



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Whitsunday

28 May 2023

The Spirit may rightly be called the key that unlocks for us the treasures of the Kingdom of Heaven... Paul highly commends the ministry of the Spirit because teachers would shout to no effect if Christ Himself, the inner Teacher, did not by His Spirit draw those whom the Father gave Him to Himself. —John Calvin

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 4:14

Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

Sung Response—Come, O Creator Spirit Blest, Vs. 1

The musical score is written in 3/2 time and consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Come, O Cre - a - tor Spir - it blest, and in our souls take up Your rest; Come, with Your grace and heav'n - ly aid, to fill the hearts which You have made." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

Text: Rhabanus Maurus, c. 800, tr. Edward Caswall, 1849;
Music: TRURO, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789.

Call to Worship—Psalm 104:1, 24, 27, 29-31

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great!

All: O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.

Reader 1: These all look to You, to give them their food in due season.

Reader 2: When You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

All: When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the ground.

Pastor: May the glory of the Lord endure forever!

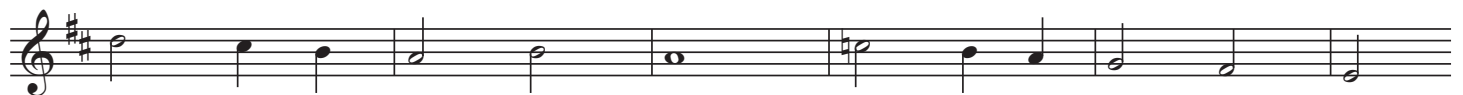
Congregational Hymn—Come Down, O Love Divine



Come down, O Love di - vine, seek Thou this soul of mine,
O let it free - ly burn, til earth - ly pas - sions turn
And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



And vis - it it with Thine own ar - dor glow - ing.
To dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
Shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
And let Thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
For none can guess its grace, till he be - come the place



And kin - dle it, Thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
And clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
Where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes His dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, 15th century, tr. Richard Littledale, 1867;
Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

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 Voice Of The Lord Is Over The Waters (Psalm 29)



The voice of the Lord is o - ver the wa - ters. The God of glo - ry thun-ders free!
The voice of the Lord will break down the ce - dars. The God of glo - ry thun-ders free!
The voice of the Lord is flam - ing in fire. The God of glo - ry thun-ders free!



The voice of the Lord is o - ver the wa - ters. His voice is full of maj - es - ty!
The voice of the Lord will break down the ce - dars. Be - fore His voice the migh - ty flee!
The voice of the Lord is shak - ing the for - ests. Cry a - loud in glo - ry!



Give to the Lord, in heav'n - ly chor - us; Give to the Lord, all glo - ry and strength!



Give to the Lord, the glo - ry due His name. Wor - ship the Lord

Women

Men

in beau-ty of ho - li - ness. in beau-ty of ho - li - ness.
in beau-ty of ho - li - ness. in beau-ty of ho - li - ness.

Text: based on Psalm 29:1-9, Nathan George, 2013; Music: Nathan George, 2013.

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 11:1-5

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what His ears hear, but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His waist, and faithfulness the belt of His loins.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

The image shows a musical score for a congregational hymn. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system ends with a fermata over the final note of the bass line, and the second system ends with a fermata over the final note of the bass line. The third system ends with a fermata over the final note of the bass line. The fourth system ends with a double bar line.

Come, Thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy peo - ple free;
Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,
From our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring,
Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;
Dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1745; Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855.

Reading of the Word—1 John 3:23-4:6

And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as He has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps His commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

^{4:1}Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for He who is in you is greater than He who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

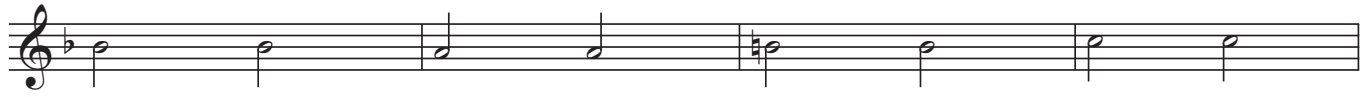
Sung Response—Spirit Of The Living God



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.



Break me! Melt me! Mold me! Fill me!



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

CCLI #2844402 ©1963 Birdwing Music;
Text: Daniel Iverson, 1926; Music: IVERSON, Daniel Iverson, 1926.

Sermon—*Knowing the Spirit of God*

—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—from Jeremiah 5:31; 6:10, 14

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. You have said, “To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? Behold, their ears are uncircumcised, they cannot listen.”

All: **Behold, Your word, O Lord, has been to us an object of scorn; we have taken no pleasure in it.**

Pastor: We have healed the wound of Your people lightly, saying, “Peace, peace,” when there is no peace.

All: **The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule at their direction; we love to have it so.**

Pastor: What will we do when the end comes?

Assurance of Pardon—Romans 10:9-10; John 3:16-17

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

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

All: **For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**

Pastor: For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

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.

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.

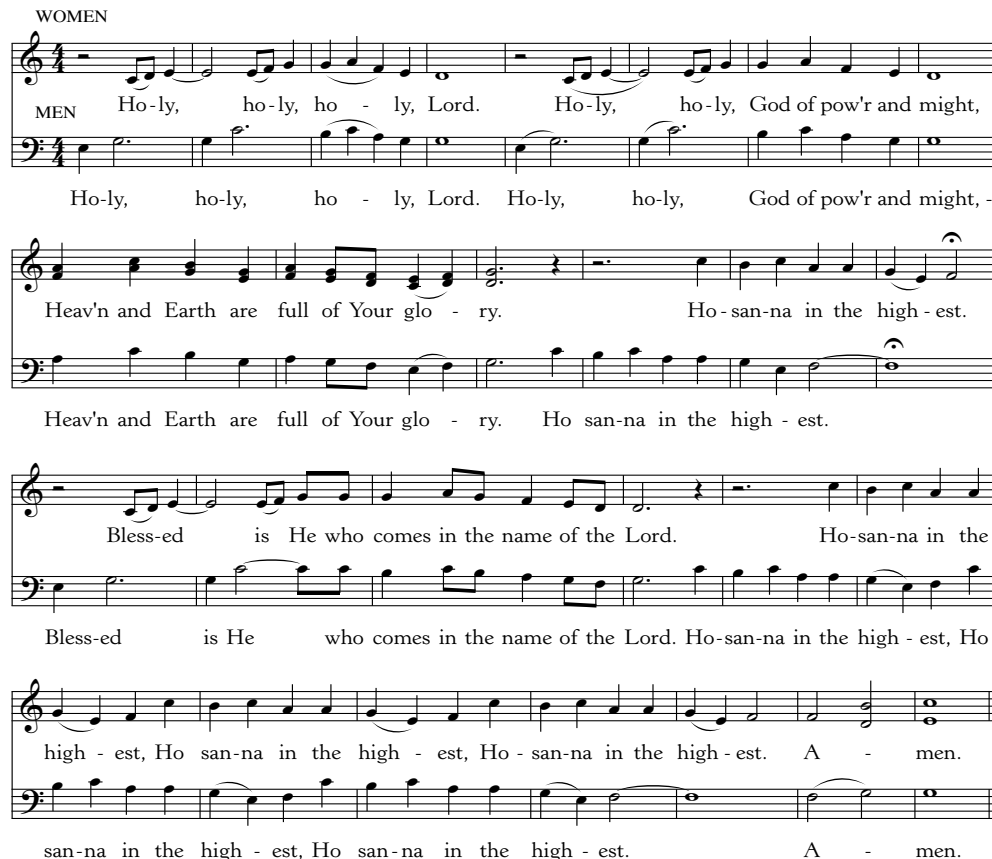
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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.

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—Breathe On Me, Breath Of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
Breathe on me, Breath of God, 'til I am whol - ly Thine,
Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I ne - ver die,

That I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.
Un - til my will is one with Thine, to do and to en - dure.
Un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with Thy fire div - ine.
But live with Thee the per - fect life of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features a treble and bass staff with lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady bass accompaniment.

Text: Edwin Hatch, 1878, Music: TRENTHAM, Robert Jackson, 1888.

Congregational Hymn—To Live Is Christ

I re - joice! for through your prayers,___ and the_ help of Je - sus' Spir - it,
My sure hope and ex - pec - ta - tion is that I will not be shamed___
Our de - sire is to de - part,___ be with Christ up - on that day___

Vs. 1 & 2 then Chorus

All these pre - sent trials will turn___ to de - li - ver - ance.
But that___ Christ will gain the glo - ry in my life or death.
Though now___ we are called to live,___ live in joy and faith.

Chorus

To live is Christ, to be His ser - vant. To die and live with Him is___ gain.

Though as I live, may fruit-ful la - bor glor - i - fy His Name, glo - ri - fy His Name.

The musical score is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. It features a treble staff with lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady bass accompaniment.

Text: based on Philippians 1:19-25, Nathan George, 2012; Music: Nathan George, 2012.

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—There Is A Redeemer



There is a Re - deem - er Je - sus, God's own Son;
Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names;
When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;



Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - - - ly One.
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, hope for sin - ners slain.
There I'll serve my King for-ev-er in that ho - ly place.

Chorus



Thank you, O my Fa - ther, for giv - ing us Your Son,



And leav - ing Your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

CCLI #2844402 ©1982 Birdwing Music;
Text and Music: Melody Green-Sievrigh, 1982.

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—Revelation 1:4-5

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Come, O Creator Spirit Blest, Vs. 2

Great Com-for-ter, to Thee we cry; O high-est gift of God most high,
O fount of life, O fire of love, and sweet a - noin-ting from a - bove!

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 3/2 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Text: Rhabanus Maurus, c. 800, tr. Edward Caswall, 1849;
Music: TRURO, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

By this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. —1 John 3:24

Today, along with the rest of the Western church, we remember the events of the day of Pentecost. Known as *Whitsunday* in the English-speaking world, this celebration focuses on the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church. Red is used on the bulletin cover and in the decorations in the sanctuary to remind us of the tongues of flame which fell upon the disciples in the upper room. Hymns such as *Come, O Creator Spirit Blest*, *Come Down O Love Divine*, *Spirit Of The Living God*, *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word*, *Breathe On Me Breath Of God*, and *There Is A Redeemer* celebrate the “Comforter of priceless worth,” who promises to “fall fresh on [us],” visits us with “ardor glowing,” “fills us with life anew,” and remains with us until our work on earth is done. Fittingly, on this day when we remember the gift of God’s Spirit, we come to a passage in 1 John that reminds us that we are only able to keep the commandments, to love one another, and to overcome the world through the gift of the Holy Spirit. As we worship this morning, let’s give thanks for the Spirit who is always at work within us, fanning the flames of love. —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Believe, Spirit, Confess, Jesus, Flesh, Truth, Error, World

Keystone Verse: By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God. (1 John 4:2)



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John Scherrer (on sabbatical)

Jonathan Thornton (703-801-1355)

Elders Emeritus

Phil Hutcheson Steve Nelson

Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)

Jimmy Allen (on sabbatical)

Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)

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