



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Kingdomtide
10 November 2024

The grace offered to us is the forgiveness of sins. All we need to do is receive it by faith. To receive it, we must acknowledge that in Jesus Christ we have a definite and unquestionable pledge of God's fatherly love for us, that He has poured out His blood to wash us and suffered for all our offences. —John Calvin

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 25:10

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

Sung Response—O Worship The King, Vs. 1

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "O wor-ship the King, all glor-ious a - bove, O grate-ful-ly sing His pow'r and His love; Our shield and de-fend-er, the An-cient of Days, pa-vil-ioned in splen-dor, and gird - ed with praise." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm.

Text: Robert Grant, 1833, based on Psalm 104; Music: LYONS, Joseph Martin Kraus, 1784.

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 25:1-5

Pastor: To You, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

All: O God, in You we trust; let us not be put to shame; let not our enemies exult over us.

Reader 1: Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Reader 2: Make us to know Your ways, O Lord; teach us Your paths.

All: Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for You are the God of our salvation.

Pastor: For You we wait all the day long.

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. 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—Incarnate God! (Psalm 91)



In - car - nate God! the soul that knows Your name's mys - ter - ious pow'r,
In_ vain the fow - ler spreads his net to_ draw them from Your care;
No mid-night ter - rors haunt their bed, no_ ar - row wounds by day;
The an - gels' Lord Him-self is nigh to_ them that love His name;



Will dwell in un - di - sturb'd re - pose nor fear the try - ing hour.
Your time - ly call in - structs their feet to_ shun the art - ful snare.
Un - hurt on ser - pents they shall tread, if_ found in du - ty's way.
Is_ quick to save them when they cry, and put their foes to shame.



Your_ wis - dom, faith - ful - ness, and love to fee - ble, frail and worn,
When, like a bane - ful pest - i - lence, sin mows its thou - sands down,
An - gels, un - seen, at - tend the saints and bear them in their arms,
The_ Lord will an - swer when they call long as they so - journ here,



A_ shel - ter and a_ re - fuge prove from e - ne - my and storm.
On ev - 'ry side with-out de - fense His_ grace se - cures His own.
To cheer the spir - it_ when it faints, and guard their life from harms.
Be - cause the Lord is_ their de - fense what have the saints to fear?

Text: John Newton, *Olney Hymnal*, 1779; Music: Nathan George, 2013.

Scripture Reading—Philippians 1:27-30

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in Him but also suffer for His sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm—To Live Is Christ



I re - joice! for through your prayers, — and the — help of Je - sus' Spir - it,
My sure hope and ex - pec - ta - tion is that I will not be shamed —
Our de - sire is to de - part, — be with Christ up - on that day —

Vs. 1 & 2 then Chorus



All these pre - sent trials will turn — to de - li - ver - ance.
But that — Christ will gain the glo - ry in my life or death.
Though now — we are called to live, — live in joy and faith.

Chorus



To live is Christ, to be His ser - vant. To die and live with Him is — gain.



Though as I live, may fruit - ful la - bor glor - i - fy His Name, glo - ri - fy His Name.

Text: based on Philippians 1:19-25, Nathan George, 2012;

Music: Nathan George, 2012.

Baptism of Katarina Nohrenberg, daughter of Scott and Jenna Nohrenberg

Reading of the Word—Acts 5:33-42

³³ When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴ But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵ And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶ For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷ After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸ So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹ but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰ and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—O God, Our Help In Ages Past (Psalm 90), Vs. 7

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The music is in 4/4 time and G major. The lyrics are: "O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come: Be Thou our guard while trou- bles last, and our e - ter - nal home." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 90, Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1708.

Sermon—Worthy to Suffer

—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 25:6-11

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Good and upright are You, Lord; therefore, instruct us sinners in the way. You lead the humble in what is right and teach the humble Your way. Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

All: **Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember us, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!**

Pastor: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

All: **For Your name's sake, O Lord, pardon our guilt, for it is great.**

Assurance of Pardon—based on Psalm 25:14-18; Titus 2:11-14

The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear Him, and He makes known to them His covenant. Our eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck our feet out of the net. The troubles of our heart are enlarged; He brings us out of our distresses. He considers our affliction and our trouble and forgives all our sins.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

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

Pastor: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

All: **And so we await our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.**

Sung Response—Come, Ye Disconsolate, Vs. 1



Come, ye dis - con - so-late, wher - e'er ye lan - guish,



Come to the mer - cy seat, fer - vent - ly kneel.



Here bring your wound - ed hearts, here tell your an - guish;



Earth has no sor - row that Heav-en can - not heal.

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:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly is the Lord God Al - might - y,
Heav'n and Earth are full of Thy glor - y, glor - y— be un - to— Thee,
O Lord most high, O Lord most high, O Lord most high, A - men.

Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8; Music: Nathan George, 2013.

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—Be Still, My Soul



Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear pa-tient-ly the cross of grief or pain.
Be still, my soul: thy God doth un-der-take to guide the fu-ture, as He has the past.
Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'-ning on when we shall be for-ev-er with the Lord.
Be still, my soul: be-gin the song of praise on Earth, be-liev-ing, to thy Lord on high;

Leave to thy God to or-der and pro-vide; in eve-ry change, He faith-ful will re-main.
Thy hope, thy con-fi-dence let no-thing shake; all now mys-ter-ious shall be bright at last.
When dis-ap-point-ment, grief and fear are gone, sor-row for-got, love's pur-est joys re-stored.
Ac-know-ledge Him in all thy words and ways, so shall He view thee with a well pleased eye.

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'n-ly friend thro' thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be-low.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.
Be still, my soul: the sun of life di-vine thro' pas-sing clouds shall but more brightl-y shine.

Text: Katharina A. von Schlegel, 1752, tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1855; Music: Finlandia, Jean Sibelius, 1899.

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.

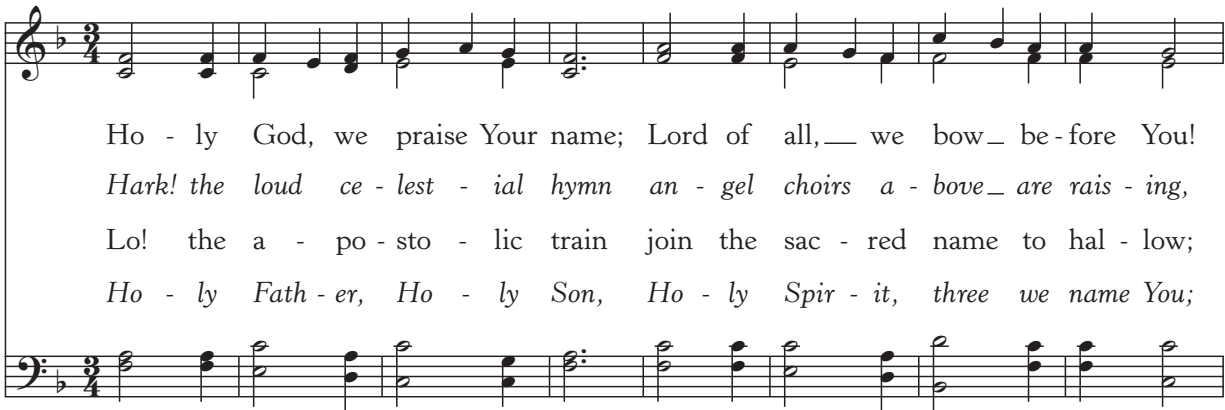
GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

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.

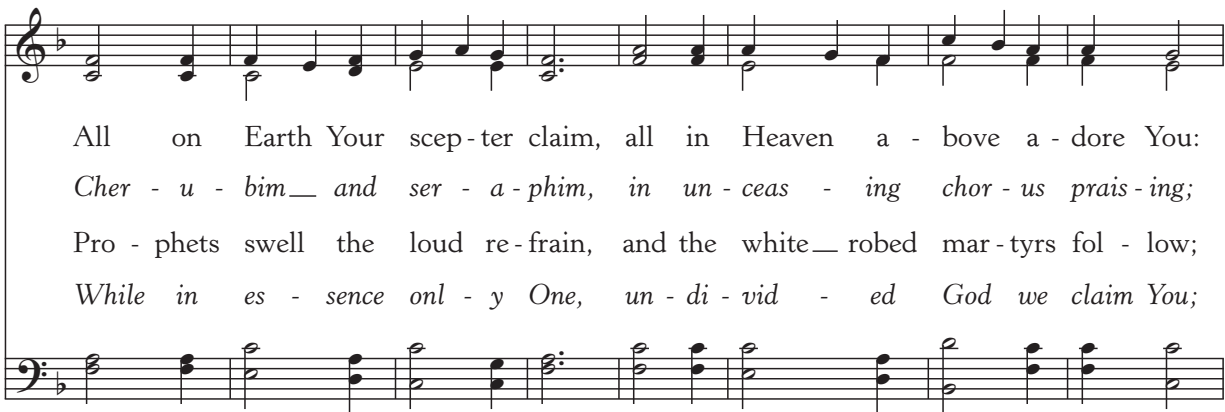
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

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.*

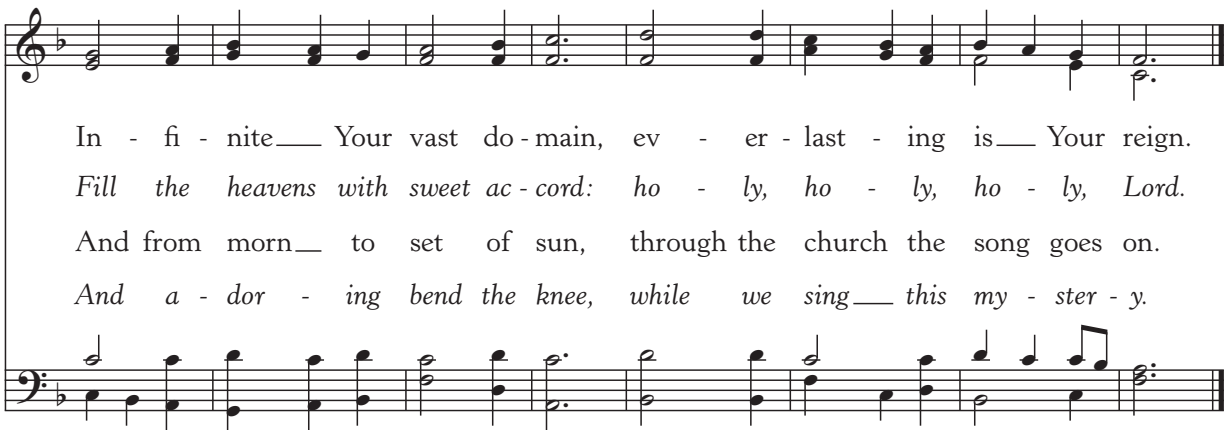
Congregational Hymn—Holy God, We Praise Your Name



Ho - ly God, we praise Your name; Lord of all, we bow be - fore You!
Hark! the loud ce - lest - ial hymn an - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing,
Lo! the a - po - sto - lic train join the sac - red name to hal - low;
Ho - ly Fath - er, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it, three we name You;



All on Earth Your scep - ter claim, all in Heaven a - bove a - dore You:
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing chor - us prais - ing;
Pro - phets swell the loud re - frain, and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low;
While in es - sence onl - y One, un - di - vid - ed God we claim You;



In - fi - nite Your vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is Your reign.
Fill the heavens with sweet ac - cord: ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord.
And from morn - to set of sun, through the church the song goes on.
And a - dor - ing bend the knee, while we sing this my - ster - y.

Text: based on *Te Deum*, 4th century, attr. Ignace Franz, 1774; Music: GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1774.

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 Psalm 25:16, 20, 22

The Lord turn to you and be gracious to you when you are lonely and afflicted. The Lord guard your soul and deliver you, not letting you be put to shame. God will redeem Israel out of all his troubles. *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 this week's sermon text from Acts, we once again find the Apostles enduring fierce opposition at the hands of the Jewish authorities. Though they are severely beaten and forbidden from preaching, they considered it an honor "to suffer dishonor for [Jesus'] name" (Acts 5:41). Most of the Scripture readings this morning are taken from Psalm 25, a psalm that comforts us with the promise that God will redeem us "out of all [our] troubles" (Psalm 25:22) even when surrounded by enemies. In a similar vein, *Jesus, Lover Of My Soul, Incarnate God!* (Psalm 91), and *O God Our Help In Ages Past* (Psalm 90) all cry out to the Lord for help, asking Him to hide us "until the storm of life is past," to "save us when we cry and put our foes to shame," and to "be our guard while troubles last." *To Live Is Christ* reminds us that "all these present trials will turn to deliverance," while *Be Still, My Soul* and *The Lord Ever Hear You* (Psalm 20) encourage us to "bear patiently the cross of grief or pain" because our God is faithful to sustain us in our weakness. Our response mirrors the Apostles' response to their difficult situation: just as they "did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus" (Acts 5:42) even after being explicitly commanded "not to speak in the name of Jesus" (Acts 5:40), we conclude the service by joyfully singing *Holy God, We Praise Your Name*. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Rage, Kill, Care, Overthrow, Oppose, Suffer, Dishonor, Name, Christ
Keystone Verse: Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. (Acts 5:41)



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