



PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Thanksgiving Sunday
November 23rd, 2025

Quotes for reflection:

It is to be noted as a special providence of God, and a great mercy to this poor people, that they thus got seed to plant corn the next year, or they might have starved... But the Lord is never wanting unto His in their great need; let His holy name have all the praise.

—William Bradford

All the works and ways of God have something in them mysterious, above the comprehension of any finite understanding. As this is the case with His works of creation and providence, there is no reason to expect it should be otherwise in the astonishing method of the redemption of the world by Jesus Christ.

—John Witherspoon

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—Psalm 118:22-23

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Sung Response—Let All Things Now Living, Vs. 1



Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to God the Cre -

a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise, Who fash - ioned and made us, pro -

tect - ed and stayed us, who guides us and leads to the end of our days.

His ban - ners are o'er us, His light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of

fire shin - ing forth in the night, 'Til shad - ows have van - ished and

dark - nes is ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.

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Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1939; Music: ASH GROVE, arr. Katherine K. Davis, 1939.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 116:5, 12-14, 17-19

Pastor: What shall we render to the Lord for all His benefits to us?

All: We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Reader 1: We will pay our vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

Reader 2: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

Pastor: We will pay our vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

All: We will offer to Him the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

Pastor: Praise the Lord!

Congregational Psalm—In All The Land Rejoice (Psalm 100)

In all the land re - joice and to — the Lord cry out.
Know that the Lord is God. He made us, we are His,
With thanks come through His gates, praise in — His courts pro - claim;
Be - cause the Lord is good, His love — will yet en - dure;

In Wor - ship glad - ly serve the Lord for joy — be - fore Him shout.
His peo - ple — and the cho - sen flock set where His pas - ture is.
De - clare the glo - ry He de - serves, give bless - ings to His name.
To ge - ner - a - tions, on and on, His faith - ful - ness is sure.

Text: Psalm 100:1-5; © 2009 Crown and Covenant Publications, *Psalms for Worship*;
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1894.

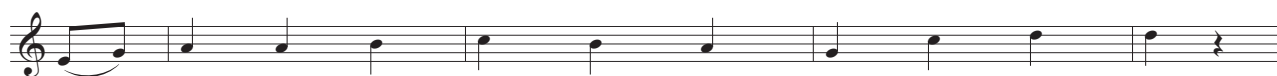
GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

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—The Lord Reigns Above (Psalm 97)



The Lord reigns a - bove, let the earth sing for joy;
Fire blaz - es be - fore Him and burns up His foes,
All mak - ers of im - a - ges go down to shame:
Love God and hate e - vil; stand fast, do not faint.



Let — all the glad coast - lands now lift up their voice!
His — light - nings light up the whole world down be - low.
Your i - dols are worth - less— give praise to His name!
The — Lord will keep safe all the lives of His saints;



Storm clouds and thick dark - ness He wears like a robe;
The mount - ains shall melt like the wax in a flame;
The daugh - ters of Ju - dah shall hear and de - light,
Light shines on the right - eous, and shall not de - part,



Seek just - ice, you men, at the foot of His throne.
His — glo - ry, you peo - ple, see heav - en pro - claim. TO CHORUS
Be - cause the Lord’s judg - ments shall ev - er be right.
Great joy shall rain down on the up - right in heart. TO CHORUS

Chorus



We praise You, O Lord! ——— You are high o - ver all of the earth! ———



Re - joice in the Lord! ——— He’s ex - al - ted a - bove all the gods— all oth - er gods.

Text: based on Psalm 97:1-12, Henry C. Haffner, 2025;
Music: BLACK MOUNTAIN, Henry C. Haffner, 2025.

Scripture Reading—Psalm 111:1-10

Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who delight in them.
Full of splendor and majesty is His work,
and His righteousness endures forever.
He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.
He provides food for those who fear Him;
He remembers His covenant forever.
He has shown His people the power of His works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.
The works of His hands are faithful and just;
all His precepts are trustworthy;
they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
He sent redemption to His people;
He has commanded His covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is His name!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm—O Thank The Lord, For He Is Good (Psalm 118)

The musical score is written for a congregational setting, featuring a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line breaks corresponding to the musical phrasing. The score is divided into two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system covers the first five lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the next five lines. The music concludes with a final double bar line.

O_ thank the Lord, for He is good, His gra - cious love en - dures. —
O_ let the house of Aar - on say, "His_ gra - cious love en - dures." —
In an - guish to_ the Lord I cried; the_ Lord then set me_ free. —
The Lord sup - ports me at my side, He_ gives His help to_ me; —
O_ bet - ter far_ to trust the Lord, than on man's help re - ly. —

O let all Is - ra - el_ now say, "His_ gra - cious love en - dures." —
Let those who fear_ the Lord now say, "His_ gra - cious love en - dures." —
The Lord's with me, — I will not fear. What harm can man do_ me? —
And so in tri - umph I_ will look on_ all those ha - ting me. —
Yes bet - ter far_ to trust the Lord than men whose rank is_ high. —

Text: Psalm 118:1-9; © 2009 Crown and Covenant Publications, *Psalms for Worship*;
Music: WHITE LAKE, Michael Tabon, 1999.

Sermon Text— Acts 21:15-36

¹⁵ After these days we got ready and went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁶ And some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us, bringing us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we should lodge.

¹⁷ When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. ¹⁸ On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. ¹⁹ After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. ²⁰ And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law, ²¹ and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs. ²² What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. ²³ Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; ²⁴ take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law. ²⁵ But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.” ²⁶ Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.

²⁷ When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him, ²⁸ crying out, “Men of Israel, help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against the people and the law and this place. Moreover, he even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place.” ²⁹ For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple. ³⁰ Then all the city was stirred up, and the people ran together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and at once the gates were shut. ³¹ And as they were seeking to kill him, word came to the tribune of the cohort that all Jerusalem was in confusion. ³² He at once took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. And when they saw the tribune and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. ³³ Then the tribune came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. He inquired who he was and what he had done. ³⁴ Some in the crowd were shouting one thing, some another. And as he could not learn the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks. ³⁵ And when he came to the steps, he was actually carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd, ³⁶ for the mob of the people followed, crying out, “Away with him!”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

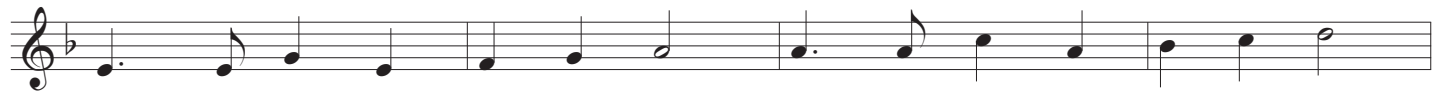
Sung Response—Come, Ye Thankful People, Come, Vs. 1



Come, ye thank - ful peo - ple come, raise the song of har - vest home:



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin;



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.

Text: Henry Alford, 1844; Music: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1859.

Sermon—*The Arrested Nazirite*

—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 Romans 9:30-33; 10:1-4

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Those who once did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith. But we who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law.

All: We did not pursue righteousness by faith, but as if it were based on works.

Pastor: We stumbled over the stumbling stone, as it is written, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.”

All: We have had a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.

Pastor: For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish our own, we have not submitted to God's righteousness.

All: Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. Help us, Lord, in our unbelief.

Assurance of Pardon—Romans 10:9-13; Titus 2:11-14

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

All: And so we await our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Sung Response—My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness, Vs. 1

My heart is filled with thank-ful - ness to Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my dis-grace and gave me life a - gain;
Who crushed my curse of sin - ful - ness and clothed me with His light
And wrote His law of right - eous - ness with pow'r up-on my heart.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and suitable for a congregational response. The lyrics are written below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

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Text and Music: Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, 2003.

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 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 Hymn—Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

A - las! and did my Sa - vior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign die! —
Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned up - on the tree? —
Well might the sun in dark - ness hide, and shut his glor - ies in, —
Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while His dear cross ap - pears; —
But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the debt of love I owe; —

Would He de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pi - ty! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!
When Christ, the migh - ty ma - ker, died for man the crea - ture's sin.
Dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt mine eyes in tears.
Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way, 'tis all that I can do.

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

Congregational Hymn—We Will Feast In The House Of Zion

Chorus



We will feast in the house of Zi - on, We will sing with our hearts re - stored;



"He has done great things," We will say to - geth-er, We will feast and weep no more.



We will not be burned by the fire He is the Lord, our God

In the dark of night, be fore the dawn My soul, be not a - fraid

Ev - ery vow we've bro ken and be-trayed You are the faith - ful one



We are not con - sumed by the flood Up - held, pro-TECT - ed, gath - ered up.

For the pro - mised morn ing, oh, how long? Oh, God of Jac - ob, be my strength.

And— from the gar den to the grave Bind us to - ge - ther, bring sha - lom.

CCLI #2844402; Text and Music: Sandra McCracken and Josh Moore, 2015.

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—God Of Our Fathers

God of our fa - thers, whose al - might - y hand
 Thy love div - ine hath led us in the past;
 Re - fresh Thy peo - ple on their toil - some way;

Leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 In this free land with Thee our lot is cast;
 Lead us from night to ne - ver end - ing day;

Of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
 Be Thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay,
 Fill all our lives with love and grace div - ine,

Our grate - ful songs be - fore Thy throne a - rise.
 Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chos - en way.
 And glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er Thine.

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1876; Music: NATIONAL HYMN, George W. Warren, 1876.

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 4:5-7

The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Let All Things Now Living, Vs. 2



His law He en - forc - es: the stars in their cours-es, the sun in its
or - bit, o - be - dient - ly shine; The hills and the moun - tain, the
riv - ers and foun-tains, the deeps of the o - cean pro - claim Him di - vine.
We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing, with
glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise, 'Til all things now
liv-ing u - nite in thanks - giv ing to God in the high-est, ho - san - na and praise!

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Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1939; Music: ASH GROVE, arr. Katherine K. Davis, 1939.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

As we come to the end of the church year, it is appropriate that we look back on the year that has passed with thanksgiving. God has certainly poured out blessings on us this year, bringing new faces, new lives, and new opportunities to Parish, along with this beautiful building where we are now able to worship. Accordingly, many of the elements in this morning's service encourage gratitude towards our Lord. We open and close with the hymn *Let All Things Now Living*, which asks all of creation to raise songs of adoration and thanks to the Creator. Readings from the psalms call us to "offer to [Him] the sacrifice of thanksgiving" and to "give thanks to the Lord with [our] whole heart" (Psalm 116:17; Psalm 111:1). We respond by singing the psalms, declaring our intent to come through His gates with thanks and to "thank the Lord, for He is good" (*In All The Land Rejoice—Psalm 100; O Thank The Lord, For He Is Good—Psalm 118*). Several hymns refer to us as a "thankful people," and describe our hearts as both filled and dissolved with thankfulness (*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come; My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness; Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*). We are sent out with a "grateful song," in which we confess God's providence towards our ancestors in the past and our hope that He will continue to be "ruler, guardian, guide, and stay" in our land for the days to come. I pray for all of us this morning that, even in the midst of our "toilsome ways," we can find refreshment in the posture of gratefulness.

—Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: God, Ministry, Glorify, Jew, Gentile, Law, Temple, Mob, Violence, Bound

Keystone Verses: And when he came to the steps, he was actually carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd, for the mob of the people followed, crying out, "Away with him!" (Acts 21:35-36)



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Officers Emeritus

Steve Nelson, Elder Emeritus; Jimmy Allen, Tim Simmons, Deacons Emeritus

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