



PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Kingdomtide
November 9th, 2025

Quote for reflection:

Guard us Lord, from the Judas kiss;
Keep us Lord, from the way of Cain;
From the error of Balaam;
From the rebellion of Korah.
We confess that we are Jezebels at heart,
Every one of us;
We are Ichabods; We are Hamans;
We are Tobiahs and Sanballats;
We are Abimelechs and Absaloms;
We are Chedorlaomers and Eglons.
Indeed, we are all Adams.
Save us, O Lord.

—Tristan Gylberd

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—Jude 1:21

Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.

Sung Response—O Worship The King, Vs. 1

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, while the Bass staff provides harmonic support with chords. The lyrics are written below the staves.

O wor-ship the King, all glor-ious a - bove, O grate-ful-ly sing His pow'r and His love;

Our shield and de-fend-er, the An-cient of Days, pa-vil-ioned in splen-dor, and gird-ed with praise.

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

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 89:1-8

Pastor: We will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever.

All: With our mouths will we make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

Reader 1: Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens You will establish Your faithfulness. You have made a covenant with Your Chosen One.

Reader 2: You will establish Your offspring forever and build Your throne for all generations.

Pastor: Let the heavens praise Your wonders, O Lord.

All: O Lord God of hosts, who is as mighty, as faithful, or as just as You are?

Pastor: We will praise Your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

Congregational Hymn—How Firm A Foundation

How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,
Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed;
When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,

Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
The riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply;

What more can He say than to you He has said,
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
The flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign

To you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
And sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

Text: "K" in John Rippon's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787;
Music: FOUNDATION, Traditional American melody.

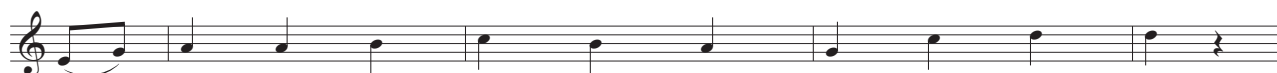
GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

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—Jude 1:17-23

You must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. They said to you, “In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.” It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee



If thou but suf - fer God to guide thee and hope in Him through all thy ways,
Be pa - tient and a - wait His lei - sure in cheer-ful hope, with heart con-tent
Sing, pray, and keep His ways un-swerv-ing, per-form thy du - ties faith-ful-ly,



He'll give thee strength, what - e'er be - tide thee, and bear thee through the e - vil days.
To take what-e'er thy Fa-ther's plea-sure and His dis-cern - ing love hath sent,
And trust His Word: though un - de - serv-ing, thou yet shalt find it true for thee.



Who trusts in God's un - chang-ing love builds on the rock that naught can move.
Nor doubt our in - most wants are known to Him who chose us for His own.
God nev - er yet for - sook in need the soul that trust - ed Him in - deed.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1641, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863;
Music: NEUMARK, Georg Neumark, 1657.

Sermon Text—Acts 20:13-38

¹³ But going ahead to the ship, we set sail for Assos, intending to take Paul aboard there, for so he had arranged, intending himself to go by land. ¹⁴ And when he met us at Assos, we took him on board and went to Mitylene.¹⁵ And sailing from there we came the following day opposite Chios; the next day we touched at Samos; and the day after that we went to Miletus. ¹⁶ For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia, for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

¹⁷ Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹ testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴ But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵ And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶ Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

³⁶ And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. ³⁷ And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸ being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—May The Mind Of Christ, My Savior, Vs. 5

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "May I run the race be-fore me, strong and brave to face the foe, Look-ing on - ly un - to Jes - us as I on - ward go." The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line.

May I run the race be - fore me, strong and brave to face the foe,

Look - ing on - ly un - to Jes - us as I on - ward go.

Text: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; Music: ST. LEONARDS,
A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925.

Sermon—*Guarding and Giving*

—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 Psalm 51:3-13

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. For we know only too well our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

All: Against You, You only, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that you may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

Pastor: Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach wisdom in the secret of our hearts.

All: Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow. Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from our sins and blot out all our iniquities.

Pastor: Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

All: Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, O Lord, and uphold us with a willing spirit.

Assurance of Pardon—based on Psalm 51:17; Galatians 2:16-20; Titus 2:11-14

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, He will not despise. We are not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Indeed, if righteousness came by the law, then Christ died for no purpose. But we have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us. And the life we now live in the flesh we live by faith in the Son of God.

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—The Creed Of Timothy

For if we have died with Him, we will al - so live with Him;

And if we en - dure with Him, we will al - so reign with Him;

And if we are faith - less, He re - mains — faith - ful,

For He can - not de - ny Him - self. Praise to our Re - dee - mer! A - men.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'For if we have died with Him, we will al - so live with Him; And if we en - dure with Him, we will al - so reign with Him; And if we are faith - less, He re - mains — faith - ful, For He can - not de - ny Him - self. Praise to our Re - dee - mer! A - men.'

Text: based on 2 Timothy 2:11-13, Nathan George, 2012;
Music: Nathan George, 2012.

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—On Jordan's Stormy Banks



On Jor - dan's stor - my banks I stand, and cast a wish-ful eye
O'er all those wide ex - ten - ded plains shines one e - ter - nal day;
When shall I reach that hap - py place, and be for - ev - er blest?
Filled with de - light, my rap - tured soul would here no long - er stay:



To Ca - naan's fair and hap - py land, where my pos - ses - sions lie.
There God the Son for - ev - er reigns, and scat - ters night a - way.
When shall I see my Fa - ther's face, and in His bos - om rest?
Though Jor - dan's waves a - round me roll, I'd fear - less launch a - way.

Refrain



I am bound for the prom-ised land, I'm bound for the prom-ised land,



O, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the prom - ised land.

Text: Samuel Stennet, 1787; Music: THE PROMISED LAND, Matilda Durham, 1835.

Congregational Hymn—To Live Is Christ



I re - jice! for through your prayers,— and the help of Je - sus' Spir - it,
My *sure hope and ex - pec - ta - tion* is *that I will not be shamed*—
Our de - sire is to de - part,—— be with Christ up - on that day——



All these pre - sent trials will turn—— to de - li - ver - ance.
But that— Christ will gain the glo - ry in my life or death.
Though now we are called to live,—— live in joy and faith.

Chorus



To live is Christ, to be His ser - vant. To die and live with Him is—— gain.



Though as I live, may fruit-ful la - bor glor - i - fy His name, glo - ri - fy His name.

Text: based on Philippians 1:19-25, Nathan George, 2012;
Music: Nathan George, 2012.

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 Psalm—Lord, Hear My Voice (Psalm 61)



Lord, hear my voice, my prayer at - tend, from earth's re - mot - est bound I send
 In You my soul has shel - ter found, and You have been from foes a - round
 For You, O Lord, my vows have heard, on me their her - i - tage con - ferred,
 Be - fore the Lord shall he a - bide; oh, give him truth, and grace pro - vide



My bro - ken heart - ed cry. When trou - bles fill my faint - ing breast,
 The tow'r of my de - fense. My home shall your pa - vil - ion be;
 That fear Your ho - ly name. Long life You to Your ser - vant give,
 To guard him in the way. So I Your prais - es will make known,

Vs. 1 & 2, then Chorus



Then lead me on the rock to rest, the rock high - er than I.
 And un - der - neath Your wings I'll flee, to find de - liv - er - ance.
 Through gen - er - a - tions he shall live, from age to age the same.
 And hum - bly bend - ing at Your throne, my vows will dai - ly pay.

Chorus



When trou - bles fill my faint - ing breast, then lead me on



The rock to rest, the rock high - er than I.

Text: Psalm 61:1-8, *The Psalter*, 1900, alt. 2022;
 Music: TRAVELLER, Henry C. Haffner, 2022.

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—Jude 1:24-25

Now to Him who is able to keep us from stumbling and to present us blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Unto Christ Who Loved Us



Un-to Christ, who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

And has made us kings and priests un - to God and His Fa - ther:

Un-to Him be glo-ry and do-min-ion for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

CCLI #2844402 ©1936 Oxford University Press; Text: Revelation 1:5-6;
Music: UNTO HIM WHO LOVED US, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1936.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Reading this morning's sermon text in preparation for the service, it seemed as if Paul was giving the Ephesian believers a farewell address and a set of final instructions. The apostle states plainly that he is departing permanently (Acts 20:25) and urges the church to "stay the course" and to be on guard against false teaching (Acts 20:29-31). Throughout this morning's service, we have similar warnings to "keep yourselves in the love of God" (Jude 1:21) and to "keep His ways unswerving" (*If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee*). Alongside these warnings, several Scripture-based hymns reassure us of God's promise to "be with [us], your troubles to bless" (*How Firm A Foundation*, based on Isaiah 43), to "keep safe all the lives of His saints" (*The Lord Reigns Above*, a versification of Psalm 97), and that "if we endure with Him, we will also reign with Him" (*The Creed of Timothy*, taken from 2 Timothy 2:11-13). Other hymns echo Paul's desire to "finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus," with phrases like "may I run the race before me" (*May The Mind Of Christ My Savior*, based on Hebrews 12:1) and "as I live, may fruitful labor glorify His name" (*To Live Is Christ*, based on Philippians 1:19-25). Even the communion hymn *On Jordan's Stormy Banks* reminds us of Paul's premonition that the journey he is undertaking will be his last, saying with determination "though Jordan's waves around me roll I'd fearless launch away." We close the service by again asking for the Lord's guidance. We heed Paul's admonition to "pay attention" and to "be alert" to the state of our walk by crying out with the words of *Lord Hear My Voice—Psalm 61*, "guard us in the way" and "lead [us]" even through hardships and troubles.

Key Words: Humility, Tears, Trials, Teaching, Constrained, Guard, Wolves, Give

Keystone Verses: Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood. (Acts 20:28)

It is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35)



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.