



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Epiphany Sunday

8 January 2023

Good works do not make a man good, but a good man does good works. —Martin Luther

The first question with regard to the problem of culture is not the state of the world but the condition of the church.
—D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

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 Job 37:23

The Almighty God is great in power; justice and abundant righteousness He will not violate.

Sung Response—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—from Psalm 99:1-5

Pastor: The Lord reigns!

All: Let the peoples tremble!

Reader 1: He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The Lord is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise His great and awesome name!

Reader 2: Holy is He! The King in His might loves justice. He has established equity and has executed justice and righteousness.

Pastor: Exalt the Lord our God.

All: Worship at His footstool!

Pastor: Holy is He!

Congregational Hymn—Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as light,
 To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

In light in - ac - ces - i - ble hid from our eyes,
 Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;
 In all life Thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
 Thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 And with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth Thee.
 'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867; Music: ST. DENIO, Traditional Welsh melody.

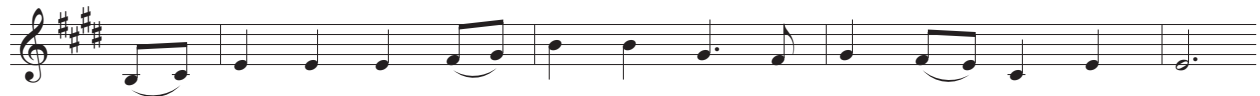
GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

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—Alleluia! How Blest The Man (Psalm 112)



A - le - lu - ia! How blest the man who great-ly__ fears the Lord!
Light to the up - right shall a - rise, though he in__dark-ness be;
When e - vil ti - dings he shall hear, he shall not be a - fraid:
A - bun - dant wealth with - in his house shall ev - er__ be in store;



Who dai - ly finds de - light with - in Je - ho - vah’s Ho - ly Word
Com - pass - ion - ate, and mer - ci - ful and ev - er__ just is he.
His__ heart is fixed, his__ con - fi - dence up - on the__ Lord is stayed.
And his un - spot - ted__ right - eous - ness en - dures for - ev - er - more.



His__ child - ren for their might shall be in__ all the land re - nowned;
There sure - ly is not__ an - y thing that ev - er shall him move:
Es - tab - lished firm - ly__ is his heart, a - fraid he shall not be,
The__ wick - ed ones shall see, and grieve: their teeth will gnash a - way,



The gen - er - a - tion of the just in bless - ings shall a - bound.
The right - eous man’s me - mor - i - al shall ev - er - last - ing prove.
Un - til a - mong his__ en - e - mies, his tri - umph He__ shall see.
For__ what the wick - ed__ most de - sire shall ut - ter - ly__ de - cay.

Text: Psalm 112:1-4, 6-8, 10, *The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church*, 1887, alt. Henry C. Haffner 2018;
Music: POTTSVILLE, Henry C. Haffner, 2018.

Scripture Reading—Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question to test Him. “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm—Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way Of Truth (Psalm 119)

Teach me, O Lord, Your way of truth, and from it I will not de - part;
In Your com - mand - ments make me walk, for in Your law my joy shall be;
Turn now my eyes from van - i - ty, and cause me in Your ways to tread;
Lord, turn a - way re - proach and fear; Your righ - teous judg - ments I con - fess;

That I may stead - fast - ly o - bey, give me an un - der - stand - ing heart.
Give me a heart that loves Your will, from dis - con - tent and en - vy free.
O let Your ser - vant prove Your word and thus to god - ly fear be led.
To know Your pre - cepts I de - sire; re - vive me in Your righ - teous - ness.

Text: Psalm 119:33-40, *The Psalter*, 1912;
Music: TALLIS' CANON, Thomas Tallis, c. 1560.

Reading of the Word—from Exodus 20:1-4, 7-8, 12-21

God spoke all these words, saying, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

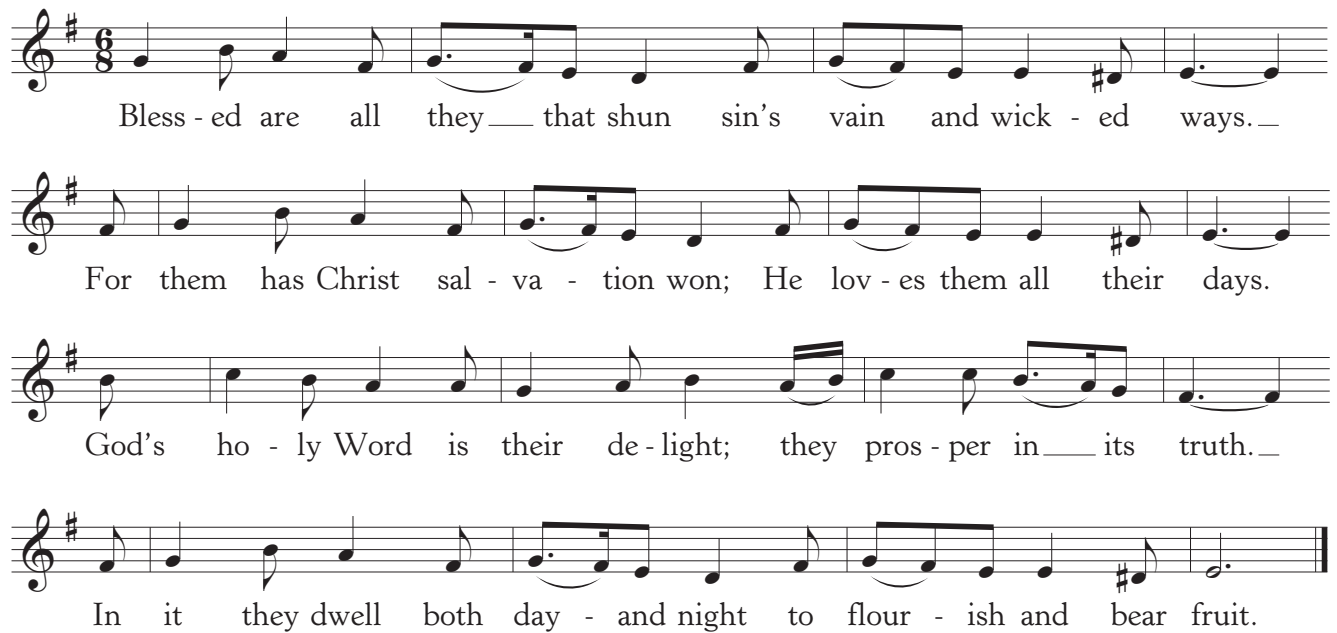
“You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image... You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain... Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy... Honor your father and your mother... You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet...”

Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of Him may be before you, that you may not sin.” The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sung Response—Blessed Are All They (Psalm 1), Vs. 1



Bless - ed are all they ___ that shun sin's vain and wick - ed ways. ___

For them has Christ sal - va - tion won; He lov - es them all their days.

God's ho - ly Word is their de - light; they pros - per in ___ its truth. ___

In it they dwell both day - and night to flour - ish and bear fruit.

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 1, T. M. Moore, *The Ailbe Psalter*, 2006; Music: Nathan George, 2011.

Sermon—*The Bounds of Love*

— Pastor, 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—based on Isaiah 55:8; Exodus 20:1-17

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. We acknowledge that our thoughts are not Your thoughts, neither are our ways Your ways. You spoke all these words, saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

All: "You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

Pastor: Your law pierces our heart. Lord, have mercy.

All: "Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal."

Pastor: Your law pierces our heart and drives us to Christ. Lord, have mercy.

All: **“You shall not bear false witness. You shall not covet.”**

Pastor: Your law pierces our heart and drives us to Christ. Lord, have mercy upon us, for we are foolish, poor, and rebellious sinners in need of Your grace, Your favor, and Your love.

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Sung Response—Kyrie

WOMEN

Lord have mer - cy — Christ have mer - cy —

MEN

Lord have mer - cy — Christ have mer - cy —

— Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.

Lord have mer - cy — Up - on us.

The musical score is for a Kyrie response, featuring two parts: Women and Men. It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Women part is on a treble clef staff, and the Men part is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Lord have mercy — Christ have mercy —" for both parts. The second system includes the lyrics: "— Lord have mercy — Up - on us." for both parts.

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

Assurance of Pardon—Psalm 97:1-2, 10-12; Matthew 11:28

The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad! Clouds and thick darkness are all around Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne. O you who love the Lord, hate evil! He preserves the lives of His saints; He delivers them from the hand of the wicked. Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to His holy name.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

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

Pastor: He says to us, “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: Amen.

Sung Response—Fivefold Amen

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men.

The musical score is for a fivefold Amen response. It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the accompaniment is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men."

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

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—Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me



Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in Thee;
Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill Thy law's de - mands;
Noth - ing in my hand I bring, simp - ly to the cross I cling;
While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eyes shall close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, from Thy wound - ed side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Nak - ed, come to Thee for dress; help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un - known, see Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the doub - le cure; save from wrath and make me pure.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in Thee.

Text: Augustus Toplady, 1776; Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1830.

Congregational Hymn—My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness



My heart is filled with thank - ful - ness to Him who bore my pain;
My heart is filled with thank - ful - ness to Him who walks be - side;
My heart is filled with thank - ful - ness to Him who reigns a - bove;



Who plumbed the depths of my dis - grace and gave me life a - gain;
Who floods my weak - ness - es with strength and caus - es fears to fly.
Whose wis - dom is my per - fect peace, whose ev - 'ry thought is love.



Who crushed my curse of sin - ful - ness and clothed me with His light
Whose ev - 'ry pro - mise is e - nough for ev - 'ry step I take.
For ev - 'ry day I have on Earth is giv - en by the King.



And wrote His law of right - eous - ness with pow'r up - on my heart.
Sus - tain - ing me with arms of love and crown - ing me with grace.
So I will give my life, my all, to love and fol - low Him.

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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—How Shall The Young Direct Their Way? (Psalm 119)

How shall the young di - rect their way? What light shall be their per - fect guide?
O bless - ed Lord, teach me Your law, Your righ - teous judge - ments I de - clare;

Your Word, O Lord, will safe - ly lead, if in its wis - dom they con - fide.
Your test - ti - mo - nies make me glad, for they are wealth be - yond com - pare.

Sin - cere - ly I have sought You, Lord O let me not from You de - part;
Up - on Your pre - cepts and Your way my heart will med - i - tate with awe;

To know Your will and keep from sin Your Word I hide with - in my heart.
Your Word shall be my chief de - light, and I will not for - get Your law.

Text: Psalm 119:9-16, *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: DUANE STREET, George Coles, 1835.

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—2 Timothy 4:18

The Lord will rescue us from evil and will bring us safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. *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:

This morning we begin a new series on God's Law, as found in Exodus 20. From now until Palm Sunday, we'll read through each of the ten commandments as the sermon text, and use each of them in our confession of sin. This week, you'll also notice Jesus' summary of the Law from Matthew 22 ("You shall love the Lord your God ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself") and many psalms and hymns which speak to the importance of the Law, the Word, and the Commandments. *Alleluia! How Blest The Man (Psalm 112)* and *Blessed Are All They (Psalm 1)* speak to the blessings that come when we delight in God's Word. In *Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Way Of Truth (Psalm 119)* and *How Shall The Young Direct Their Way (Psalm 119)*, we ask the Lord to make us walk in His commandments and to hide His Word in our hearts—because we need His help. Just as the Israelites needed a mediator between themselves and God, we also confess (in the words of *Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me*) that the labors of our hands cannot fulfill the law—instead, we cry to Jesus "Thou must save, and Thou alone." My prayer for this series is that God will use the reading, preaching, confessing, and singing of His Word to write, as *My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness* puts it, "His law of righteousness" on each of our hearts. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Lord, Vain, Remember, Holy, Honor, Fear, Far Off, Sin

Keystone Verse: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. (Exodus 20:2)



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Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)

Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)

Mike Miserocchi (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)

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