

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time 18 August 2024

When we begin to grasp what the Lord has done for us and what He has promised He will yet do, we are able to press forward into our callings and purposes. When we apprehend the full surety of Gospel hope, we are quickened unto our good work in the world. —Thomas Chalmers

In the Psalms I learn to avoid sin and I unlearn being ashamed of repentance. —Ambrose of Milan

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—Colossians 1:13

God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Sung Response—Come, Thou Almighty King, Vs. 1



Text: Anonymous, 1757; Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1769.

Call to Worship—Psalm 46:1-2, 4-5, 10-11

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

All: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

Reader 1: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

Reader 2: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

Pastor: He says, "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the

earth!"

All: The Lord of hosts is with us.

Pastor: The God of Jacob is our fortress.

Congregational Hymn—All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name



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—O Sing A New Song To The Lord! (Psalm 98)



- The great salvation wrought by Him Jehovah has made known.
 His justice in the nations' sight He openly has shown.
- 3. He mindful of His grace and truth To Isr'el's house has been. The great salvation of our God All ends of Earth have seen.
- Because He comes, He surely comes,
 The judge of Earth to be!
 With justice He will judge the world,
 All men with equity.

Scripture Reading—Colossians 1:15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—I Know That My Redeemer Lives



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

Baptism of Judah, Cornelius, Abel, and Thaddaeus Jackson, sons of Kenny and Sarah Jackson

Reading of the Word—Psalm 21:1-13

O Lord, in Your strength the king rejoices, and in Your salvation how greatly he exults! ² You have given him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. *Selah*

³ For You meet him with rich blessings; You set a crown of fine gold upon his head. ⁴ He asked life of You; You gave it to him, length of days forever and ever. ⁵ His glory is great through Your salvation; splendor and majesty You bestow on him. ⁶ For You make him most blessed forever; You make him glad with the joy of Your presence. ⁷ For the king trusts in the Lord, and through the steadfast love of the Most High he shall not be moved.

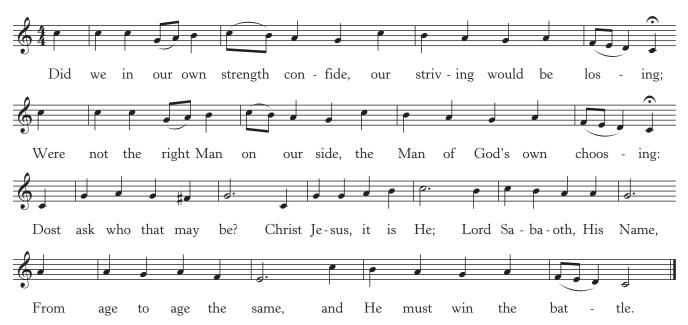
⁸Your hand will find out all Your enemies; Your right hand will find out those who hate You. ⁹You will make them as a blazing oven when You appear. The Lord will swallow them up in His wrath, and fire will consume them. ¹⁰You will destroy their descendants from the earth, and their offspring from among the children of man. ¹¹Though they plan evil against You, though they devise mischief, they will not succeed. ¹²For You will put them to flight; You will aim at their faces with Your bows.

¹³Be exalted, O Lord, in Your strength! We will sing and praise Your power.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—A Mighty Fortress Is Our God, Vs. 2



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

Sermon—The Once and Future King

-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 Colossians 1:21-22

Pastor: Lord, we come in contrition to confess our sins lest we too be counted among Your enemies.

All: Lord, we once were alienated and hostile in mind.

Pastor: We have committed evil deeds.

All: But now, Christ has reconciled us in His body of flesh by His death.

Pastor: He does this in order to present us holy and blameless and above reproach before Him.

Assurance of Pardon—Colossians 2:13-14; Romans 3:23-24

You, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in Him.

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—Blest Is The Man (Psalm 32), Vs. 1



Blest is the man, for - ev - er blest, whose guilt is par-doned by his God;



Whose sins with sor - row are con-fessed, and cov-ered with his Sav-ior's blood.

© 2008 Greyfriars Press. Text: paraphrase of Psalm 32, Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: DISTRESS, William Walker, 1854, arr. Gregory Wilbur, 2008.

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:

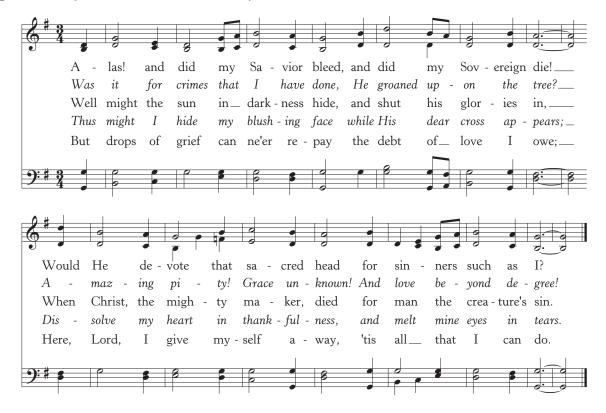


Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9; Music: CLOVERCROFT SANCTUS, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S TABLE

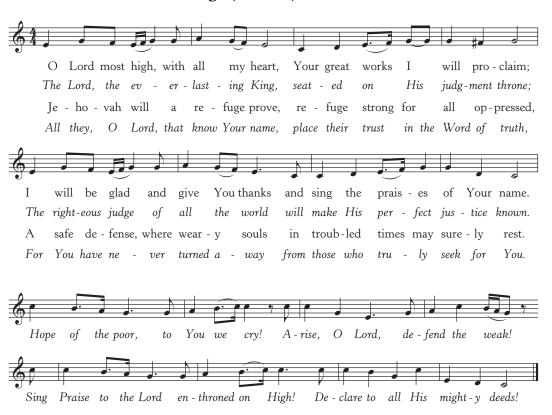
This table is open to all baptized Christians who have made a profession of faith. You may come forward to receive the bread and wine or grape juice.

Congregational Hymn—Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1824.

Congregational Psalm—O Lord Most High (Psalm 9)



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—The King In Your Strength Shall Be Glad (Psalm 21)



Text: Psalm 21:1-13, The Psalter, 1898; alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021; Music: KING PHILIP, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

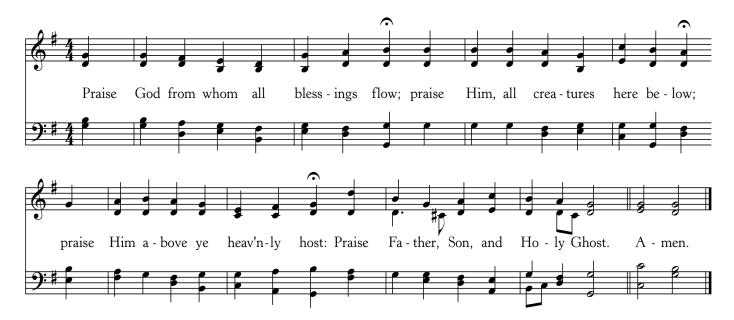
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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—Colossians 2:6-7

Just as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so continue to walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. *Amen*.

Sung Response—Doxology



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

Announcements

Worship Notes:

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds.
—Psalm 9:1

We began this "summer in the psalms" with a commandment to recount the things that God has done for us (Psalm 9:1). As we come to the close of this sermon series, we find David again telling what God has done for him, in this case recounting the Lord's explicit answer to the prayer for victory found in Psalm 20. Throughout this morning's service, we will recount along with David all the things God has done. He has "delivered us from the domain of darkness" (Colossians 1:13). He has won the victory (O Sing A New Song To The Lord—Psalm 98). He blesses us with His love and crushes the fiends of hell (I Know That My Redeemer Lives). He has put the rulers and authorities of this world to open shame (Colossians 2:14). He has pardoned our guilt (Blest Is The Man—Psalm 32). The service concludes by singing the first and last psalms in the series, declaring that He has never turned from those who seek Him (O Lord Most High—Psalm 9) and that He has graciously given all the blessings we have craved (The King In Your Strength Shall Be Glad—Psalm 21). —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Strength, Blessings, Life, Glory, Blessed, Joy, Forever

Keystone Verse: Be exalted, O Lord, in Your strength! We will sing and praise Your power. (Psalm 21:13)



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