



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Epiphany

6 February 2022

Love—and the unity it attests to—is the mark Christ gave Christians to wear before the world. Only with this mark may the world know that Christians are indeed Christians and that Jesus was sent by the Father. So if we expect non-Christians to know that we are Christians, we must show the mark. —Francis Schaeffer

Mercy has converted more souls than zeal, or eloquence, or learning, or all of them together. —Soren Kierkegaard

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 15:12

Jesus said, “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

Introit—O Come Before The Lord, Our King (Psalm 95), Vs. 1

O come be-fore the Lord, our King, and in— His pres - ence let— us sing;

Let us in glad and joy - ful lays the rock of our sal - va - tion praise;

Be-fore Him come with thank - ful song, in joy - ful psalms His praise pro-long.

Text: Psalm 95:1-2, *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: St. Petersburg, Dimitri Bortniansky, 1825.

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 133:1-3; 134:1, 3; Psalm 135:1

Pastor: Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord.

All: Bless His holy name, He who made the heavens and the earth.

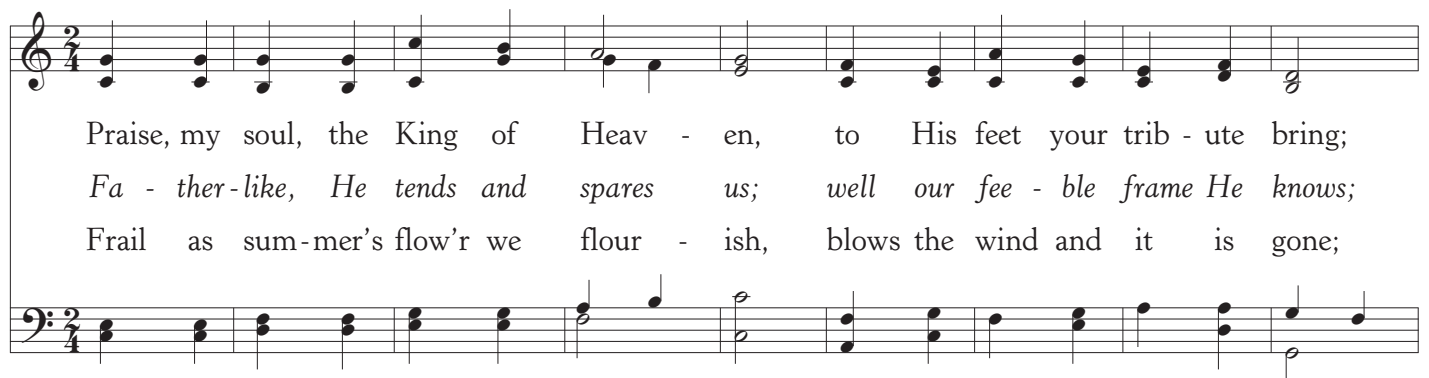
Reader 1: Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard of Aaron.

Reader 2: It is like oil running down on the collar of his robes or the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

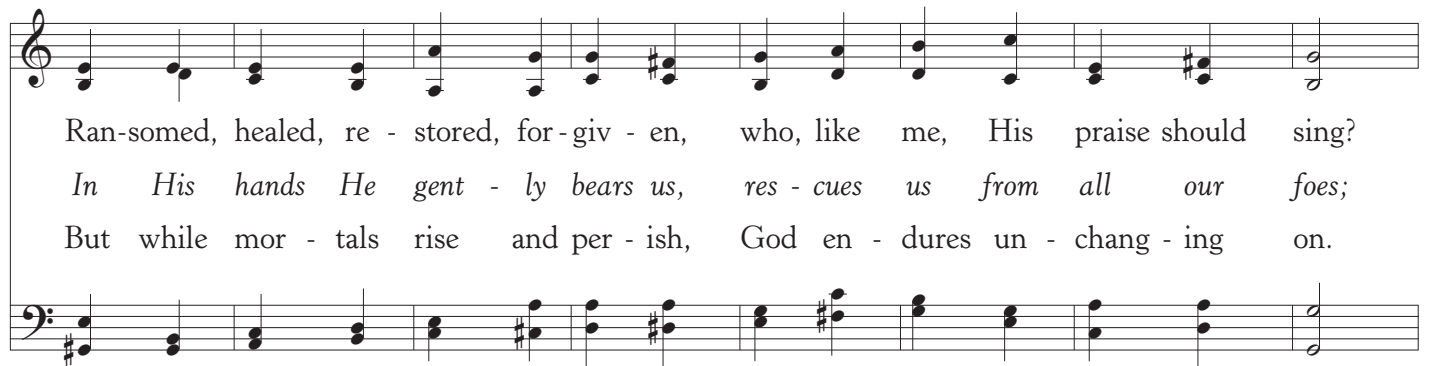
All: The Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

Pastor: Praise the name of the Lord.

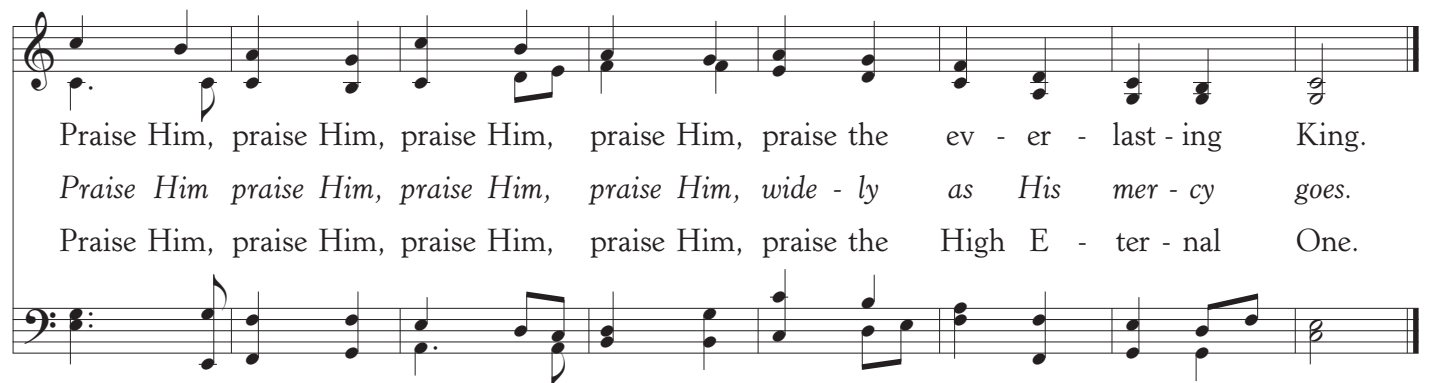
Hymn of Praise—Praise, My Soul, The King Of Heaven



Praise, my soul, the King of Heav - en, to His feet your trib - ute bring;
Fa - ther-like, He tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame He knows;
Frail as sum - mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, His praise should sing?
In His hands He gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes;
But while mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.



Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
Praise Him praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, wide - ly as His mer - cy goes.
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise the High E - ter - nal One.

Text: from Psalm 103, Henry F. Lyte, 1834; Music: LAUDA ANIMA, John Goss, 1869.

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—Not Unto Us (Psalm 115)



Not un - to us, not us O Lord— but to Your ho - ly name ac - cord
The i - dols made of sil - ver, gold, — are works which hu - man hands shall mold—
God, mind - ful of His own, will bless, — bless Aar - on's house and Is - rael's race;



The glo - ry, which for it a - lone— His mer - cy and His truth have won.
A mouth they have, yet si - lent be, — and eyes they have, yet can - not see;
On all His saints, both great and small— may His in - creas - ing bless - ings fall.



Why should the hea - then na - tions say, “Where is the God these men o - bey?”
No sound of words, no tune - ful note will form with - in— their voice - less throat.
Both you and yours shall taste the store of Him who made the— earth of yore.

Last time, to Coda



Our God a - bove in hea - ven dwells;— Our God shall do— what - e'er He wills.
Like them shall those that make them be, — and all that trust them fool - is - hly.
The heav - ens are the Lord's in - deed;— but earth He's giv - en to man's— seed.

Coda



The dead His prais - es can - not show, nor they that down to— si - lence go: —



But we, yes we, will bless the Lord; — from this time forth and ev - er - more

Text: Psalm 115:1-8, 12-18, *Lyra Regis*, 1885, Alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2022;
Music: BLACK CREEK, Henry C. Haffner, 2022.

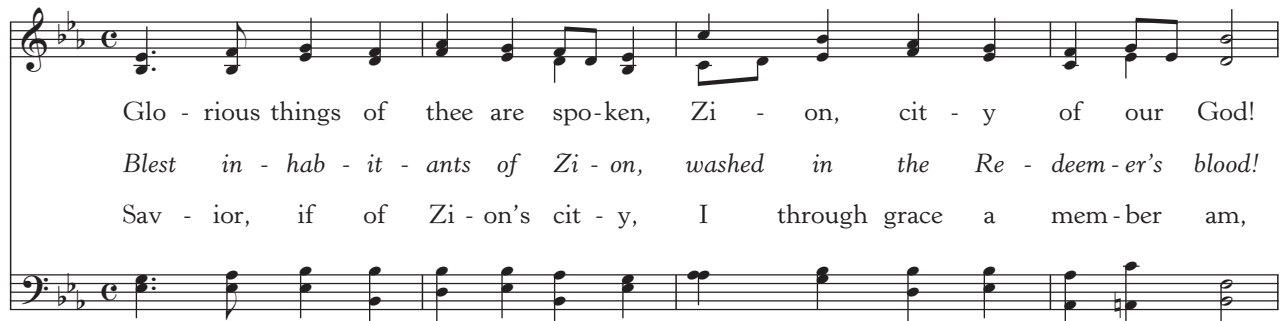
Scripture Reading—Acts 2:42-47

And the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

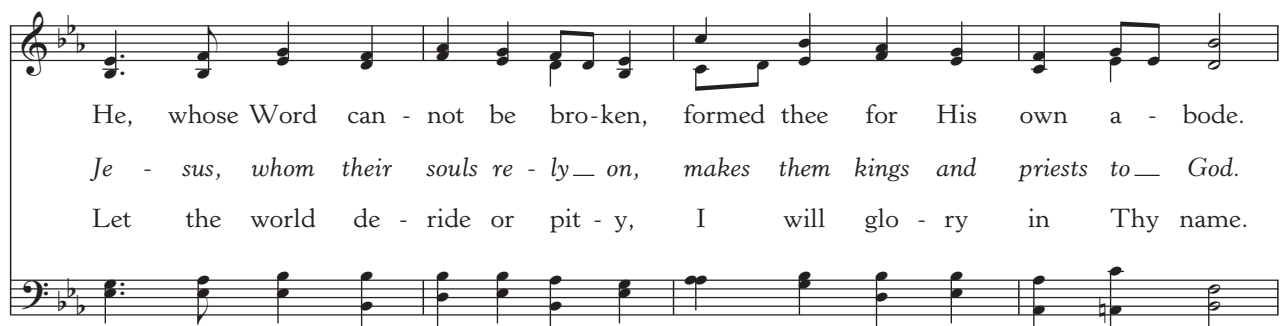
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

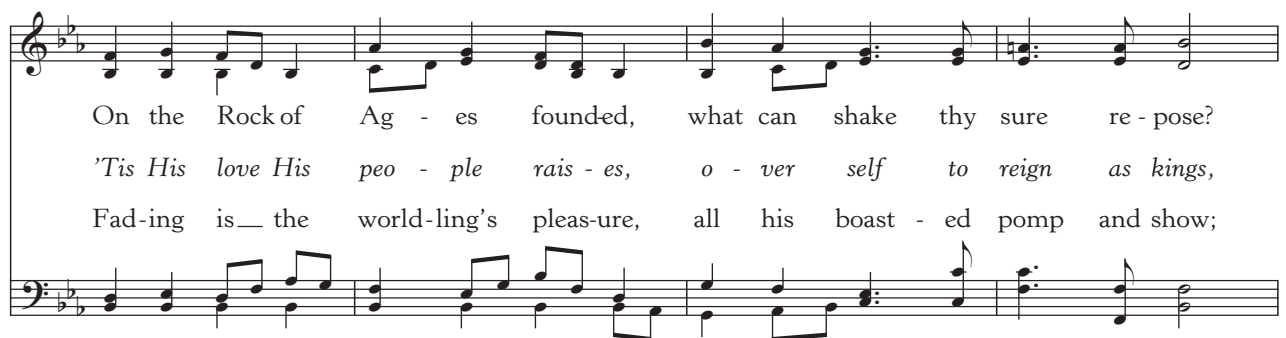
Hymn of Praise—Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken



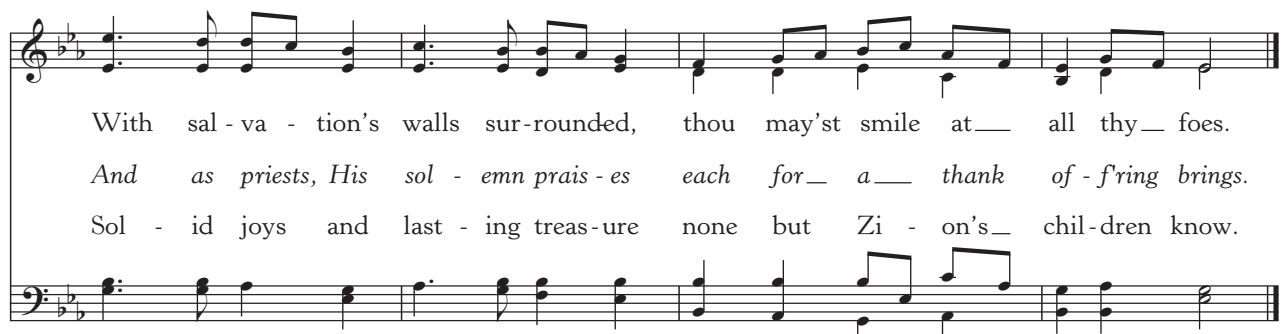
Glo - rious things of thee are spo-ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God!
Blest in - hab - it - ants of Zi - on, washed in the Re - deem - er's blood!
Sav - ior, if of Zi - on's cit - y, I through grace a mem - ber am,



He, whose Word can - not be bro-ken, formed thee for His own a - bode.
Je - sus, whom their souls re - ly on, makes them kings and priests to— God.
Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in Thy name.



On the Rock of Ag - es founded, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
'Tis His love His peo - ple rais - es, o - ver self to reign as kings,
Fad - ing is— the world - ling's pleas - ure, all his boast - ed pomp and show;



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - rounded, thou may'st smile at— all thy— foes.
And as priests, His sol - emn prais - es each for— a— thank of - f'ring brings.
Sol - id joys and last - ing treas - ure none but Zi - on's— chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1789; Music: AUSTRIA, Joseph Haydn, 1779.

Reading of the Word—2 Corinthians 2:1-11

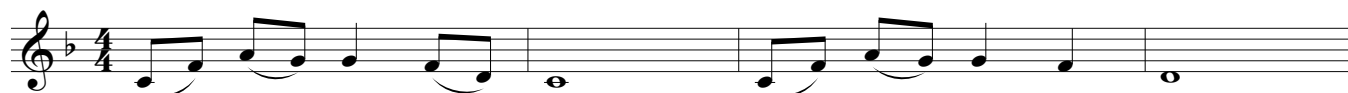
For I made up my mind not to make another painful visit to you. ²For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? ³And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. ⁴For I wrote to you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

⁵Now if anyone has caused pain, he has caused it not to me, but in some measure—not to put it too severely—to all of you. ⁶For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, ⁷so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸So I beg you to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹For this is why I wrote, that I might test you and know whether you are obedient in everything. ¹⁰Anyone whom you forgive, I also forgive. Indeed, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ, ¹¹so that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—I Will Lift My Voice (Psalm 101), Vs. 4



I ___ will look to ___ see, all ___ the ___ faith - ful souls



Ev - er ___ walk in ___ u - ni - ty, press - ing ___ toward the goal.



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



All the faith - ful souls press - ing ___ toward the goal.

Text and Music: Nathan George, 2014.

Sermon—*The Bonds 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 1:4; Psalm 145:13-18

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. We confess that we are a sinful people, laden with iniquity. We are slow to obey, hesitant to follow, and resistant to Your will.

All: **We are sinners and the offspring of sinners. We are quarrelsome children who deal foolishly and selfishly. We have forsaken You, O Lord; we divide ourselves from Your will and from one another.**

Pastor: But, You, O Lord, are faithful in all Your words and kind in all Your decrees. You uphold all who fall and raise up all who are bowed down.

All: **Our eyes look to You, and You give us our sustenance in due season. You open Your hand; You satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

Pastor: You, O Lord, are righteous in all Your ways and kind in all Your decrees.

All: **Lord, You are near to all who call on You, to all who call on You in truth.**

Assurance of Pardon—based on Psalm 25:8-10; 1 John 3:16; Matthew 28:19-20

Good and upright is the Lord. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies. And by this do we know love, that He laid down his life for us.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

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—Not What My Hands Have Done, Vs. 3



I praise the Christ of God; I rest on love div - ine;



And with un - fal - t'ring lip and heart I call this Sav - ior mine.



My Lord has saved my life and free - ly par - don gives;



I love be-cause He first loved me, I live be-cause He lives.

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:

The musical notation is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly - Ho - ly Ho - ly is the Lord God Al - might - y". The second staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics: "Heav'n and Earth are full of Thy glor - y, glor - y - be un - to - Thee". The third staff begins in 5/4 time and contains the lyrics: "O Lord most high O Lord most high O Lord most high A - men". The time signature changes to 2/4 for the final two measures of the third staff.

Text: Is 6:3, Rev 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.

Hymn of Praise—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.

Hymn of Praise—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 - mighty - 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.

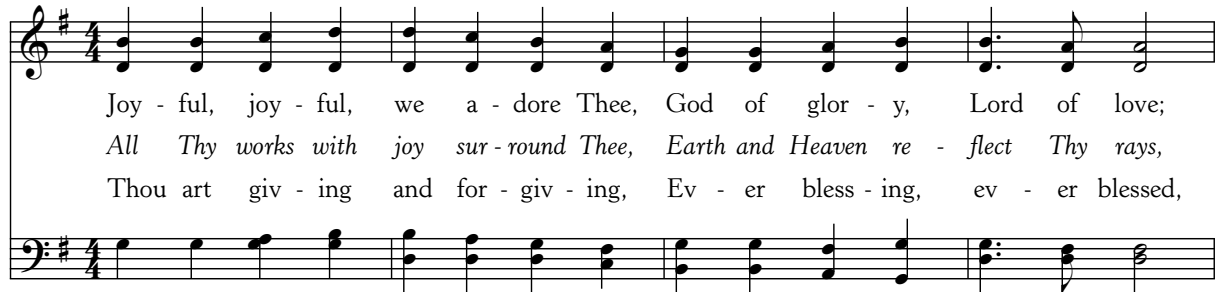
GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

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.

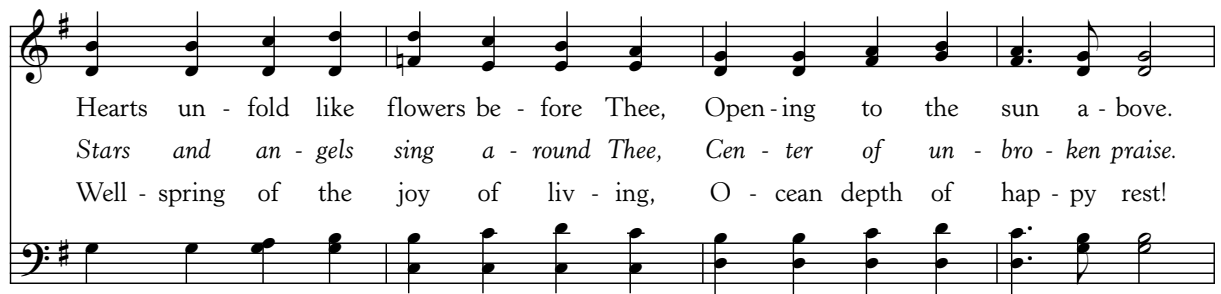
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

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.*

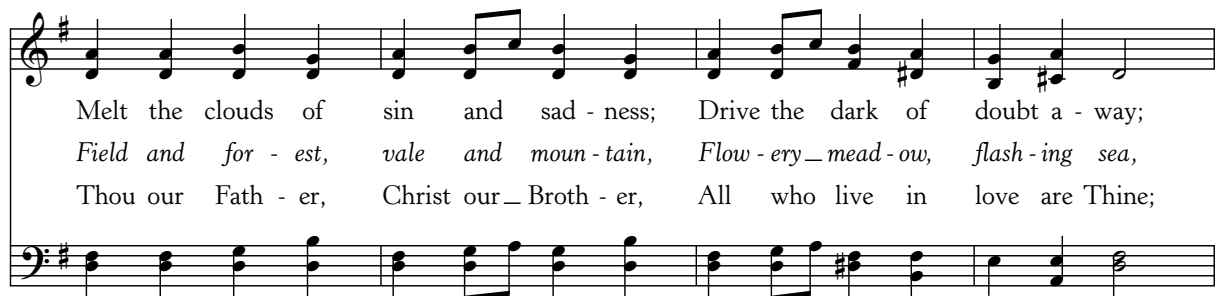
Hymn of Praise—Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



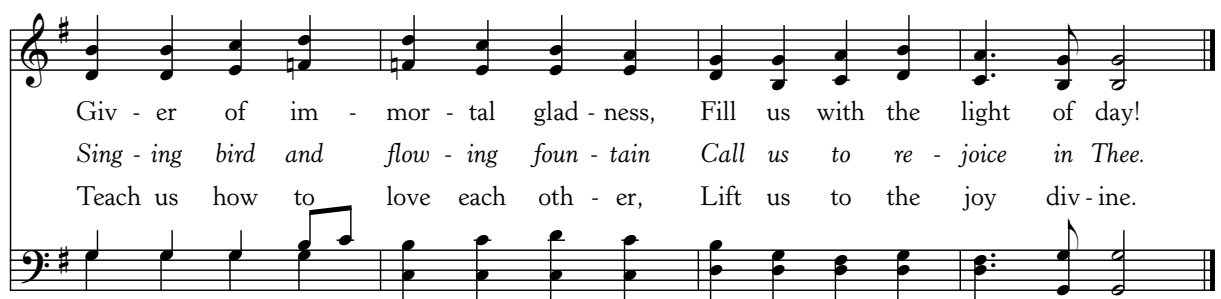
Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glor - y, Lord of love;
All Thy works with joy sur - round Thee, Earth and Heaven re - flect Thy rays,
Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; Drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fath - er, Christ our Broth - er, All who live in love are Thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day!
Sing - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the joy div - ine.

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1907; Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824,
arr. Edward Hodges, 1864.

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 Philippians 1:9-11

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—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:

Presbyterian minister Henry van Dyke wrote *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*, an ecstatic celebration of Christian unity, in 1907. He intended the poem to be sung to the melody of the final movement of Beethoven's Symphony no. 9 in D minor, which was itself a setting of an earlier poem by Friedrich Schiller called "Ode to Joy." The Ode uses flowery and somewhat utopian eighteenth-century language to paint a picture of universal brotherhood under the watchful eye of a loving heavenly father. While Schiller's poem only hints at the potential of human unity in some distant future, Christians can point to the concrete experience of unity in Christ. Because of Jesus's atoning work on the cross, we are declared faithful souls who can press on towards the goal together (Psalm 101:6). We are, through grace, members of Zion's city, able to devote ourselves to fellowship and the breaking of bread (Acts 2:42). Because we rely on Him alone, we can join in love within the house of God—and that is truly joyful to see. Though sin and conflict will inevitably mar this unity, as it had in the situation Paul addresses in 2 Corinthians 2, we have the ability and the duty to forgive one another. We love because He first loved us and gave us pardon. In response, we should take up the prayer of *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*: "Teach us how to love each other." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Pain, Joy, Love, Forgive, Comfort, Outwitted

Keystone Verse: You should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. (2 Corinthians 2:7)



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Pastoral Intern: Ben George (on study leave), ben@parishpres.org
Music Director: Henry C. Haffner (497-6573), henry@parishpres.org
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Music Intern: Emma Marsh, emma@parishpres.org
Audio Coordinator: Chris Ragsdale, chris@parishpres.org
Parish Nursery Coordinator: Chelsea Quintana (495-0423), chelsea@parishpres.org

Elders

Tom Goddard (on sabbatical)	Brandon Goodin (on leave)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	John Scherrer (916-0654)	

Elders Emeritus

Phil Hutcheson Steve Nelson

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Jimmy Allen (815-9368)	Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)
Ben Crist (on leave)	Jeff Dokkestul (on sabbatical)	Chris Ragsdale (619-988-1876)
Nolan Reategui (829-0412)	Tim Simmons (850-532-8997)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)
	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	

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