



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Easter

16 April 2023

But it is necessary for eternal salvation than one also believe in the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ faithfully. Now this is the true faith: that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man, equally. He is God from the essence of the Father, begotten before time; and He is man from the essence of His mother, born in time; completely God, completely man, with a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father as regards divinity, less than the Father as regards humanity. —from *The Athanasian Creed*

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—John 20:31

These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

Sung Response—Christ The Lord Is Risen Today, Vs. 1

Christ, the Lord, is ris'n to - day, — al - - - le - lu - ia!

Sons of men and an - gels say, — al - - - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, al - - - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye — heav'ns, and earth, re - ply, — al - - - le - lu - ia!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: EASTER HYMN, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708.

Call to Worship—Psalm 16:5-6, 8, 11

Pastor: The Lord is our chosen portion and our cup; You hold our lot.

All: **The lines have fallen for us in pleasant places; indeed, we have a beautiful inheritance.**

Reader 1: I have set the Lord always before me.

Reader 2: Because He is at our right hand, we shall not be shaken.

All: **You make known to us the path of life.**

Pastor: In Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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. 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—The King In Your Strength Shall Be Glad (Psalm 21)



O Je - ho - vah, the king in Your strength shall be glad,
Through sal - va - tion from You is his fame wide - ly spread,
You will stretch forth Your hand on the heads of Your foes,



And shall in Your sal - va - tion re - joice;— for You free - ly have giv - en each
For the maj - es - ty You did im - part— O most bles - sed for - ev - er the
On Your hat - ers a right hand of pow'r, then Your wrath shall a - round them like



Wish his heart had, You at - tend to the cries of his voice.—
King has been made, and Your pres - ence has glad - dened his heart.—
Fur - nace flames close; for Je - ho - vah's own wrath shall de - vour.—



All the bless - ings he craved You did grac - ious - ly give,
For the king in the name of Je - ho - vah Most High
From the earth shall their race be con - sumed and de - stroyed,
You will turn back your foes; You will put them to flight,



With the pur - est of gold he is crowned.— When he asked of You life, You
Did un - wav - er - ing con - fi - dence place;— through His great lov - ing - kind - ness
And their off - spring for - ev - er shall fail;— by the e - vil they plot - ted,
When Your ar - rows are aimed at their face.— Be ex - al - ted Je - ho - vah,



Have made him to live, while the ag - es shall cir - cle a - round.
He still will re - ly on the High - est, and stand by His grace.
The schemes they em - ployed. they shall nev - er a - gainst You pre - vail.
In strength and in might; we will sing of Your pow - er and grace.

Text: *The Psalter*, 1898; alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021; Music: KING PHILIP, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Scripture Reading—John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—O Splendor Of God's Glory Bright



O splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, O Thou that bring - est light from light,
O Thou true Son, on us Thy glance let fall in roy - al rad - i - ance;
The Fa - ther, too, our prayers im - plore, Fa - ther of glo - ry ev - er - more,
All praise to God the Fa - ther be, all praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee,

O Light of light, light's liv - ing spring, O day, all day's il - lum - in - ing.
The Spir - it's sanc - ti - fy - ing beam up - on our eath - ly sen - ses stream.
The Fa - ther of all grace and might, to ban - ish sin from our de - light.
Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Text: Ambrose of Milan, 4th Century; Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, Michael Praetorius, 1609.

Baptism of Nicodemus and Silas Mitchell, children of Dustin and Tenisha Mitchell

Reading of the Word—1 John 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the Word of life—² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Of The Father's Love Begotten, Vs. 1



Of the Fath - er's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be - gan to be,



He is Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the Source, the End - ing He.



Of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,



Ev - er more and ev - er - more.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 4th century, tr. John Mason Neale, 1851 and H. W. Baker, 1859;

Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong, 13th century.

Sermon—*Life, Life - Eternal Life!*

—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—from Jeremiah 2:2-3, 5, 11-13, 19

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. We remember the kindness of our youth and the love of our betrothal, when we went after You in the wilderness. We were holy to the Lord. But now we have gone far from You, and we have followed idols and become idolaters. Has a nation changed its gods, which are not gods?

All: **But we have changed our glory for what does not profit.**

Pastor: Be astonished, O heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid; be very desolate. For we have committed two evils.

All: **We have forsaken You, the fountain of living waters, and hewn for ourselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.**

Pastor: Our own wickedness has corrected us, and our backslidings have rebuked us.

All: **We know and see that it is an evil and bitter thing that we have forsaken the Lord our God.**

Assurance of Pardon—1 John 2:1-2; Luke 18:27

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Pastor: This is the promise of God. This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **What is impossible with man is possible with God.**

Sung Response—God Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51), Vs. 5

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Gra-cious God, my heart re-new, make my spir - it right and true; Cast me not a - way from Thee, let Thy Spir - it dwell in me; Thy sal - va - tion's joy im-part, stead - fast make my will - ing heart.'

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.

Congregational Hymn—Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



Love di - vine, all loves ex-cel - ling, Joy of Heaven to Earth come down;
Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it, In - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast!
Come, Al - might - y to de - li - ver, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let us — be.

Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing; All Thy faith - ful merc - ies crown!
Let us all in Thee in - her - it; Let us find the prom - ised rest.
Sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er, Ne - ver more Thy tem - ples leave.
Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee;

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure un - bound - ed love Thou art;
Take a - way the love of — sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
Changed from glo - ry in - to — glo - ry, Till in Heaven we take our place,

Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
End of faith, as its Be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
Pray and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740; Music: Nathan George, 2011.

Congregational Hymn—How Can I Keep From Singing?



My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove Earth's la - men - ta - tion
What though my joys and com - forts die? The Lord my Sav - ior liv - eth;
I lift mine eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a - bove it;

I hear the sweet though far off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion:
What though the dark - ness gath - er round! Songs in the night He giv - eth:
And day by day this path - way smoothes since first I learned to love it:

Through all the tu - mult and the strife I hear the mu - sic ring - ing;
No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that re - fuge cling - ing;
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A foun - tain ev - er spring - ing:

It finds an ech - o in my soul: how can I keep from sing - ing?
Since Christ is Lord of Heav'n and Earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
All things are mine since I am His: how can I keep from sing - ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1860; Music: ENDLESS SONG, Robert Lowry, 1860, arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2014.

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.

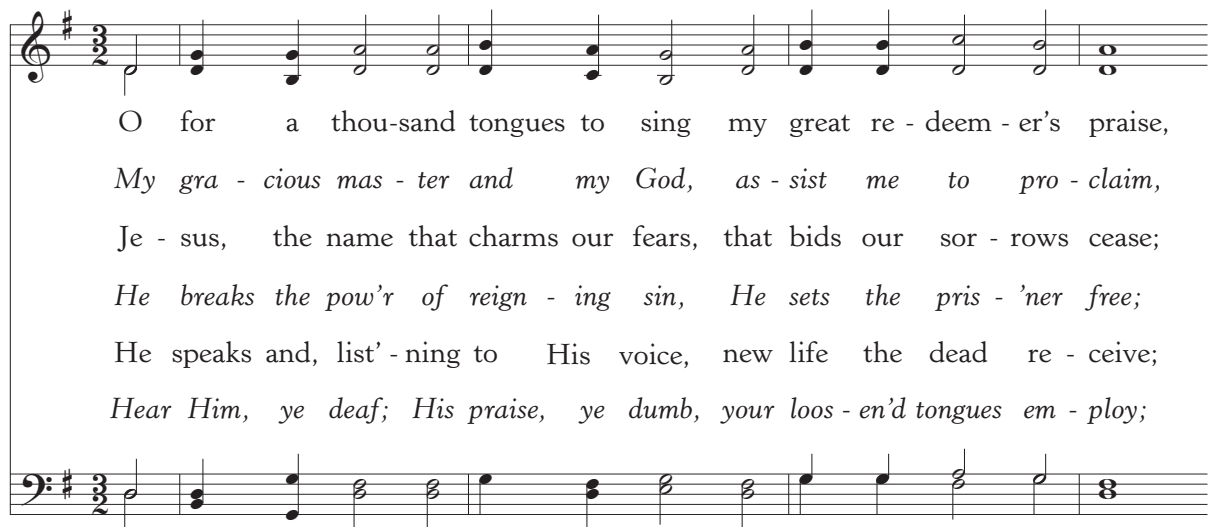
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

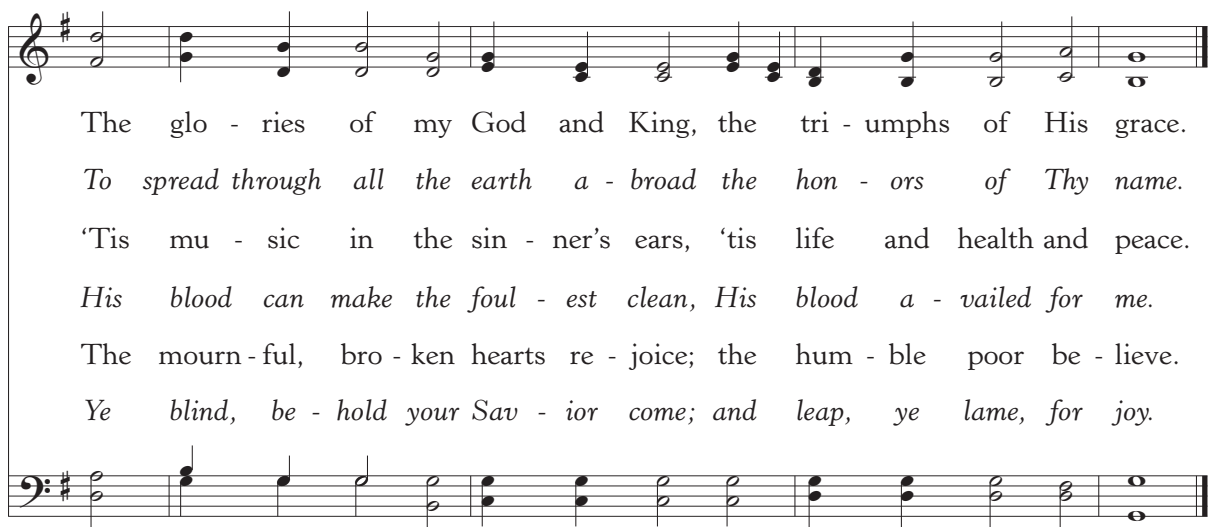
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Congregational Hymn—O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing



O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great re - deem - er's praise,
My gra - cious mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
Je - sus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease;
He breaks the pow'r of reign - ing sin, He sets the pris - 'ner free;
He speaks and, list' - ning to His voice, new life the dead re - ceive;
Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb, your loos - en'd tongues em - ploy;



The glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of His grace.
To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of Thy name.
'Tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
His blood can make the foul - est clean, His blood a - vailed for me.
The mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice; the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
Ye blind, be - hold your Sav - ior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: AZMON, Carl G. Glaser, 1828,
arr. Lowell Mason, 1839.

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 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *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:

The Scripture passages we read this morning, as well as the psalms and hymns we sing, point to the living Jesus Christ as the source of all life. We are called into worship by Psalm 16, declaring that the Lord “make[s] known to us the path of life.” We respond with two exuberant psalms that thank God for His life-giving provision (*Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah—Psalm 146; The King In Your Strength Shall Be Glad—Psalm 21*). Throughout the service, we hear that Jesus’ life is the light of men (John 1:3), that He is “light’s living spring” (*O Splendor Of God’s Glory Bright*), the “Word of Life” (1 John 1:1), and the source of all life— of “things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see” (*Of The Father’s Love Begotten*). Having been invited to fellowship (1 John 1:3) at the table, we pray in song that we would all receive Jesus’ life (*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*), and confess that our lives now “flow in endless song” because He is Lord (*How Can I Keep From Singing*). And just as the text from 1 John concludes by giving his reason for writing of our living Savior (“that your joy may be complete”), our service also concludes with joy. Since Jesus is our “life and health and peace” (*O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing*), we can go out leaping for joy. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Word, Life, Manifest, Son, Father, Fellowship, Joy

Keystone Verse: The life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us. (1 John 1:2)



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Jason Parolini (497-3337)

John Scherrer (on sabbatical)

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Elders Emeritus

Phil Hutcheson Steve Nelson

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Jimmy Allen (on sabbatical)

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