

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Epiphany Season 2 February 2025 The more you mow us down, the thicker we rise; the blood of Christians is the seed of the church. - Tertullian

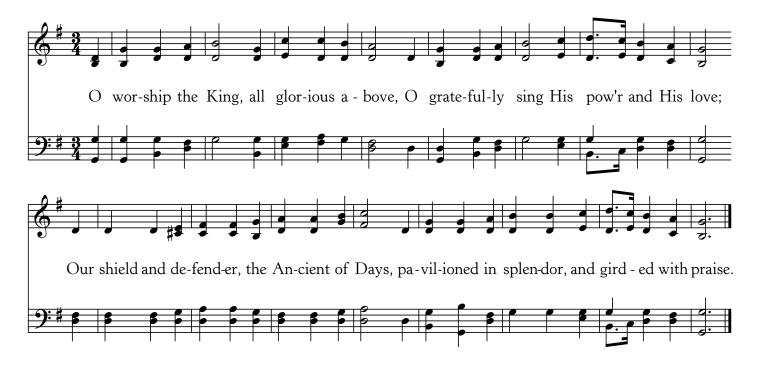
GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

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—Acts 1:8

Jesus said, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Sung Response—O Worship The King, Vs. 1



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

Call to Worship—Psalm 30:1, 4-5, 11-12

Pastor: Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name.

All: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.

Reader 1: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Reader 2: We will extol You, O Lord, for You have drawn us up and have not let our foes rejoice over us.

- All: You have turned for us our mourning into dancing; You have loosed our sackcloth and clothed us with gladness.
- Pastor: Our glory will sing Your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

Congregational Hymn-All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran-somed of the fall,
Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial ball,
O that, with yon - der sa - cred throng, we at His feet may fall,
9:54 6 7 6 7 <th7< th=""> <th7< th=""> <th7< th=""> <th7< th=""></th7<></th7<></th7<></th7<>
Bring forth the ro - yal di - a - dem, and crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all ma - jes - ty as - cribe and crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the ro - yal di - a - dem, and crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all ma - jes - ty_ as - cribe and crown Him Lord_ of all.
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown Him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1779, John Rippon, 1787; Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1793, arr. Lowell Mason, 1839.

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—All Nations Clap Your Hands (Psalm 47)



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—Jeremiah 31:10-14

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall be like a watered garden, and they shall languish no more. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and My people shall be satisfied with My goodness, declares the Lord.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm-How Sweet And Awful Is The Place



Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish melody, harm. The English Hymnal, 1906.

Reading of the Word-Acts 8:1-8

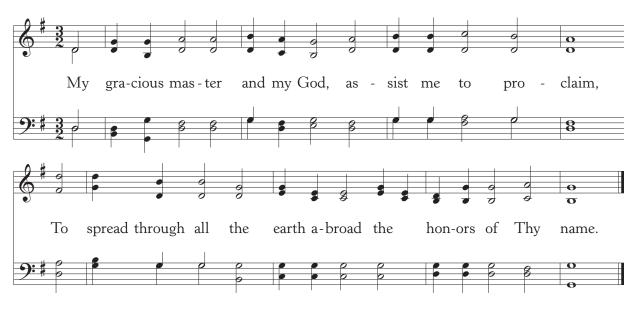
And Saul approved of [Stephen's] execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ² Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. ³ But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

⁴ Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. ⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. ⁶ And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸ So there was much joy in that city.

Pastor:This is the Word of the Lord.All:Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing, Vs. 2



Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: Azmon, Carl G. Glaser, 1828, arr. Lowell Mason, 1839.

Sermon—The Blood Of The Martyrs Is The Seed Of The Church

-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 1 Peter 4:12-16

Pastor:	Lord, we come confessing. You have told us not to be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon us to
	test us, as though something strange were happening to us. Instead, we should rejoice insofar as we share
	Christ's sufferings, that we may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed.

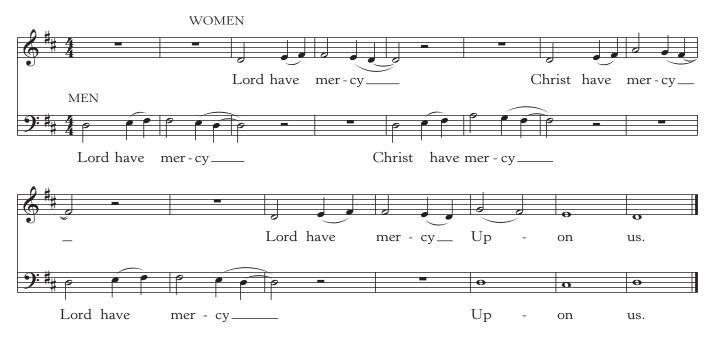
All: But we are surprised when we suffer, and we are ashamed of Jesus and His words.

Pastor: If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

All: But we often suffer as evildoers or as meddlers instead of suffering as Christians.

(Silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response—Kyrie



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

Assurance of Pardon-1 Peter 3:18, 22; Matthew 28:19-20

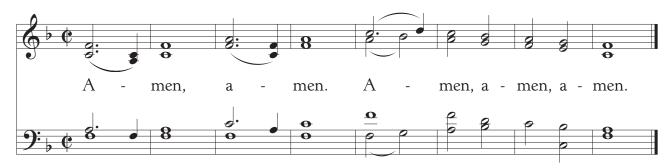
For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit. Jesus Christ has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him.

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



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

HEAVENLY GIFT-EUCHARISTO

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.

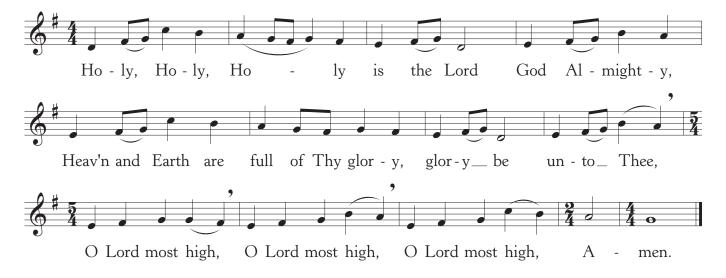
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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:



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 Waited Patient For The Lord (Psalm 40)



Text: paraphrase of Psalm 40, Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: FINGAL, Traditional Irish melody, arr. Gregory Wilbur & Jeremiah Small, 2008.

Congregational Hymn-O Church, Arise



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—There's A Wideness In God's Mercy



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1854; Music: HOLY MANNA, William Moore, 1825.

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—Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. *Amen*.

Sung Response—Gloria Patri



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

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Today's service begins with Jesus' command for His disciples to be His witnesses "in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Right from the start, the elements of worship this morning portray the spread of the gospel—from person to person and nation to nation. Hymns like *All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name* and Psalms like *All Nations Clap Your Hands—Psalm 47* declare that "every kindred [and] every tribe" will call Christ their Lord, that "all nations" will shout His praises, and that He will raise up children for Abraham from among the gentiles. The reading from Jeremiah 31 envisions a time when even the "coastlands far away" will be gathered into His flock. We respond with *How Sweet And Awful Is The Place*, asking God to "send [His] victorious Word abroad and bring the strangers home." We read the story of the disciples who, though scattered from their homes, nonetheless "went about preaching the word," (Acts 8:4), and we ask God to help us "spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name." *O Church, Arise* presents the "call of Christ our captain" to reach out to those lost in the darkness of sin, and *I Waited Patient—Psalm 40* (a psalm setting partially arranged by an actual martyred missionary) encourages us that our Lord hears our cries when faced with opposition. God's Word will go forth, and "sinners [will] learn to make [our] God their only hope and fear." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words:Persecution, Prison, Scatter, Bury, Preach, Heal, JoyKeystone Verse:Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. (Acts 8:4)



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

Keith Cannon (636-7137) Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368) Jason Parolini (497-3337) Tom Goddard (218-3654)Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)Matt Morrison (482-5107)Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)

Elder Emeritus Steve Nelson

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797) Ben Crist (509-3040) Robert Simmons (850-532-1075) Brandon Blair (336-0274) Nolan Reategui (829-0412) Nae Soundara (519-3720) Walt Yates (785-477-0990)

Kevin Cowherd (967-5099) Joshua Scheenstra (818-653-1113) Jim Soyster (585-5980)

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