



# PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time

*25 August 2024*

Have we not all wondered what the early Christians were like, and whether we could stand firm in similar trials? Here we shall find them revealed in all their strength and in all their weakness, and to become acquainted with them will prove a salutary experience. —G. A. Williamson

The entire history of the Christian Church is rooted in one central reality – the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. If Jesus of Nazareth had not risen, there would be no Church history. The rest of the story told in these pages flows out of the resurrection. —Nick Needham

## 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—John 15:26

Jesus said, “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about Me.”

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

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'Come, Thou Al - might - y King, help us Thy name to sing, Help us to praise! Fa - ther all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous, Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days!' The score ends with a double bar line.

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

## Call to Worship—Psalm 66:1-5, 8, 20

Pastor: Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

**All:** **How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies come cringing to You.**

Reader 1: All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.

Reader 2: Come and see what God has done: He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man.

**All:** **Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard.**

Pastor: Blessed be God, because He has not rejected our prayer or removed His steadfast love from us!

## Congregational Hymn—Jesus, Shepherd Of Thy People



Je - sus, Shep - herd of Thy peo - ple, lead us through this des - ert land;  
All Thy sheep shall come to Zi - on; with them Thou wilt nev - er part;  
In Thy bos - om safe - ly lodg - ed, Thine shall rest from dan - ger free;



We are weak, and poor, and fee - ble, yet we trust Thy might - y hand;  
Beasts of prey, nor roar - ing li - on, none shall pluck them from Thy heart;  
They shall nev - er more be judg - ed, nor shall con - dem - na - tion see;



Great pro - tec - tor! By Thy power a - lone we stand.  
All Thy cho - sen cost Thee wounds, and blood, and smart.  
Bless - ed Je - sus, let us thus re - joice in Thee.

©2008 [www.restassuredhymns.com](http://www.restassuredhymns.com)  
Text: J. Adams, 1838; Music: Cathy Steere, 2008.

## 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 Lord, Teach Me To Follow You (Psalm 27)

O Lord, teach me to fol - low You, in - struct me in Your way,  
Give me not to my foes' de - sire; false wit - ness - es a - rise  
Oh! What if I had not be - lieved! I am by faith as - sured  
With pa - tience wait up - on the Lord, O let your strength be great;

And lead me on a le - vel path be - cause of foes, I pray!  
A - gainst me breath - ing vi - o - lence and seek - ing my de - mise.  
That in the land of life I'll see the good - ness of the Lord.  
And so let cour - age fill your heart as on the Lord you wait.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. The first system covers the first four lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the last four lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with clear phrasing.

Copyright © 2009 Crown and Covenant Publications, *Book of Psalms for Worship*.  
Text: Psalm 27:11-14; Music: LOUISE, Robert M. Copland, 1972.

### Scripture Reading—from Luke 24:44-49

[Jesus] said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

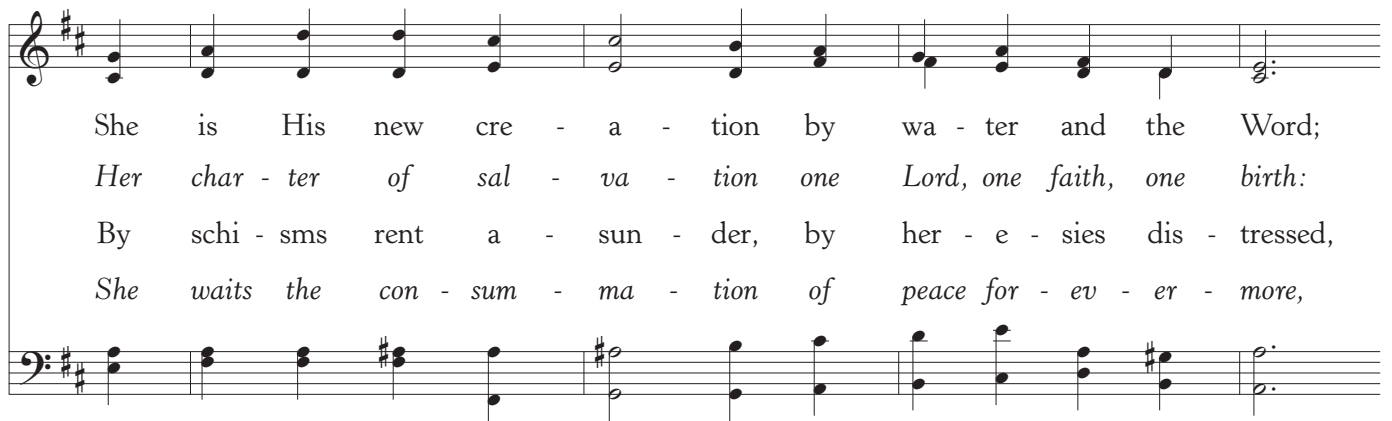
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Congregational Hymn—The Church's One Foundation



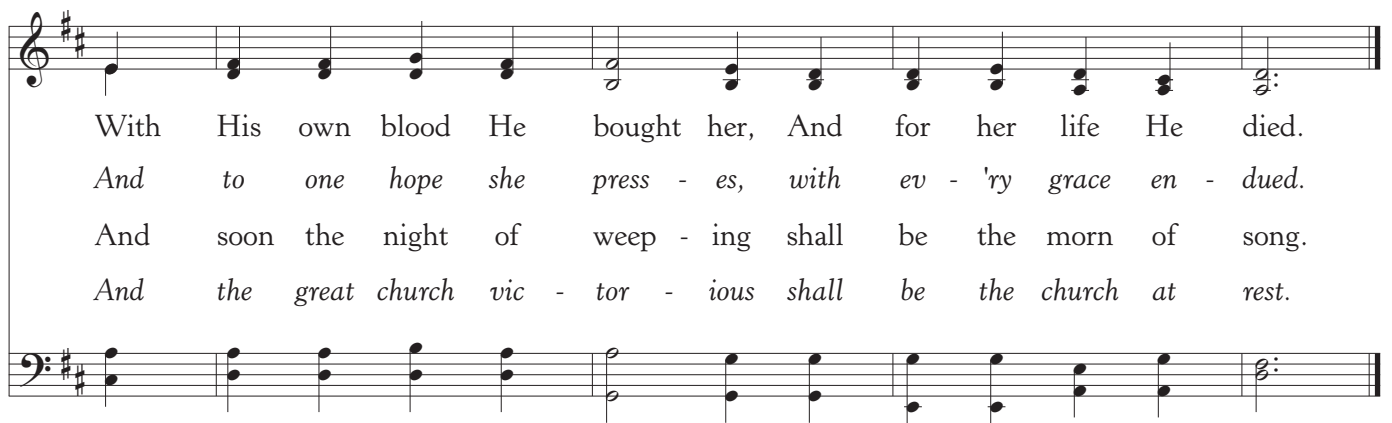
The Church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord:  
E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the Earth,  
Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,  
Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,



She is His new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word;  
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
By schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more,



From Heav'n He came and sought her to be His ho - ly bride;  
One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
Yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"  
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.  
And to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
And the great church vic - tor - ious shall be the church at rest.

## Reading of the Word—Acts 1:1-8

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup> until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. <sup>3</sup> He presented Himself alive to them after His suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup> And while staying with them He ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, “you heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked Him, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Sung Response—I Will Lift My Voice (Psalm 101), Vs. 2



I will raise my song for that glorious day!

Lord if You should tar-ry long, I will ev-er wait.

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

For that glorious day I will ev-er wait.

Text and Music: Nathan George, 2014.

## Sermon—All That Jesus Continues To Do and Teach

—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 44:6, 8-10

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. You are the First and the Last; besides You there is no god.

All: **We are Your witnesses! There is no god besides You. There is no Rock.**

Pastor: All who fashion idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit.

All: **We have become witnesses for idols who neither see nor know, and we are put to shame. Who fashions a god that is profitable for nothing?**

## Assurance of Pardon—from Isaiah 43:25, 44:3-4; Romans 3:23-24

[The Lord has said,] “I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins. I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit upon your offspring, and My blessing on your descendants. They shall spring up among the grass like willows by flowing streams.”

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—Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy, Vs. 1



Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need-y, weak and wound - ed, — sick and sore;



Je - sus read - y stands to save you, full of pit - y, — love and power.



I will a-rise and go to Je - sus, He will em-brace me — in His arms;



In the arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou-sand charms.

Text: Joseph Hart, 1759; Music: RESTORATION (ARISE), William Walker's *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

# HEAVENLY GIFT—*EUCCHARISTO*

*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:

WOMEN  
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might

MEN  
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might Hea-ven and Earth are  
Hea-ven and Earth are full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hos-

Lord. Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.  
san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

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 Psalm—Fret Not Yourself (Psalm 37)



Fret not your-self when e - vil seems to pros - per in the land, —  
And though he thinks he's root - ed fast, un - yield - ing like a tree, —  
Be still be - fore the Lord and wait; de - light in His com - mands.  
I have not seen, in youth or age, the right - eous man de - crease.



Nor when the wick - ed\_ plots and schemes a - gainst the right - eous man.  
The wick - ed one will fade like grass, like smoke caught in a breeze.  
And He shall keep your path - way straight, up - hold you with His hand.  
The Lord pro - vides a her - i - tage, a fu - ture full\_ of peace.



Dwell faith - ful - ly, and trust God will your heart's de - sires ful - fill.  
His bow will break, his sword will fail; and just - ice will pre - vail.  
A strong - hold sure in\_ trou - bled days, the Lord His peo - ple saves.  
He is a re - fuge ev - er - more, for all who trust the Lord.

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 37, Elizabeth Dowdell, 2020; Music: GRAYMERE, Henry C. Haffner and Elizabeth Dowdell, 2020.

## Congregational Hymn—There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood



There is a foun - tain filled with blood drawn from Em - man - uel's veins;  
The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see that foun - tain in his day;  
E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream Thy flow - ing wounds sup - ply,  
Dear dy - ing Lamb, Thy pre - cious blood shall nev - er lose its power,



And sin - ners plunged be - neath that flood lose all their guilt - y stains.  
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins a - way.  
Re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.  
Till all the ran - somed church of God be saved, to sin no more.



Lose all their guilt - y stains,           lose all their guilt - y stains;  
Washed all my sins a - way,           washed all my sins a - way;  
And shall be till I die,           and shall be till I die;  
Be saved, to sin no more,           be saved, to sin no more;



And sin - ners plunged be - neath that flood lose all their guilt - y stains.  
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins a - way.  
Re - deem - ing love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.  
Till all the ran - somed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

Text: William Cowper, 1771; Music: FOUNTAIN, Lowell Mason, 1830.

# 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.

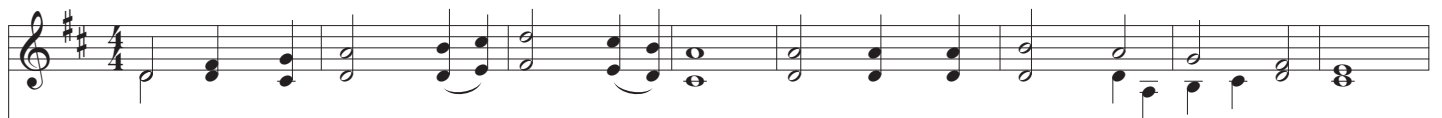
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

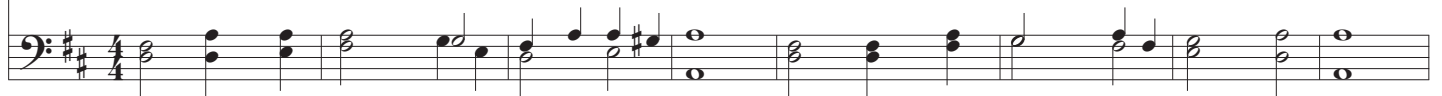
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

## Congregational Hymn—Jesus Shall Reign



Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does his suc - ces - sive jour - neys run;  
To Him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es throng to crown His head;  
Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on His love with sweet - est song,  
Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns; the pris - 'ner leaps to lose his chains,  
Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar hon - ors to our King;



His king - dom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
His name, like sweet per - fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
And in - fant voic - es shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.  
The wea - ry find e - ter - nal rest, and all the sons of want are blest.  
An - gels de - scend with songs a - gain, and Earth re - peat the loud a - men!



Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

## 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—Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. *Amen.*

### Sung Response—Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here be - low;

praise Him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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

### Announcements

## Worship Notes:

This Sunday we begin a new sermon series in the book of Acts, a series that should take us the better part of a year. Luke describes the book, from the very first verse, as a continuation of the work Jesus began during His earthly ministry. Jesus rose from the dead, and He is still at work in this world through the power of His Spirit (Psalm 66:3; Luke 24:49; Isaiah 44:3; Romans 15:13). Because He is still at work, we can sing confidently, “By Thy power alone we stand” (*Jesus, Shepherd Of Thy People*) and “Thy precious blood will never lose its power” (*There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood*). Though we are anxious, we can follow His instruction to wait patiently (Acts 1:4; *I Will Lift My Voice—Psalm 101; Fret Not Yourself—Psalm 37*), because He promises to send help (John 15:26). We can confess our sins, knowing that He stands ready to save us “full of pity, love, and power” (*Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy*). Since He already reigns over a kingdom stretching “from shore to shore” (*Jesus Shall Reign*), we can perform our duty as witnesses, trusting Him to do the work of drawing in “peoples and realms of every tongue” and raising up early blessings from “infant voices.” —Henry C. Haffner

**Key Words:** Holy Spirit, Promise, Power, Kingdom, Witness

**Keystone Verse:** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8)



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Mike Misericchi (594-3880)

Matt Morrison (482-5107)

Jason Parolini (497-3337)

Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)

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Steve Nelson John Scherrer

### Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)

Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)

Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)

Ben Crist (509-3040)

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