



PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Easter Season
May 11th, 2025

Quotes for Reflection

Is it not true that by and large we are better at organizing than agonizing? Better at administering than interceding? Better at fellowship than fasting? ... Better—God help us!—at preaching than at praying?

—D. A. Carson

The church did not want to make this decision on their own... Rather they waited upon the Lord and sought His leading. It was in a prayer meeting in which they were doing this that the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul.”

—James Montgomery Boice

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—Acts 16:31

Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.

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

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with syllables aligned under the corresponding notes. The score consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line and ends with a double bar line.

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!

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

Call to Worship—from Psalm 31:15, 17-18, 23-24

Pastor: Love the Lord, all you His saints!

All: Our times are in Your hand; rescue us from the hand of our enemies and from our persecutors!

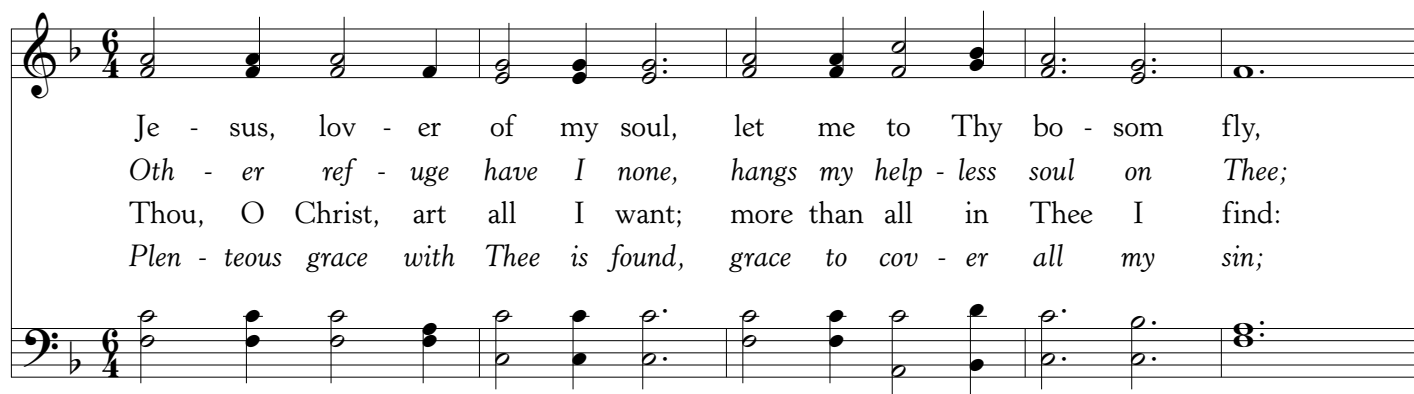
Reader 1: O Lord, let us not be put to shame, for we call upon You.

Reader 2: Let the lying lips be mute, which speak insolently against the righteous in pride and contempt.

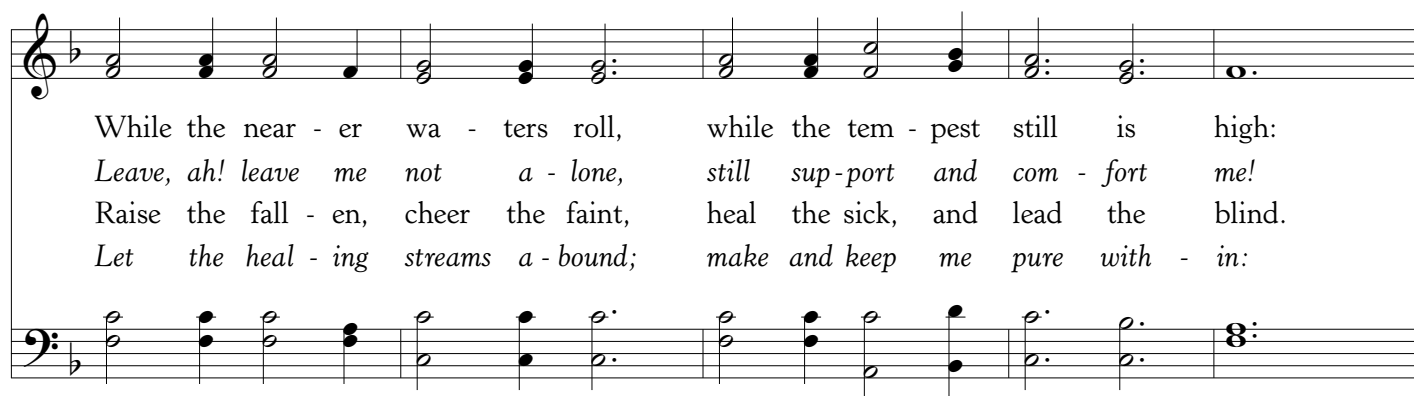
All: The Lord preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.

Pastor: Be strong, and let your hearts take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!

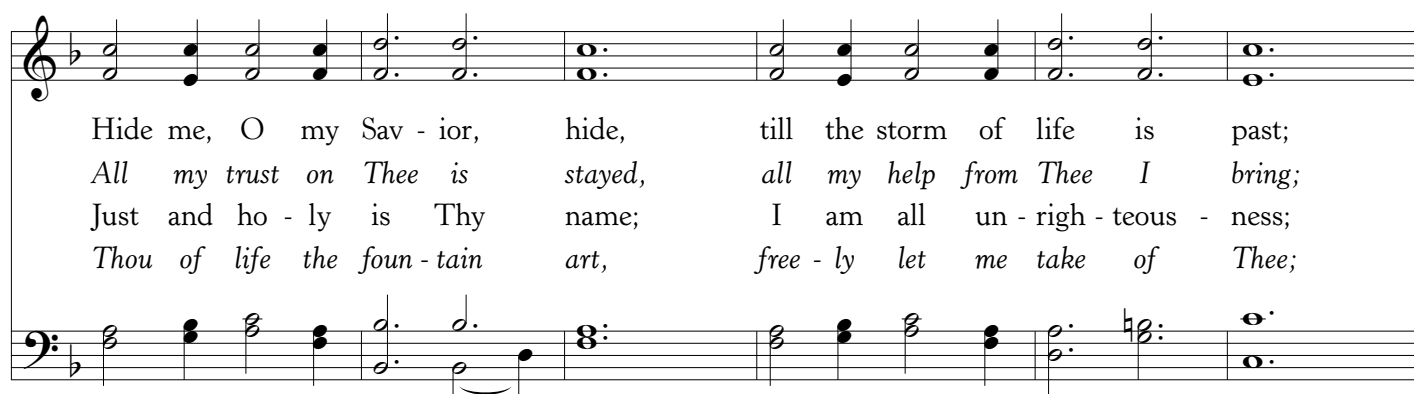
Congregational Hymn—Jesus, Lover Of My Soul



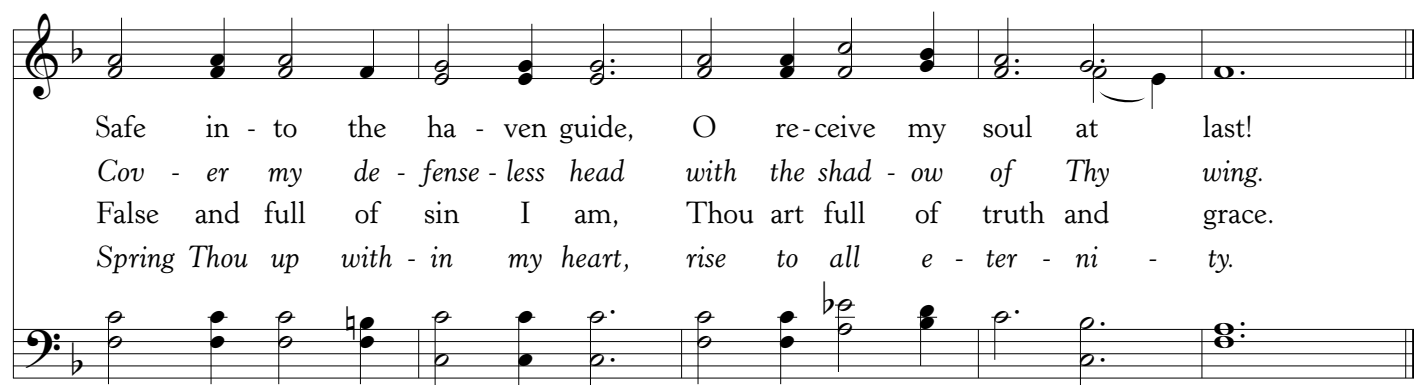
Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to Thy bo - som fly,
 Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on Thee;
 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in Thee I find:
 Plen - teous grace with Thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;



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.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740; Music: MARTYN,
 Simeon B. Marsh, 1834.

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 Earth Is The Lord's (Psalm 24)



The earth is the Lord's the en - tir - e - ty there - of, the whole world and

O__ who shall a - scend to the mountain of the Lord? And who in His

This man will re - ceive man - y__ bless - ings from the Lord: Sal - va - tion, and



all who on it dwell;_____ For__ he has es - tab - lished His

ho - ly place shall stand?_____ This man does not lift__ up his__

right - eous - ness, and grace;_____ And His gen - er - a - tions shall

Verse 1 & 2, then Chorus



work up - on the seas, its found - ing where teem - ing wa - ters swell.

soul to what is false; His heart's pure and spot - less are his hands.

fol - low on the way, They'll look for the God of Ja - cob's face.

Chorus



Lift up your heads,_____ O Lift them up you gates! Be lift - ed up,_____



Lift up you an - cient doors! The King of glo - ry, the King is com - ing in;



Strong and migh - ty for the bat - tle is the Lord.

Text: based on Psalm 24:1-10, Henry C. Haffner, 2025; Music: KINGS'S MOUNTAIN, Henry C. Haffner, 2025.

Baptism of Gilbert Michael Kelly, son of Andrew and Katie Kelly

Scripture Reading—Exodus 7:8-13

Then the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “When Pharaoh says to you, ‘Prove yourselves by working a miracle,’ then you shall say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and cast it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent.’” So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the Lord commanded. Aaron cast down his staff before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their secret arts. For each man cast down his staff, and they became serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. Still Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm—Blest Be The Lord, My Rock, My Might (Psalm 144)



Blest be the Lord, my rock, my might, who trains my fin - gers for the fight
 Lord, bow Your heav'ns, in might de - scend, come touch the hills the moun - tains rend
 O You to whom in trust I flee, stretch forth your hand and res - cue me
 Now I will sing a glad new song, Your praise, O God, I will pro - long



My shield, my righ - teous - ness, — My — shield, my righ - teous - ness. —
 And they shall smoke and flame, — And — they — shall smoke and flame. —
 From all the for - eign throng, From all — the for - eign throng. —
 For You have heard my prayer, For — You — have heard my prayer. —



My strong high tow'r, my Sa - vior true, who keeps my en - e - mies sub - dued
 As ar - rows send Your light - ning out, to put Your en - e - mies to — rout
 Their mouths are false for lies they speak, their hands of strength a - gainst the weak,
 You give the vic - to - ry to kings, Your own You keep with shel - t'ring wings



My shel - ter in dis - tress, — My — shel - ter in dis - tress.
 And fill Your foes with shame, — And fill — Your foes with shame.
 Are filled with craft and wrong, — Are — filled with craft and wrong.
 From cru - el sword and snare, — From cru - el sword and snare.

Text: Psalm 144:1-2, 5-10, *The Psalter*, 1912, alt. 2016;
 Music: POLK COUNTY, Henry C. Haffner, 2016.

Sermon Text—Acts 12:25-13:12

²⁵ And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark.

^{13:1} Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. ² While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” ³ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

⁴ So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. ⁵ When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. ⁶ When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. ⁷ He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the Word of God. ⁸ But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹ But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him ¹⁰ and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? ¹¹ And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.” Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. ¹² Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Be Thou My Vision, Vs. 3



Be Thou my bat - tle - shield, sword for my fight;



Be Thou my dig - ni - ty, Thou my de - light,



Thou my soul's shel - ter, Thou my high tow'r:



Raise Thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Text: Ancient Irish Poem, tr. Mary Byrne, 1905;
Music: SLANE, Traditional Irish melody.

Sermon—*The Birth Of Missions*

—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—from Psalm 5:4-9, 11

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. For You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You. The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

All: There is no truth in our mouths; our inmost self is destruction; our throats are open graves; we flatter with our tongues.

Pastor: And yet we, through the abundance of Your steadfast love, will enter Your house. We will bow down toward Your holy temple in the fear of You.

All: Lead us, O Lord, in Your righteousness, because of our enemies. Make Your way straight before us.

Pastor: Let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let us ever sing for joy.

All: Spread Your protection over us, that we who love Your name may exult in You.

Assurance of Pardon—from John 1:9-13; John 3:16-17

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

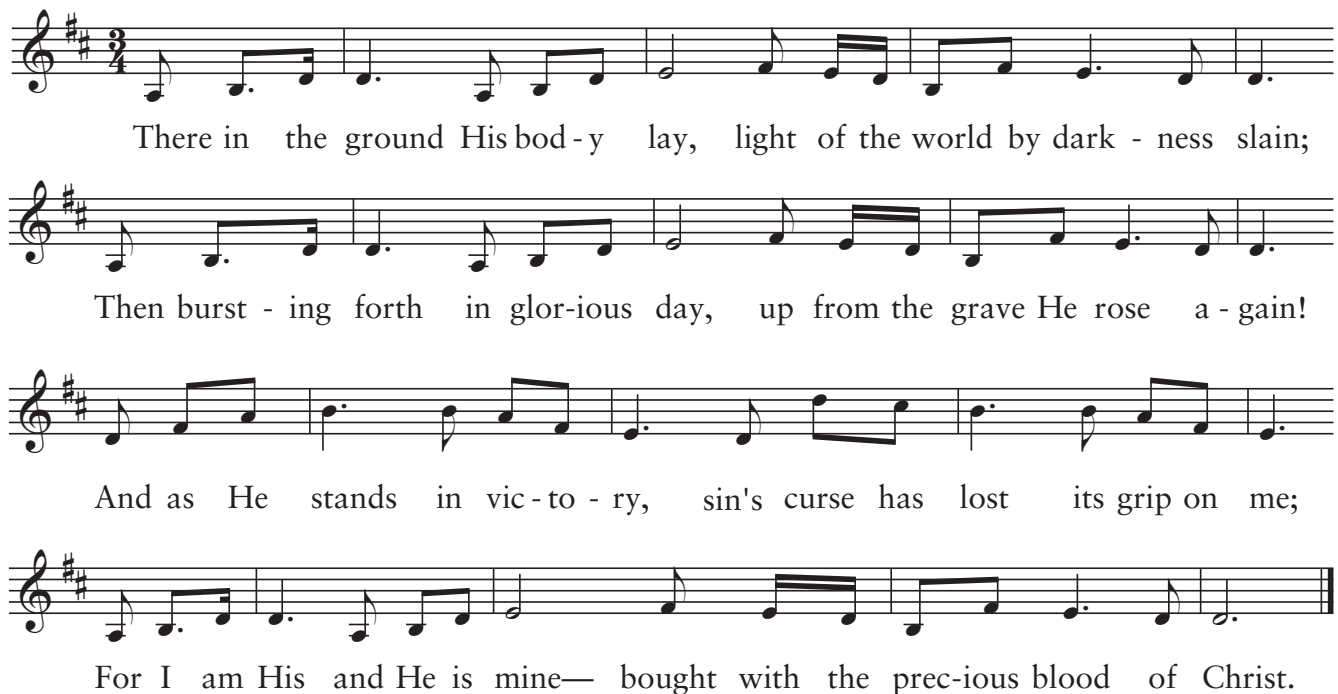
Pastor: This is the promise of God. This is the Word of the Lord.

All: 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: For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—In Christ Alone, Vs. 3



There in the ground His bod - y lay, light of the world by dark - ness slain;
Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious day, up from the grave He rose a - gain!
And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine— bought with the prec - ious blood of Christ.

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

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:

WOMEN

MEN

Heav'n and Earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Heav'n and Earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho san-na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est, Ho

high - est, Ho san-na in the high - est, Ho-san-na in the high - est. A - men.

san-na in the high - est, Ho san-na in the high - est. A - men.

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—The Lord Has Spoken To My Lord (Psalm 110)



The Lord has spo - ken to my Lord, "at My right hand take Your seat,
Your peo - ple in Your day of pow'r free-ly give them-selves to You;
And when the day of wrath has come; then the Lord at Your right hand



Un - til I make Your en - e - mies in - to a foot-stool for Your feet."
Your youth, all clothed in ho - li - ness, ap - pear each day like morn-ing's dew.
Will crush great kings and na - tions judge, with fall - en bod - ies fill the land.



The Lord from Zi - on will ex - tend the migh - ty scep - ter in Your hand:
The Lord has sworn a sol - emn oath from which He'll ne - ver be re - leased;
Just - ly con - demned be-neath His rule will heads of ma - ny na-tions die;



"Rule in the midst of en - e - mies, sub - due each un - der Your com - mand."
"In th'or - der of Mel - chi - ze - dek for - ev - er more You are a priest."
But from the brook He'll stop to drink, and His own head He'll lift up high.

Text: Psalm 110:1-7; *The Book of Psalms for Worship*, © 2010 Crown and Covenant Publications.
Music: JERUSALEM, Hubert Parry, 1916, arr. Brian E. Coombs and Andrew K. Schep, 2004.

Congregational Hymn—How Great Thou Art



O Lord my God, when I in awes - ome won - der
And when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing,
When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion



Con - si - der all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow



I hear the roll - ing thun - der, Thy power through - out the un - i - verse dis - played:
My bur - den glad - ly bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin:
In hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion, and there pro - claim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee: How great Thou art! How great Thou art!



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee: How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

CCLI #2844402 Text: Stuart K. Hine, 1949; Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish Folk melody,
harm. Stuart K. Hine, 1949.

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 Hymn—The God Of Abraham Praise

The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove,
 The God of A - braham praise, at whose su - preme com - mand
 He by Him - self hath sworn, I on His oath de - pend;
 The whole tri - um - phant host gives thanks to God on high;

An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days and God of love.
 From Earth I rise, and seek the joys at His right hand.
 I shall, on ea - gles' wings up - borne, to Heav'n as - cend.
 "Hail Fath - er, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry,

Je - ho - vah! Great I AM! by earth and heav'n con - fessed;
 I all on Earth for - sake, its wis - dom, fame and pow'r.
 I shall be - hold His face, I shall His pow'r a - dore,
 Hail, Abra - ham's God and mine! I join the heav'n - ly lays;

I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er - blest.
 And Him my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
 And sing the won - ders of His grace for - ev - er - more.
 All might and maj - es - ty are Thine, and end - less praise.

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1770; Music: LEONI, Jewish melody, arr. Meyer Lyon, 1770.

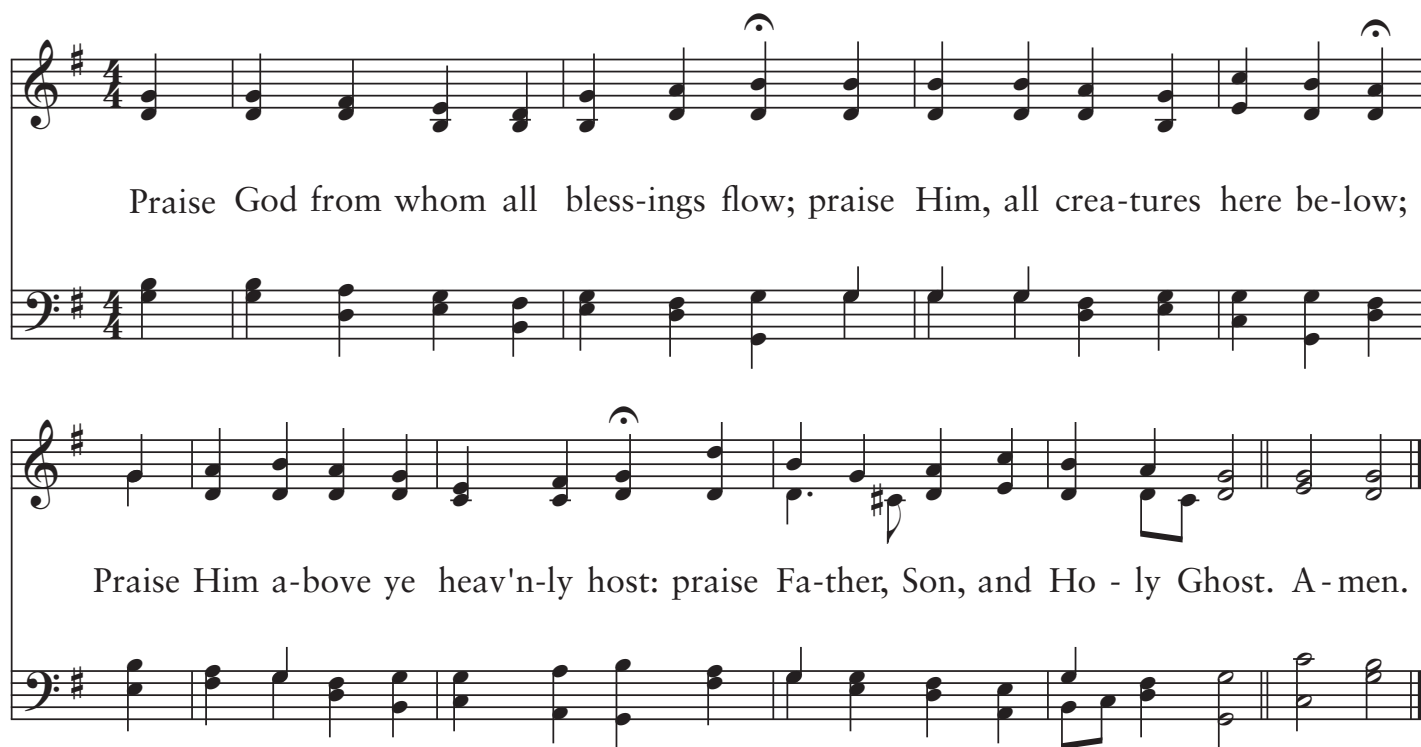
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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 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 bless-ings flow; praise Him, all crea-tures 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, 1674; Music: OLD 100TH, Louis Bourgeois, 1551.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Whenever the gospel goes forth, it will face opposition—as Jesus warned His disciples upon first sending them out, “you will be hated by all for My name's sake” (Matthew 10:22). Paul and Barnabas experience fierce opposition from false prophets in Cyprus in Acts 13, just as we saw the church facing persecution from the Jewish authorities in the previous chapter. We should not be surprised when the church faces opposition in our own time, and many elements in this morning’s service address this. Psalm 31 calls us into worship, encouraging us to be strong and courageous even as we ask the Lord to rescue us from enemies and persecutors. We’ll read the story of the Lord supporting Moses and Aaron in their battle with Pharaoh’s sorcerers, and we’ll respond singing psalms and hymns that ask the Lord to “train [our] fingers for the fight” and to be our “battle shield” and “sword for [our] fight.” We’ll confess that Jesus currently “stands in victory,” and we look forward to the eschatological fulfillment of Psalm 110, when all who oppose Him will be subdued and made like “a footstool for [His] feet.” As we see the church facing opposition and conflict, whether from false teachers or overt persecutors, I hope the elements in this morning’s service will remind us that we serve a great God who “reigns enthroned above”—and His Word will not be silenced.

—Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Teachers, Set Apart, Call, Fasting, Magician, Holy Spirit, Hand, Believe

Keystone Verse: Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord. (Acts 13:12)



PARISH

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

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