

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time 14 July 2024 We read of the river of pleasure at God's right hand; but will not this in time be dried up? No. There is a fountain at the bottom which feeds it. "With the Lord is a fountain of life." Thus God is the chief good, and the enjoyment of God for ever is the highest felicity of which the soul is capable. —Thomas Watson.

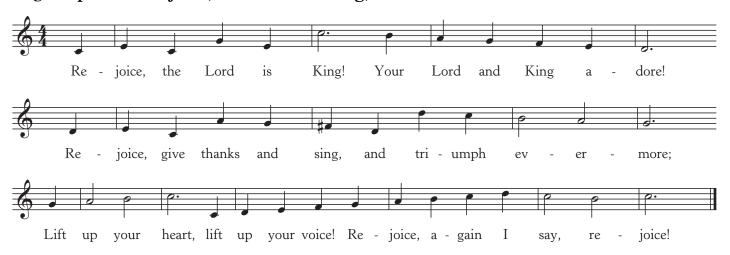
GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

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—Isaiah 55:1

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Sung Response—Rejoice, The Lord Is King, Vs. 1



Text: Charles Wesley, 1746; Music: DARWALL, John Darwall, 1770.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 16:1-2, 5-6, 8, 11

Pastor: Preserve us, O God, for in You we take refuge.

All: You are our Lord; we have no good apart from You.

Reader 1: The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup; You hold our lot.

Reader 2: The lines have fallen for us in pleasant places; indeed, we have a beautiful inheritance.

All: We have set the Lord always before us; because He is at our right hand, we shall not be shaken.

Pastor: You make known to us the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Congregational Hymn—The God Of Abraham Praise



Text: Thomas Olivers, 1770; Music: LEONI, Jewish melody, arr. Meyer Lyon, 1770.

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)



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

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:1-3

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—What Wondrous Love Is This



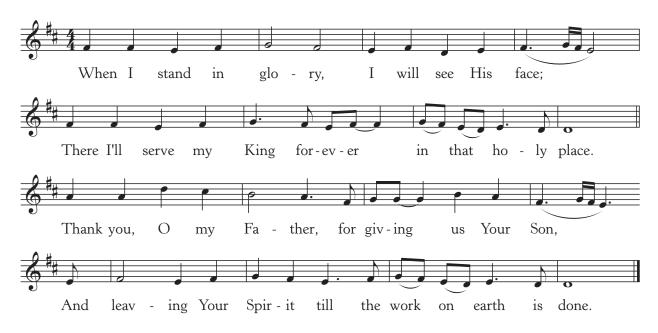
Reading of the Word—Psalm 17:1-15

Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry! Give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit! ² From Your presence let my vindication come! Let Your eyes behold the right! ³ You have tried my heart, You have visited me by night, You have tested me, and You will find nothing; I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress. ⁴ With regard to the works of man, by the word of Your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent. ⁵ My steps have held fast to Your paths; my feet have not slipped. ⁶ I call upon You, for You will answer me, O God; incline Your ear to me; hear my words. ⁷ Wondrously show Your steadfast love, O Savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at Your right hand. ⁸ Keep me as the apple of Your eye; hide me in the shadow of Your wings, ⁹ from the wicked who do me violence, my deadly enemies who surround me. ¹⁰ They close their hearts to pity; with their mouths they speak arrogantly. ¹¹ They have now surrounded our steps; they set their eyes to cast us to the ground. ¹² He is like a lion eager to tear, as a young lion lurking in ambush. ¹³ Arise, O Lord! Confront him, subdue him! Deliver my soul from the wicked by Your sword, ¹⁴ from men by Your hand, O Lord, from men of the world whose portion is in this life. You fill their womb with treasure; they are satisfied with children, and they leave their abundance to their infants. ¹⁵ As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with Your likeness.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—There Is A Redeemer, Vs. 3



 $CCLI\,\#2844402\,\\ @1982\ Birdwing\ Music;\ Text\ and\ Music:\ Melody\ Green-Sievright,\ 1982.$

Sermon—Beholding God's Face

—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 Isaiah 6:9-10 and Psalm 139:23-24

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Search us, O God, and know our heart! Try us and know our thoughts! We keep on hearing, but we do not understand; we keep on seeing, but we do not perceive.

All: We have made our hearts dull, and our ears heavy, and our eyes blind.

Pastor: We have not seen with our eyes, or heard with their ears, or understood with our hearts.

All: We have not turned to You to be healed. Lead us in the way everlasting!

Assurance of Pardon—Isaiah 55:6-7; Romans 1:16-17

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

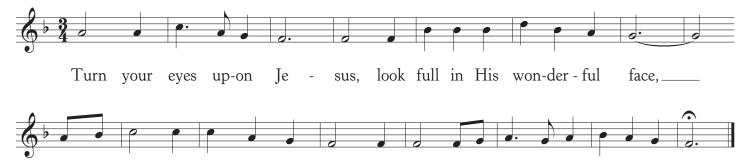
All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: Therefore, I am not ashamed of the Gospel.

All: It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.

Pastor: For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Sung Response—Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus, refrain



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

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

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, 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—The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns



Text: Ancient Greek Hymn, tr. John Brownlie, 1907; Music: MORNING SONG, Elkanah Kelsay Dare, Kentucky Harmony, 1816.

Congregational Hymn—God Moves In A Mysterious Way



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 Psalm—O Hear My Righteous Plea (Psalm 17)



Text: Psalm 17:1-4, 7-9, 14-15, OPC/URCNA Psalter, 2016; Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh hymn melody, arr. Daniel Evans, 1875, harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

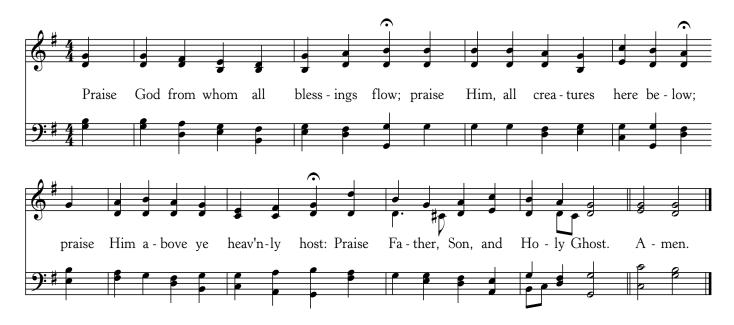
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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—Doxology



Text: Thomas Ken, 1709; Music: OLD 100TH, Louis Bourgeois's Genevan Psalter, 1551.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. —Matthew 5:8

In last week's sermon, Pastor Jamie mentioned the "beatific vision," the immediate knowledge of God which we will experience in eternity—or more simply, "the happy sight of God." You'll find references to this concept at the end of Psalm 17 (vs. 15), as well as in many of the hymns and psalms we sing this week. The God Of Abraham Praise and There Is A Redeemer look forward to a future beatific vision: "I shall behold His face," and "When I stand in glory, I shall see His face." The King Shall Come makes this hope explicitly eschatological, looking to the time when "Christ, our King, in beauty come and we His face shall see." Both The Lord I Will At All Times Bless—Psalm 34 and Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus encourage us to "look up" to our Savior, finding in His face a brightness that overshadows the things of the world and causes our own faces to be radiant. Even What Wondrous Love Is This (which is closely related to the Scripture reading from 1 John 3) and God Moves In A Mysterious Way use the imagery of faces and facial expressions: the Lord is described as having both a "righteous frown" and a "smiling face." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Just, Steadfast Love, Keep, Wicked, Violence, Arise, Portion, Righteousness, Satisfied
 Keystone Verse: As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with Your likeness. (Psalm 17:15)



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