



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Easter

*11 April 2021*

Christian contentment is that sweet, inward, quiet, gracious frame of spirit, which freely submits to and delights in God's wise and fatherly disposal in every condition. To be well skilled in the mystery of Christian contentment is the duty, glory, and excellence of a Christian. —Jeremiah Burroughs

A godly man wonders at his cross that it is not more, a wicked man wonders his cross is so much. —Jeremiah Burroughs

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## 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 8:32

He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?

### Introit—Jesus Shall Reign, Vs. 1



Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does his suc - ces-sive jour - neys run;

His king - dom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

## Call to Worship—based on Psalm 18:31-33; 35-36; 46; 49-50

Pastor: The Lord lives! Blessed be our rock!

**All: Exalted be the God of our salvation!**

Reader 1: For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God? He has equipped us with strength and made our way blameless. He made our feet like those of the feet of the deer and set us secure on the heights.

Reader 2: He has given us the shield of salvation, His right hand supported us, and His gentleness has given us wideness for our steps beneath us.

Pastor: For this we will praise You, O Lord, among the nations.

**All: We will sing to Your name.**

Pastor: Great is Your steadfast love and Your salvation.

## Hymn of Praise—O Worship The King

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 3/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the last four lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves. The music features a variety of note values, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/4.

O wor - ship the King, all glor - ious a - bove, O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;  
O tell of His might, O sing of His grace, whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,  
Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
O mea - sure - less might! In - eff - ab - le love! Whom an - gels de - light to wor - ship a - bove,

Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days, pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.  
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form, and dark is His path on the wings of the storm.  
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain, and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
The hum - bler cre - a - tion, though fee - ble their lays, with true a - dor - a - tion shall all sing Your praise.

Text: Robert Grant, 1833, based on Psalm 104;  
Music: LYONS, Joseph Martin Kraus, 1784.

# 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—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.

## Scripture Reading—Philippians 4:7-9, 11-13

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think on these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Hymn of Praise—Not What My Hands Have Done

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic foundation.

Not what my hands have done can save my guilt - y soul;  
Your voice a - lone, O Lord, can speak to me of grace;  
I praise the Christ of God; I rest on love div - ine;

Not what my toil - ing flesh has borne can make my spir - it whole.  
Your pow'r a - lone, O Son of God, can all my sin e - rase.  
and with un - fal - t'ring lip and heart I call this Sav - ior mine.

Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God;  
No oth - er work but Yours, no oth - er blood will do;  
My Lord has saved my life and free - ly par - don gives;

Not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my aw - ful load.  
No strength but that which is div - ine can bear me safe - ly through.  
I love be - cause He first loved me, I live be - cause He lives.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1861; Music: LEOMINSTER, George W. Martin, 1862.

## Reading of the Word—1 Corinthians 7:17-24

<sup>17</sup> Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches. <sup>18</sup> Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. <sup>19</sup> For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God. <sup>20</sup> Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called. <sup>21</sup> Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.) <sup>22</sup> For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. <sup>23</sup> You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. <sup>24</sup> So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Sung Response—If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee, Vs. 2



Be pa-tient and a - wait His lei-sure in cheer-ful hope, with heart con - tent



To take what - e'er thy Fa - ther's plea-sure and His dis - cern-ing love hath sent,



Nor doubt our in - most wants are known to Him who chose us for His own.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1641 Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1855; Music: NEUMARK, Georg Neumark, 1657.

## Sermon—*Just As I Am*

—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 Ephesians 4:30-5:4

Pastor: O Lord, we come confessing. We confess that time after time we have grieved the Holy Spirit.

**All: It was by Him that we were sealed for the day of redemption.**

Pastor: But we have not put off all our selfishness, our bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander and malice. We have failed to boldly show forth the kindness and tenderness of the Spirit.

**All: Though God in Christ has forgiven us, we do not readily forgive one another.**

Pastor: Yet we have been called to be imitators of God, as beloved children. We are to walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

**All: The fruits of the flesh, the sins of the world, immorality, impurity, filthiness, and foolishness ought not even be named among us.**

Pastor: Instead, we are called to bear witness at all times with thanksgiving.

## Assurance of Pardon—from Romans 8:1, 12, 14-15; Luke 18:27

Hear now the Gospel: “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 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!’”

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—If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee, Vs. 3



Sing, pray, and keep His ways un - swerv-ing, per-form thy du - ties faith-ful - ly,



And trust His Word: though un - de - serv-ing, thou yet shalt find it true for thee.



God nev - er yet for - sook in need the soul that trust - ed Him in - deed.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1641, Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1855;  
Music: NEUMARK, Georg Neumark, 1657.

# HEAVENLY GIFT—*EUCHARISTO*

*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 high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est. A-men. A-men.

Text: Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Mt 21:9; Music: FRANKLIN SANCTUS, Gregory Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.



# 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 dip the bread in the cup of wine or grape juice.*

## Hymn of Praise—Calm Content

Fierce pass - ions rise and toss the mind as tem - pests turn the sea;  
 In vain by rea - son and by rule we try to bend our will;  
 Teach us, then, by hum - ble means, whe - ther rich or poor.

But calm con - tent and peace we find when, Lord, we turn to Thee;  
 For none but in the Sav - ior's school can learn the heav'n - ly skill;  
 In times of hun - ger help us lean up - on the grac - ious stores

Vs. 1 & 2, then Chorus

Lord, we turn to Thee.  
 Teach us, Lord, heav'n - ly skill.  
 Christ, our grac - ious store

We would find our souls at rest with - in Your care. We would learn to  
 be con - ent with when and where You lead, Lord

Text: John Newton, 1779, Refrain and Vs. 3 by Nathan George, 2012; Music: CONTENT, Nathan George, 2012.

## Hymn of Praise—It Is Well With My Soul

When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend-eth my way, when sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll;  
 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol,  
 My sin, oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought! My sin, not in part but the whole,

What - ev - er my lot, Thou has taught me to say, it is well, it is well, with my soul.  
 That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate, and hath shed His own blood for my soul.  
 Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 It is well with my soul;

Text: Horatio G Spafford, 1873; Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Phillip P. Bliss, 1876.

# 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—May The Mind Of Christ, My Savior

May the mind of Christ, my Sav - ior, live in me from day to day,  
May the Word of God dwell rich - ly in my heart from hour to hour,  
May the love of Je - sus fill me as the wa - ters fill the sea;  
May I run the race be - fore me, strong and brave to face the foe,

By His love and pow'r con - trol - ling all I do and say.  
So that all may see I tri - umph on - ly through His pow'r.  
Him ex - alt - ing, self a - bas - ing: this is vic - to - ry.  
Look - ing on - ly un - to Jes - us as I on - ward go.

Text: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; Music: ST. LEONARDS, A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925.

## 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 Romans 8:16-17

“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.” Therefore, go forth with boldness in the fullness of His grace, peace, and love. *Amen.*

### Sung Response—Christ Is Risen! Hallelujah, Vs. 3

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano/Alto and Bass/Tenor) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, featuring a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The score consists of five systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano accompaniment is primarily block chords, providing harmonic support for the vocal melody. The final system ends with a double bar line.

Christ is ris - en! Hence-forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall;

We are Christ's, in Him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed ov - er all;

All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our tremb - ling hearts have ceased,

'Tis His day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

We are Christ's, in Him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed ov - er all.

Text: James S.B. Monsell, 1863; Music: FOUNT OF GLORY, R.W. Thompson, 1864,  
Adapted Gregory Wilbur. ©2010 Gregory Wilbur.

## Announcements

## Worship Notes:

*Teach us, then, by humble means, whether rich or poor,  
In times of hunger help us lean upon the gracious stores, Christ our gracious store.*  
—Nathan George

In today's sermon text, we find Paul encouraging us towards contentment: "...let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him" (1 Corinthians 7:17). This message is a needed counter to our materialistic age, but can also be deeply troubling. What if the "life that the Lord has assigned" is one of disappointment, grief, or loss? Many of the hymns we'll sing this morning point us towards the comfort that contentment in Christ brings. *Not What My Hands Have Done* reminds us that all attempts to find serenity from our own efforts will certainly fail: "not what I feel or do can bring me peace with God." *Fret Not Yourself (Psalm 37)* and *If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee* counsel us to "Be still before the Lord and wait," trusting that He will fulfill the desires of our hearts. After all, "God never yet forsook in need the soul that trusted Him indeed." The two communion hymns, *Calm Content* and *It Is Well With My Soul*, express the joy we find when we learn the "heavenly skill" of resting within the Lord's care, whatever our lot and wherever He leads. This joy does not remove the sorrows and trials we are called to endure, but points us to our ultimate hope. We close the service with *May the Mind of Christ My Savior*, a prayer that we might "run the race" before us "looking only unto Jesus"—the only source of the peace which "surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7). —Henry C. Haffner

**Key Words:** Assigned, Called, Remain, Freedom, Bought, Slave

**Keystone Verse:** Let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. (1 Corinthians 7:17)



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