



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time

20 August 2023

The calling to covenantal succession is a calling of humility, of self-denial, of sacrifice. It is not an easy calling because it cuts across the grain of all that we are and all that we feel: our engrained sense of value, our native yearning for recognition, and our life-long drive for achievement. But if we will commit ourselves to Christ's Great Commission, we will experience the fulfillment that comes from being faithful to the life mission to which God has called us.

—Walter Henrichsen

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—1 John 4:10-11

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Sung Response—O Praise Ye The Lord And Sing A New Song (Psalm 149), refrain

O— praise ye the Lord and sing a new song, —

A - mid all His saints His— prais - es pro - long.

The praise of their ma - ker His peo - ple shall sing, —

And chil - dren of Zi - on— re - jice in their King.

Text: Psalm 149:1-2, *The Psalter*, 1909, alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2019;
Music: PULASKI, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

Call to Worship—from Isaiah 35:4; Psalm 127:1-2; Psalm 126:5-6

Pastor: To all who have an anxious heart, the Lord says, “Be strong; fear not!”

All: Behold, the Lord will come with justice and mercy. He will come and save us.

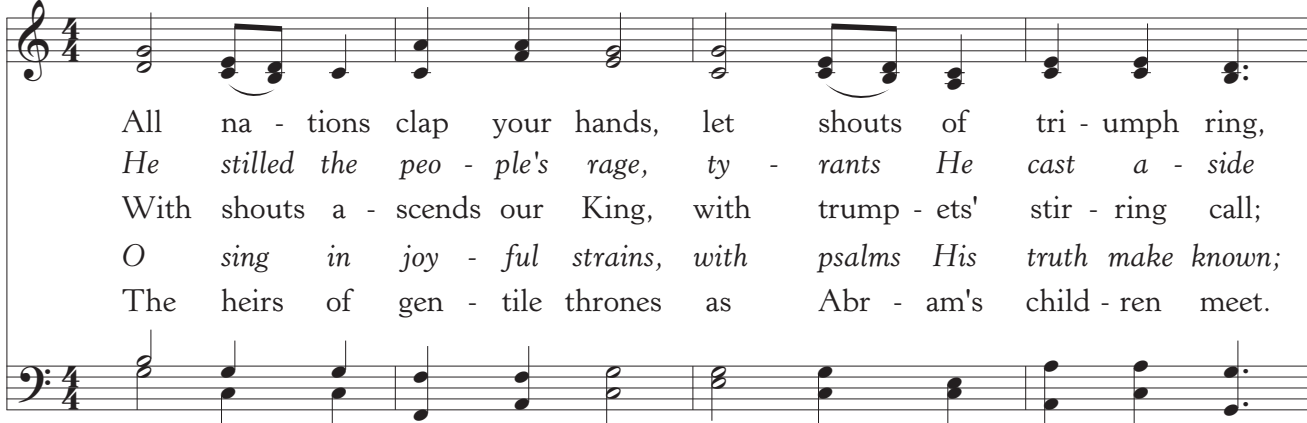
Reader 1: Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.

Reader 2: It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for He gives to His beloved rest.


All: Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!

Pastor: He who goes out weeping, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

Congregational Psalm—All Nations Clap Your Hands (Psalm 47)



All na - tions clap your hands, let shouts of tri - umph ring,
He stilled the peo - ple's rage, ty - rants He cast a - side
With shouts a - scends our King, with trump - ets' stir - ring call;
O sing in joy - ful strains, with psalms His truth make known;
The heirs of gen - tile thrones as Abr - am's child - ren meet.



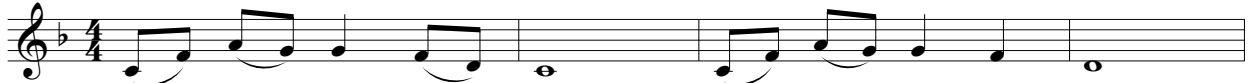
For migh - ty o - ver all the lands the Lord Most High is King.
For us He chose our her - i - tage, be - lov - ed Ja - cob's pride.
O praise ye God, His prais - es sing, for God is Lord of all.
He o - ver all the na - tions reigns up - on His ho - ly throne.
The shields of earth Je - ho - vah owns; ex - al - ted is His seat.

Text: *The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church*, 1887, alt. Henry C. Haffner & Elizabeth Dowdell, 2018;
Music: THIRD AVENUE, Henry C. Haffner & Elizabeth Dowdell, 2018.


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—I Will Lift My Voice (Psalm 101)




I will lift my voice. I will ever sing,
I will raise my song for that glorious day!
By Your mighty hand I will turn my eyes
I will look to see, all the faithful souls



For Your steadfast love a bounds, O my Lord and King!
Lord if You should tarry long, I will ever wait.
From these fading shadow lands to eternal light.
Ever walk in unity, pressing toward the goal.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! ____
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! ____
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! ____
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! ____



I will ever sing, O my Lord and King.
For that glorious day I will ever wait.
I will turn my eyes to eternal light.
All the faithful souls pressing toward the goal.

Text and Music: Nathan George, 2014.

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 He 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—Come Ye Souls, By Sin Afflicted



Come, ye souls by sin af - flict - ed, Bowed with fruit - less sor - row down;
Take His ea - sy yoke and wear it; Love will make o - bed - ience sweet;
Bless - ed are— the eyes that see Him, Blest the ears that hear His voice;
Sweet as home to pil - grims wear - y, Light to new - ly o - pened eyes,



By the bro - ken law con - vict - ed, Through the cross be - hold— the crown;
Christ will give you strength to bear it, While His wis - dom guides your feet
Bless - ed are the souls that trust Him, And in Him a - lone— re - joice;
Or full springs in des - erts drear - y Is the rest— the cross— sup - plies;



Look to Je - sus; mer - cy flows— through Him a - lone.
Safe to glor - y, where His ran - somed cap - tives meet.
His com - mand - ments then be - come— their hap - py choice.
All who taste— it shall to rest— im - mor - tal rise.

CCLI #2844402; © 2005 Greyfriars Press. Text: Joseph Swain, 1792;
Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2005.

Reading of the Word—2 Timothy 4:9-22

⁹Do your best to come to me soon. ¹⁰For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. ¹²Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. ¹⁴Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. ¹⁵Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. ¹⁶At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

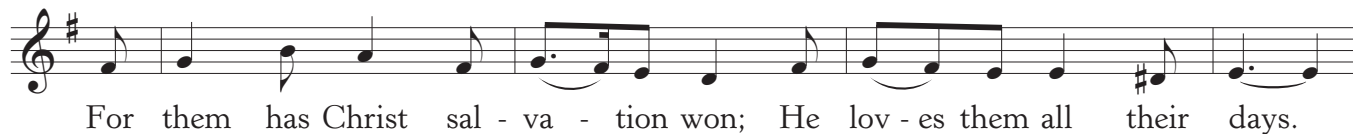
¹⁹Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Erastus remained at Corinth, and I left Trophimus, who was ill, at Miletus. ²¹Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers.

²²The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

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



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

Sermon—*The Personal Side of Covenantal Succession*

—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 Ephesians 2:1-5

Pastor: Lord we come confessing. We come confessing because we are sinners, every one of us, without exception.

All: **We all were dead in the trespasses and sins in which we once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air.**

Pastor: The spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience was at work among us.

All: **We all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.**

Pastor: But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.

All: **In Him we have forgiveness. By grace we have been saved.**

Assurance of Pardon—based on Ephesians 2:6-9; Romans 3:23-24

The Lord has raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. We are saved by grace through faith, this not of ourselves; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

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

Pastor: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified by His grace as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

All: **Amen.**

Sung Response—Blest Is The Man (Psalm 32), Vs. 1



Blest is the man, for - ev - er blest, whose guilt is par - doned by his God;



Whose sins with sor - row are con - fessed, and cov - ered with his Sav - ior's blood.

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

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.

Congregational Hymn—To Live Is Christ



I re-joice! for through your prayers, and the help of Je-sus' Spir-it,
My sure hope and ex-pec-ta-tion is that I will not be shamed—
Our de-sire is to de-part,— be with Christ up-on that day—



All these pre-sent trials will turn— to de-li-ver-ance.
But that Christ will gain the glo-ry in my life or death.
Though now we are called to live,— live in joy and faith.

Chorus



To live is Christ, to be His ser-vant. To die and live with Him is— gain.



Though as I live, may fruit-ful la-bor glor-i-fy His name, glo-ri-fy His name.

Text: based on Philippians 1:19-25, Nathan George, 2012; Music: Nathan George, 2012.

Congregational Psalm—Fret Not Yourself (Psalm 37)



Fret not your-self when e-vil seems to pros-per in the land,—
And though he thinks he's root-ed fast, un-yield-ing like a tree,—
Be still be-fore the Lord and wait; de-light in His com-mands.
I have not seen, in youth or age, the right-eous man de-crease.



Nor when the wick-ed— plots and schemes a-gainst the right-eous man.
The wick-ed one will fade like grass, like smoke caught in a breeze.
And He shall keep your path-way straight, up-hold you with His hand.
The Lord pro-vides a her-i-tage, a fu-ture full— of peace.



Dwell faith-ful-ly, and trust God will your heart's de-sires ful-fill.
His bow will break, his sword will fail; and just-ice will pre-vail.
A strong-hold sure in— trou-bled days, the Lord His peo-ple saves.
He is a re-fuge ev-er-more, for all who trust the Lord.

Text: paraphrase of Psalm 37, Elizabeth Dowdell, 2020; Music: GRAYMERE, Henry C. Haffner and Elizabeth Dowdell, 2020.

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—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 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—Philippians 1:9-11

Now, may your love abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. *Amen.*

Sung Response—The Creed Of Timothy

For if we have died with Him, we will al - so live with Him;

And if we en - dure with Him, - we will al - so reign with Him; -

and if we are faith - less, He re - mains - faith - ful, for

He can - not de - ny Him-self, Praise to our Re - dee - mer! A - men. A - men.

Text: 2 Timothy 2:11-13; Music: Nathan George, 2012.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

I feel like I have to warn to all our visitors—the music this morning may be more unfamiliar than usual. We are coming to the end of a series on 2 Timothy, in which Paul reflects upon his own ministry and passes the torch to a new generation. To illustrate this principle of covenant succession (one generation in the faith passing on its mantle to the next) each piece of music sung in today’s service has a very personal connection to Parish—and most of them were first sung in services here. We’ll sing several pieces by our first chief musician, Gregory Wilbur (2007-2011), who set a precedent for composing new music for worship, and his successor, Nathan George (2011-2018) who particularly encouraged us to sing the psalms. The tune for *All Nations Clap Your Hands—Psalm 47* was named THIRD AVENUE in honor of Parish Presbyterian’s original location in downtown Franklin, and *Fret Not Yourself—Psalm 37*, with a text by former music intern Elizabeth Dowdell (2018-2020), speaks of the Lord providing a “heritage” and promises a “future full of peace.” The service will conclude with an arrangement of a text and tune, *Great And Marvelous*, by Pastor George Grant. —Henry C. Haffner

Key words: Come, Deserted, Books, Rescued, Greet, Grace

Keystone verse: The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into His heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen. (2 Timothy 4:18)



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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 Misericocchi (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.