

PARISH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Easter Season
May 4th, 2025

Quote for Reflection

Look at Herod. He sits in the midst of his people, and he speaks. Hear ye the impious shout? “It is the voice of God,” they cry, “and not the voice of man.” The proud monarch gives not God the glory; he affects the God, and seems to shake the spheres, imagining himself divine. There is a worm that creepeth into his body, and yet another, and another; and ere that sun has set, he is eaten up of worms. Ah! monarch! though thoughtest of being a god, and worms have eaten thee! ... When kings die, and in funeral pomp are carried to the grave, we are taught the lesson—“I am God, and beside me there is none else.” —Charles Spurgeon

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—1 Peter 1:24-25

“All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the Word of the Lord remains forever.” And this Word is the good news that was preached to you.

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 lyrics are: "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!" The score consists of three systems of staves. Each system has a treble staff for the Soprano part and a bass staff for the Bass part. The lyrics are placed between the staves. The first system ends with a double bar line. The second system ends with a double bar line. The third system 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 86:8-13

Pastor: There is none like You among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like Yours.

All: All the nations You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name.

Reader 1: For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

Reader 2: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.

All: We give thanks to You, O Lord our God, with our whole heart, and we will glorify Your name forever.

Pastor: For great is Your steadfast love toward us; You have delivered our soul from the depths of Sheol.

Congregational Psalm—Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah (Psalm 146)

Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je - ho - vah praise.
Hap - py is the man that choos - es Is - rael's God to be his aid;
 Food He dai - ly gives the hun - gry, sets the mourn - ing pris - 'ner free,
 Hal - le - lu - jah, praise Je - ho - vah, O my soul, Je - ho - vah praise;

I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through all my days.
He is blessed whose hope of bles - sing on the Lord his God is stayed.
 Rais - es those bowed down with an - guish, makes the sight - less eye to see.
 I will sing the glo - rious prais - es of my God through all my days.

Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor for help on man de - pend;
Heav'n and Earth the Lord cre - at - ed, seas and all that they con - tain;
 Well Je - ho - vah loves the righ - teous, and the strang - er He be - friends,
 O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er, through all a - ges He is King;

He shall die, to dust re - turn - ing, and his pur - pos - es shall end.
He de - liv - ers from op - pres - sion, righ - teous - ness He will main - tain.
 Helps the fa - ther - less and wid - ow, judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.
 Un - to Him, your God, O Zi - on, joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.

Text: Psalm 146:1-10, *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: RIPLEY, Gregorian Chant,
 arr. Lowell Mason, 1839.

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 Mathew Loyd

Scripture Reading—Psalm 82:1-8

God has taken His place in the divine council;
in the midst of the gods He holds judgment:
“How long will you judge unjustly
and show partiality to the wicked? *Selah*
Give justice to the weak and the fatherless;
maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.
Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

They have neither knowledge nor understanding,
they walk about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

I said, “You are gods,
sons of the Most High, all of you;
nevertheless, like men you shall die,
and fall like any prince.”

Arise, O God, judge the earth;
for You shall inherit all the nations!

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm—Arise, O God (Psalm 82)

A - rise, O God, set forth Thy rights, pro - nounce Thy just de - cree;
The her - i - tage of Earth by right be - longs, O Lord, to Thee.
A - mong as - sem - bled men of might the might - y God doth stand:
"Give just - ice to the fath - er - less, de - fend the poor dis - tressed;
He stands to or - der judg - ment right to judg - es of the land.
and give de - liv' - rance to the weak by law - less pow'r op - pressed.
"How long will ye, with wrong - ful aid, the ty - rant's cause pro - tect?
All ye are gods, ye kings," I said, "and sons of God Most High;
How long, by gift and fa - vor swayed, the wick - ed man re - spect?"
Yet as the sons of men ye fade, and as the prin - ces die."

Text: Psalm 82:1-8, *The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church*, 1887, alt. 2015;
Music: WINSTEAD HILL, Henry C. Haffner, 2015.

Sermon Text—Acts 12:1-24

About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church.
² He killed James the brother of John with the sword, ³ and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. ⁴ And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. ⁵ So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

⁶ Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. ⁷ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. ⁸ And the angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." ⁹ And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰ When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. ¹¹ When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

¹² When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. ¹³ And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. ¹⁴ Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate. ¹⁵ They said to her, "You are out of your mind." But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" ¹⁶ But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed. ¹⁷ But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Tell these things to James and to the brothers." Then he departed and went to another place.

¹⁸ Now when day came, there was no little disturbance among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. ¹⁹ And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and spent time there.

²⁰ Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord, and having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food. ²¹ On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. ²² And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" ²³ Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

²⁴ But the Word of God increased and multiplied.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

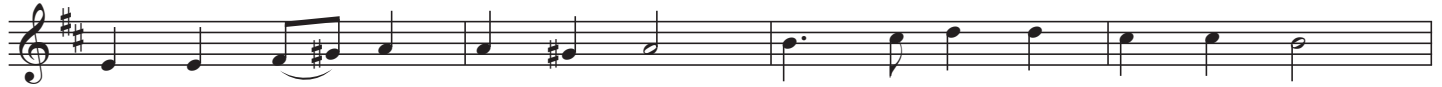
Sung Response—Why Do Gentile Nations Rage (Psalm 2), Vs. 4



There-fore kings now heed this word: earth-ly judg - es, come and hear.



Rev' - rent wor - ship give the Lord: with your joy mix trem-bling fear.



Kiss the Son, His wrath to turn, lest you per - ish in your stride,



For His an - ger soon may burn; blessed are all who in Him hide.

Text: Psalm 2:10-12; *The Book of Psalms for Worship*, Copyright © 2010 Crown and Covenant Publications;
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1678, harm. J. S. Bach, 18th c.

Sermon—*That Word Above All Earthly Powers*

—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—based on 1 Samuel 12:20-24

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. We are called to fear the Lord alone and serve Him faithfully with all our heart. We consider what great things You have done for us.

All: We have done evil.

Pastor: Do not turn aside from following the Lord—serve the Lord with all your heart.

All: We have turned aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver. They are empty.

Pastor: Yet the Lord will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for Himself.

All: Far be it from us that we should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for one another.

Assurance of Pardon—from Isaiah 45:21-22, 24-25; John 3:16-17

Thus says the Lord, “There is no other god besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides Me. Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. Only in the Lord... are righteousness and strength; to Him shall come and be ashamed all who were incensed against Him. In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall be justified and shall glory.”

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—Jesus Shall Reign, Vs. 3

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Bless-ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns; the pris-'ner leaps to lose his chains,

The wea-ry find e - ter - nal rest, and all the sons of want are blest.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

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 Psalm—Turn Your Ear And Answer (Psalm 86)

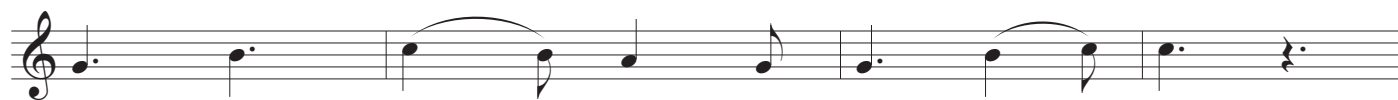


Turn Your ear _____ and an - swer, O my _____ Lord
Make the soul of Your ser - vant, glad this _____ day!
You _____ are good and for - giv - ing, kind and _____ true;
O _____ Lord lis - ten to my plea for _____ grace;




For _____ I am _____ op - pressed, I _____ am weak and _____ poor.
O _____ my sov - 'reign Lord, hear _____ me when I _____ pray.
Full _____ of stead - fast love; I _____ will call on _____ You!
I _____ will call _____ on You, in _____ my trou - bled _____ days.

Chorus



Save Your ser - vant! Pre - serve my _____ life!



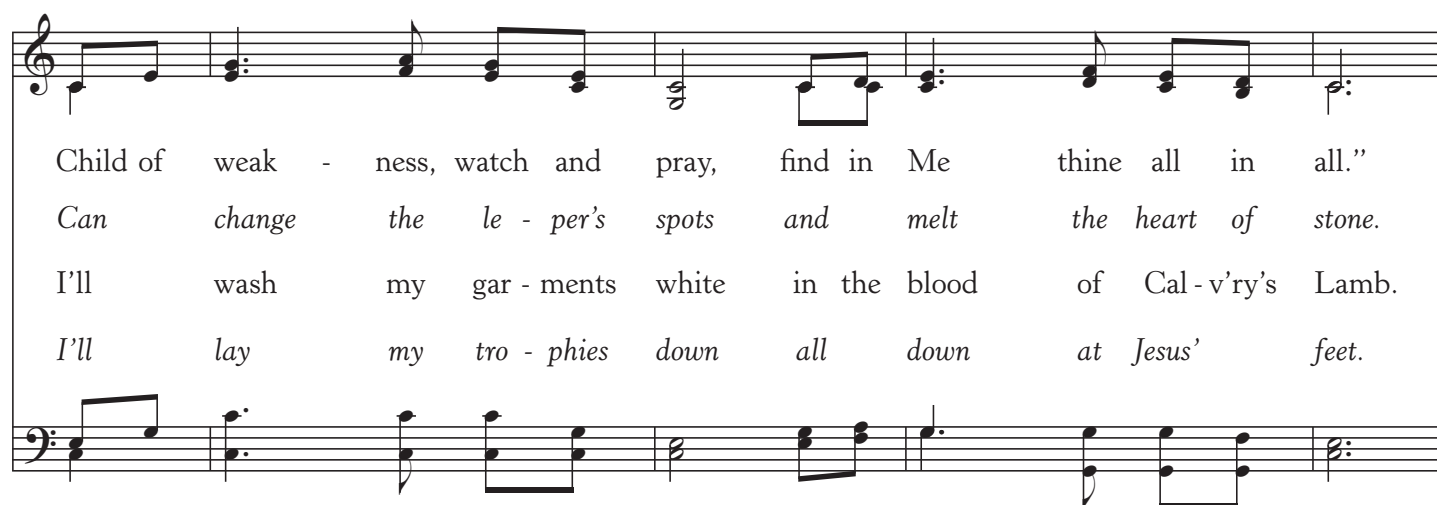
Lord be Gra - cious! All my days, to You, I _____ will cry.

Text: Psalm 86:1-7, Nathan George, 2015;
Music: Nathan George, 2015.

Congregational Hymn—Jesus Paid It All

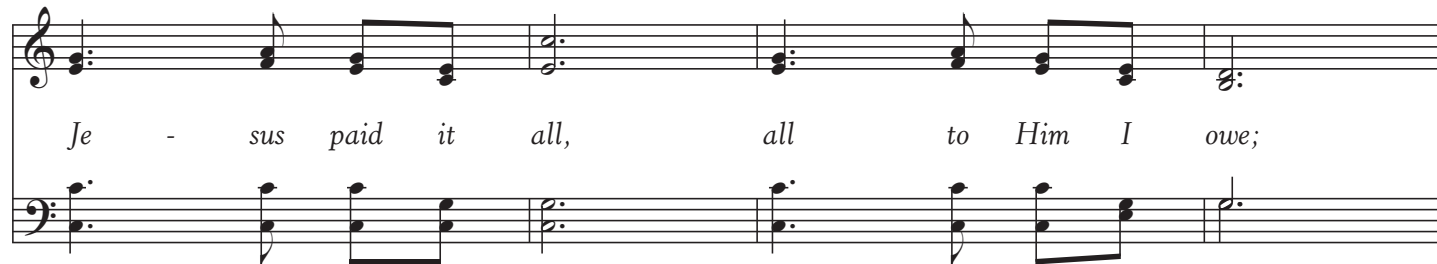


I hear the Sav - ior say, "Thy strength in - deed is small;
Lord, now in - deed I find Thy power and Thine a - lone,
For noth - ing good have I where - by Thy grace to claim,
And when be - fore the throne I stand in Him com - plete,

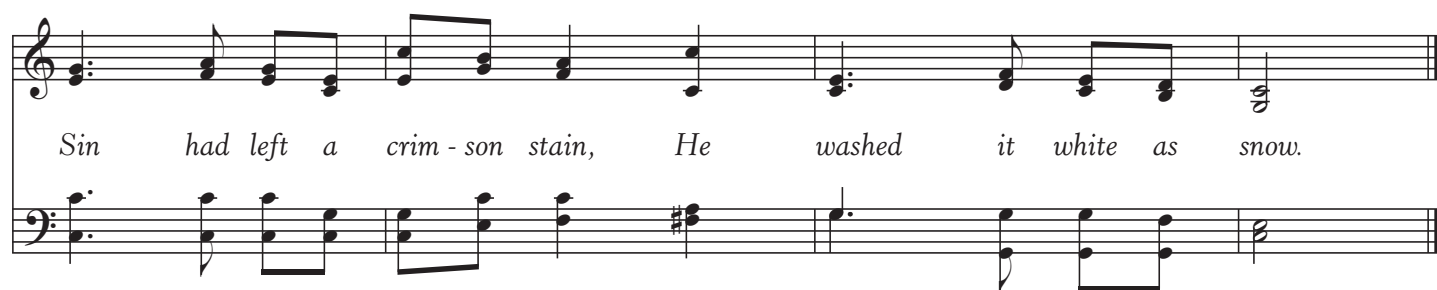


Child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in Me thine all in all."
Can change the le - per's spots and melt the heart of stone.
I'll wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
I'll lay my tro - phies down all down at Jesus' feet.

Refrain



Je - sus paid it all, all to Him I owe;



Sin had left a crim - son stain, He washed it white as snow.

Text: Elvina M. Hall, 1865; Music: ALL TO CHRIST, John T. Grape, 1865.

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.

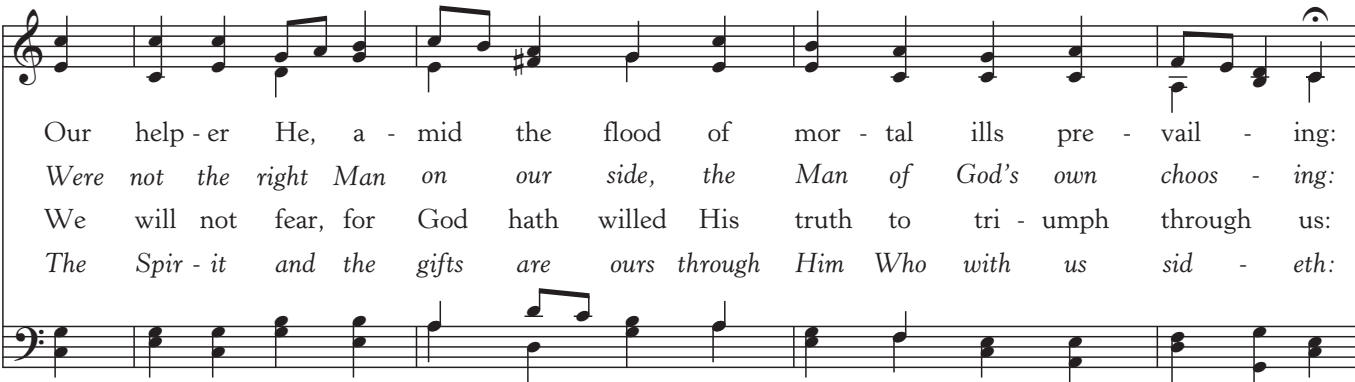
For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.


Congregational Hymn—A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



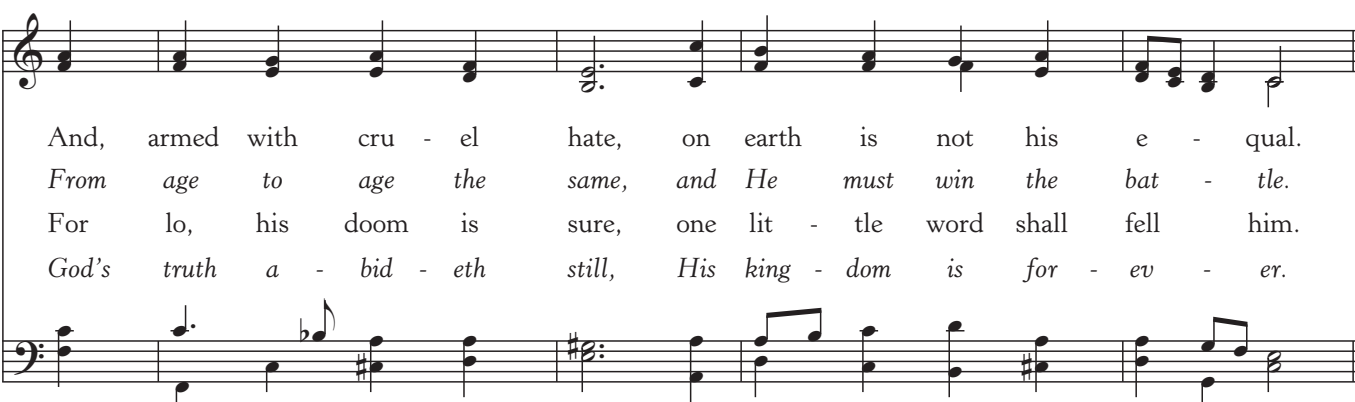
A might - y fort - ress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing;
And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,
That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth;



Our help - er He, a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing:
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choos - ing:
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us:
The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sid - eth:



For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great,
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sa - ba - oth, His Name,
The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill:



And, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
From age to age the same, and He must win the bat - tle.
For lo, his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 46, Martin Luther, 1529, tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853;
Music: EIN'FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1529.

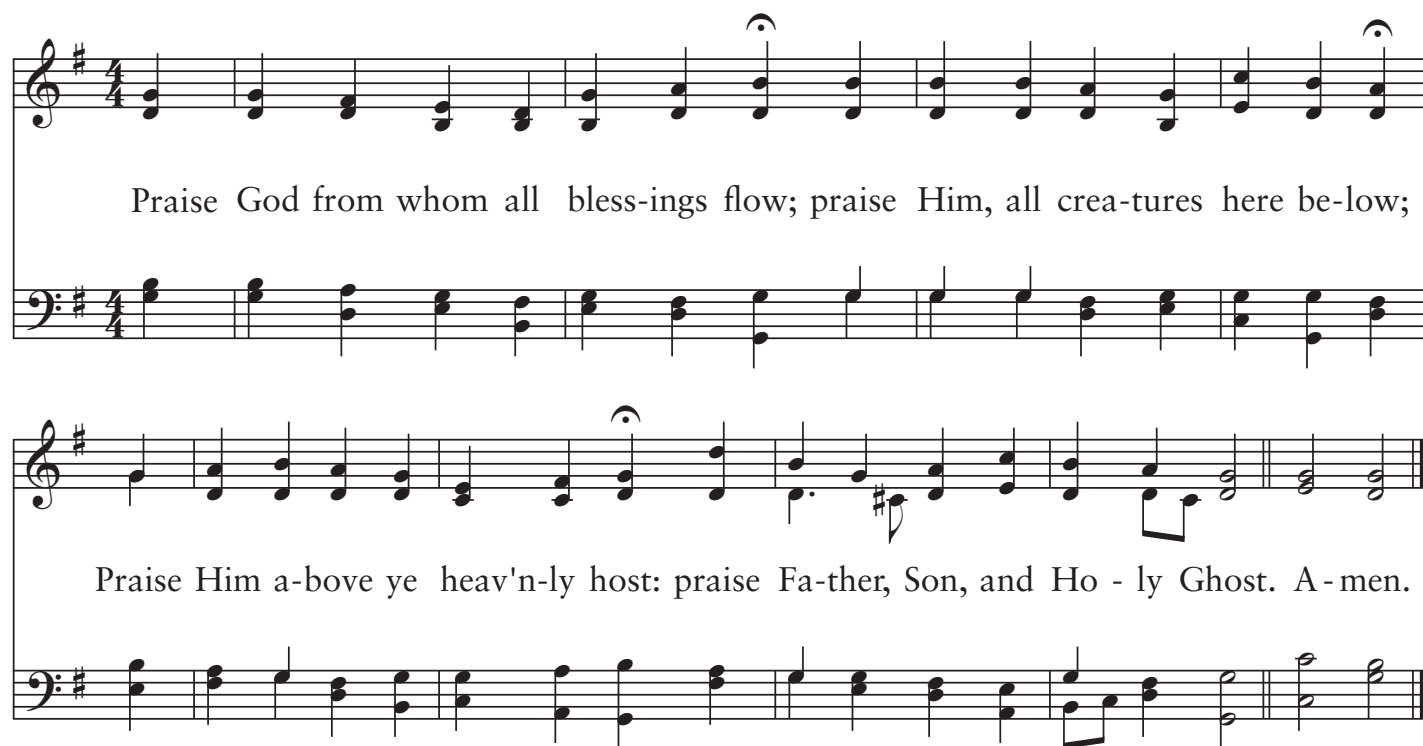
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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 2 Timothy 4:17-18

May the Lord stand by you and strengthen you. May the Lord rescue you from the lion's mouth. The Lord rescue you from every evil deed and bring you safely into His heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. *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:

It says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” Submit yourselves therefore to God. —James 4:6-7

Acts 12 presents us with two contrasting scenes: the chapter begins with Peter’s persecution, imprisonment, and miraculous rescue at the hands of an angel, and ends with Herod meeting a swift and violent end after attempting to claim God’s glory for himself. The hymns we sing this morning relate to both these scenes. In the first half of the service, many of the hymns follow Psalm 82 (which we’ll both read and sing), encouraging us to “put no confidence in princes,” and calling the powerful on the earth to give reverent worship to the Lord, “lest [they] perish in [their] stride.” Later in the morning, after hearing the Word preached, confessing our sins, and receiving assurance of pardon, the hymns tend to celebrate how our Lord rescues us from even the direst situations. We call on our Lord in troubled days, and He is faithful to save His servants and preserve their lives. We declare that He is a “mighty fortress” and our helper in the “flood of mortal ills.” Like Peter, we can “leap to lose [our] chains.” Unlike Herod, we joyfully “lay our trophies down” Jesus’ feet. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Violent Hands, Prison, Prayer, Rescue, Angel, Word, Glory

Keystone Verse: But the Word of God increased and multiplied. (Acts 12:24)



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America
4156 Clovercroft Rd. Franklin, TN 37067
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1593, Franklin, TN 37065
Web: www.parishpres.org
Church Office: Sarah Dye, 574-1029, office@parishpres.org
Prayer requests: prayer@parishpres.org

Pastor: James Crampton, 943-1696, jamie@parishpres.org
Pastor Emeritus: George Grant, 574-1029 (office), george@parishpres.org
Associate Pastor: Brian Phillips, 429-8125, brian@parishpres.org
Assistant Pastor: Mike Fennema, 931-215-1057, mike@parishpres.org
Music Director: Henry C. Haffner, 497-6573, henry@parishpres.org
Staff Accompanist: Mirandi Herrenbruck, mirandi@parishpres.org
Audio Coordinator: Jonathan George, jonathan@parishpres.org
Financial Administrator: Joanna Reategui, joanna@parishpres.org
Parish Nursery Coordinator: Chelsea Monroe, 495-0423, chelsea@parishpres.org
Women's Ministry Coordinator: Christian Barnes, christian@parishpres.org

Elders

Stephen Barnes (478-318-5513)	Keith Cannon (636-7137)	Caleb Faires (513-0659)
Miles Foltermann (281) 793-3280	Tom Goddard (218-3654)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)	

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Brandon Blair (336-0274)	Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)
Ben Crist (509-3040)	Ryan Gregory (714-5446)	Elliot Huck (843-540-6529)
Piotr Lorenc (931-996-9226)	Connor Neville (410-430-0760)	Nolan Reategui (829-0412)
Joshua Scheenstra (818-653-1113)	Robert Simmons (850-532-1075)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)
Jim Soyster (585-5980)	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	

Officers Emeritus

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

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