

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time 22 September 2024 The purpose of the Creator in making the universe revolves around the church of Jesus Christ. If you desire to have a part in God's great purpose for the universe, be part of His church. —Joel Beeke

He can no longer have God for his Father who has not the Church for his mother. —Cyprian

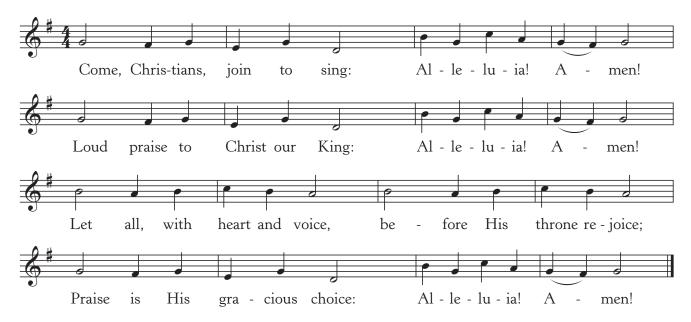
GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

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 2:38

Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Sung Response—Come, Christians, Join To Sing, Vs. 1



Text: Christian Bateman, 1843; Music: MADRID, Traditional Spanish melody, arr. David Evans, 1927.

Call to Worship—Psalm 34:3-6, 8-9

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

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

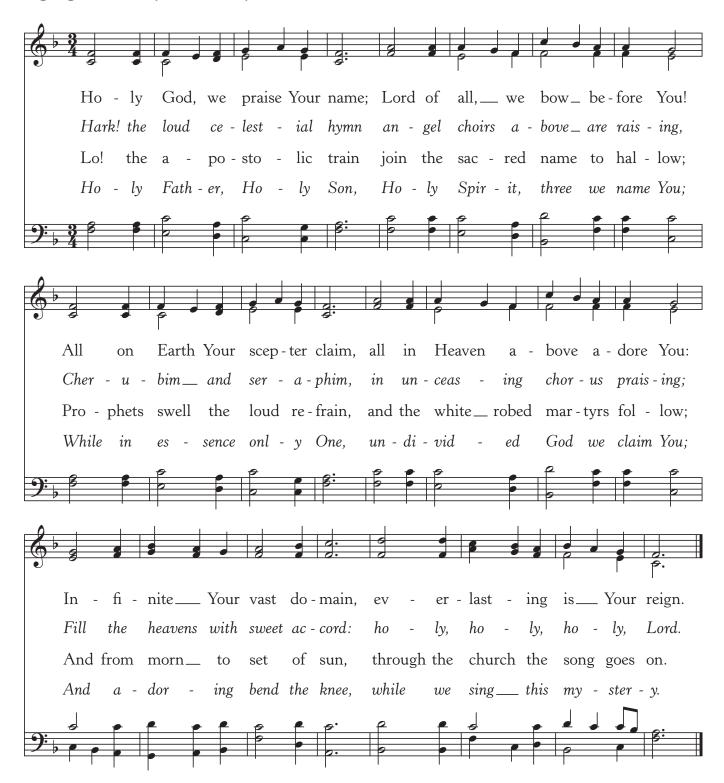
Reader 1: I sought the Lord, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

Reader 2: This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

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

Pastor: Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack!

Congregational Hymn—Holy God, We Praise Your Name



Text: based on *Te Deum*, 4th century, attr. Ignace Franz, 1774; Music: GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1774.

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—Who Shall Abide In the Tents Of The Lord (Psalm 15)





His walk is blame-less; He does what is right His heart shall speak truth to the end; His eyes look scorn - ful - ly down on the vile, he hon - ors the fear of the Lord;

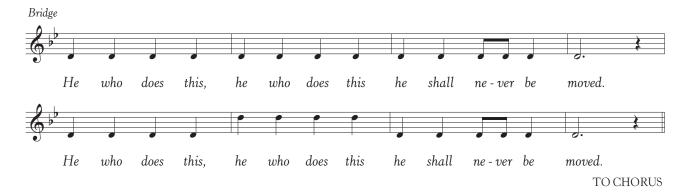


His tongue tells no lies, His hands do no e - vil He ne - ver brings shame on a friend.

TO CHORUS

He lends to the poor with-out seek-ing prof-it, when hurt-ing, he still keeps his word.

TO CHORUS, THEN BRIDGE



Text: based on Psalm 15:1-5, Henry C. Haffner, 2024; Music: STONE MOUNTAIN, Henry C. Haffner, 2024.

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 58:6-10

Is not this the fast that I choose... to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, "Here I am." If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation



Text: Anonymous, 7th century, tr. J. M. Neale, 1851; Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Smart, 1867.

Baptism of Celesta Belle and Davis Erickson, children of Kyle and Cassandra Erickson

Reading of the Word—Acts 2:42-47

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—From Babel To Zion, Vs. 2



Text: Thomas Nelson, 1907; Music: D. O. Teasley, 1907, arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2016.

Sermon—Being Saved

—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—from Isaiah 59:1-2, 12-13

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or His ear dull, that it cannot hear; but our iniquities have made a separation between us and our God.

All: Our transgressions are multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us.

Pastor: We have transgressed, and denied the Lord, and turned back from following our God.

All: We have spoken oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.

Assurance of Pardon—Isaiah 59:15-17, 20; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

The Lord saw it, and it displeased Him that there was no justice. He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought Him salvation, and His righteousness upheld Him. He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on His head. And the Lord declares, "A Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression."

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

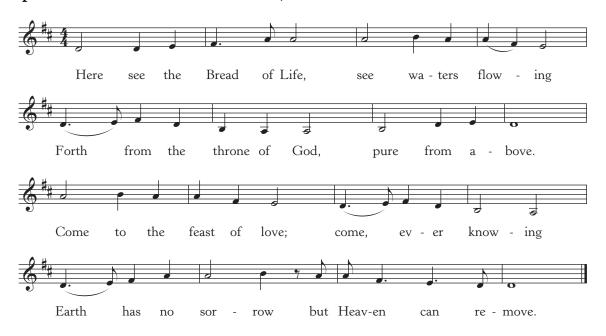
All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: He is the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.

Pastor: He comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Sung Response—Come Ye Disconsolate, Vs. 3



CCLI #2844402 Text: Thomas More, 1816; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2007.

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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—Let Us Break Bread Together



Chorus

And

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on Him

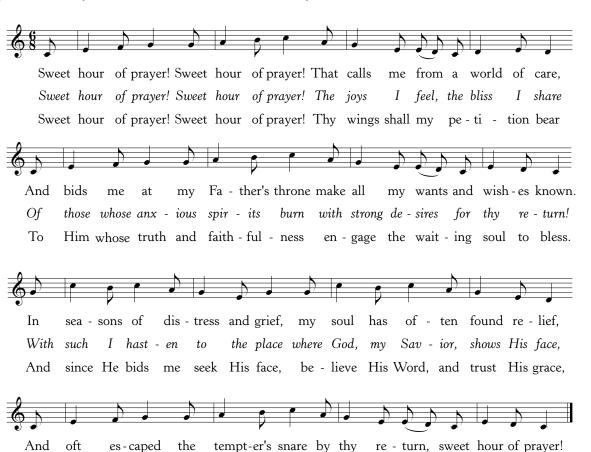
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Text and Music: Traditional African-American Spiritual.

Congregational Hymn—Sweet Hour Of Prayer



Text: William Walford, 1845; Music: SWEET HOUR, William Bradbury, 1861.

sta - tion there, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

ev - ery care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

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—Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken



Text: John Newton, 1789; Music: AUSTRIA, Joseph Haydn, 1779.

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—2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *Amen*.

Sung Response—Gloria Patri



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

Announcements

Worship Notes:

The hymns and psalms we sing this morning all point to the mission and work of the church, which we see modelled in the short coda to Acts chapter 2. We celebrate that "through the church the song goes on" (Holy God, We Praise Your Name). We confess Christ as the cornerstone of this new Zion that "bind[s] all the church in one" (Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation). Like the first century church, we are called to honor the teaching of the "apostolic train" (also Holy God, We Praise Your Name), to fellowship and unity (From Babel To Zion), to care for the poor among us (Who Shall Abide In The Tents Of The Lord—Psalm 15), to the "breaking of bread" (Let Us Break Bread Together), and to prayer (Sweet Hour Of Prayer). Though the world may "deride or pity" Zion's children, we can rest on the promise that salvation's walls shall always surround us (Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken). As we continue this study through the book of Acts, let's pray that our local church would remain faithful to the example set for us in the Scriptures and that the Lord would "add to [our] number day by day those who are being saved." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Continue, Teaching, Fellowship, Bread, Prayer, Need, Distribute, Glad, SaveKeystone Verse: And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2:42)



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