



PARISH  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Easter  
*14 April 2024*

As there is no sin so small, but it deserves damnation, so there is no sin so great, that it can bring damnation upon those who truly repent. —*Westminster Confession of Faith*, Chapter 15.4

## 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 Luke 5:31-32

Jesus said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

### Sung Response—Christ Is Risen! Hallelujah! Vs. 1

Christ is ris - en! Hal-le - lu - jah! Ris - en our vic - tor - ious Head!

Sing His prais - es! Hal-le - lu - jah! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore Him, as His light once more ap - pears,

Bow - ing down in joy be - fore Him, ris - ing up from grief and tears,

Sing His prais - es! Hal-le - lu - jah! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

CCLI #2844402 Text: James S.B. Monsell, 1863; Music: BEACH SPRING (FOUNT OF GLORY),  
attr. B. F. White, 1844, R.W. Thompson, 1854, arr. Gregory Wilbur, 2010.

### Call to Worship—from Psalm 95:6, 9; Isaiah 6:1-3

Pastor: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All: **The Lord is sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple.**

Reader 1: Above Him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

Reader 2: And one called to another and said:

All: **“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!”**

Pastor: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth!

## Congregational Hymn—All Creatures Of Our God And King

All crea-tures of our God and King lift up your voice and with us sing,  
 Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong ye clouds that sail in Heaven a - long,  
 And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers, take your part,  
 Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship Him in hum - ble - ness,

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam,  
 O\_\_ praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing moon, in praise re - joice,  
 O\_\_ sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row bear,  
 O\_\_ praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son,

Thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam! O\_\_ praise Him! O\_\_ praise Him!  
 Ye lights of even - ing, find a voice! O\_\_ praise Him! O\_\_ praise Him!  
 Praise God and on Him cast your care! O\_\_ praise Him! O\_\_ praise Him!  
 And praise the Spir - it, Three in One! O\_\_ praise Him! O\_\_ praise Him!


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

Text: Francis of Assisi, c. 1225, tr. William H. Draper, 1926; Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Cologne, 1623.


# 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 Lord I Will At All Times Bless (Psalm 34)




The Lord I will at all times bless; with praise my mouth employ;—  
O children, come, and gather round for wisdom you should hear;—  
The troubles that afflict the just in number many be;—



My soul shall in Jehovah boast, the humble hear with joy—  
I'll teach you how to understand and seek the Lord with fear—  
But God delivers from them all the righteous He sets free.—



O let us magnify the Lord, exalt His name with me.—  
Restrain your lips from speaking lies, control your foolish tongue.—  
Your bones He carefully will keep, whatever shall befall,—



Look up to Him, and so your faces radiant shall be.  
Depart from ill, do good, seek peace, so shall your days be long.  
For not so much as one of them can be broken at all.

### Chorus



Taste— and see— that the Lord— is good;— Take refuge in— His blessing—

*Last time, to Coda*



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

### Coda



The righteous cry unto the Lord salvation He imparts;—



The Lord is ever near to them who ache from broken hearts.— A— men.

Text: Psalm 34:1-22, *The Psalter with Music*, 1900, alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021;  
Music: BETHESDA/DUPLEX, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

## Scripture Reading—Isaiah 35:1-6

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Congregational Psalm—I Lift My Eyes And See The Hills (Psalm 121)



I lift my eyes and see\_ the hills: from where will come my aid?\_\_\_  
He'll not al - low your foot to slip, nor rest while you\_ He keeps. \_\_\_  
The Lord will keep you, He's your shade, the Lord stands at\_\_\_ the right. \_\_\_  
The Lord will keep you from all harm; He'll keep your life\_\_\_ se - cure. \_\_\_



My help comes from the Lord a - bove, who Heav'n and Earth has made. \_\_\_  
The one pre - serv - ing Is - ra - el, He slum - bers not, nor sleeps. \_\_\_  
The sun will do no harm to you, nor will\_\_\_ the moon at night. \_\_\_  
Your go - ing out and com - ing in the Lord\_\_\_ keeps ev - er - more. \_\_\_

Text: Psalm 121:1-8, *The Book of Psalms for Worship*, © 2010 Crown and Covenant Publications;

Music: HOPE, D. Bruce Martin, 1920.

## Reading of the Word—Hebrews 12:12-17

<sup>12</sup>Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, <sup>13</sup>and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. <sup>14</sup>Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup>See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; <sup>16</sup>that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. <sup>17</sup>For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Sung Response—Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word, Vs. 3



O Com-fort - er of price-less worth, send peace and un - i - ty on Earth;



Sup - port us in our fin - al strife, and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1541, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt. 2007;

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543.

## Sermon—*Strengthening Your Weak Knees*

—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 Proverbs 28:13; Deuteronomy 29:13, 18-19

**Pastor:** Lord, we come confessing. Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy. You have established us today as Your people, that You may be our God, as You promised us.

**All:** **We have a heart that turns away today from the Lord our God to go and serve the gods of those nations.**

**Pastor:** There is among us a root bearing poisonous and bitter fruit. Despite hearing the words of Your curse against sin, we bless ourselves in our hearts.

**All:** **We say, “We shall be safe, though we walk in the stubbornness of our own hearts.”**

## Assurance of Pardon—from Hosea 14:1-4

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take with you words and return to the Lord; say to Him, “Take away all iniquity; accept what is good, and we will pay with bulls the vows of our lips. Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride on horses; and we will say no more, ‘Our God,’ to the work of our hands. In You the orphan finds mercy.” Thus says the Lord: “I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them.”

**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—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.

© 2008 Greyfriars Press. Text: paraphrase of Psalm 32, Isaac Watts, 1719;  
Music: DISTRESS, William Walker, 1854, arr. Gregory Wilbur, 2008.

# 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.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems of staves. Each system has a vocal line for men (bass clef) and a vocal line for women (treble clef). The lyrics are placed below the corresponding vocal lines. The first system begins with 'WOMEN' above the staff. The lyrics are: '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—O Lord, How Joyful 'Tis To See



O Lord, how joy - ful 'tis to see the breth-ren join in love to Thee!  
How sweet with - in Thy ho - ly place with one ac - cord to sing Thy grace.  
The world with - out may rage, but we will on - ly cling more close to Thee.  
O may we love, the house of God, of peace and joy, the blest a - bode.



On Thee a - lone their heart re - lies their on - ly strength Thy grace sup - plies.  
Be - sieg - ing Thy at - ten - tive ear with all the force of fer - vent prayer!  
With hearts to Thee, more whol - ly giv'n More weaned from Earth, more fixed on Heav'n.  
O may no an - gry strife des - troy that sac - red peace, that ho - ly joy.

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

### 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—Rejoice, The Lord Is King!

Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!  
Je - sus, the Sav - ior, reigns, the God of truth and love;  
His king - dom can - not fail, He rules o'er earth and Heav'n,  
He sits at God's right hand till all His foes sub - mit,  
Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! Je - sus the judge, shall come,

Re - joi - ce, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more;  
When He had purged our stains He took His seat a - bove;  
The keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n;  
And bow to His com - mand, and fall be - neath His feet:  
And take His ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.

*Refrain*

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1746; Music: DARWALL, John Darwall, 1770.

## 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—from 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus, make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints. *Amen.*

### Sung Response—Christ The Lord Is Risen Today, Vs. 3

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Lives a - gain our glor - ious King, - Al - - - le - lu - ia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - - - le - lu - ia! Once He died our souls to save, Al - - - le - lu - ia! Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - - le - lu - ia!"

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

## Announcements

## Worship Notes:

Reformed worship is often described as *dialogical*: God declares something to us from His Word, and we respond with prayer and song; we confess our sins, and God responds, assuring us of His pardon. This emphasizes the vertical aspect of worship, the relationship between God and humanity. But we shouldn't neglect the horizontal aspect, the relationship of believers to one another, addressed in this morning's sermon text from Hebrews ("Strive for peace with everyone," "See to it that no one fails"). Notice how many times the psalms and hymns we sing this morning address ourselves with encouragement or warning, suggesting Paul's command in Colossians 3:16 to teach and admonish "one another in all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." Throughout the service, we'll be reminded to "lift up your voice and with us sing," to do our part by "forgiving others," to "do good" and "seek peace," to "love the house of God," to "fret not" and "dwell faithfully." Even our final hymn, which describes the kingship of Christ, concludes with a refrain addressed to us: "Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!" —Henry C. Haffner

**Key Words:** Strengthen, Straight, Heal, Peace, Holiness, Unholy, Repentances

**Keystone Verse:** Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.  
(Hebrews 12:12-13)



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

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

Pastor: James Crampton, 943-1696, [jamie@parishpres.org](mailto:jamie@parishpres.org)  
Pastor Emeritus: George Grant, 574-1029 (office), [george@parishpres.org](mailto:george@parishpres.org)  
Associate Pastor: Brian Phillips, 429-8125, [brian@parishpres.org](mailto:brian@parishpres.org)  
Assistant Pastor: Mike Fennema, 931-215-1057, [mike@parishpres.org](mailto:mike@parishpres.org)  
Music Director: Henry C. Haffner, 497-6573, [henry@parishpres.org](mailto:henry@parishpres.org)  
Staff Accompanist: Mirandi Herrenbruck, [mirandi@parishpres.org](mailto:mirandi@parishpres.org)  
Music Ministry Assistant: Emma Marsh, [emma@parishpres.org](mailto:emma@parishpres.org)  
Audio Coordinator: Jonathan George, [jonathan@parishpres.org](mailto:jonathan@parishpres.org)  
Parish Nursery Coordinator: Chelsea Monroe, 495-0423, [chelsea@parishpres.org](mailto:chelsea@parishpres.org)

### Elders

Keith Cannon (636-7137)	Tom Goddard (218-3654)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)	

### Elders Emeritus

Steve Nelson John Scherrer

### Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	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.*