



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time

16 June 2024

Tis the loftiest towers that fall with the heaviest crash. —Horace

Ever from the higher degree that man falleth, the more is he thrall. —Geoffrey Chaucer

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—Exodus 34: 6

The Lord God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

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

Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore His throne re - joice;

Praise is His gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

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

Call to Worship—from Psalm 2:1-4, 8, 10-12

Pastor: Blessed are all who take refuge in the Lord God.

All: The nations are His heritage, and the ends of the earth are His possession.

Reader 1: Why do the nations rage, and the peoples plot in vain?

Reader 2: The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed.

All: He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision and says, “As for Me, I have set My King on Zion, My holy hill.”

Pastor: Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry.

Congregational Hymn—Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this bar - ren land.
O - pen now the cry - stal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;
When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, bid my an - xious fears sub-side;

I am weak, but Thou art might - y; hold me with Thy power - ful hand.
Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through.
Death of deaths, and hell's de - struc-tion, land me safe on Can - aan's side.

Bread of Heav - en, Bread of Heav - en, feed me till I want no
Strong De - liv - 'rer, strong De - liv - 'rer, be Thou still my Strength and
Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

More; (want no more) feed me till I want no more.
Shield; (Strength and Shield) be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Thee; (give to Thee) I will ev - er give to Thee.

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The score concludes with a double bar line.

Text: William Williams, 1745; Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1907.

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)

Chorus



Who shall a-bide in the tents of the Lord, who shall dwell on His ho - ly hill?



Who shall a-bide in the tents of the Lord, who shall dwell on His ho - ly hill?

Verse



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.

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

TO CHORUS

TO CHORUS, THEN BRIDGE

Bridge



He who does this, he who does this he shall ne - ver be moved.



He who does this, he who does this he shall ne - ver be moved.

TO CHORUS

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

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 11:1-2, 6-7, 32-34, 39

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation.

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him. By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

So, what shall I say? For time would fail to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Congregational Hymn—Jesus, Lover Of My Soul



Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to Thy bo - som fly,
Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on Thee;
Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in Thee I find:
Plen - teous grace with Thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;



While the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:
Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!
Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:



Hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all my help from Thee I bring;
Just and ho - ly is Thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness;
Thou of life the foun - tain art, free - ly let me take of Thee;



Safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!
Cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of Thy wing.
False and full of sin I am, Thou art full of truth and grace.
Spring Thou up with - in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Reading of the Word—Psalm 13:1-6

How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide your face from me? ² How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? ³ Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, ⁴ lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken. ⁵ But I have trusted in Your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation. ⁶ I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Gently, Gently Lay Your Rod (Psalm 6), Vs. 2



My soul is in great dis-tress. Send, O send Your pro-mised rest;



Lord I cry, "How long, how long?" My great need has been my song.



Look, O Lord, with gra-cious eye, turn and take my guilt-y life;



By Your grace from Heav'n a - bove, save me in Your stead-fast love.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1834, alt. Nathan George, 2012; Music: Nathan George, 2012.

Sermon—*But God...*

—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 Exodus 34:6-7, 9

Pastor: O Lord, we come confessing. You are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

All: **You keep steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.**

Pastor: But You will by no means clear the guilty.

All: **O Lord, pardon our iniquity and our sin.**

Pastor: O Lord, take us for Your inheritance.

Assurance of Pardon—Exodus 34:10; Acts 1:8

The Lord has said, “Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have never been seen in all the earth or in any nation. And you shall see the work of the Lord, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.”

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: **This is the Word of the Lord.**

Pastor: For Christ Himself confirmed: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses.”

All: **“In Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”**

Sung Response—The Church's One Foundation, Vs. 3



Though with a scorn-ful won-der men see her sore op-pressed,



By schi-sm rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,



Yet saints their watch are keep-ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"



And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.

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-

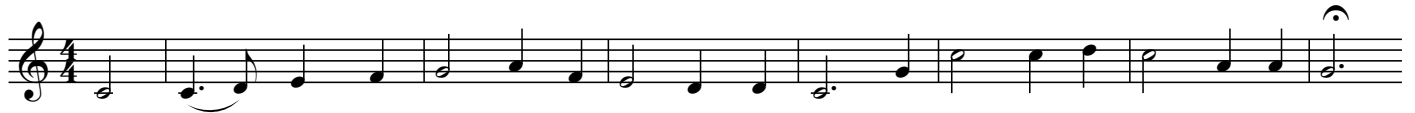
Lord. Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.
san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

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 Hymn—O Thou In Whose Presence



O Thou in whose pre - sence my soul takes de - light, On whom in af - flic - tion I call,
Where dost— Thou at noon - tide re - sort with Thy sheep, To feed on the past - ures of love?
O, why— should I wan - der an a - lien from Thee, And cry in the des - ert for bread?
Dear Shep - herd, I hear and will fol - low Thy call; I know the sweet sound of Thy voice.



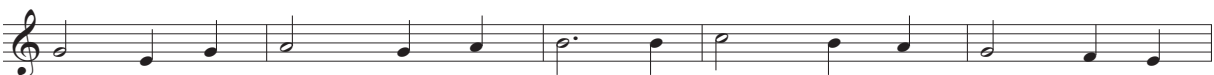
My com - fort by day, and my song in— the night, My— hope, my sal - va - tion, my all.
Say, why— in the val - ley of death should I weep, Or a - lone in the wild - er - ness rove?
Thy foes— will re - joice when my sor - rows they see, And smile at the tears I have shed.
Re - store— and de - fend me, for Thou art— my all, and in Thee I will ev - er re - joice.

Text: Joseph Swain, 1791; Music: DAVIS, Freeman Lewis, 1813.

Congregational Psalm—The Lord Ever Hear You (Psalm 20)



The Lord ev - er hear you when trou - bles are near; The name of our
May He all the gifts of your love keep in mind, And all of your
For joy in sal - va - tion we'll shout to His praise: In God's ho - ly
Some trust in their char - iots pre - pared for the fray, And some in their
Our foes are bowed down and are fal - len at length, While we have a -



God keep you safe from all fear. The Lord send you help; from His
off' - rings ac - cep - ta - ble find; May He ev - er grant you the
name all our ban - ners we'll raise. The Lord who has saved be your
hor - ses the foe to dis - may, But we will make men - tion of
ris - en and stand in Your strength. O, Lord save the king! For You



tem - ple pro - claim, That He'll out of Zi - on— your weak - ness sus - tain.
wish of your heart, Ful - fill all your yearn - ing, — and wis - dom im - part.
con - fi - dence still, And all your pe - ti - tions— in mer - cy ful - fill.
one— on - ly name; The Lord God al - migh - ty, — we'll ev - er ac - claim.
rule o - ver all; Give bless - ing and an - swer — when - ev - er we call!

Text: Edward Collier, *Lyrics from the Psalter*, 1907, alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021; Music: STAR POINTER, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

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.

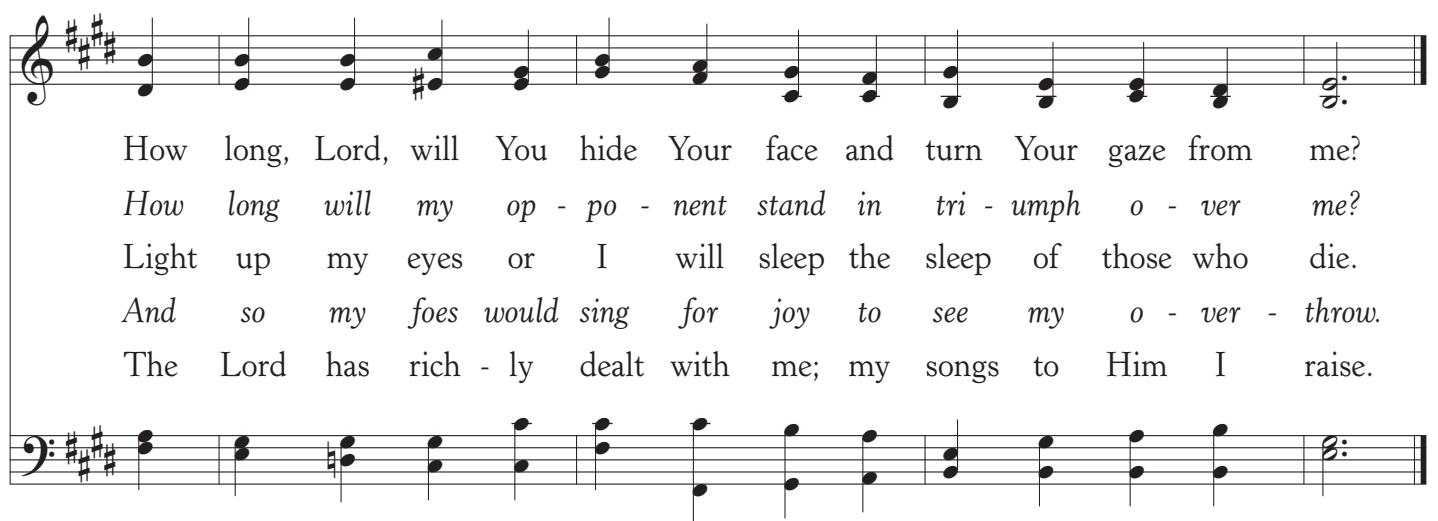
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

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 Psalm—How Long Will You Forget Me, Lord? (Psalm 13)



How long will You for - get me, Lord? For - ev - er will it be?
How long must I be sad each day in deep per - plex - i - ty?
O Lord my God, con - si - der me and give me Your re - ply.
Then would my en - e - my de - clare, "At last I brought him low!"
But still I trust Your stead - fast love; Your sav - ing pow'r I praise.



How long, Lord, will You hide Your face and turn Your gaze from me?
How long will my op - po - nent stand in tri - umph o - ver me?
Light up my eyes or I will sleep the sleep of those who die.
And so my foes would sing for joy to see my o - ver - throw.
The Lord has rich - ly dealt with me; my songs to Him I raise.

Text: Psalm 13:1-6, OPC/URCNA Psalter, 2018;
Music: MEDITATION, John H. Gower, 1890.

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 4:19-20, 23

God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. *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:

In Psalm 13 David seeks the Lord for answers, “lest [he] sleep the sleep of death.” Much of the music in this morning’s service reflects this desperate situation. Hymns like *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*, *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*, and *O Thou In Whose Presence* address God directly, giving voice to a people who are in “desert lands” in need of direction, “in affliction” in the wilderness, and “helpless” amid the “storms of life.” We sing the psalmist’s exact phrase, “How long,” in *Gently, Gently Lay Your Rod—Psalm 6* and *The Church’s One Foundation*, though in the latter we look forward to that cry being transfigured into a “morning of song” through the work of Jesus. *The Lord Ever Hear You—Psalm 20* offers a comforting alternative to David’s despair, reminding us that the Lord will hear our pleas whenever we call to Him. The service concludes with us singing the psalm we just heard preached, as we have done and will continue to do throughout this series. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: How Long? Forget, Sorrow, Answer, But, Love, Sing
Keystone Verse: But I have trusted in Your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.
(Psalm 13:5)



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Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)	

Elders Emeritus

Steve Nelson John Scherrer

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)	Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)
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All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.