



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Lent
6 April 2025

Regardless of how large, your vision is too small. —Thomas Chalmers

God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform. —William Cowper

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 1:8

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.

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

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 2/2 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'What won - drous love is this, O my soul, 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 music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

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?

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

Call to Worship—Isaiah 12:4-6

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name.

All: Make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted.

Reader 1: Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously!

Reader 2: Let this be made known in all the earth.

All: Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion.

Pastor: Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Congregational Hymn—Come Down, O Love Divine

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many notes tied across measures. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The hymn consists of four lines of music, each with three lines of lyrics. The final line of music ends with a double bar line.

Come down, O Love di - vine, seek Thou this soul of mine,
O let it free - ly burn, til earth - ly pas - sions turn
And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,
And vis - it it with Thine own ar - dor glow - ing.
To dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
Shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;
O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
And let Thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
For none can guess its grace, till he be - come the place
And kin - dle it, Thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
And clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
Where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes His dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, 15th century, tr. Richard Littledale, 1867;
Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

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. *Fine*

Verse



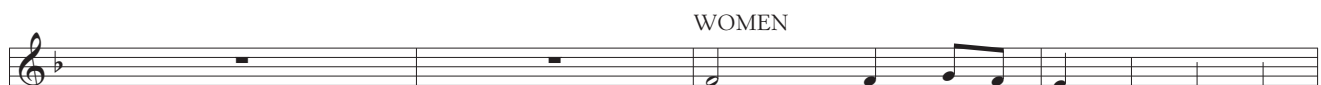
Like the moun - tains stand-ing tall watch-ing o - ver___ Zi - on's walls,
Let no wick - ed___ rod com-mand in the right - eous___ peo - ple's land
Do Your good un - to the good, to the up - right hearts, O___ Lord;



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! *D.C. al Fine*

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

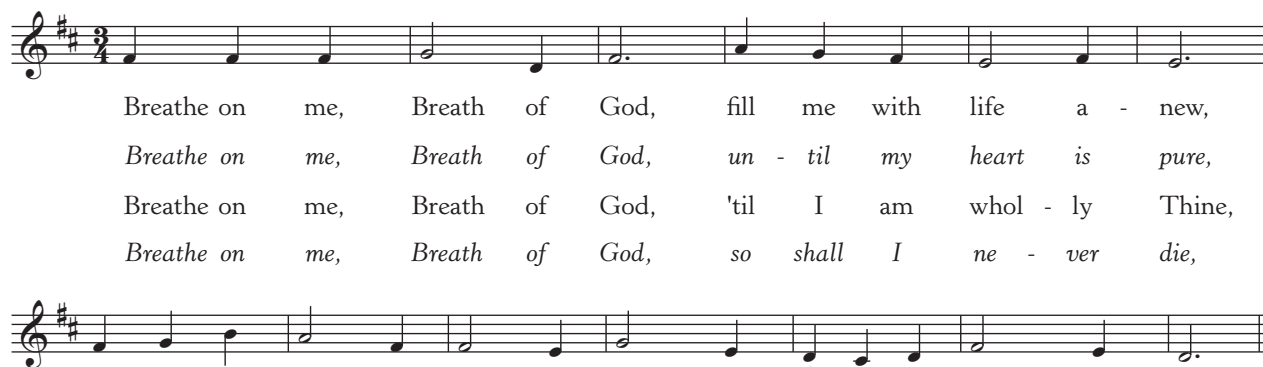
Scripture Reading—Genesis 12:1-4

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Breathe On Me, Breath Of God



Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
Breathe on me, Breath of God, 'til I am whol - ly Thine,
Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I ne - ver die,



That I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.
Un - til my will is one with Thine, to do and to en - dure.
Un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with Thy fire div - ine.
But live with Thee the per - fect life of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Edwin Hatch, 1878, Music: TRENTHAM, Robert Jackson, 1888.

Baptism of Mathew Loyd

Reading of the Word—Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³ “You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” ⁴ But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵ “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. ⁶ Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷ And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸ But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹ But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ ¹⁰ This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹ And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. ¹² And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³ And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household. ¹⁵ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷ If then God gave the same gift to them as He gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?’ ¹⁸ When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Spirit Of The Living God



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Break me! Melt me! Mold me! Fill me!

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

CCLI #2844402 ©1963 Birdwing Music; Text: Daniel Iverson, 1926; Music: IVERSON, Daniel Iverson, 1926.

Sermon—*Stunned Silence*

—Assistant Pastor, Mike Fennema

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 Romans 11:33-36, Psalm 51:10-12

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are Your judgments and how inscrutable Your ways!

All: Yet in our pride, we have believed that we have known Your mind. We have believed that we are Your counselor.

Pastor: For from You and through You and to You are all things.

All: Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

Pastor: Cast us not away from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from us.

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

(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—Proverbs 28:13, John 3:16; Luke 18:27

Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

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

All: What is impossible with man is possible with God.

Sung Response—Twofold Amen

A - men, a - men

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

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:

UNISON



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

WOMEN

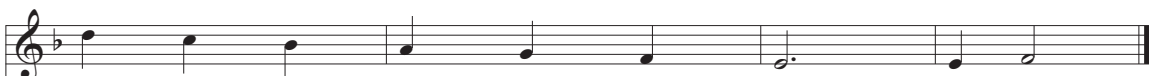


We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

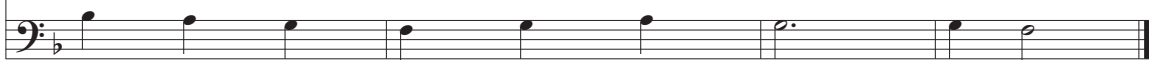
MEN



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—The Voice Of The Lord Is Over The Waters (Psalm 29)

The voice of the Lord is o - ver the wa - ters. The God of glo - ry thun-ders free!
The voice of the Lord will break down the ce - dars. The God of glo - ry thun-ders free!
The voice of the Lord is flam - ing in fire. The God of glo - ry thun-ders free!

The voice of the Lord is o - ver the wa - ters. His voice is full of maj - es - ty!
The voice of the Lord will break down the ce - dars. Be - fore His voice the migh - ty flee!
The voice of the Lord is shak - ing the for - ests. Cry a - loud in glo - ry!

Give to the Lord, in heav'n - ly chor - us; Give to the Lord, all glo - ry and strength!

Give to the Lord, the glo - ry due His name. Wor - ship the Lord

Women
in beau-ty of ho - li - ness. in beau-ty of ho - li - ness.

Men
in beau-ty of ho - li - ness. in beau-ty of ho - li - ness.

Text: based on Psalm 29:1-9, Nathan George, 2013; Music: Nathan George, 2013.

Congregational Hymn—There Is A Redeemer

There is a Re - deem - er Je - sus, God's own Son;
Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names;
When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;

Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - - - ly One.
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, hope for sin - ners slain.
There I'll serve my King for-ev - er in that ho - ly place.

Chorus
Thank you, O my Fa - ther, for giv - ing us Your Son,
And leav - ing Your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

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.

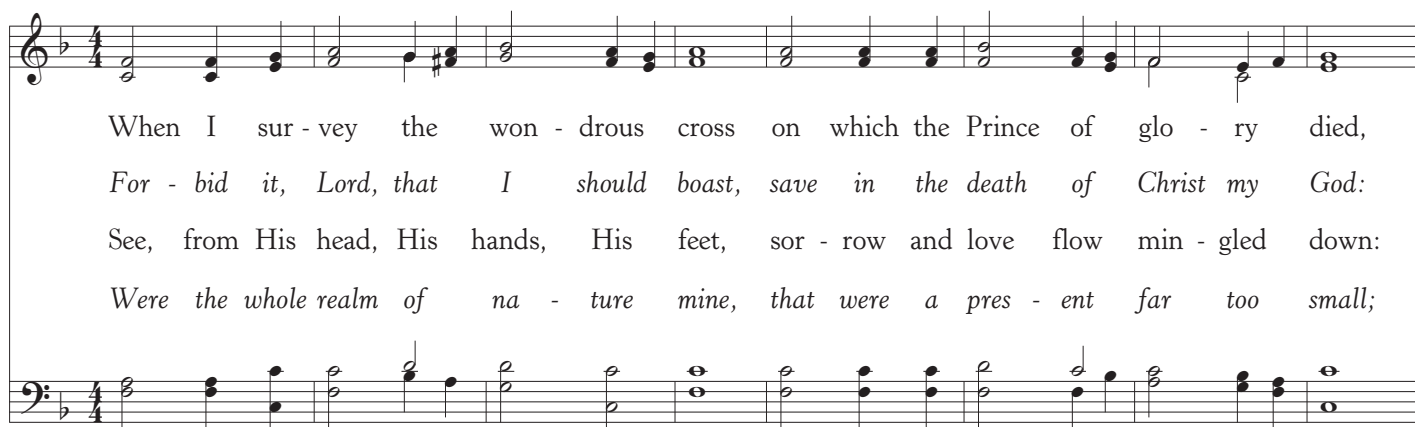
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

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

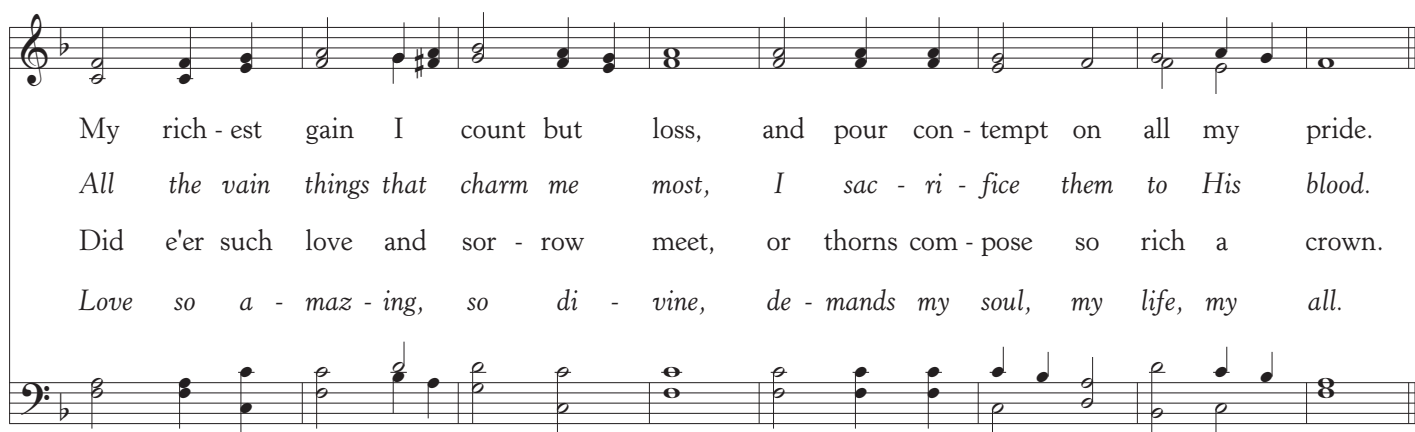
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Congregational Hymn—When I Survey The Wondrous Cross



When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the Prince of glo - ry died,
For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God:
See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sor - row and love flow min - gled down:
Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a pres - ent far too small;



My rich - est gain I count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
All the vain things that charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
Did e'er such love and sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown.
Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1709; Music: HAMBURG, Gregorian Chant,
arr. Lowell Mason, 1824.

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—Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. *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

Worship Notes:

References to “mountains” and “hills” abound in the psalter. Psalms 15 and 24 ask the question “who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?” Hills and mountains are commanded to praise their creator in Psalms 98 and 148. A mountain is built up in Psalm 65, while mountains and hills are thrown down and made to “skip like rams” in Psalm 114. You’ll find some of this same imagery in *He Who Trusts In The Lord—Psalm 125*, the setting we’ve been singing over the past few weeks. In opening verse of this psalm, which serves as the chorus in this version, believers are comforted with the promise that they will be like “Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever” (Psalm 125:1). In the very next verse, God is also said to be like “the mountains surrounding Jerusalem” (Psalm 125:2) in the way in which He protects His people. The final words of the psalm, “Peace be upon Israel” (Psalm 125:5) are sung antiphonally between the men and women of the congregation. This versification of the text echoes Paul’s language in Galatians 6:16, calling all who place their trust in God’s ways the “Israel of God”—even those of us with far-flung gentile origins. The tune is named CLINGMAN’S DOME, the former name of the mountain which is the highest point in both the state of Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Gentiles, Holy Spirit, Saved, Baptized, Gift, Lord Jesus Christ, Repentance, Life
Keystone Verse: If then God gave the same gift to them as He gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” (Acts 11:17)



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Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Brandon Blair (336-0274)	Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)
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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.