



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Reformation Sunday

31 October 2021

Hier stehe ich; Here I stand; I can do no other. God help me. Amen! —Martin Luther

Ecclesia reformata semper reformanda est secundu Verbum Dei: the Church is reformed and always being reformed according to the Word of God. —Jodocus van Lodenstein

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—Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.

Introit—The Lord Is King, Vs. 1



The Lord is King! lift up thy voice, O Earth; and all ye heav'ns, re-joyce!



From world to world the joy shall ring, “The Lord om-ni - po - tent is King.”

Text: Josiah Conder, 1824; Music: ROCKBRIDGE, Lucius Chapin,
from *The Harmonia Sacra*, 1812, Alt. 2010.

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 18:46-50

Pastor: The Lord lives! Blessed be my rock!

All: Let the God of our salvation be exalted!

Reader 1: You are our God. You, O Lord, have given us justice. You have delivered us, rescued us, and exalted us.

Reader 2: For this will we praise You, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to Your holy name. Great is Your salvation.

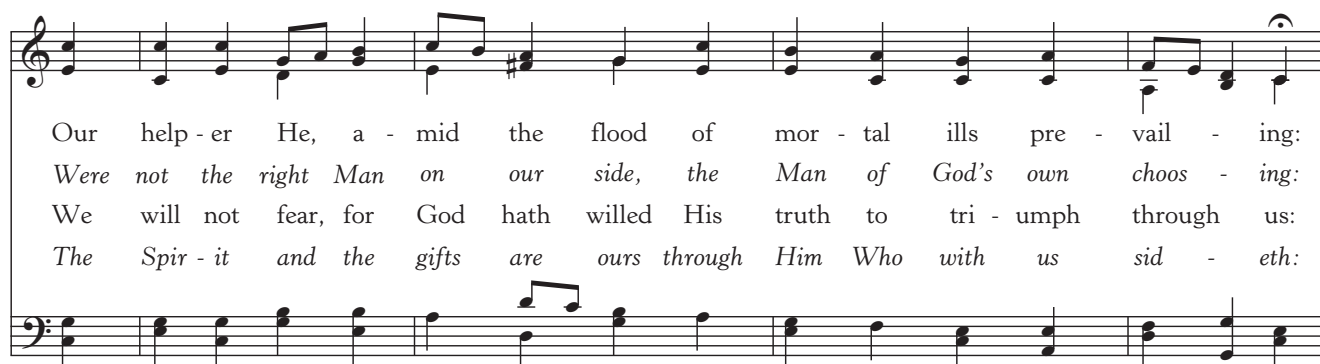
All: You show Your steadfast love to Your beloved forever.

Pastor: Rejoice! The Lord lives! Blessed be my rock!

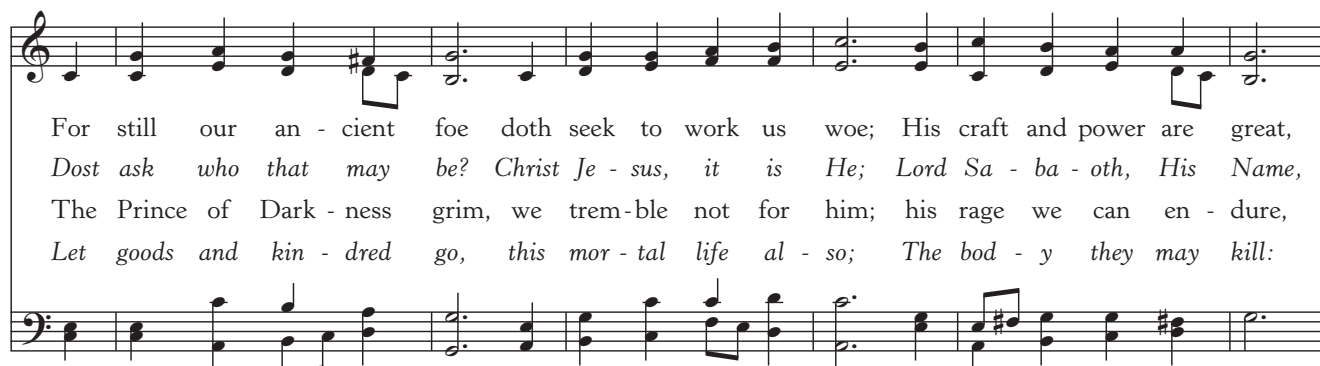
Hymn of Praise—A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



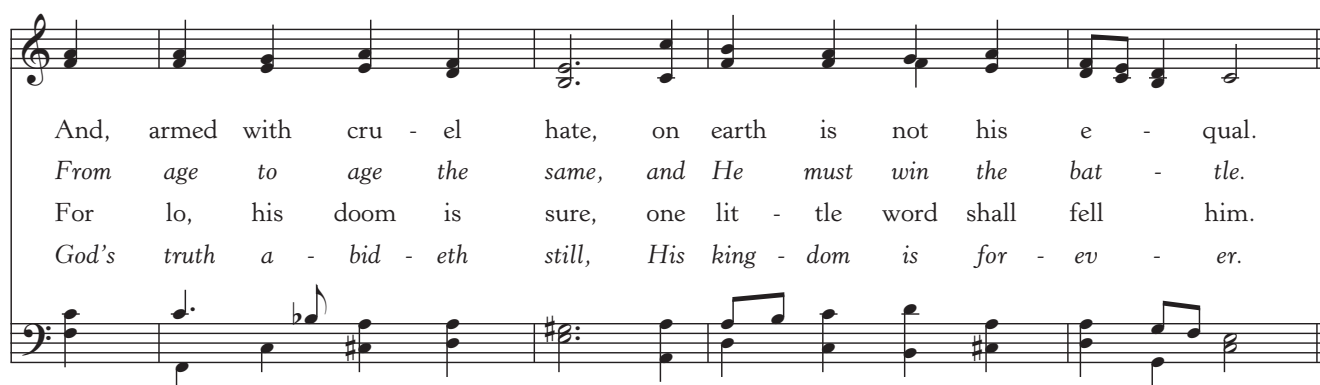
A might - y fort - ress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing;
And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,
That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth;



Our help - er He, a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing;
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choos - ing;
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us:
The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sid - eth:



For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great,
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sa - ba - oth, His Name,
The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill:



And, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
From age to age the same, and He must win the bat - tle.
For lo, his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Text: based on Psalm 46, Martin Luther, 1529, Tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853;
Music: EIN'FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1529.

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—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.

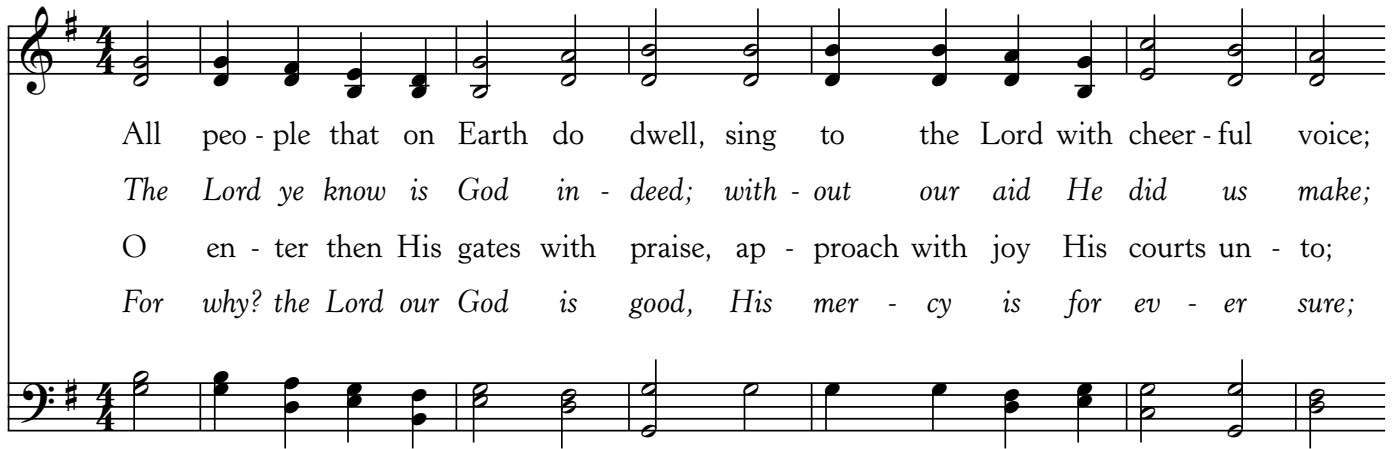
Scripture Reading—Psalm 80:1, 3, 14, 18-19

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth. Restore us, O God. Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved! Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven and see... give us life, and we will call upon Your name! Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let Your face shine, that we may be saved!

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of Praise—All People That On Earth Do Dwell (Psalm 100)



All peo - ple that on Earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheer - ful voice;
The Lord ye know is God in - deed; with - out our aid He did us make;
O en - ter then His gates with praise, ap - proach with joy His courts un - to;
For why? the Lord our God is good, His mer - cy is for ev - er sure;



Him serve with fear, His praise forth - tell come ye be - fore Him and re - joice.
We are His folk, He doth us feed, and for His sheep He doth us take.
Praise, laud, and bless His name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
His truth at all times firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

Text: William Kethe, 1561; Music: OLD 100TH, Louis Bourgeois, 1551.

Reading of the Word—Lamentations 3:19-26, 39-41, 49-50, 55-58

¹⁹ Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! ²⁰ My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me. ²¹ But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: ²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; ²³ they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. ²⁴ “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him.” ²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. ²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

³⁹ Why should a living man complain, a man, about the punishment of his sins? ⁴⁰ Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord! ⁴¹ Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven...

⁴⁹ “My eyes will flow without ceasing, without respite, ⁵⁰ until the Lord from heaven looks down and sees; ⁵⁵ I called on your name, O Lord, from the depths of the pit; ⁵⁶ You heard my plea, ‘Do not close Your ear to my cry for help!’ ⁵⁷ You came near when I called on You; You said, ‘Do not fear!’ ⁵⁸ You have taken up my cause, O Lord; You have redeemed my life.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Amazing Grace, Vs. 4

The Lord has prom-ised good to me, His Word my hope se-cures;
He will my shield and por-tion be, as long as life en-dures.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Amazing Grace, Vs. 4'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has 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 3/4. The lyrics are: 'The Lord has prom-ised good to me, His Word my hope se-cures;' and 'He will my shield and por-tion be, as long as life en-dures.'

Text: John Newton, 1779; Music: NEW BRITAIN, Traditional American Melody,
Columbian Harmony, 1829, Harm. Edwin O. Excell, 1900.

Sermon—Great Is Thy Faithfulness

—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 Lamentations 3:39-42, 49-50

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Why should we complain about the punishment of our sins?

All: 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: We have transgressed and rebelled.

Pastor: Our eyes flow without ceasing.

All: We weep without respite—until the Lord from heaven looks down and sees.

Assurance of Pardon—Lamentations 3:25-26; Colossians 2:6-7

The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

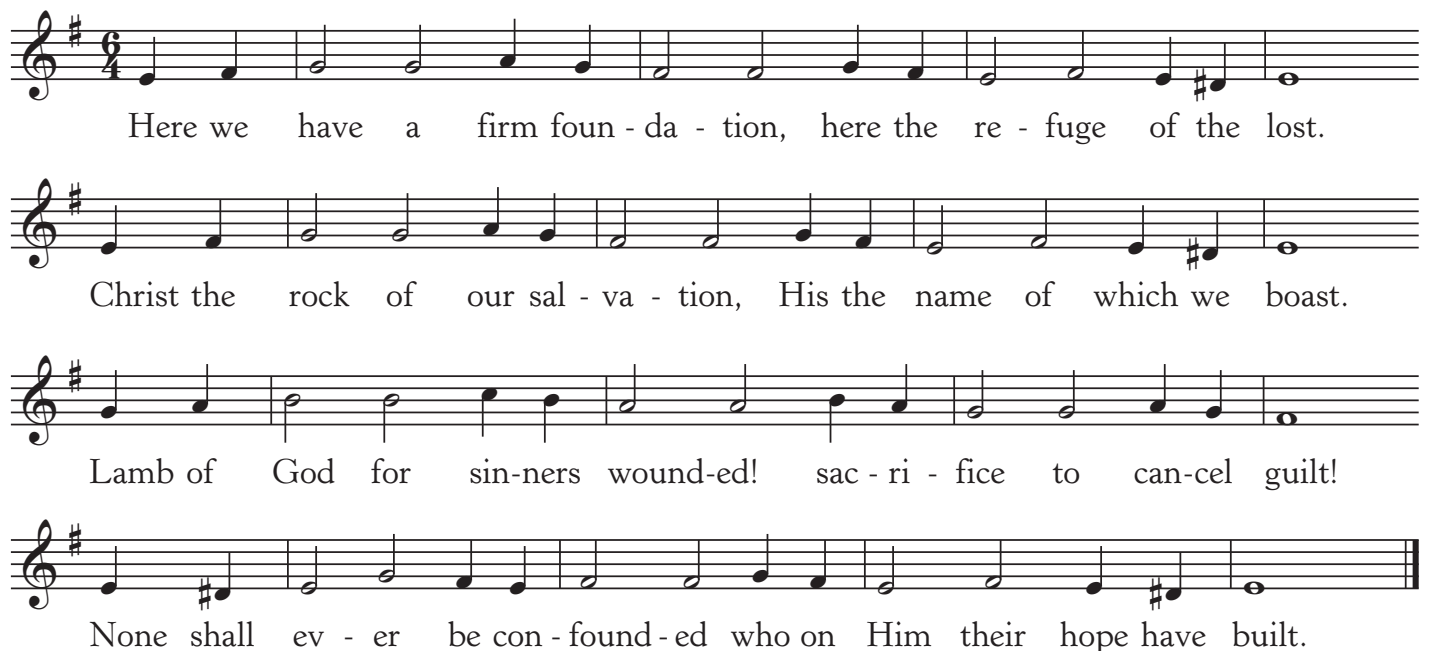
All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: Therefore, in the same way you received Christ Jesus as Lord, so continue to walk in Him.

All: So then, we are rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith.

Pastor: Therefore, let us abound in thanksgiving.

Sung Response—Stricken, Smitten, And Afflicted, Vs. 4



Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, here the re - fuge of the lost.

Christ the rock of our sal - va - tion, His the name of which we boast.

Lamb of God for sin - ners wound - ed! sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt!

None shall ev - er be con - found - ed who on Him their hope have built.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1804; Music: O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN, *Geistliche Volkslieder*, 1850.

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.**

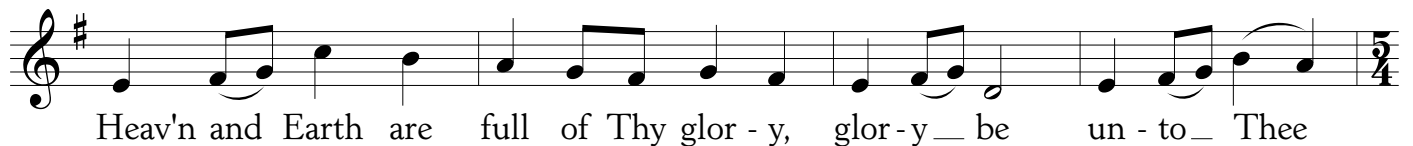
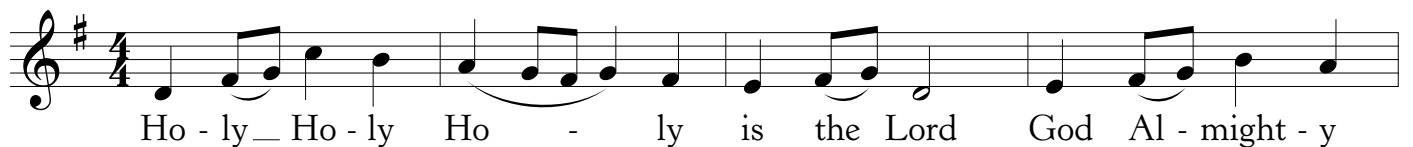
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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:



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.

Psalm of Praise—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.

Hymn of Praise—Be Still, My Soul



Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take to guide the fu - ture, as He has the past.
Be still, my soul: the hour is hast' - ning on when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord.
Be still, my soul: be - gin the song of praise on Earth, be - liev - ing, to thy Lord on high;



Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide; in eve - ry change, He faith - ful will re - main.
Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let no - thing shake; all now mys - ter - ious shall be bright at last.
When dis - ap - point - ment, grief and fear are gone, sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.
Ac - know - ledge Him in all thy words and ways, so shall He view thee with a well pleased eye.



Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'n - ly friend thro' thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and bless - èd we shall meet at last.
Be still, my soul: the sun of life di - vine thro' pas - sing clouds shall but more brightl - y shine.

Text: Katharina A. von Schlegel, 1752, trans. Jane L. Borthwick, 1855; Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1899.

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—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 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—based on Lamentations 3:24

The Lord is our portion; therefore hope in Him. *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:

Today marks the 504th anniversary of Martin Luther's launching of the Protestant Reformation in 1517. At the beginning of the 16th century, the Western church was coming to the end of a long period of forgetfulness, corruption, and turmoil. Similarly, the book of Lamentations presents a picture of a people trusting in their own righteousness—which only brought disappointment, grief, fear, and sorrow. They were inhabitants of a land “with devils filled.” In the midst of all of this, the prophet can nevertheless declare, “The Lord is my portion ... therefore I will hope in Him” (Lamentations 3:24). Do you bear a cross of grief or pain? Does evil seem to prosper? Don't fear—the right Man is on our side and He is from age to age the same. His mercy is forever sure. He has promised good to us—and He will be our portion as long as life endures. He is a stronghold in troubled days, a refuge evermore, and will fulfil the desires of our hearts. We hasten toward the hour when those disappointments, griefs, and fears are forgotten, because we are with Him. On this day, when we remember the work of the Reformers who called the church to return to the truths of Scripture, we can rejoice that we serve a God who is faithful to restore His people. —Henry C. Haffner & Emma Marsh

Key Words: Wormwood, Gall, Steadfast Love, New, Faithfulness, Return, Redeemed

Keystone Verse: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)



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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)
	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	

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