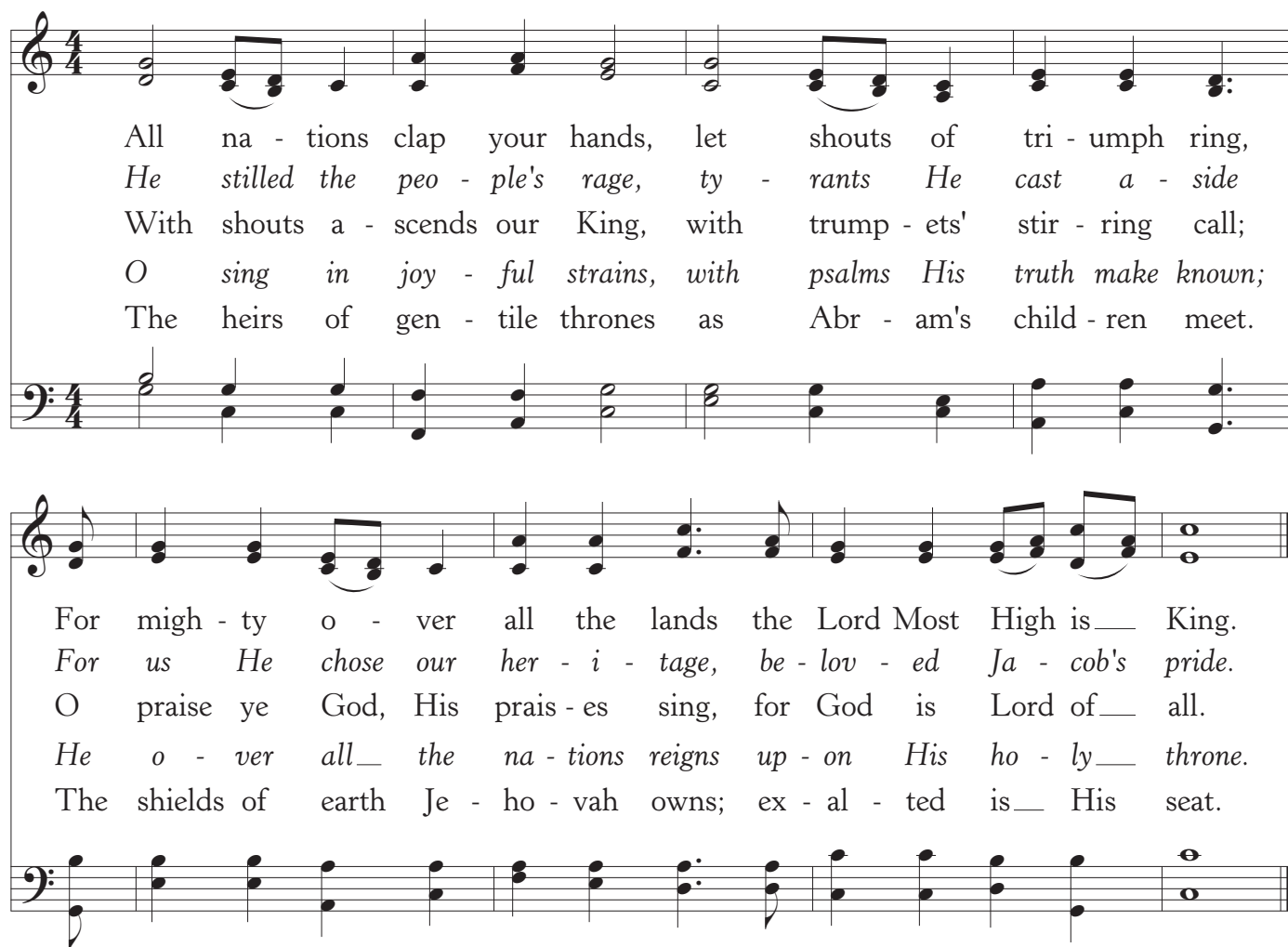
Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?
If with His love He be - friend thee.
Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1680, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863;
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Stralsund Gesangbuch*, 1665.

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—All Nations Clap Your Hands (Psalm 47)



All na - tions clap your hands, let shouts of tri - umph ring,
He stilled the peo - ple's rage, ty - rants He cast a - side
With shouts a - scends our King, with trump - ets' stir - ring call;
O sing in joy - ful strains, with psalms His truth make known;
The heirs of gen - tile thrones as Abr - am's child - ren meet.

For migh - ty o - ver all the lands the Lord Most High is___ King.
For us He chose our her - i - tage, be - lov - ed Ja - cob's pride.
O praise ye God, His prais - es sing, for God is Lord of___ all.
He o - ver all___ the na - tions reigns up - on His ho - ly___ throne.
The shields of earth Je - ho - vah owns; ex - al - ted is___ His seat.

Text: Psalm 47:1-9, *The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church*, 1887, alt. 2018;
Music: THIRD AVENUE, Henry C. Haffner & Elizabeth Dowdell, 2018.

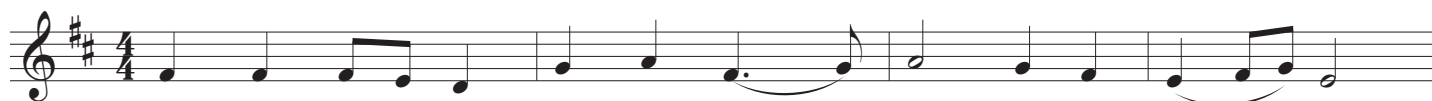
Scripture Reading—Matthew 28:16-20

The disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw Him they worshiped Him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Great And Marvelous



Great and mar-ve-lous are Your deeds, — Lord, God Al - migh — ty.

All the na - tions soon will come and wor - ship be - fore Your throne;



Just and true are all Your ways, — King of the a - ges!

For these all, Your right-eous deeds, — have been made known.

Chorus



Who will not fear You, O Lord, and glor - i - fy Your name?



You a - lone are ho - ly; You a - lone are ho - ly!

Text: based on Revelation 15:3-4; Music: George Grant, 1999,
arr. Nathan George, 2011.

Sermon Text—Acts 15:22-35

²² Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers, ²³ with the following letter: “The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the brothers who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. ²⁴ Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, ²⁵ it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶ men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷ We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. ²⁸ For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: ²⁹ that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.”

³⁰ So when they were sent off, they went down to Antioch, and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. ³¹ And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement. ³² And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words. ³³ And after they had spent some time, they were sent off in peace by the brothers to those who had sent them. ³⁵ But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Ye Servants Of God, Vs. 1



Ye ser-vants of God, your mas-ter pro-claim, and pub-lish a - broad His won-der-ful name;



The name all vic-tor-ious of Je-sus ex-tol, His king-dom is glor-ious and rules o-ver all.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1744; Music: LYONS, Joseph Martin Kraus, 1784.

Sermon—*Unto the Uttermost*

—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 119:89-96

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Forever, O Lord, the surety of Your Word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

All: Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You have established the earth and it stands fast.

Pastor: By Your decree all things stand, for all things are Your servants. But alas, Your law is not our delight. Your Word is not our first resort.

All: So we perish in affliction.

Pastor: We forget Your precepts. We neglect Your praise.

All: And we do not walk in the way of life.

Pastor: We are Yours, O Lord, save us.

All: Give us hearts to seek Your precepts, consider Your testimonies, and rejoice in Your commands.

Assurance of Pardon—based on Isaiah 63:7-9; Romans 3:23-24

I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that He has granted us, and the great promises that He has granted according to His compassion, according to the abundance of His steadfast love. For He has said, “Surely they are My people, My covenant children.” And He has become their Savior. In all their affliction He was afflicted, in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified by His grace as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.

Sung Response—Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus, Vs. 3



His word shall not fail you, He prom - ised; bel - iev - e Him, and all will be well:—



Then go to a world that is dy - ing, His per - fect sal - va - tion to tell!



Turn your eyes up - on Je - sus, look full in His won - der - ful face,—



And the things of earth will grow strange - ly dim, in the light of His glo - ry and grace.

CCLI #2844402; Text and Music: Helen H. Lemmel, 1922.

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—O Church, Arise



O Church, a - rise, and put your ar - mor on; hear the call of Christ our cap - tain.
Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, but to rage a - gainst the cap - tor;
Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the Son of God is strick - en;
So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - ery stride; give— grace for ev - ery hur - dle.



For now the weak can say that they are strong, in the strength that God has giv - en.
And with the sword that makes the wound - ed whole, we will fight with faith and val - or.
Then see His foes lie crushed be - neath His feet, for the con - quer - or has ris - en.
That we may run with faith to win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.



With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a - gainst the dev - il's lies;
When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the out - come is se - cure.
And as the stone is rolled a - way and Christ e - merg - es from the grave,
As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing tri - umphs of His grace,



An ar - my bold, whose bat - tle cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died, an in - her - i - tance of na - tions.
This vic - tory march con - tin - ues till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see Him.
We hear their calls and hun - ger for the day when, with Christ we stand in glo - ry.

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

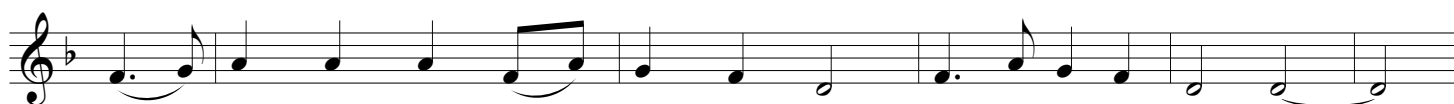
Congregational Hymn—I Know That My Redeemer Lives



I___ know that my re - deem - er lives, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives to bless me___ with His love; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives to crush the fiends of hell; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!



What com - fort this sweet sen - tence gives, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives to plead my___ cause a - bove; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

He___ lives and doth with - in me dwell; glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!



Shout___ on, pray on, we're gain - ing ground, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!



The dead's a - live, and the lost is found, glor - y, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1775; Music: ANTIOCH (SHOUT ON), F. C. Wood,
The Sacred Harp, 1850; arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2017.

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—To Our Redeemer's Glorious Name



To our Re - deem - er's glor - ious name a - wake the sac - red song:
Let won - der still with love u - nite, and gra - ti - tude and joy;
Dear Lord, while we a - dor - ing pay our hum - ble thanks to Thee,
O may the sweet, the bliss - ful theme fill ev - ery heart and tongue,



O may His love— im - mor - tal flame—tune ev - ery heart and tongue.
Be Jes - us our su - preme de - light, His praise our best em - ploy.
May ev - ery heart with glad - ness say, the Sav - ior died for me.
Till strang - ers love Thy charm - ing name, and join the sa - cred song.

Text: Anne Steel, 1760; Music: MCKEE, Irish melody,
arr. H. T. Burleigh, 1939.

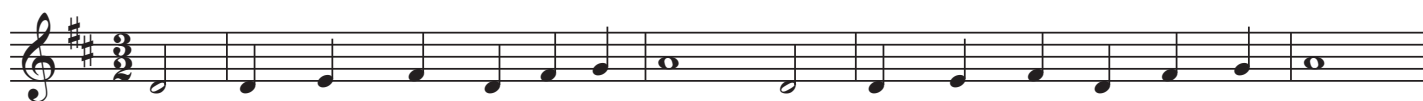
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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—Philippians 1:6, 2:12-13

I am sure of this my beloved: He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Therefore, work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. *Amen.*

Sung Response—All Creatures Of Our God And King, Vs. 4



Let all things their Cre-a-tor bless, and wor-ship Him in hum-ble-ness,



O__ praise Him! Al-le-lu-ia! Praise, praise the Fa-ther, praise the Son,



And praise the Spir-it, Three in One! O__ praise Him! O__ praise Him!



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Francis of Assisi, c. 1225, tr. William H. Draper, 1919;
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Cologne, 1623.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

This morning's sermon text from Acts presents the conclusion of the Jerusalem council and the beginning of Paul's second missionary journey. Having settled a major theological dispute for the time being, we once again find the church at work spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth. This theme runs throughout today's service. The Gospel Invitation from Revelation declares that "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord." This sentiment is echoed in the Call to Worship from Psalm 47 (which we later sing): "all peoples" should clap their hands, since "God reigns over the nations." We read from Matthew 28 Jesus' great commission to "make disciples of all nations." We respond with hymns like *Great And Marvelous, O Church, Arise, Ye Servants Of God*, and *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*, which encourage us to "publish abroad His wonderful name," to "go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell," and to "[reach] out to those in darkness" with the good news of the gospel. Though at times, the church seems mired in disagreement, we have confidence that like her Savior she is ever "gaining ground." Because we believe the promises of our glorious Redeemer, we can look forward to the day when all the nations come to worship before His throne and His love tunes every heart and tongue.

—Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Seemed Good, Elders, Troubled, Unsettling, Instructions, Encouragement

Keystone Verse: It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us. (Acts 15:28)



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 Miserocchi (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)
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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.