



PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Easter Season
May 25th, 2025

Quotes for Reflection

We can only know God well by confessing our iniquities and running to His mercies. Those who claim to have known God without knowing their wretchedness have not glorified Him but have glorified themselves. Let us therefore shake off the dust of death that thus clings to our pride.

—Blaise Pascal

Of all the extraordinary events in the Book of Acts, next to the Ascension of Christ and the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost, perhaps the most significant are the events of Acts 13: the birth of missions at Antioch, the beginning of the harvest of the Gentiles in Cyprus and Pisidia, and the covenantal line drawn between believers and unbelievers. In many ways, Acts 13 is one of the great pivot points in all of human history.

—Zacharias Ursinus

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—from Isaiah 49:7

The Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, has chosen you.

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

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 Isaiah 49:13, 18, 25-26

Pastor: Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth.

All: Break forth, O mountains, into singing!

Reader 1: For the Lord has comforted His people.

Reader 2: He will have compassion on His afflicted.

All: Lift up your eyes around and see.

Pastor: For thus says the Lord, “All flesh shall know that I am the Lord your Savior, your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”

Congregational Psalm—O Sing A New Song To The Lord! (Psalm 98)

O sing a new song to the Lord! For wonders He has done,
For wonders He has done; His right hand and His holy arm
The vic - to - ry have won the vic - to - ry have won,
The vic - to - ry have won, the vic - to - ry have won, the
won, the vic - to - ry have won.
vic - to - ry have won.
won, the vic - to - ry have won.
vic - to - ry have won.

2. The great salvation wrought by Him
Jehovah has made known.
His justice in the nations' sight
He openly has shown.

3. He mindful of His grace and truth
To Isr'el's house has been.
The great salvation of our God
All ends of Earth have seen.

4. Because He comes, He surely comes,
The judge of Earth to be!
With justice He will judge the world,
All men with equity.

Text: based on Psalm 98:1-3, 9, *Book of Psalms for Singing*, 1973; Music: DESERT (LYNGHAM),
Thomas Jarmon, c. 1803.

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 Corabelle, Ezra, Genevieve, Asa, and Beatrice Fitzgerald, children of Luke and Davina Fitzgerald

Scripture Reading—Romans 1:16-18, 21-22

I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.” For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For although they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm—Blessed Are All They (Psalm 1)



Bless - ed are all they__ that shun sin's vain__ and wick - ed ways.

Firm - ly plant - ed on__ the banks of God's great stream of grace,

Bless - ed are all they__ that shun sin's vain__ and wick - ed ways.



For them has Christ sal - va - tion won; He loves them all their days.

They raise un - end - ing praise and thanks to His__ great glor - ious face.

For them has Christ sal - va - tion won; He loves them all their days.



God's ho - ly Word is their de - light; they__ pros - per in__ its truth.

The wick - ed ones, they are not so, but,__ dri - ven by__ the winds,

In Je - sus Christ's own right - eous - ness, though sin - ners fail__and fall,__



In it they dwell both day - and night to flour - ish and bear fruit.

They fall and per - ish, weighed with woe, when once God's wrath be - gins.

His flock He will pre - serve__ and bless, who on__ His fa - vor call.

Text: based on Psalm 1:1-6, T. M. Moore, *The Ailbe Psalter*, 2009;

Music: Nathan George, 2011.

Sermon Text—Acts 13:44-52

⁴⁴ The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. ⁴⁵ But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. ⁴⁶ And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, ‘I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

⁴⁸ And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the Word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. ⁴⁹ And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. ⁵⁰ But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. ⁵¹ But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. ⁵² And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—The Lord Is King, Vs. 3



The Lord is king! Child of the dust, the judge of all the Earth is just;



Ho - ly and true are all His ways; let ev-ery crea-ture speak His praise.

Text: Josiah Conder, 1824; Music: ROCKBRIDGE, Lucius Chapin,
The Southern Harmony, 1854; arr. 2010.

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 Isaiah 48:1, 4, 8, 17

Pastor: Oh Lord, we come confessing our sin. We are those who swear by the name of the Lord. We confess the God of Israel, but not in truth or right.

All: We have been obstinate, and our neck has been like an iron sinew.

Pastor: Our forehead has been like brass.

All: We have dealt treacherously, and from before birth we were called rebels.

Pastor: But You, O Lord, are our Redeemer. You lead us in the way we should go.

Assurance of Pardon—Isaiah 49:8, 15-16; John 3:16-17

“In a time of favor, I have answered you,” says the Lord. “In a day of salvation, I have helped you... I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands.”

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—Before The Throne Of God Above, Vs. 1



Be-fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per-fect plea.



A great high priest whose name is Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me.



My name is grav - en on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His heart.



I know that while in Heaven He stands no tongue can bid me thence de - part.



No tongue can bid me thence de - part.

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—O Love That Will Not Let Me Go



O Love that will not let___ me___ go, I rest my wea - ry soul in Thee.
O Light that fol - lows all___ my___ way, I yield my flick' - ring torch to Thee.
O Joy that seek - est me___ through pain, I can - not close my heart to Thee.
O Cross that lift - est up___ my___ head, I dare not ask to fly from thee.



I give Thee back the life___ I___ owe, that in Thine oce - an depths its flow
My heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that in Thy sun - shine's blaze its day
I trace the rain - bow through the___ rain, and feel the pro - mise is not vain,
I lay in dust, life's glo - ry___ dead, and from the ground there blos - soms red,



May rich - er, ful - ler___ be.
May bright - er, fair - er___ be.
That morn shall tear - less be.
Life that shall end - less___ be.

CCLI #2844402 Text: George Matheson, 1882;
Music: Christopher Miner, 1997.

Congregational Hymn—Great Is Thy Faithfulness



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pass - ions, they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er will be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, *mer - cy and love.*
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see.



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vi - ded;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; Music: FAITHFULNESS (RUNYAN),
William M. Runyan, 1923.

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*

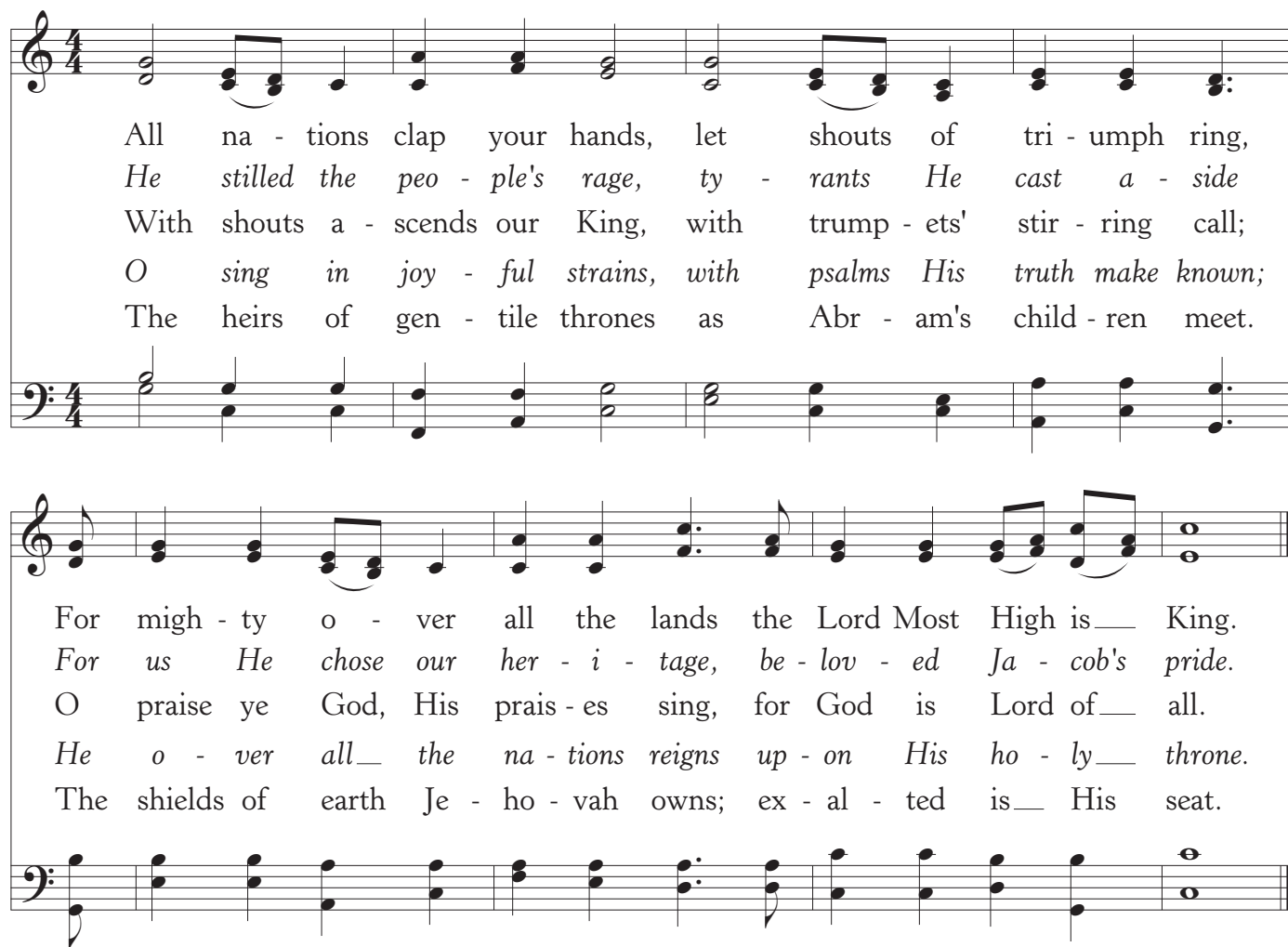
Our Father, who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done,
On Earth as it is in Heaven.

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 Psalm—All Nations Clap Your Hands (Psalm 47)



All na - tions clap your hands, let shouts of tri - umph ring,
 He stilled the peo - ple's rage, ty - rants He cast a - side
 With shouts a - scends our King, with trump - ets' stir - ring call;
 O sing in joy - ful strains, with psalms His truth make known;
 The heirs of gen - tile thrones as Abr - am's child - ren meet.

For migh - ty o - ver all the lands the Lord Most High is — King.
 For us He chose our her - i - tage, be - lov - ed Ja - cob's pride.
 O praise ye God, His prais - es sing, for God is Lord of — all.
 He o - ver all — the na - tions reigns up - on His ho - ly — throne.
 The shields of earth Je - ho - vah owns; ex - al - ted is — His seat.

Text: Psalm 47:1-9, *The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church*, 1887, alt. 2018;
 Music: THIRD AVENUE, Henry C. Haffner & Elizabeth Dowdell, 2018.

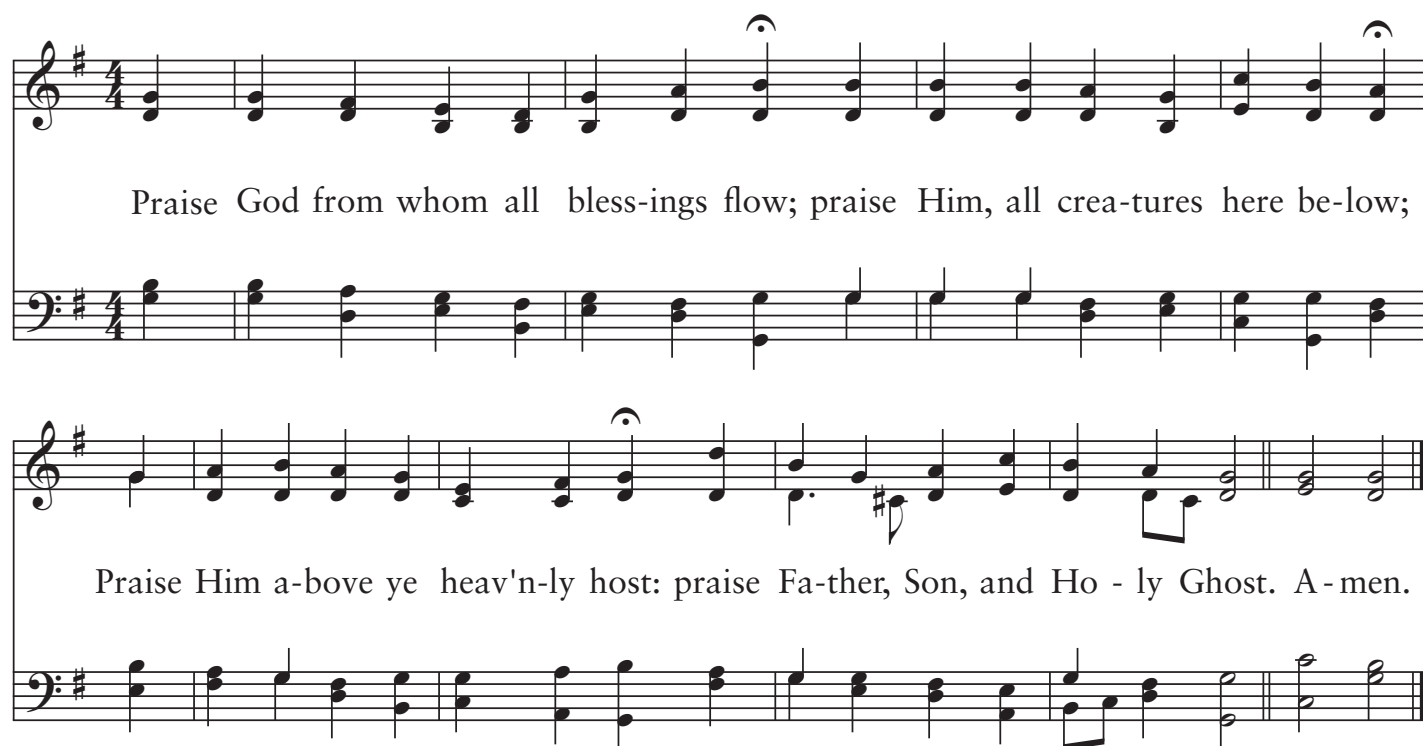
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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—based on Isaiah 49:6

The Lord says, “I will make you as a light for the nations, that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” Go forth with faith, hope, and love. *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:

In this morning's service, we'll celebrate the wonderful works that God has done for His people: forgiving their sins, healing their wounds, and bringing them into His house, even when they were far off. We'll read several times from Isaiah, in which the prophet declares that "All flesh shall know that [He is] the Lord" (Isaiah 49:26) and that "[His] salvation may reach to the end of the earth" (Isaiah 49:6). We'll sing psalms and hymns like *O Sing A New Song To The Lord—Psalm 98*, *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*, and *All Nations Clap Your Hands—Psalm 47*, which speak of His wondrous rule over the nations, His Joy that seeks out His people even in darkness, and His promise that gentiles would one day gather together as the people of the God of Abraham. But we'll also be sobered by the deeds of the unbelieving Jews in Acts 13, who were "filled with jealousy" and stirred up mobs to persecute Paul and Barnabas—knowing that we might fall into such unbelief apart from the grace of God. Romans 1 warns us of "men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth," and *Blessed Are All They—Psalm 1* gives us a picture of the wicked who are "driven by the winds," eventually falling and perishing under God's wrath. Therefore, we confess our obstinacy and rebelliousness (Isaiah 48:4-8), and we look to the faithfulness of a God who promises "pardon for sin and a peace that endureth."

—Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Jews, Crowds, Boldly, Necessary, Light, Gentiles, Glorifying, Dust

Keystone Verse: I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth. (Acts 13:47)



PARISH

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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.