



# PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Kingdomtide  
*6 October 2024*

Upon our turning to God we have more restored to us in Christ than ever was lost in Adam. —Thomas Watson

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## 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—Hosea 6:1

Come, let us return to the Lord; for He has torn us, that He may heal us; He has struck us down, and He will bind us up.

### Sung Response—The Lord Is King, Vs. 1



The Lord is King! lift up thy voice, O Earth; and all ye heav'ns, re-joice!



From world to world the joy shall ring, "The Lord om-ni - po - tent is King."

Text: Josiah Conder, 1824; Music: ROCKBRIDGE, Lucius Chapin,  
from *The Harmonia Sacra*, 1812, alt. 2010.

### Call to Worship—based on Psalm 22:22-24, 27-28

**Pastor:** We will tell of the name of the Lord to our brothers; in the midst of the congregation we will praise Him.

**All:** You who fear the Lord, praise Him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!

**Reader 1:** For He has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted.

**Reader 2:** The Lord has not hidden His face from us but has heard when we cried to Him.

**All:** All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before Him.

**Pastor:** For kingship belongs to the Lord, and He rules over the nations.

# Congregational Psalm—From Heav'n O Praise The Lord (Psalm 148)

From Heav'n O praise the Lord! Ye heights His glo - ry raise.  
 Yea, let them glo - rious make Je - ho - vah's match - less name;  
 From Earth O praise the Lord, ye deeps and all be - low;  
 Let all the peo - ple praise and kings of ev - ery land,  
 Je - ho - vah's name be praised a - bove the Earth and sky.

All an - gels praise ac - cord; let all His hosts give praise.  
 For when the word He spake, they in - to be - ing came.  
 Wild winds that do His word, ye clouds, fire, hail, and snow;  
 Let all their voic - es raise who judge and who com - mand  
 For He His saints has raised and set their pow'r on high.

Praise Him on high, sun, moon, and star,  
 And from that place, where fixed they be,  
 Ye moun - tains high, ye ce - dars tall,  
 By young and old by maid and youth,  
 Him praise ac - cord, O Is - rael's race,

Sun, moon and star, ye heav'ns a - far, and cloud - y sky.  
 Where fixed they be by His de - cree they can - not pass.  
 Ye ce - dars tall, beasts great and small and birds that fly.  
 By maid and youth His name in truth should be ex - tolled.  
 O Is - rael's race, near to His grace praise ye the Lord!

Text: Psalm 148:1-14, *The Book of Psalms for Singing*, © 1973 Crown and Covenant Publications;  
 Music: ST. CATHERINES, Horatio R. Palmer, 19<sup>th</sup> century.

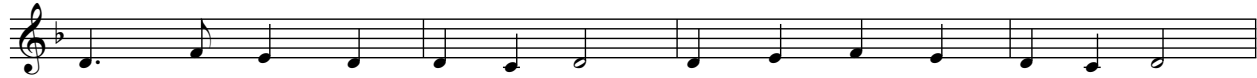
# GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

*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.*

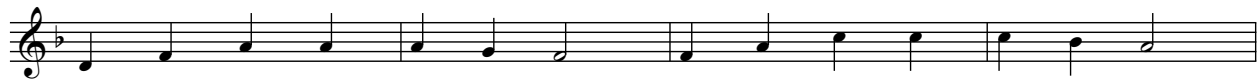
## Congregational Psalm—Gently, Gently Lay Your Rod (Psalm 6)



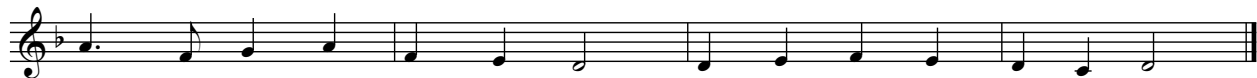
Gent - ly, Gent - ly lay Your rod on my sin - ful heart, O God;  
My soul is in great dis - tress. Send, O send Your pro - mised rest;  
Who with - in the si - lent grave will re - call or give You praise?  
So de - part from me, a - way! Men of e - vil, be a - shamed!



Stay Your wrath, in merc - y, stay, or I sink be - fore its sway.  
Lord, I cry how long, how long? My great need has been my song.  
Lord, my trem - bling soul now give words of grace and I will live.  
For the Lord has heard my cry, as my prayer as - cends on high.



Heal me, for my flesh is weak; heal me, for Your grace I seek.  
Look, O Lord, with gra - cious eye, turn and take my guilt - y life;  
I am wear - y from the years of the dark - ness filled with tears.  
Lo! He comes! He heeds my plea. Lo! He comes! The sha - dows flee!



This my on - ly plea I make, heal me for Your merc - y's sake.  
By Your grace from Heav'n a - bove, save me in Your stead-fast love.  
Oh, my sight, be - cause of grief, wastes a - way and now is weak.  
Glo - ry round me dawns once more; rise my spir - it and a - dore!

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 6:1-10, Henry F. Lyte, 1834, alt. Nathan George, 2012;  
Music: Nathan George, 2012.

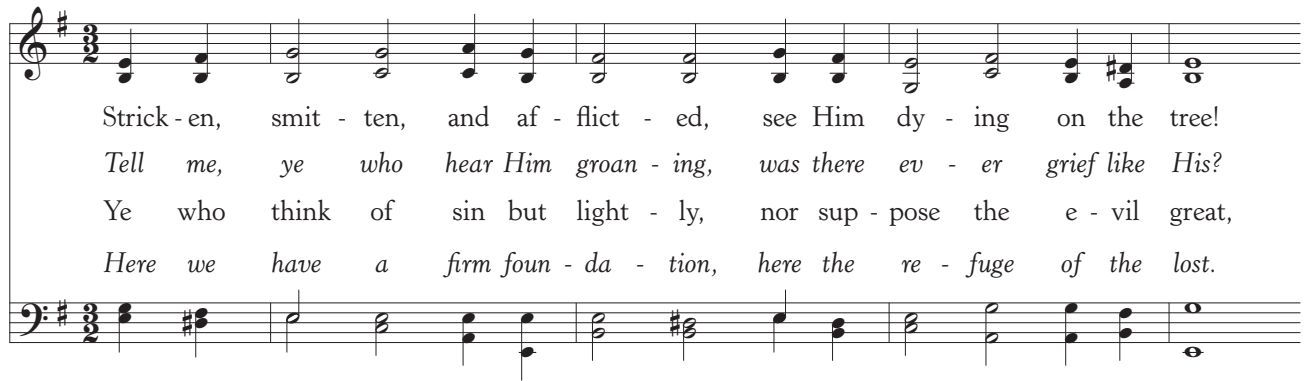
## Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 18:15-22

[Moses said,] “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ And the Lord said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to My words that he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’ And if you say in your heart, ‘How may we know the word that the Lord has not spoken?’— when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.”

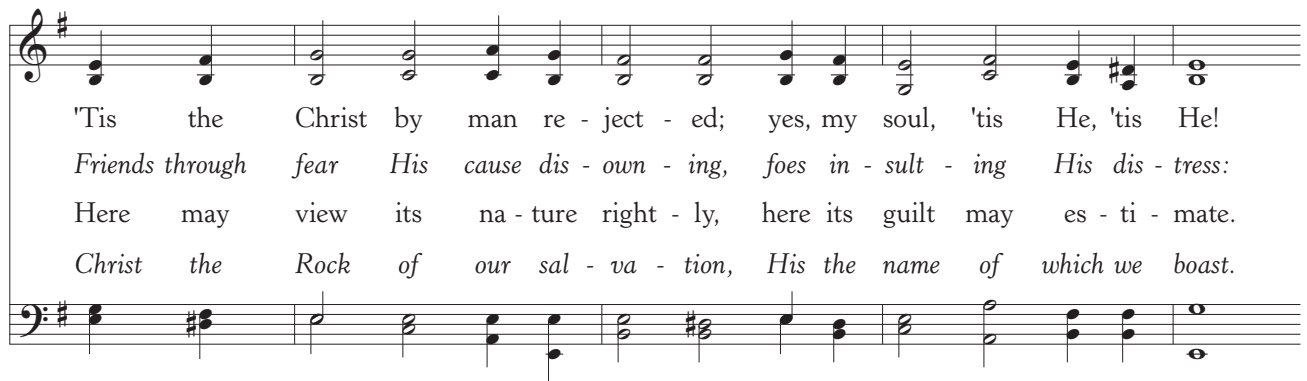
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

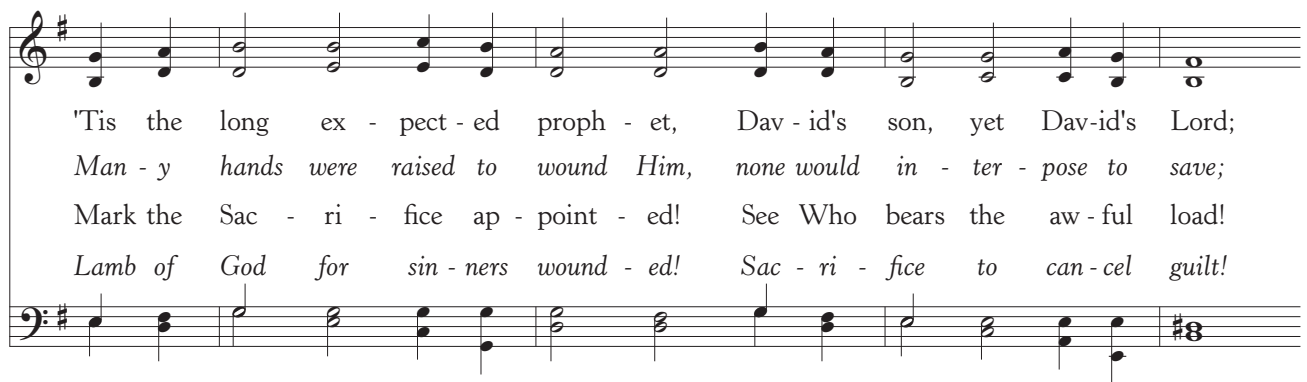
## Congregational Hymn—Stricken, Smitten, And Afflicted



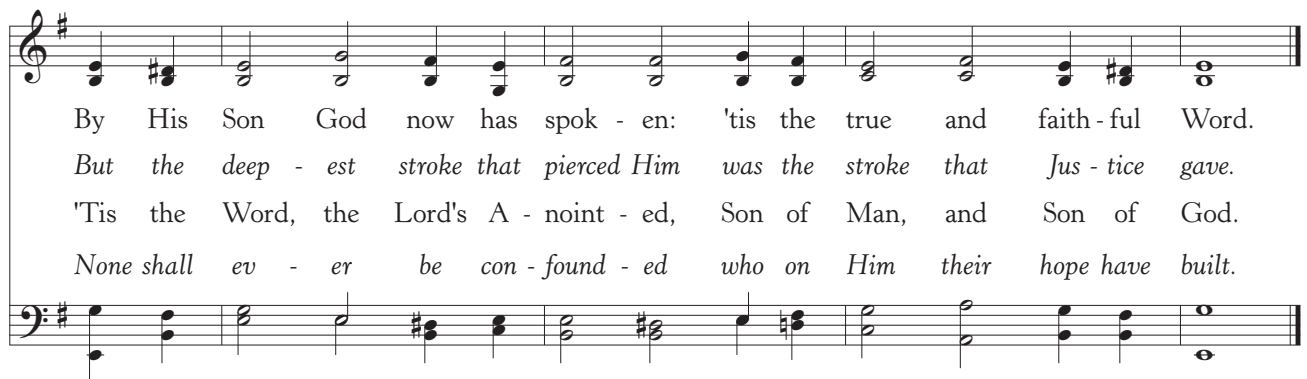
Strick - en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, see Him dy - ing on the tree!  
Tell me, ye who hear Him groan - ing, was there ev - er grief like His?  
Ye who think of sin but light - ly, nor sup - pose the e - vil great,  
Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, here the re - fuge of the lost.



'Tis the Christ by man re - ject - ed; yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!  
Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, foes in - sult - ing His dis - tress:  
Here may view its na - ture right - ly, here its guilt may es - ti - mate.  
Christ the Rock of our sal - va - tion, His the name of which we boast.



'Tis the long ex - pect - ed proph - et, Dav - id's son, yet Dav - id's Lord;  
Man - y hands were raised to wound Him, none would in - ter - pose to save;  
Mark the Sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed! See Who bears the aw - ful load!  
Lamb of God for sin - ners wound - ed! Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt!



By His Son God now has spok - en: 'tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
But the deep - est stroke that pierced Him was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of Man, and Son of God.  
None shall ev - er be con - found - ed who on Him their hope have built.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1804; Music: O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN,  
*Geistliche Volkslieder*, 1850.

## Reading of the Word—Acts 3:17-4:4

<sup>17</sup> “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup> But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, <sup>20</sup> that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, <sup>21</sup> whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets long ago. <sup>22</sup> Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. <sup>23</sup> And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.’ <sup>24</sup> And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. <sup>25</sup> You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’ <sup>26</sup> God, having raised up His servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.”

<sup>4:1</sup> And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup> greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup> And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup> But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Sung Response—God Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51), Vs. 1

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "God, be mer - ci - ful to me, on Thy grace I rest my plea; Plen-teous in com - pas - sion Thou, blot out my trans - gres - sions now; Wash me, make me pure with - in, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin."

Text: from Psalm 51:1-2, *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: REDHEAD 76, Richard Redhead, 1853.

## Sermon—*The Blessing of Turning*

—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 Jeremiah 8:4-5, 7

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Thus says the Lord: “When men fall, do they not rise again? If one turns away, does he not return? Why then has this people turned away in perpetual backsliding?”

All: **We hold fast to deceit; we refuse to return.**

Pastor: We have not spoken rightly; none of us relents of our evil, saying, “What have I done?”

All: **Your people know not the rules of the Lord.**

## Assurance of Pardon—Jeremiah 31:18-20; Colossians 2:6-7

Thus says the Lord, “I have heard Ephraim grieving, ‘You have disciplined me, and I was disciplined, like an untrained calf; bring me back that I may be restored, for You are the Lord my God. For after I had turned away, I relented, and after I was instructed, I struck my thigh; I was ashamed, and I was confounded, because I bore the disgrace of my youth.’ Is Ephraim My dear son? Is he My darling child? For as often as I speak against him, I do remember him still. Therefore my heart yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him,” declares the Lord.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

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

Pastor: Therefore, in the same way you received Christ Jesus as Lord, so continue to walk in Him.

All: **So then, we are rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith.**

Pastor: Therefore, let us abound in thanksgiving.

## Sung Response—Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy, Vs. 2



Come, ye thirst - y,\_\_\_ come, and wel - come, God's free bount - y\_\_\_ glor - i - fy;



True be - lief and true re - pen - tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.



I will a-rise and go to Je - sus, He will em-brace me\_\_\_ in His arms;



In the arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

# 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 Psalm—Blest Is The Man (Psalm 32)



Blest is the man, for - ev - er blest, whose guilt is par-doned by his God;  
*Blest is the man to whom the Lord im - putes not his in - i - qui - ties;*  
From guile his heart and lips are free; his hum-ble joy, his ho-ly fear,  
*How glor-ious is that right-eous-ness that hides and can - cels all his sins,*



Whose sins with sor - row are con-fessed, and cov-ered with his Sav-ior's blood.  
*He pleads no mer - it of re - ward, and not on works, but grace re - lies.*  
With deep re - pen-tance well a - gree, and join to prove his faith sin - cere.  
*While a bright ev - i - dence of grace through his whole life ap-pears and shines!*

© 2008 Greyfriars Press. Text: paraphrase of Psalm 32, Isaac Watts, 1719;  
Music: DISTRESS, William Walker, 1854, arr. Gregory Wilbur, 2008.

### Congregational Hymn—Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

A - las! and did my Sa - vior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign die!—  
Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned up - on the tree?—  
Well might the sun in dark - ness hide, and shut his glor - ies in, —  
Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while His dear cross ap - pears; —  
But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the debt of love I owe; —

Would He de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?  
A - maz - ing pi - ty! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!  
When Christ, the migh - ty ma - ker, died for man the crea - ture's sin.  
Dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt mine eyes in tears.  
Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way, 'tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1824.

# 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.

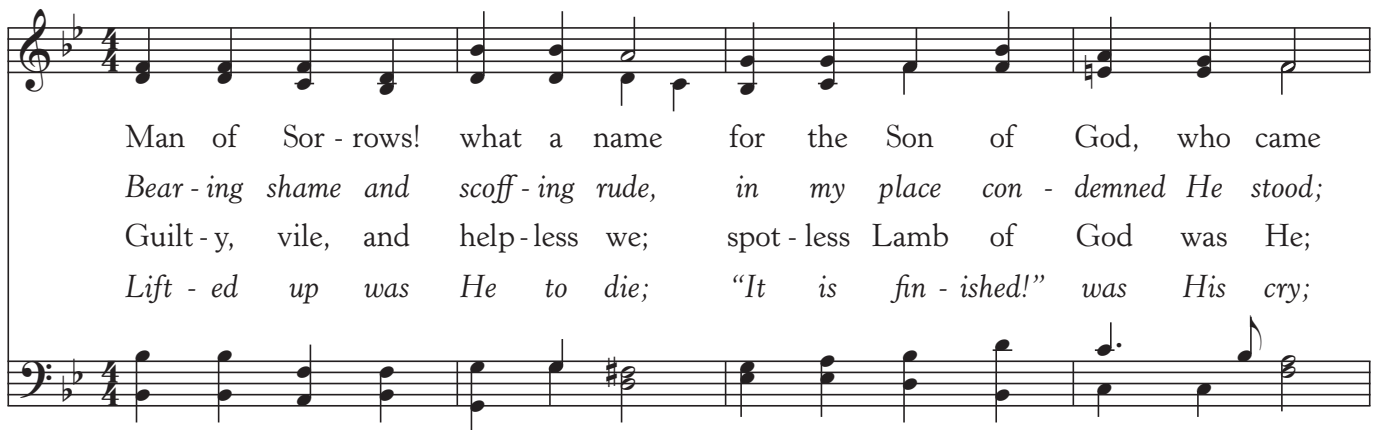
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

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

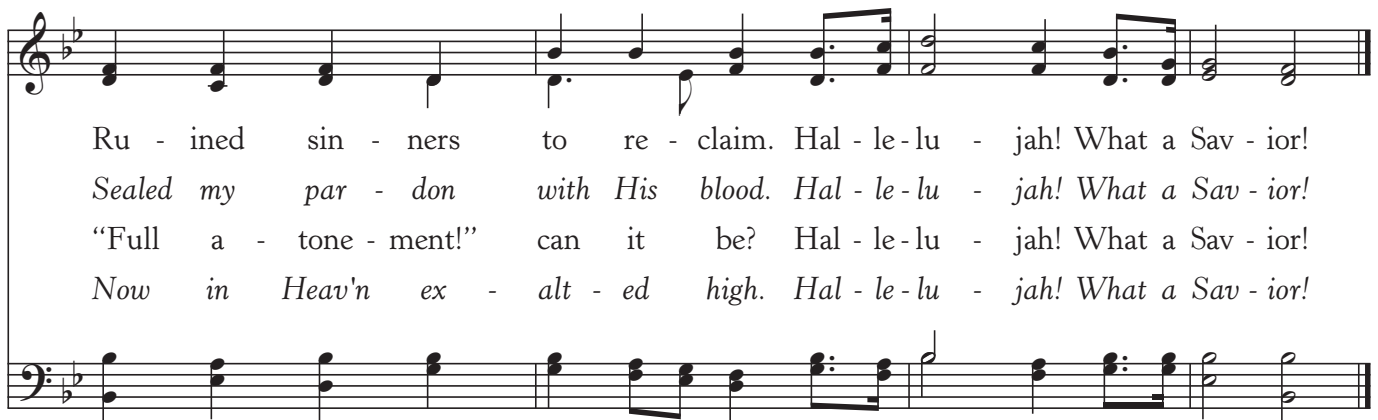
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

*Amen.*

## Congregational Hymn—Man Of Sorrows!



Man of Sor - rows! what a name for the Son of God, who came  
Bear - ing shame and scoff - ing rude, in my place con - demned He stood;  
Guilt - y, vile, and help - less we; spot - less Lamb of God was He;  
Lift - ed up was He to die; "It is fin - ished!" was His cry;



Ru - ined sin - ners to re - claim. Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!  
Sealed my par - don with His blood. Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!  
"Full a - tone - ment!" can it be? Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!  
Now in Heav'n ex - alt - ed high. Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior!

Text and Music: Phillip P. Bliss, 1875.

# 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 Acts 26:18

The Lord be with you to open your eyes, so that you may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that you may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Jesus. *Amen.*

## Sung Response—Be Thou My Vision, Vs. 5



High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

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

## Announcements

## Worship Notes:

You may notice that this morning's service is a bit more solemn than usual. That is on purpose. Apart from the exuberant opening psalm setting (*From Heav'n O Praise The Lord—Psalm 148*), the Scripture passages and hymns chosen for the service reflect on the sobering call to repentance at the end of Act 3. Hearing Peter urge his brothers to “repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:19), we respond by acknowledging the sinfulness of our hearts (*Gently, Gently Lay Your Rod—Psalm 6*) and asking God to blot out our sins (*God Be Merciful To Me—Psalm 51*). We recognize that our guilt is so great (*Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed; Man of Sorrows! What A Name*) that only a promised divine redeemer can overcome it (*Stricken, Smitten, And Afflicted*). We confess that true repentance is a gift of God's grace (*Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy*) and that blessings will come to those who receive it (*Blest Is The Man—Psalm 32*). I pray that this service would remind all of us to take hold of this grace, turning from our own wickedness to the Lord who promises to bind up what He has struck down (Hosea 6:1). —Henry C. Haffner

**Key Words:** Fulfilled, Suffer, Repent, Blot, Refreshing, Presence, Bless, Turn, Believe

**Keystone Verse:** Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus. (Acts 3:19-20)



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Tom Goddard (218-3654)

Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)

Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)

Mike Misericchi (594-3880)

Matt Morrison (482-5107)

Jason Parolini (497-3337)

Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)

### Elders Emeritus

Steve Nelson John Scherrer

### Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)

Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)

Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)

Ben Crist (509-3040)

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