



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Epiphany

23 February 2020

The Scriptural practice of encouragement demands much more than warm words and fuzzy feelings. Scriptural encouragement is ongoing, daily, and consistent. It requires perseverance. —Sharon Betters

Fight on, brave knights! Fight on! Take up your full strength! Be emboldened! Stand fast! Lift up your heads and your hearts, for even now the bright eyes of eternity behold your deeds! Be encouraged! —Sir Walter Scott

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—Jude 1:21-22

Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt.

Introit—To Our Redeemer's Glorious Name, Vs. 1



To our Re-deem-er's glor-ious name a - wake the sac - red song:



O may His love— im - mor - tal flame— tune ev - ery heart and tongue.

Text: Anne Steel, 1760; Music: MCKEE, Traditional Irish Melody,
Arr. Harry T. Burleigh, 1939.

Call to Worship—Lamentations 3:22-26; 40-41

Pastor: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

All: His mercies never come to an end.

Pastor: They are new every morning.

All: Great is Your faithfulness, O Lord.

Reader 1: “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him.” For the Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him.

Reader 2: It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Reader 3: Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord!

Pastor: Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven.

All: Great is Your faithfulness, O Lord.

Hymn of Praise—All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Je - sus' Name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed of the fall,
Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial ball,
O that, with yon - der sa - cred throng, we at His feet may fall,

Bring forth the ro - yal di - a - dem, and crown Him Lord of__ all.
Hail Him Who saves you by__ His grace, and crown Him Lord of__ all.
to Him all ma - jes - ty__ as - cribe and crown Him Lord of__ all.
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown Him Lord of__ all.

Bring forth the ro - yal di - a - dem, and crown Him Lord__ of all.
Hail Him Who saves you by__ His grace, and crown Him Lord__ of all.
To Him all ma - jes - ty__ as - cribe and crown Him Lord__ of all.
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown Him Lord__ of all.

Text: Vss.1-3, Edward Perronet, 1779, Vs. 4, John Rippon, 1787;
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1793.

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—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 might - y 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.

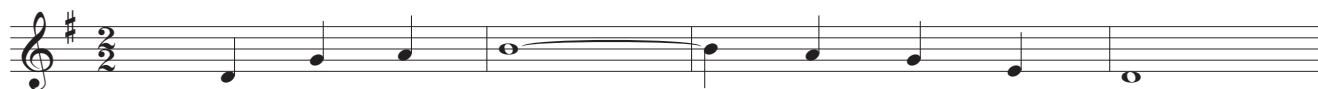
Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 5:11-18

Beloved, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you know you ought to do. Respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. Admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

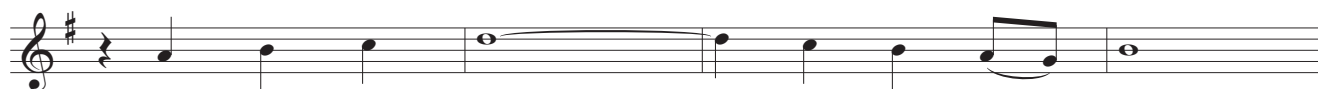
Hymn of Praise—O Lord, How Joyful 'Tis To See



O Lord, how joy - ful 'tis to see
How sweet with - in Thy ho - ly place
The world with - out may rage, but we
O may we love, the house of God,



The breth - ren join in love to Thee!
With one ac - cord to sing Thy grace.
Will on - ly cling more close to Thee.
Of peace and joy, the blest a - bode.



On Thee a - lone their heart re - lies
Be - sieg - ing Thy at - ten - tive ear
With hearts to Thee, more whol - ly giv'n
O may no an - gry strife des - troy



Their on - ly strength Thy grace sup - plies.
With all the force of fer - vent prayer!
More weaned from Earth, more fixed on Heav'n.
That sac - red peace, that ho - ly joy.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1736, Tr. John Chandler, 1837;
Music: O WALY WALY, Traditional English folk song.

Reading of the Word—2 Thessalonians 3:14-18

¹³ As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good. ¹⁴ If anyone does not obey what we say in this letter, take note of that person, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed. ¹⁵ Do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

¹⁶ Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all. ¹⁷ I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the sign of genuineness in every letter of mine; it is the way I write. ¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Jesus, Lover Of My Soul, Vs. 3

Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in Thee I find:

Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.

Just and ho - ly is Thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness;

False and full of sin I am, Thou art full of truth and grace.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740; Music: MARTYN, Simeon B. Marsh, 1834.

Sermon—*Unwearied in Good*

—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—Psalm 32:1-7

Pastor: O Lord, You tell us that blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom You count no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. That is why, this morning, we come confessing.

All: For when we kept silent, our bones wasted away through our groaning all day long.

Pastor: For day and night Your hand was heavy upon us; our strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

All: So we acknowledge our sin to You, and we do not cover our iniquity.

Pastor: We therefore confess our transgressions to You, O Lord.

All: And You forgive the iniquity of our sin.

Pastor: Therefore we offer prayer to You, while You may be found.

All: You are our hiding place.

Pastor: You preserve us from trouble.

All: You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

Assurance of Pardon—Lamentations 3:19-23; Matthew 28:19-20

Remember our affliction and our wanderings, O Lord. Remember the wormwood and the gall! But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness, O Lord, our God.

Pastor: This is the promise of God, our great inheritance from Him.

All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

All: Thanks be to God, our refuge, our strength, and our redeemer.

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



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

Hymn of Encouragement—If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee



If thou but suf - fer God to guide thee and hope in Him through all thy ways,
Be pa - tient and a - wait His lei - sure in cheer-ful hope, with heart con-tent
Sing, pray, and keep His ways un-swerv-ing, per-form thy du - ties faith-ful-ly,



He'll give thee strength, what - e'er be - tide thee, and bear thee through the e - vil days.
To take what-e'er thy Fa-ther's plea-sure and His dis-cern - ing love hath sent,
And trust His Word: though un - de - serv-ing, thou yet shalt find it true for thee.



Who trusts in God's un - chang-ing love builds on the rock that naught can move.
Nor doubt our in - most wants are known to Him who chose us for His own.
God nev - er yet for - sook in need the soul that trust - ed Him in - deed.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1641, Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; Music: NEUMARK, Georg Neumark, 1657.

Hymn of Adoration—Great Is Thy Faithfulness



Great is Thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no shad-ow of turn - ing with Thee;
Sum-mer and win - ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth Thine own dear pres-ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang-est not, Thy com-pass-ions, they fail not; as Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er will be.
Join with all na-ture in man - i - fold wit - ness to Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
Strength for to-day and bright hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!



Great is Thy faith-ful-ness! Great is Thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see.



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vi-ded; great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; Music: FAITHFULNESS (RUNYAN), William M. Runyan, 1923.

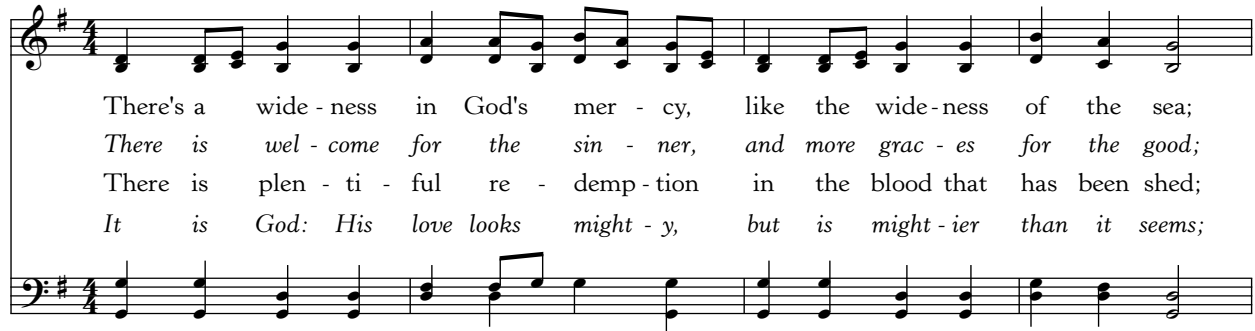
GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

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.

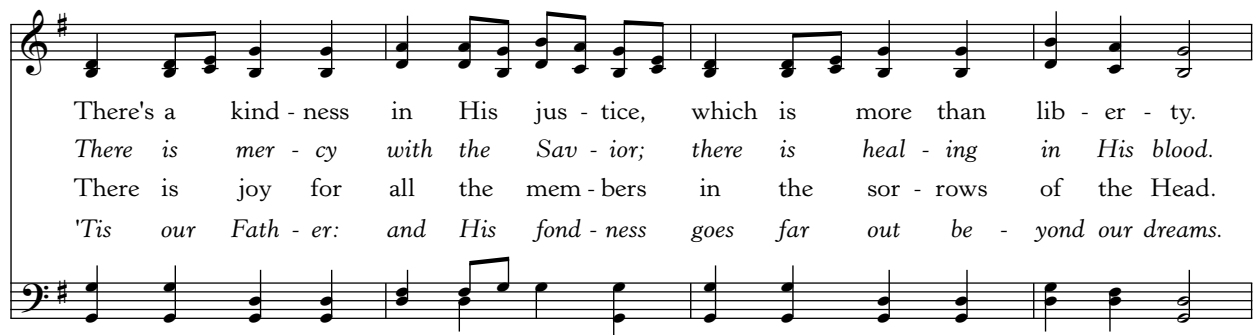
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

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.*

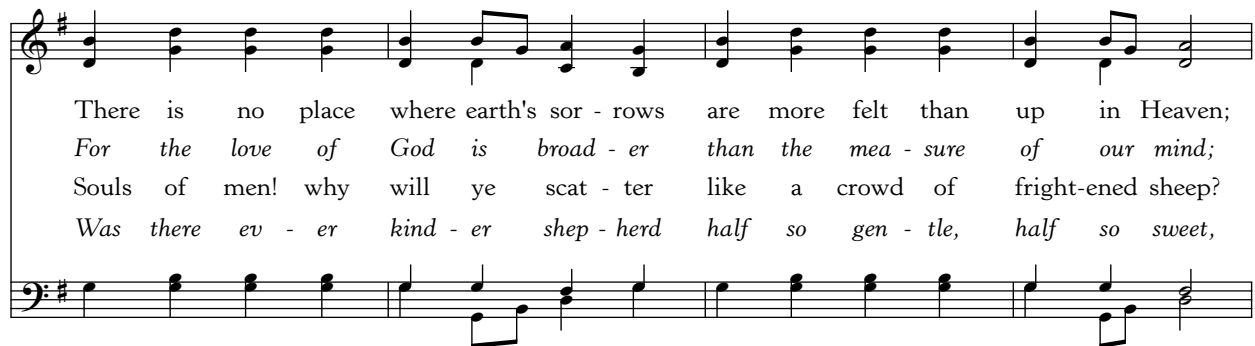
Hymn of Praise—There's A Wideness In God's Mercy



There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more grac - es for the good;
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
It is God: His love looks might - y, but is might - ier than it seems;



There's a kind - ness in His jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
There is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in His blood.
There is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
'Tis our Fath - er: and His fond - ness goes far out be - yond our dreams.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in Heaven;
For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of our mind;
Souls of men! why will ye scat - ter like a crowd of fright - ened sheep?
Was there ev - er kind - er shep - herd half so gen - tle, half so sweet,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
And the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
Fool - ish hearts! why will ye wan - der from a love so true and deep?
As the Sav - ior who would have us come and gath - er at His feet?

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1854; Music: HOLY MANNA, William Moore, 1825.

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—1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Gloria Patri

Glor - y be to the Fath - er, and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is_ now, and ev - er shall be,

World with - out end. A - men. A - men.

Text: Lesser Doxology, 2nd century;
Music: Nathan George, 2015, Harm. Henry C. Haffner, 2015.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

As we come to the close of our time in Paul's letters to the Thessalonians, I have been reflecting on some of the common themes of the two books. Over and over, Paul gives words of comfort ("may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in every way," 2 Thessalonians 2:16) and encouragement ("do not grow weary in doing good," 2 Thessalonians 2:13; "encourage one another and build one another up," 1 Thessalonians 5:11). With those words in mind, I chose the two hymns which close our service this morning: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* and *There's A Wideness In God's Mercy*. *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*, based on the passage from Lamentations 3 which is used for today's Call to Worship and Assurance of Pardon, encourages us with the "bright hope for tomorrow" we have in the promises of God. The line "there is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven" from *There's A Wideness* completely captures Paul's sentiment towards these new Christians in Thessalonica. Though sorrows and persecution will come, we can take comfort in our loving Savior, a gentle shepherd who would have us "come and gather at His feet." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Obey, Ashamed, Enemy, Brother, Peace, Grace
Keystone Verse: Do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother. (2 Thessalonians 3:15)



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

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

Pastor: George Grant (574-1029 Office), george@parishpres.org
Assistant Pastor: Brian Phillips (429-8125), brian@parishpres.org
Music Director: Henry C. Haffner (497-6573), henry@parishpres.org
Staff Accompanist: Mirandi Herrenbruck, mirandi@parishpres.org
Music Intern: Elizabeth Dowdell, elizabeth@parishpres.org
Audio Coordinator: Chris Ragsdale, chris@parishpres.org
Technology Manager: Ian Kern (512-9337), ian@parishpres.org
Parish Nursery Coordinator: Chelsea Quintana (495-0423), chelsea@parishpres.org
Assistant Pastor: Cam Clausing (on study leave), cam@parishpres.org

Elders

Tom Goddard (218-3654)	Brandon Goodin (306-3652)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Phil Hutcheson (775-7546)	Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)
Matt Morrison (482-5107)	Steve Nelson (Emeritus)	Jason Parolini (497-3337)
	John Scherrer (916-0654)	

Deacons

Jimmy Allen (815-9368)	Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)	Christopher Burr (499-3043)
Ben Crist (509-3040)	Jeff Dokkestul (618-6064)	Ian Kern (512-9337)
Tom Milligan (805-403-2166)	Chris Ragsdale (619-988-1876)	Nolan Reategui (829-0412)
Thomas Rickstrew (830-834-1001)	Randy Sadler (972-1914)	Tim Simmons (850-532-8997)
Charlie Snow (400-5925)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)

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