



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Lent

23 March 2025

He would not have become the Cornerstone had He not suffered, but He was not made so by those at whose hands He suffered. For the builders refused Him: but in the building which the Lord was secretly raising, He made Christ the head-stone of the corner which they rejected. And it is marvelous in our eyes. —Augustine

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—Psalm 118:24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Sung Response—What Wondrous Love Is This, Vs. 1

What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this

That caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul,

For my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?

The musical score is written in 2/2 time and consists of four systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the two staves of each system. The first system ends with a double bar line. The second system has a fermata over the final note of the vocal line. The third system ends with a double bar line. The fourth system ends with a double bar line.

Text: American Folk Hymn; Music: WONDROUS LOVE, William Walker, *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 118:1-4, 28-29

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

All: Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Reader 1: Let the house of Aaron say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Reader 2: Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

All: You are our God, and we will give thanks to You; You are our God; we will extol You.

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

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

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; *The Book of Psalms for Worship*, © 2009 Crown and Covenant Publications;
Music: WHITE LAKE, Michael Tabon, 1999.

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—He Who Trusts In The Lord (Psalm 125)

Chorus

He who trusts in the Lord shall be like Zi-on's hill; Like a moun-tain ne-ver mov-ing,
Through storm-y gales and win-ter's i - cy chill, He is stand-ing still.

Verse

Like the moun - tains stand-ing tall watch-ing o - ver Zi - on's walls,
Let no wick - ed rod com-mand in the right - eous peo - ple's land
Do Your good un - to the good, to the up - right hearts, O Lord;
So the Lord de - fends His peo - ple from their foes both great and small.
Lest His folk, in bit - ter an - ger, they stretch out a - veng - ing hands
Those who turn down crook - ed path - ways meet the end that e - vil should.

AFTER VS. 3, TO BRIDGE

Bridge

WOMEN
Peace be to the Is - ra - el of
MEN
Peace be to the Is - ra - el of God!
God! Peace be to thee!
Peace be to the Is - ra - el of God!

Text: based on Psalm 125:1-5, Henry C. Haffner, 2025;
Music: CLINGMAN'S DOME, Henry C. Haffner, 2025.

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 2:6-10

For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in Him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the Word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation



Christ is made the sure found-a - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner - stone;
To this tem - ple, where we call Thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, to - day;
Here vouch - safe to all Thy ser - vants as they ask of Thee to gain;
Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or to the Son,



Chos - en of the Lord, and pre - cious, bind - ing all the Church in one,
With Thy want - ed lov - ing-kind - ness hear Thy ser - vants as they pray.
What they gain from Thee for - ev - er and Thy bles - sed rest re - tain,
Laud and hon - or to the Spir - it, ev - er Three and ev - er One;



Ho - ly Zi - on's help for - ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
And Thy full - est be - ne - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
And here - af - ter in Thy glor - y ev - er - more with Thee to reign.
Con - sub - stan - tial, co - e - ter - nal, while un - end - ing a - ges run.

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

Reading of the Word—Psalm 118:1-29

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever! ² Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” ³ Let the house of Aaron say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” ⁴ Let those who fear the Lord say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” ⁵ Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. ⁶ The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? ⁷ The Lord is on my side as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me. ⁸ It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. ⁹ It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

¹⁰ All nations surrounded me; in the name of the Lord I cut them off! ¹¹ They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side; in the name of the Lord I cut them off! ¹² They surrounded me like bees; they went out like a fire among thorns; in the name of the Lord I cut them off! ¹³ I was pushed hard, so that I was falling, but the Lord helped me.

¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. ¹⁵ Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the Lord does valiantly, ¹⁶ the right hand of the Lord exalts, the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!” ¹⁷ I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord. ¹⁸ The Lord has disciplined me severely, but He has not given me over to death.

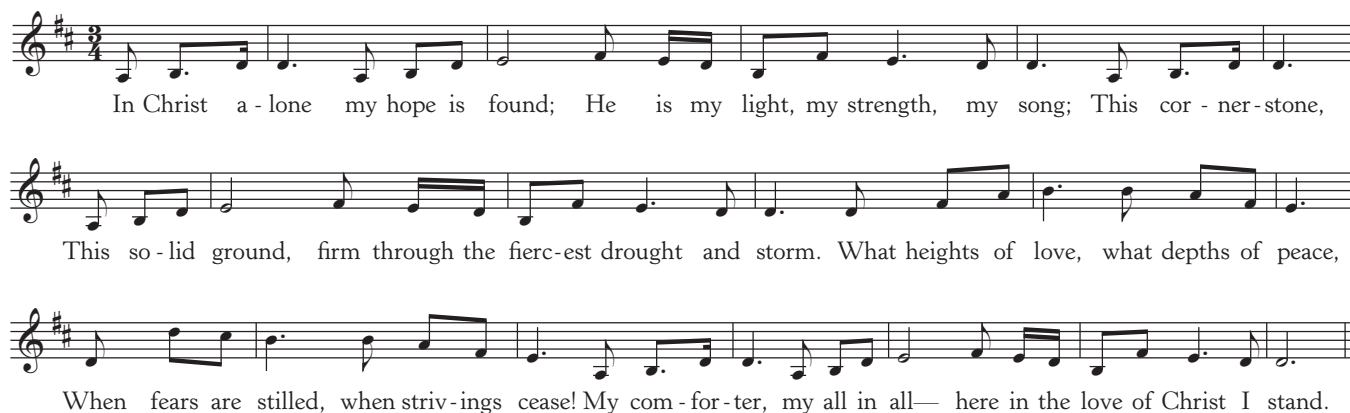
¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. ²¹ I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation. ²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. ²³ This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success!

²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord. ²⁷ The Lord is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar! ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You. ²⁹ Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—In Christ Alone, Vs. 1



In Christ a-lone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song; This cor-ner-stone,
This so-lid ground, firm through the fierc-est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when striv-ings cease! My com-for-ter, my all in all— here in the love of Christ I stand.

CCLI #2844402 © 2002 Thankyou Music; Text and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2002.

Sermon—*The Mystery of God's Steadfast Love*

—Reverend Britain Brewer

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 Psalm 118:5-9, 18, 25

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. Out of our distress we call on You, Lord; Lord, answer us and set us free.

All: The Lord has disciplined us severely, but He has not given us over to death.

Pastor: Lord, if You are on our side, we will not fear. What can man do to us? Lord, be on our side as our helper, and we shall look in triumph on those who hate us.

All: Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success!

(Silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response—Lamb Of God

UNISON

O Lamb of God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. —

O Lamb of God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. —

O Lamb of — God, that takes a - way the sins of the world,

Slightly faster WOMEN

Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy, Grant us Thy peace,

MEN

Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace.

Text: Traditional, based on John 1:29; Music: CLOVERCROFT AGNUS DEI, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

Assurance of Pardon—Psalm 118:14-16; Mark 12:30

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the Lord does valiantly, the right hand of the Lord exalts, the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!” I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Pastor: This is the promise of God. This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Therefore, let us love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength.

Sung Response—Twofold Amen

A - men, a - men

Text: Traditional; Music: DRESDEN, Johann Naumann, 18th century.

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:

UNISON



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. —

WOMEN

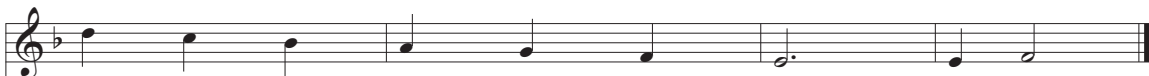


We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

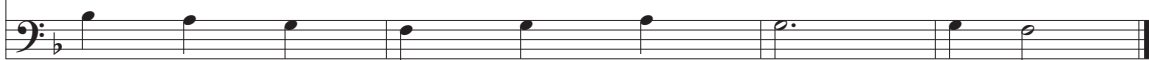
MEN



We praise You, we bless_ You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.

Text: Traditional, based on Luke 2:14; Music: CLOVERCROFT GLORIA, 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—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 with Music*, 1900, alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2022; Music: TRAVELLER, Henry C. Haffner, 2022.

Congregational Hymn—How Can I Keep From Singing?

My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove Earth's la - men - ta - tion
What though my joys and com - forts die? The Lord my Sav - ior liv - eth;
I lift mine eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a - bove it;

I hear the sweet though far off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion:
What though the dark - ness gath - er round! Songs in the night He giv - eth:
And day by day this path - way smoothes since first I learned to love it:

Through all the tu - mult and the strife I hear the mu - sic ring - ing;
No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that re - fuge cling - ing;
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A foun - tain ev - er spring - ing:

It finds an ech - o in my soul: how can I keep from sing - ing?
Since Christ is Lord of Heav'n and Earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
All things are mine since I am His: how can I keep from sing - ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1860; Music: ENDLESS SONG, Robert Lowry, 1860, arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2014.

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—Stricken, Smitten, And Afflicted

Strick - en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, see Him dy - ing on the tree!
Tell me, ye who hear Him groan - ing, was there ev - er grief like His?
Ye who think of sin but light - ly, nor sup - pose the e - vil great,
Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, here the re - fuge of the lost.

'Tis the Christ by man re - ject - ed; yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, foes in - sult - ing His dis - tress:
Here may view its na - ture right - ly, here its guilt may es - ti - mate.
Christ the Rock of our sal - va - tion, His the name of which we boast.

'Tis the long ex - pect - ed proph - et, Dav - id's son, yet Dav - id's Lord;
Man - y hands were raised to wound Him, none would in - ter - pose to save;
Mark the Sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed! See Who bears the aw - ful load!
Lamb of God for sin - ners wound - ed! Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt!

By His Son God now has spok - en: 'tis the true and faith - ful Word.
But the deep - est stroke that pierced Him was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.
'Tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of Man, and Son of God.
None shall ev - er be con - found - ed who on Him their hope have built.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1804; Music: O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN, *Geistliche Volkslieder*, 1850.

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—from Psalm 118:25-27

The Lord save you. The Lord give you success. The Lord bless you from His house. The Lord is God, and may He cause His light to shine upon you. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! *Amen.*

Sung Response—Christ Be With Me



Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,



Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me,



Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in dan-ger,



Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.

Text: attr. St. Patrick, 5th Century, tr. C. F. Alexander, 1889; Music: CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish melody, arr. Richard Terry, *The Westminster Hymnal*, 1912.

Announcements

About our guest:

Brittain Brewer (MDiv, Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte; PhD [ABD], Calvin Theological Seminary, New Testament) serves as associate pastor at Reformation Covenant Church in Oregon City, OR. He earned a BA from New College Franklin in Franklin, TN in 2014 and the MDiv from RTS Charlotte in 2020. In the midst of seminary, Brittain met his wife Bethany at RCC while on a road trip, and they were married in 2018. They now have four covenant children. Alongside ministry and studies, he enjoys time with his wife, wrestling his boys, fawning over his daughter, and tending to his beloved cast iron skillet. Brittain also teaches Greek, New Testament, and Christology for Reformed Evangelical Seminary.

Key Words: Cornerstone, Rejected, Steadfast Love, Refuge, Surrounded, Salvation, Good
Keystone Verse: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. (Psalm 118:22)



Presbyterian Church in America
4150 Clovercroft Rd. Franklin, TN 37067
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1593, Franklin, TN 37065
Web: www.parishpres.org
Church Office: Sarah Dye, 574-1029, office@parishpres.org
Prayer requests: prayer@parishpres.org

Pastor: James Crampton, 943-1696, jamie@parishpres.org
Pastor Emeritus: George Grant, 574-1029 (office), george@parishpres.org
Associate Pastor: Brian Phillips, 429-8125, brian@parishpres.org
Assistant Pastor: Mike Fennema, 931-215-1057, mike@parishpres.org
Music Director: Henry C. Haffner, 497-6573, henry@parishpres.org
Staff Accompanist: Mirandi Herrenbruck, mirandi@parishpres.org
Audio Coordinator: Jonathan George, jonathan@parishpres.org
Financial Administrator: Joanna Reategui, joanna@parishpres.org
Parish Nursery Coordinator: Chelsea Monroe, 495-0423, chelsea@parishpres.org
Women's Ministry Coordinator: Christian Barnes, christian@parishpres.org

Elders

Stephen Barnes (478-318-5513)	Keith Cannon (636-7137)	Caleb Faires (513-0659)
Miles Foltermann (281) 793-3280	Tom Goddard (218-3654)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)	

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Brandon Blair (336-0274)	Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)
Ben Crist (509-3040)	Ryan Gregory (714-5446)	Elliot Huck (843-540-6529)
Piotr Lorenc (931-996-9226)	Connor Neville (410-430-0760)	Nolan Reategui (829-0412)
Joshua Scheenstra (818-653-1113)	Robert Simmons (850-532-1075)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)
Jim Soyster (585-5980)	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	

Officers Emeritus

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

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