



PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Epiphany Season
February 8th, 2026

Quotes for reflection:

Just as obedience to the Lord is an indication of our love for him, so is it also a proof of our fear of God.

—Jerry Bridges

The one who kneels before God can stand before men. The fear of God always displaces the fear of man.

—Steven Lawson

Though there is not always grace where there is fear of hell, yet, to be sure, there is no grace where there is no fear of God. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, and they that lack the beginning have neither middle nor end.

—John Bunyan

The greatest trick the Devil ever played was convincing the world, by means of the desires of the flesh, that he did not exist.

—C.S. Lewis

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—Psalm 111:10

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

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—Revelation 15:3-4

Pastor: Great and marvelous are Your deeds, O Lord!

All: For You are the Lord God Almighty!

Reader 1: Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy.

Reader 2: And all nations will come and worship before You, for Your righteous deeds have been revealed.

Pastor: All the hosts of heaven will declare this, the Song of Moses, the servant of God, and this, the Song of the Lamb.

All: Just and true are Your ways, O God!

Pastor: For You, O Lord, are the King of the nations!

Congregational Hymn—Great And Marvelous



Great and mar-ve-lous are Your deeds, — Lord, God Al - migh — ty.

All the na - tions soon will come and wor - ship be - fore Your throne;



Just and true are all Your ways, — King of the a - ges!

For these all, Your right-eous deeds, — have been made known.

Chorus



Who will not fear You, O Lord, and glor - i - fy Your name?



You a - lone are ho - ly; You a - lone are ho - ly!

Text: based on Revelation 15:3-4; Music: George Grant, 1999,
arr. Nathan George, 2011.

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—In Judah The Almighty's Known (Psalm 76)



In Ju - dah the Al - migh - ty's known, (Al - migh - ty there by_ won - ders shown,) Those val - iant chiefs that came for spoil, them-selves met there a_ shame - ful foil; From heav'n on high earth heard its doom; it stilled with fear, when You did come



His name is great in Is - ra - el; His house of prayer in_ Sa - lem stands; Se - cure - ly down to sleep, they lay: they wake no more; their stout - est band To save the hum-ble and the poor: The wrath of man shall yield You praise;



The maj - es - ty that heav'n com-mands in Zi - on con - de - scends to dwell. Could not lift a re - sis - ting hand a - gainst the Lord up - on that day. their last at - tempts but serve to raise the tri - umphs of our migh - ty Lord.



He broke the flash - ing ar - rows there, des - troyed their weap - ons, sword and spear, When Ja - cob's God be - gan to frown, the horse and ri - ders o - ver - thrown Vow to the Lord, you na - tions; bring your gifts to the e - te - rnal King.;



For slain the migh - ty ar - my lay; then Zi - on's fame on earth is spread, To - ge - ther slept in end - less night. When You, whom earth and heav - en fear, To Him due rev - 'rence you shall pay: the proud - est kings that here do dwell;



Of grea - ter glo - ry, _ grea - ter dread, than hills where li - ons take their prey. Do once with wrath - ful_ look ap - pear, can mor - tals stand with - in Your sight? And earth - ly ru - lers_ ter - ri - ble, will fear the Lord up - on His day.

Text: Psalm 76:1-12, *A New Version of the Psalms of David*, 1696, alt. 2021;
Music: RODERICK, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 41:8-10, 13

You, O My servant, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, My friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are My servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand. For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, “Fear not, I am the one who helps you.”

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

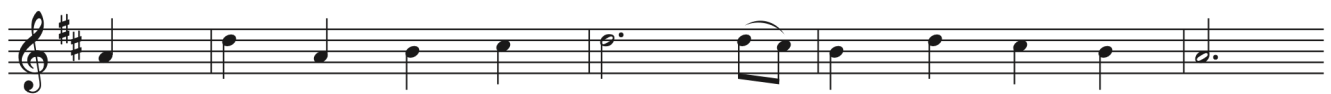
Congregational Hymn—O Put Your Trust In God



O put your trust in God, in du - ty's path go on;
Though years on years roll on, His cov' - nant shall en - dure;
Through waves, and clouds, and storms, His pow'r will clear your way;



Walk in His strength with faith and hope, so shall your work be done.
Though clouds and dark - ness hide His path, the prom - ised grace is sure.
Wait on His time, the dark - est night shall end in bright - est day.



Com - mit your ways to Him, your works in - to His hands,
Give to the winds your fears; hope, and be un - dis - mayed;
Leave to His sover - eign sway to choose and to com - mand;



And rest on His un - chang - ing Word, who Heav'n and Earth com - mands.
God hears your sighs and counts your tears; God shall lift up your head.
So shall you, wond' - ring, own His way, How wise, how strong His hand.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1656, tr. John Wesley, 18th c. ; Music: TERRA BEATA, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915.

Sermon Text—Acts 24:22-27

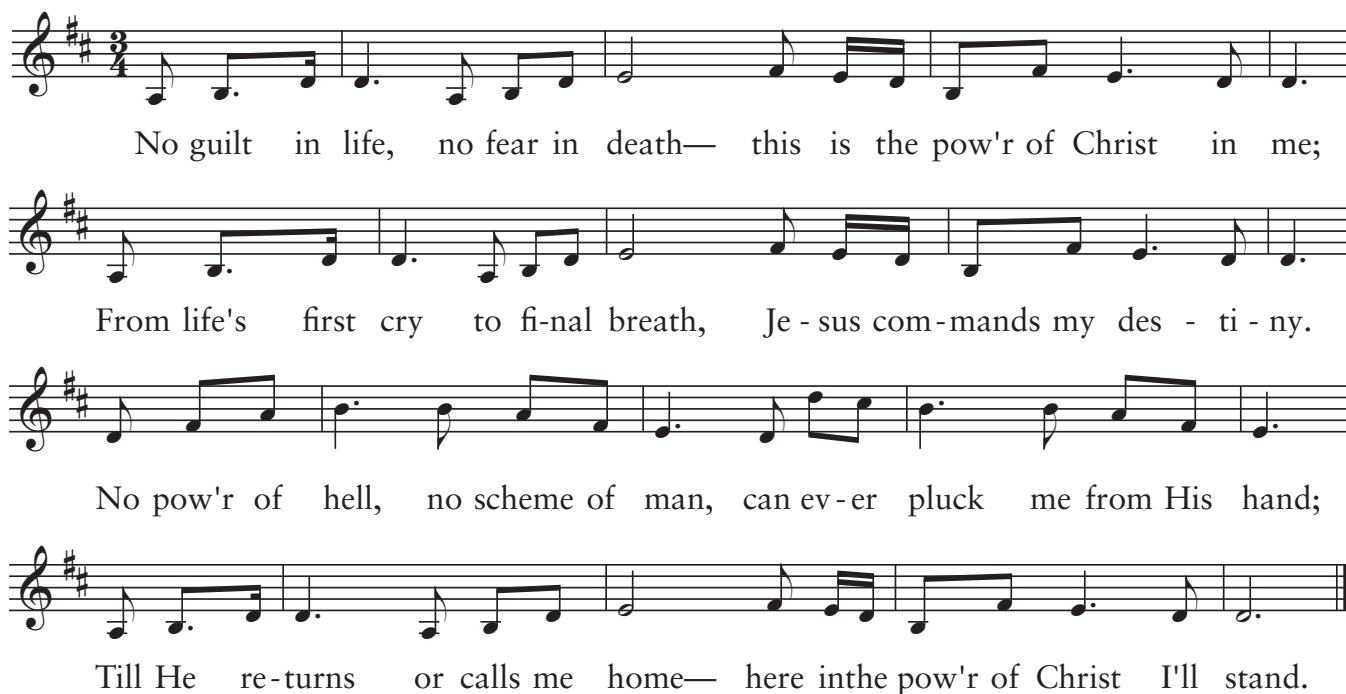
²² But Felix, having a rather accurate knowledge of the Way, put them off, saying, “When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.” ²³ Then he gave orders to the centurion that he should be kept in custody but have some liberty, and that none of his friends should be prevented from attending to his needs.

²⁴ After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁵ And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, “Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity, I will summon you.” ²⁶ At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. ²⁷ When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—In Christ Alone, Vs. 4



The musical notation is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "No guilt in life, no fear in death— this is the pow'r of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi-nal breath, Je - sus com-mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; Till He re-turns or calls me home— here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand."

No guilt in life, no fear in death— this is the pow'r of Christ in me;

From life's first cry to fi-nal breath, Je - sus com-mands my des - ti - ny.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand;

Till He re-turns or calls me home— here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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Text and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend.

Sermon—*The World, the Flesh, and the Devil*

—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—Isaiah 1:4; Psalm 145:13-21

Pastor: Lord, we confess that we are a sinful people, laden with iniquity.

All: We are sinners and the offspring of sinners. We are evildoers, children who deal corruptly. We have forsaken You, O Lord; we have despised the Holy One; we have become altogether estranged.

Pastor: But You, O Lord, are faithful in all Your words and kind in all Your works. You uphold all those who fall, and You raise up all those who are bowed down.

All: Our eyes look to You, and You give us our sustenance in due season. You open Your hand; You satisfy our desires. You, O Lord, are righteous in all Your ways and kind in all Your works.

Pastor: You are near to all who call on You, to all who call on You in truth.

All: You fulfill the desire of those who fear You; You also hear our cry and save us. You, O Lord preserve all who love You, but all the wicked You will humble. We will speak of Your praises. Let all flesh bless Your holy name forever and ever.

(Silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response—Kyrie

The musical score is for a Kyrie response, featuring two parts: Women (soprano) and Men (bass). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The Women's part begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a half note G4, and a whole rest. The Men's part begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, a half note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a half note G3, and a whole rest. The lyrics for both parts are: "Lord have mer - cy ____ Christ have mer - cy ____". The Women's part continues with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a half note G4, and a whole rest. The Men's part continues with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, a half note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a half note G3, and a whole rest. The lyrics for both parts are: "Lord have mer - cy ____ Christ have mer - cy ____". The Women's part ends with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a half note G4, and a whole rest. The Men's part ends with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, a half note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a half note G3, and a whole rest. The lyrics for both parts are: "Lord have mer - cy ____ Christ have mer - cy ____".

Text: Traditional; Music: Nathan George & Henry C. Haffner, 2012.

Assurance of Pardon—1 John 1:5-9; Matthew 11:28

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But, if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

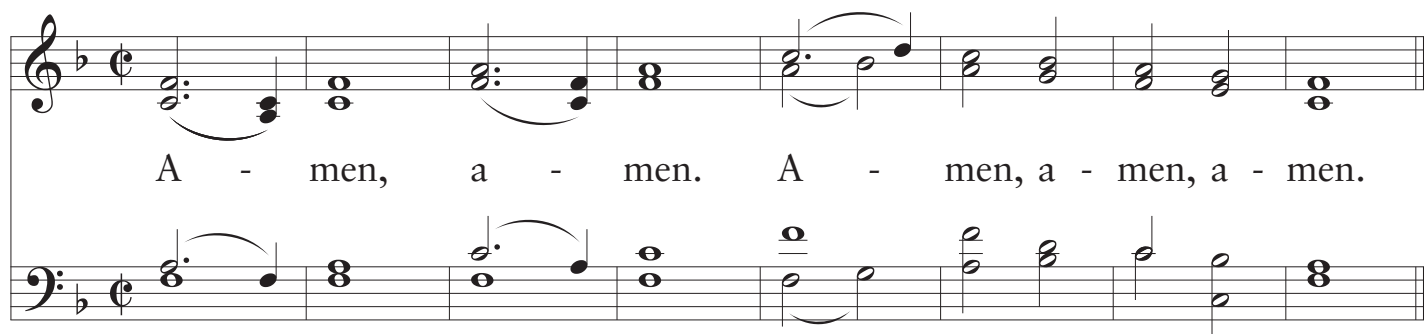
Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

All: Thanks be to God, our refuge, our strength, and our redeemer.

Sung Response—Fivefold Amen



Text: Traditional; Music: Traditional African-American spiritual,
arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988.

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:

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—Let Us Break Bread Together



Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. —

Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. —

Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. —



Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.

Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Chorus



When I fall on my knees with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord have mer - cy on me.

Text and Music: Traditional African-American Spiritual.

Congregational Hymn—On Jordan's Stormy Banks



On Jor - dan's stor - my banks I stand, and cast a wish-ful eye
O'er all those wide ex - ten - ded plains shines one e - ter - nal day;
When shall I reach that hap - py place, and be for - ev - er blest?
Filled with de - light, my rap - tured soul would here no long - er stay:



To— Ca - naan's fair and hap - py land, where my pos - ses - sions lie.
There God the— Son for - ev - er reigns, and scat - ters night a - way.
When shall I— see my Fa - ther's face, and in His bos - om rest?
Though Jor - dan's waves a - round me roll, I'd— fear - less launch a - way.

Refrain



I am bound for the prom-ised land, ——— I'm bound for the prom-ised land,



O, — who will come and go with me? I am bound for the prom - ised land.

Text: Samuel Stennet, 1787; Music: THE PROMISED LAND,
Matilda Durham, 1835.

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—Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The score begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a strong emphasis on the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic support, often using chords and simple rhythmic patterns. The hymn concludes with a final cadence in the piano part.

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.

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

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 Hebrews 11:1; 12:1-2

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Let us therefore run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Gloria Patri

Glor - y be__ to the Fath - er, and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is__ now, and ev - er shall be,

World__ with - out end. A - men. A - - - men.

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano/Alto and Bass/Tenor) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The music features a mix of eighth, quarter, and half notes, with some rests. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are in English and are placed below the corresponding musical staves.

Text: Lesser Doxology, 2nd century; Music: Nathan George, 2015,
harm. Henry C. Haffner, 2015.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Much as last week's service centered around the contrast between truth and falsehood, much of the material in this morning's service contrasts the two senses of the word *fear*: we will read and sing about fear, both as a "negative emotion stirred up by the expectation of danger or trouble", and as "intense reverence or veneration." Revelation 15, which is included in the Call to Worship and the opening hymn, commands us to fear the Lord and glorify His name. We sing from Psalm 76, which concludes with a vision of all earthly rulers coming to "fear the Lord upon His day," and we are promised in Psalm 145, "He fulfills the desire of those who fear Him." These are examples of that second sense of the word, indicating respect, reverence, and awe. At the same time, we are also told repeatedly in the service to "fear not" (Isaiah 41), to "give to the winds your fears" (*O Put Your Trust In God*), to have "no fear in death" (*In Christ Alone*), and to "fearless launch away" (*On Jordan's Stormy Banks*)—fears aroused by our circumstances or our own weaknesses. We are commanded to fear God. We are likewise commanded not to fear men (Matthew 10:28). When we face trials or difficulties, let's pray along with the author of *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* for our Lord to "bid [our] anxious fears subside."

—Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Righteousness, Self-Control, Judgment, Alarmed, Money

Keystone Verses: Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity, I will summon you." (Acts 24: 25)