



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Lent

20 March 2022

I was at that time, Sir, more devoted to mathematics than to the literature of my profession (pastoral ministry). Strangely blinded that I was! What, Sir, is the object of mathematical science? Magnitudes and the proportions of magnitude. But then, Sir, I had forgotten two magnitudes —I thought not of the littleness of time —I recklessly thought not of the greatness of eternity. —Thomas Chalmers

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—Romans 3:23-24

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.

Introit—What Wondrous Love Is This, Vs. 1



What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this

That caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul,

For my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul?

Text: American Folk Hymn; Music: WONDROUS LOVE, *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

Call to Worship—Psalm 30:4-5, 8, 10-11

Pastor: Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name.

All: **You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.**

Reader 1: To You, O Lord, I cry, and to the Lord I plead for mercy.

Reader 2: Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me! O Lord, be my helper.

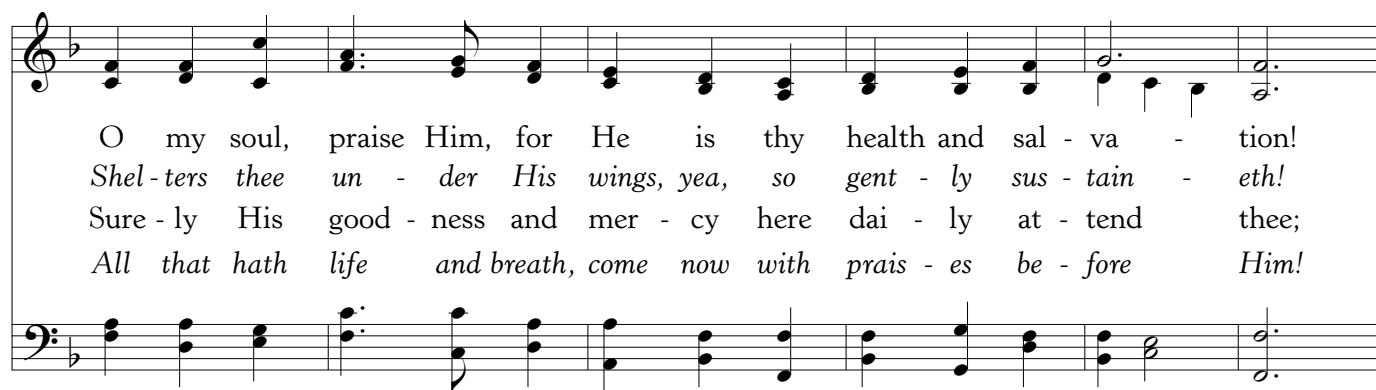
All: **For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.**

Pastor: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

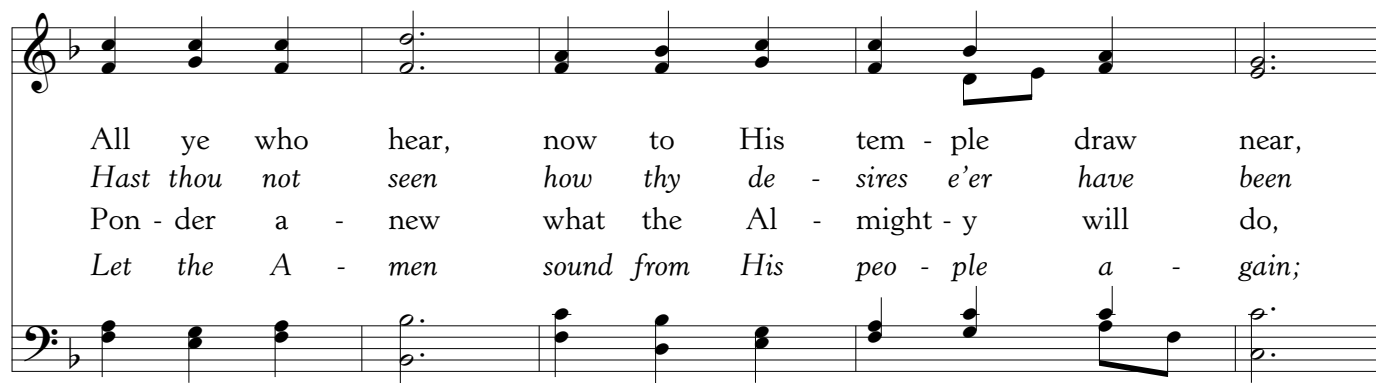
Hymn of Praise—Praise To The Lord, The Almighty



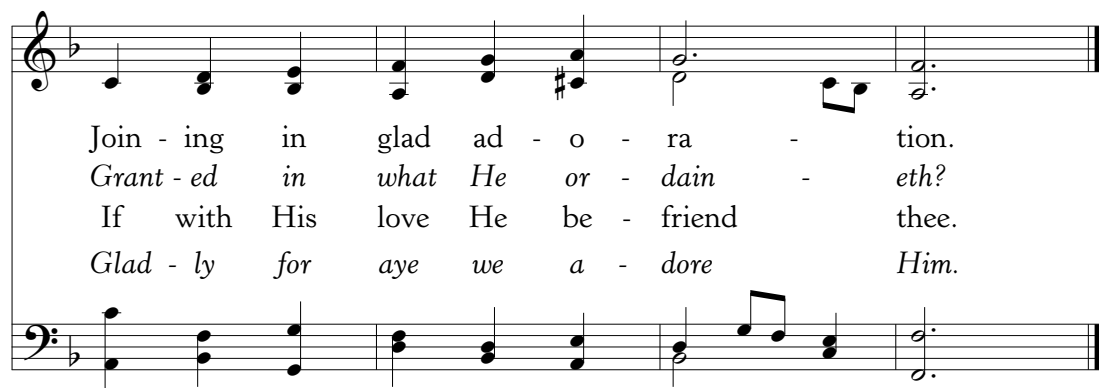
Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly reign - eth,
 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend thee!
Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore Him!



O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va - tion!
Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain - eth!
 Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee;
All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore Him!



All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw near,
Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y will do,
Let the A - men sound from His peo - ple a - gain;



Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?
 If with His love He be - friend thee.
Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him.

Text: Joachim Neander, 1680, Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863;
 Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Stralsund Gesangbuch*, 1665.

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—By Babylon's Great Riverside (Psalm 137)



By Ba - by - lon's great ri - ver - side we cap - tive peo - ples sat and wept;
For there our cap - tors asked for songs; tor - ment - ing us, they asked for praise;
Re - mem - ber Lord, how they laid bare our home up - on that dread - ful day;



While o - ver all our hearts the tide of Zi - on's me - mor - ies had swept.
Re - quir - ing songs that hap - py throngs on Zi - on had been known to raise.
Though wick - ed E - dom now seems fair, her sons are doomed to pass a - way.



On weep - ing wil - lows, droop - ing low, our si - lent, joy - less harps we hung;
But how can we, in for - eign land, Je - ho - vah's songs be made to sing?
Re - mem - ber Lord, the dread - ful day of our land's fall and bit - ter woe

Verse 1 & 2, then Chorus



Their strings were bro - ken, tuned with woe, when with such aw - ful grief they sung.
If I for - get you, let this hand lose all its skill up - on the string.
How hap - py he who shall re - pay the cru - el hat - red of her foe.

Chorus



If I do not re - mem - ber you, for - get my songs, let lan - guage cease



If I should place a - no - ther joy a - bove my care for Zi - on's peace.

Text: Psalm 137, Edward Collier, *Lyrics from the Psalter*, 1907; *The Psalter*, 1912; Alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021;
Music: WILLIAMSON, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:12-19

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Praise—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, 1869; Music: ENDLESS SONG, Robert Lowry, 1869, Arr. Henry C. Haffner, 2014.

Reading of the Word—2 Corinthians 4:16-18

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Christ Has Made A Sure Foundation, Vs. 3

Here vouch - safe to all Thy ser - vants as they ask of Thee to gain;
What they gain from Thee for - ev - er and Thy bles - sed rest re - tain,
And here - af - ter in Thy glor - y ev - er - more with Thee to reign.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Text: Anonymous, 7th C. Tr. John M. Neale, 1851; Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Smart, 1867.

Sermon—*Weight of Glory*

—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—based on Romans 1:18-23

Pastor: For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all our ungodliness and unrighteousness, who by our unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to us, because God has shown it to us. For His invisible attributes, namely His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So we are without excuse.

All: So, Lord, we come confessing.

Pastor: For although we knew You, we did not honor You as God or give thanks to You, but we became futile in our thinking, and our foolish hearts were darkened.

All: So, Lord, we come confessing.

Pastor: Claiming to be wise, we became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

All: So, Lord, we come confessing.

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Sung Response—Lamb Of God

UNISON



O Lamb of God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. —



O Lamb of God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. —



O Lamb of — God, that takes a - way the sins of the world,

Slightly faster

WOMEN



Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy, Grant us Thy peace,

MEN



Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace.

Text: Traditional, based on John 1:29; Music: CLOVERCROFT AGNUS DEI, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

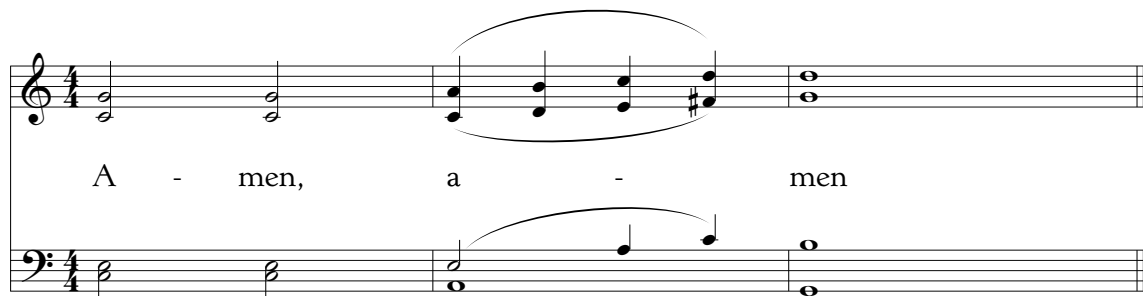
Assurance of Pardon—Isaiah 54:7-8; Mark 12:30

For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you. In overflowing anger for a moment I hid My face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,” says the Lord, your Redeemer.

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

All: **Therefore, let us love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength.**

Sung Response—Twofold Amen



Text: Traditional; Music: DRESDEN, Johann Naumann, 18th Century.

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:

UNISON



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. —

WOMEN

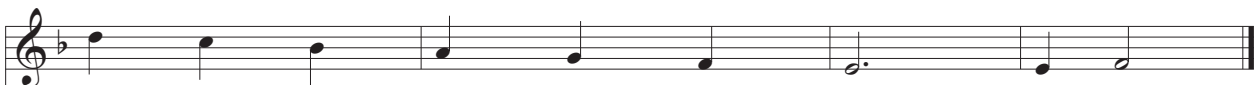


We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

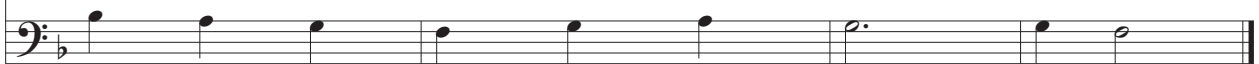
MEN



We praise You, we bless— You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.

Text: Traditional, based on Luke 2:14; Music: CLOVERCROFT GLORIA, 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.

Hymn of Reflection—My Jesus, I Love Thee

My Je - sus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
I love Thee, be - cause Thou hast first lov - ed me.
I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,
In man - sions of glo - ry and end - less de - light,
For Thee all the fol - lies of sin I re - sign.
And pur - chased my par - don on Cal - va - ry's tree;
And praise Thee as long as Thou lend - est me breath;
I'll ev - er a - dore Thee in heav - en so bright;
My gra - cious Re - deem - er, my Sa - vior art Thou;
I love Thee for wear - ing the thorns on Thy brow;
And say when the death - dew lies cold on my brow,
I'll sing with the glit - ter - ing crown on my brow,
If ev - er I loved Thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.

Text: William R. Featherston, 1864; Music: GORDON, Adoniram J. Gordon, 1876.

Hymn of Praise—Before The Throne Of God Above

Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect plea.
When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair and tells me of the guilt with - in,
Be - hold Him there the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect spot - less right - eous - ness,
A great High Priest whose name is Love who ev - er lives and pleads for me.
Up - ward I look and see Him there who made an end of all my sin.
The great un - change - a - ble I AM, the King of glo - ry and of grace,
My name is grav - en on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His heart.
Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died my sin - ful soul is count - ed free.
One in Him - self I can - not die. my soul is pur - chased by His blood,
I know that while in Heaven He stands no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
For God the just is sat - is - fied to look on Him and par - don me.
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Sav - ior and my God!
No tongue can bid me thence de - part.
To look on Him and par - don me.
With Christ my Sav - ior and my God!

CCLI #2844402 ©1997 Sovereign Grace Worship; Text: Charitie Bancroft, 1863; Music: Vikki Cook, 1997.

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—Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

A - las! and did my Sa - vior bleed, and did my Sov - ereign die! —
Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned up - on the tree? —
Well might the sun in dark - ness hide, and shut his glor - ies in, —
Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while His dear cross ap - pears; —
But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the debt of love I owe; —

Would He de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pi - ty! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!
When Christ, the migh - ty ma - ker, died for man the crea - ture's sin.
Dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt mine eyes in tears.
Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way, 'tis all — that I can do.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the two systems.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1824.

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 Peter 5:10

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To Him be the dominion forever and ever. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Christ Be With Me (from St. Patrick's Breastplate)



Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,



Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me,



Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in dan-ger,



Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.

Text: *Atomriug indui niurt tren*, St. Patrick, 5th Century, Tr. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1889;
Music: ST. PATRICK CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish Hymn Melody.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

*Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants as they ask of Thee to gain;
What they gain from Thee forever and Thy blessed rest retain...*
—Anonymous 7th century hymn

After focusing on the certainty of trials in the Christian life last week, this morning's service is filled with words of comfort. Paul reminds us in the sermon text that the difficulties of this present life are "momentary afflictions," and that we can look forward in hope to the unimaginable "weight of glory" that awaits in eternity. In the Call to Worship from Psalm 30, the psalmist declares "Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning." The Scripture readings from Romans and Isaiah remind us that "the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed," and that the Lord promises to gather us even when it seems that He has abandoned us for "a brief moment." The hymn *How Can I Keep From Singing?* captures this hopeful endurance well: though tumult and strife will come, though darkness and storms may gather round, and though our joys and comforts may die, Christ is still Lord of Heaven and earth—and our pathway grows smooth as we learn to love Him. The two communion hymns, *My Jesus, I Love Thee* and *Before The Throne Of God Above* give us a glimpse of the promised "mansions of glory" that await all those that the "King of glory and grace" has purchased with His blood. As we go about our daily labors this week, difficulties and hardships will come—that is assured. But do not lose heart! Using the words of our opening hymn, the Almighty Lord gently sustains us and promises to prosper and defend us. Let's ponder anew what He will do for those whom He befriends with His love. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Outer, Inner, Renewal, Affliction, Glory, Transient, Eternal, Seen, Unseen
Keystone Verse: For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison... (2 Corinthians 4:17)



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Elders

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Tom Goddard (on sabbatical) | Brandon Goodin (on leave) | Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516) |
| Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368) | Mike Misericocchi (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) |
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All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.