



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Epiphany Season
23 February 2025

Thus with the year, seasons return; but not to me returns day, or the sweet approach of even or morn, or sight of vernal bloom, or summer's rose, or flocks, or herds, or human face divine; but cloud instead of ever-during dark surrounds me, from the cheerful ways of men cut off, and from the book of knowledge fair presented with a universal blank of Nature's works, to me expunged and razed, and wisdom at one entrance quite shut out. —John Milton

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

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

Gospel Invitation—Romans 10:13

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Sung Response—O Worship The King, Vs. 1



O wor-ship the King, all glor-ious a - bove, O grate-ful-ly sing His pow'r and His love;



Our shield and de-fend-er, the An-cient of Days, pa-vil-ioned in splen-dor, and gird-ed with praise.

Text: Robert Grant, 1833, based on Psalm 104; Music: LYONS, Joseph Martin Kraus, 1784.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 34:1-5, 8

Pastor: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together!

All: **We will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in our mouths.**

Reader 1: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

Reader 2: I sought the Lord, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

All: **Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.**

Pastor: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

Congregational Hymn—Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as light,
To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small;
Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

In light in - ac - ces - i - ble hid from our eyes,
Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;
In all life Thou liv - est, the true life of all;
Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see


Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
Thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
And with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth Thee.
'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867; Music: ST. DENIO, Traditional Welsh melody.


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. God particularly entreats us in His Word to sing psalms. And while all Scripture is appropriate for hymns and spiritual songs, there is a specific exhortation for us to make use of the Psalter as the church's songbook.


Congregational Psalm—The Lord I Will At All Times Bless (Psalm 34)




The Lord I will at all times bless; with praise my mouth employ; —
O children, come, and gather round for wisdom you should hear; —
The troubles that afflict the just in number many be; —



My soul shall in Jehovah boast, the humble hear with joy —
I'll teach you how to understand and seek the Lord with fear —
But God delivers from them all the righteous He sets free. —



O let us magnify the Lord, exalt His name with me. —
Restrain your lips from speaking lies, control your foolish tongue. —
Your bones He carefully will keep, whatever shall befall, —



Look up to Him, and so your faces radiant shall be.
Depart from ill, do good, seek peace, so shall your days be long.
For not so much as one of them can be broken at all.

Chorus



Taste — and see — that the Lord — is good; — Take refuge in — His blessing —

Last time, to Coda



Fear — Him, you saints: — those who fear — the Lord lack no — good thing.

Coda



The righteous cry unto the Lord salvation He imparts; —



The Lord is ever near to them who ache from broken hearts. — A — men.

Text: Psalm 34:1-22, *The Psalter with Music*, 1900, alt. 2021;
Music: BETHESDA/DUPLEX, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Scripture Reading—Luke 4:16-19

And [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as was His custom, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and He stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—All For Jesus

All for Je - sus, all for Je - sus! All my be - ing's ran - somed powers:
Let my hands per - form His bid - ding, let my feet run in His ways;
World - lings prize their gems of beau - ty, cling to gild - ed toys of dust,
Since my eyes were fixed on Je - sus, I've lost sight of all be - side;
Oh, what won - der! How a - ma - zing! Je - sus, glor - ious King of kings,

All my thoughts and words and do - ings, all my days and all my hours.
Let my eyes see Je - sus on - ly, let my lips speak forth His praise.
Boast of wealth and fame and plea - sure; on - ly Je - sus will I trust.
So en - chained my spir - it's vis - ion, look - ing at the cru - ci - fied.
Deigns to call me His be - lov - ed, lets me rest be - neath His wings.

Text: Mary D. James, 1889; Music: WYCLIFF, John Stainer, 1887.

Reading of the Word—Acts 9:1-19

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴ And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” ⁵ And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” And He said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸ Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”

¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to Your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of My name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹ and taking food, he was strengthened.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus, refrain



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.

Sermon—*The Scales Fell Off My Eyes*

—Pastor, James Crampton

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 37:1-3, 7-8

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. You have said, “Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.”

All: **But we often fret, even though it tends only to evil.**

Pastor: We should trust in the Lord and do good; we should dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

All: **We fail to be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him. We fret ourselves over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!**

(Silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response—Kyrie

WOMEN

Lord have mer - cy — Christ have mer - cy —

MEN

Lord have mer - cy — Christ have mer - cy —

— Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.

Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.

Text: Traditional; Music: Nathan George & Henry C. Haffner, 2012.

Assurance of Pardon—Titus 3:4-5; Matthew 28:19-20

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: **This is the Word of the Lord.**

Pastor: 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 I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

All: **Thanks be to God, our refuge, our strength, and our redeemer.**

Sung Response—Fivefold Amen

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men.

Text: Traditional; Music: Traditional African-American spiritual,
arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988.

HEAVENLY GIFT—*EUCCHARISTO*

As God beckons His people to the bounty of His table, they make joyous profession of their fealty to Him.

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God:

The Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy church—both visible and invisible;

The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

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:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly is the Lord God Al - might - y,
Heav'n and Earth are full of Thy glor - y, glor - y—be un - to— Thee,
O Lord most high, O Lord most high, O Lord most high, A - men.

Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8;

Music: Nathan George, 2013.

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 Psalm—I Lift My Eyes And See The Hills (Psalm 121)

I lift my eyes and see the hills: From where will come my aid? —
He'll not allow your foot to slip, nor rest while you — He keeps. —
The Lord will keep you, He's your shade, the Lord stands at — the right. —
The Lord will keep you from all harm; He'll keep your life — se - cure. —

My help comes from the Lord above! Who Heav'n and Earth has made. —
The one preserv - ing Is - ra - el, He slum - bers not, nor sleeps. —
The sun will do no harm to you, nor will — the moon at night. —
Your go - ing out and com - ing in the Lord — keeps ev - er - more. —

Text: Psalm 121:1-8, *The Book of Psalms for Worship*, © 2010 Crown and Covenant Publications; Music: HOPE, D. Bruce Martin, 1920.

Congregational Hymn—Come Ye Souls, By Sin Afflicted

Come, ye souls by sin af - flict - ed, Bowed with fruit - less sor - row down;
Take His ea - sy yoke and wear it; Love will make o - bed - ience sweet;
Bless - ed are — the eyes that see Him, Blest the ears that hear His voice;
Sweet as home to pil - grims wear - y, Light to new - ly o - pened eyes,

By the bro - ken law con - vict - ed, Through the cross be - hold — the crown;
Christ will give you strength to bear it, While His wis - dom guides your feet
Bless - ed are the souls that trust Him, And in Him a - lone — re - jice;
Or full springs in des - erts drear - y Is the rest — the cross — sup - plies;

Look to Je - sus; mer - cy flows — through Him a - lone.
Safe to glor - y, where His ran - somed cap - tives meet.
His com - mand - ments then be - come — their hap - py choice.
All who taste — it shall to rest — im - mor - tal rise.

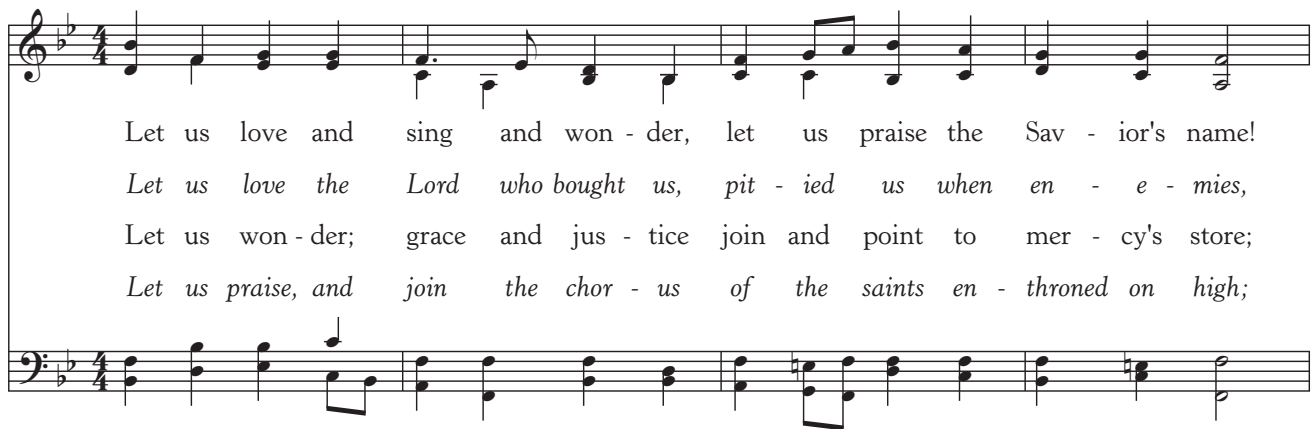
GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

Our praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship. It is here that our faith moves from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings.

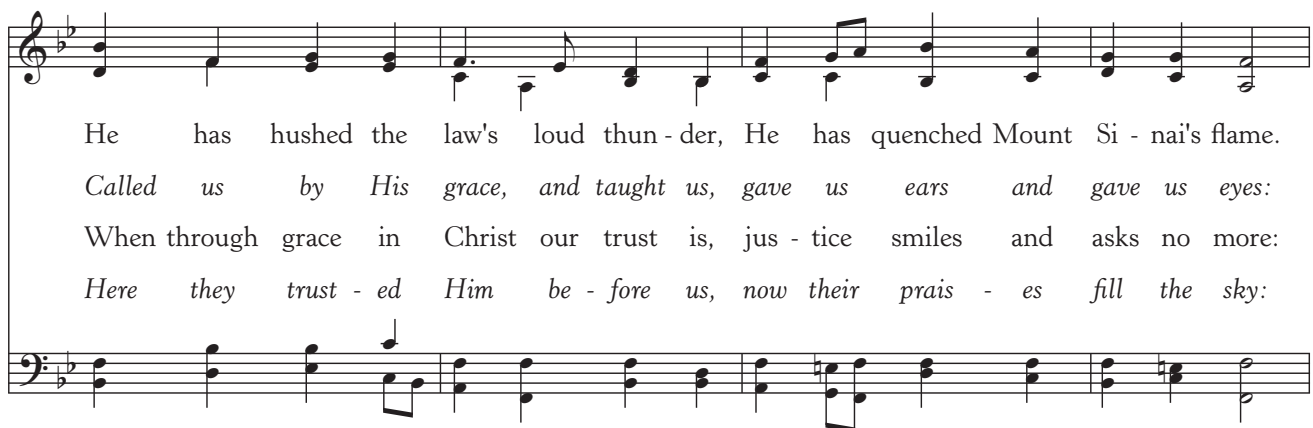
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

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.*

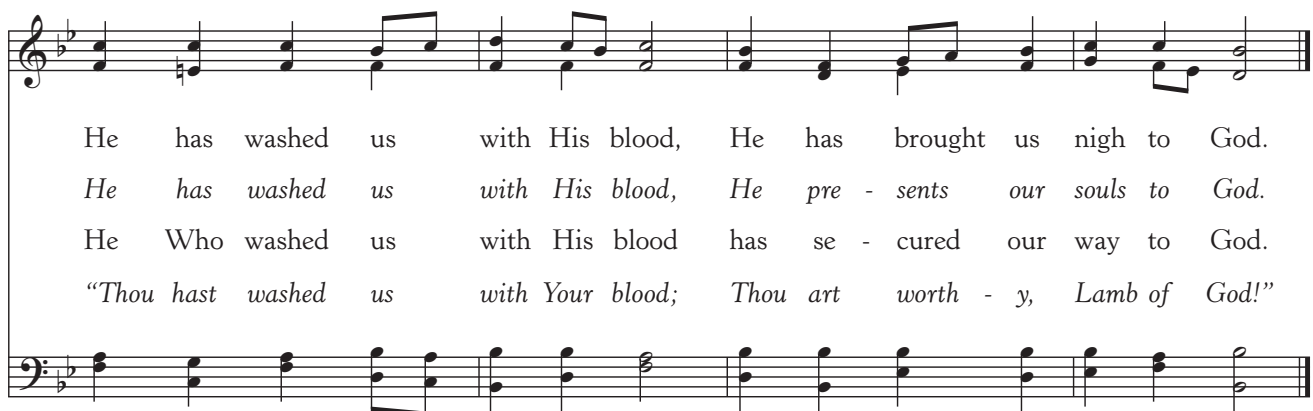
Congregational Hymn—Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder



Let us love and sing and won - der, let us praise the Sav - ior's name!
Let us love the Lord who bought us, pit - ied us when en - e - mies,
Let us won - der; grace and jus - tice join and point to mer - cy's store;
Let us praise, and join the chor - us of the saints en - throned on high;



He has hushed the law's loud thun - der, He has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame.
Called us by His grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:
When through grace in Christ our trust is, jus - tice smiles and asks no more:
Here they trust - ed Him be - fore us, now their prais - es fill the sky:



He has washed us with His blood, He has brought us nigh to God.
He has washed us with His blood, He pre - sents our souls to God.
He Who washed us with His blood has se - cured our way to God.
"Thou hast washed us with Your blood; Thou art worth - y, Lamb of God!"

Text: John Newton, 1774; Music: ALL SAINTS OLD, *Darmstadt Gesangbuch*, 1698.

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—Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Gloria Patri

The musical score for the Gloria Patri is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "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." The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and time signatures of 4/4, 2/4, and 4/4. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

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

Announcements

Worship Notes:

The phrase “road to Damascus moment” metaphorically refers to a life-altering moment of enlightenment, an experience that completely transforms a person’s perspective or way of life. Today, we will read the story of the original “road to Damascus moment,” the soon-to-be Apostle Paul’s encounter with the risen Jesus. As a significant portion of the story revolves around his blinding by the “light from heaven” and subsequent healing (“scales fell from his eyes”), you’ll notice many references to light, eyes, and sight in this morning’s service. We’ll sing of God’s light being “hid from our eyes,” its intensity so great that even angels are found “veiling their sight” (*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*). We are nonetheless encouraged to “look up to Him” (*The Lord I Will At All Times Bless—Psalm 34*), to “look full in His wonderful face” (*Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*), to “lift our eyes” (*I Lift My Eyes And See The Hills—Psalm 121*), and to “let [our] eyes see Jesus only” (*All For Jesus*). By the end of the service, we can sing about “light to newly opened eyes” (*Come, Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted*) and give thanks to the Lord who “gave us eyes” (*Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder*) even when we were His enemies. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Persecute, Way, Jesus, Sight, Chosen, Suffer, Name, Holy Spirit

Keystone Verse: But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of My name.” (Acts 9:15-16)



Presbyterian Church in America
4150 Clovercroft Rd. Franklin, TN 37067
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1593, Franklin, TN 37065
Web: www.parishpres.org
Church Office: Sarah Dye, 574-1029, office@parishpres.org
Prayer requests: prayer@parishpres.org

Pastor: James Crampton, 943-1696, jamie@parishpres.org
Pastor Emeritus: George Grant, 574-1029 (office), george@parishpres.org
Associate Pastor: Brian Phillips, 429-8125, brian@parishpres.org
Assistant Pastor: Mike Fennema, 931-215-1057, mike@parishpres.org
Music Director: Henry C. Haffner, 497-6573, henry@parishpres.org
Staff Accompanist: Mirandi Herrenbruck, mirandi@parishpres.org
Audio Coordinator: Jonathan George, jonathan@parishpres.org
Financial Administrator: Joanna Reategui, joanna@parishpres.org
Parish Nursery Coordinator: Chelsea Monroe, 495-0423, chelsea@parishpres.org
Women’s Ministry Coordinator: Christian Barnes, christian@parishpres.org

Elders

Stephen Barnes (478-318-5513)	Keith Cannon (636-7137)	Caleb Faires (513-0659)
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)
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.