



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Ordinary Time

26 June 2022

When one is wise, it's wisest to seem foolish. —Aeschylus, *Prometheus Bound*

Jesters do oft prove prophets. —William Shakespeare, *King Lear*

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—from Proverbs 9:4, 6

"Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" To him who lacks sense Wisdom says... "Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

Introit—Come, Christians, Join To Sing, Vs. 1

Come, Chris - tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore His throne re - joice;

Praise is His gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: Christian H. Bateman, 1843; Music: MADRID, Traditional Spanish melody,
Arr. David Evans, 1927.

Call to Worship—Psalm 34:1-6

Pastor: I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

All: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

Reader 1: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together!

Reader 2: I sought the Lord, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

All: Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

Pastor: This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

Psalm of Praise—O Lord Most High (Psalm 9)



O Lord most high, with all my heart, Your great works I will pro-claim;
Je - ho - vah will a re - fuge prove, re - fuge strong for all op - pressed,
All they, O Lord, that know Your name, place their trust in the Word of truth,



I will be glad and give You thanks and sing the prais - es of Your name.
A safe de - fense, where wear - y souls in troub - led times may sure - ly rest.
For You have ne - ver turned a - way from those who tru - ly seek for You.

Chorus



Hope of the poor, to You we cry! A - rise, O Lord, de - fend the weak!



Sing Praise to the Lord en - throned on High! De - clare to all His might-y deeds!

Text: from Psalm 9:1-2, 9-11, 18-19, 1912 Psalter;
Music: Nathan George, 2013.

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.

Psalm of Praise—The Lord Has Spoken To My Lord (Psalm 110)



The Lord has spo - ken to my Lord, "at My right hand take Your seat,
Your peo - ple in Your day of pow'r free - ly give them - selves to You;
And when the day of wrath has come; then the Lord at Your right hand



Un - til I make Your en - e - mies in - to a foot - stool for Your feet."
Your youth, all clothed in ho - li - ness, ap - pear each day like morn - ing's dew.
Will crush great kings and na - tions judge, with fall - en bod - ies fill the land.



The Lord from Zi - on will ex - tend the migh - ty scep - ter in Your hand:
The Lord has sworn a sol - emn oath from which He'll ne - ver be re - leased;
Just - ly con - demned be - neath His rule will heads of ma - ny nations die;



"Rule in the midst of en - e - mies, sub - due each un - der Your com - mand."
"In th'or - der of Mel - chi - ze - dek for - ev - er more You are a priest."
But from the brook He'll stop to drink, and His own head He'll lift up high.

Text: Psalm 110:1-7; Music: JERUSALEM, Hubert Parry, 1916, Arr. Brian E. Coombs and Andrew K. Schep, 2004.
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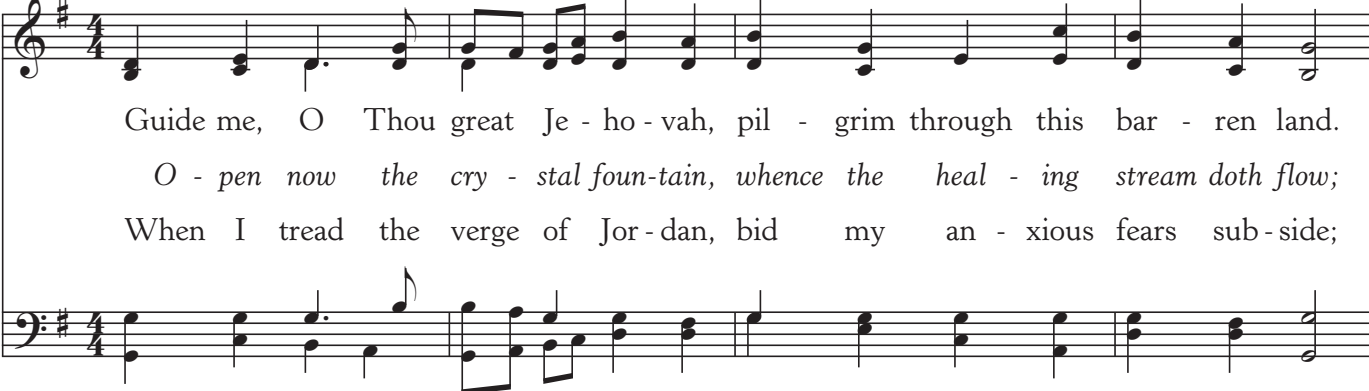
Scripture Reading—James 3:13-18

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

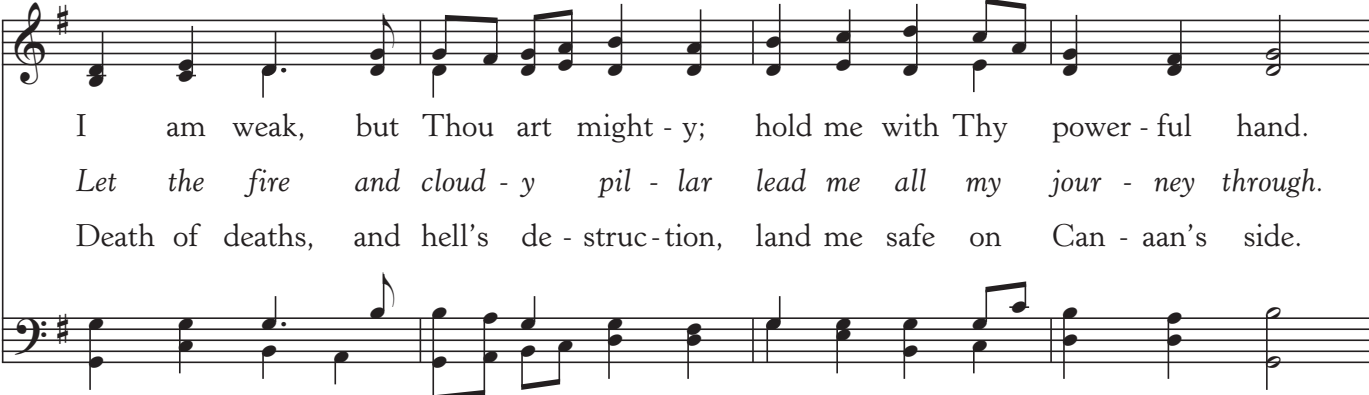
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of Praise—Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



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.

Reading of the Word—2 Corinthians 11:16-33

¹⁶ I repeat, let no one think me foolish. But even if you do, accept me as a fool, so that I too may boast a little. ¹⁷ What I am saying with this boastful confidence, I say not as the Lord would but as a fool. ¹⁸ Since many boast according to the flesh, I too will boast. ¹⁹ For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! ²⁰ For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. ²¹ To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that!

But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. ²² Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. ²³ Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴ Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶ on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; ²⁷ in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. ²⁸ And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. ²⁹ Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

³⁰ If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. ³¹ The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. ³² At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, ³³ but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy, Vs. 1



Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound - ed, sick and sore;
Je - sus read - y stands to save you, full of pit - y, — love and power.
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.

Text: Joseph Hart, 1759; Music: RESTORATION, *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

Sermon—*The Apostle Who Boasted Like a Fool*

—Assistant 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 Revelation 3:14-15, 17-19

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. We have been like the church in Laodicea. You are the Amen, the faithful and true witness. You know our works.

All: We have said, "I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing," not realizing that we are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

Pastor: Give us gold from You refined by fire, so that we may be rich.

All: Give us white garments so that we may clothe ourselves and the shame of our nakedness may not be seen.

Pastor: Those whom You love, You reprove and discipline.

All: Give us zeal to repent.

Assurance of Pardon— Romans 5:6-8; Acts 1:8

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: For Christ Himself confirmed: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses."

All: "In Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Sung Response—Jesus Paid It All, Vs. 1



I hear the Sav - ior say, "Thy strength in - deed is small;
Child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in Me thine all in all."
Je - sus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crim-son stain, He washed it white as snow.

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:

WOMEN

MEN

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might

Hea-ven and Earth are

Hea-ven and Earth are full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hos-

Lord. Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9; Music: CLOVERCROFT SANCTUS, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

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.

Psalm of Praise—The Lord I Will At All Times Bless (Psalm 34)



The Lord I will at all times bless; with praise my mouth employ; my soul shall in Je-ho-vah boast, the hum-ble hear with joy—
O chil-dren, come, and gath-er round for wis-dom you should hear; I'll teach you how to un-der-stand and seek the Lord with fear
The trou-bles that af-flict the just in num-ber man-y be;—but God de-liv-ers from them all the righ-teous He sets free.



O let us mag-ni-fy the Lord, ex-alt His name with me.—look up to Him, and so your fac-es ra-di-ant shall be.
Re-strain your lips from speak-ing lies, con-trol your fool-ish tongue. de-part from ill, do good, seek peace, so shall your days be long.
Your bones He care-ful-ly will keep, what-ev-er shall be-fall,—for not so much as one of them can be bro-ken at all.

Chorus



Taste—and see—that the Lord—is good;— Take re-fuge in— His bless-ing—



Fear— Him, you saints:— those who fear— the Lord lack no— good thing.

Coda, after verse 3



The righ-teous cry un-to the Lord sal-va-tion He im-parts; the Lord is ev-er near to them who ache from broken hearts.—



A - - - men.

Text: *The Psalter with Music*, 1900, Alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021; Music: BETHESDA, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Hymn of Reflection—Precious Lord, Take My Hand



Pre-cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;—
When my way grows— drear, pre-cious Lord, lin-ger near, When my life is— al-most gone,—
When the dark-ness ap-pears and the night draws near, And the day is— past and— gone,—



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light: Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.—
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:— Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.—
At the riv-er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand: Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.—

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Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938. Music: MAITLAND, George N. Allen, 1844.

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.*

Hymn of Praise—Be Thou My Vision



Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
Be Thou my wis - dom, and Thou my true word;
Be Thou my bat - tle - shield, sword for my fight;
High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art.
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Be Thou my dig - ni - ty, Thou my de - light,
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son;
Thou my soul's shel - ter, Thou my high tow'r:
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.
Raise Thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

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

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—Jude 1:24-25

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. *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:

Those of you who are anglophiles may recognize the music to *The Lord Has Spoken To My Lord—Psalm 110*, though you probably know it with different words. William Blake wrote “And did those feet in ancient time” in 1804, as a part of the preface to his epic poem *Milton*. The poem is odd and fantastical, beginning with Jesus Christ appearing in England during His earthly life and concluding with a call to build a utopian society. It was largely unknown until its republication in a collection of patriotic verse in 1916, at the low point of Britain’s morale during the Great War. The editor of that collection asked the composer Hubert Parry to do a setting with “suitable, simple music to Blake’s stanzas – music that an audience could take up and join in.” The result was the hymn tune JERUSALEM, now one of Great Britain’s unofficial anthems. Though replete with Biblical imagery—the line “bring me my chariot of fire” referencing 2 Kings 2:11 inspired the title of the 1981 movie *Chariots of Fire*—the millenarian text which imagines a “new Jerusalem” made by human hands is inappropriate for a worship service. Thankfully, the editors of the *Book of Psalms for Worship* re-purposed Parry’s stirring music to fit the text of Psalm 110. Now this gem of English music can serve as a vehicle for the Word of God instead of the fantasy with which it is usually associated. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Fool, Boast, Confidence, Weak

Keystone Verse: If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. (2 Corinthians 11:30)



Presbyterian Church in America
4150 Clovercroft Rd. Franklin, TN 37067

Web: www.parishpres.org / Twitter: @parishpres
Church Office: Sarah Dye (574-1029), office@parishpres.org
Prayer requests: prayer@parishpres.org

Pastor: George Grant (574-1029 Office), george@parishpres.org
Associate Pastor: Brian Phillips (429-8125), brian@parishpres.org
Assistant Pastor: James Crampton (943-1696), jamie@parishpres.org
Music Director: Henry C. Haffner (497-6573), henry@parishpres.org
Staff Accompanist: Mirandi Herrenbruck, mirandi@parishpres.org
Music Intern: Emma Marsh, emma@parishpres.org
Audio Coordinator: Chris Ragsdale, chris@parishpres.org
Parish Nursery Coordinator: Chelsea Quintana (495-0423), chelsea@parishpres.org

Elders

Keith Cannon (636-7137)	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)	John Scherrer (on sabbatical)	Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)

Elders Emeritus

Phil Hutcheson Steve Nelson

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Jimmy Allen (on sabbatical)	Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)
Kevin Cowherd (967-5099)	Ben Crist (509-3040)	Chris Ragsdale (619-988-1876)
Nolan Reategui (829-0412)	Tim Simmons (850-532-8997)	Joshua Scheenstra (818-653-1113)
Robert Simmons (850-532-1075)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)	Jim Soyster (585-5980)
	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	

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