

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Epiphany 11 February 2024

The Father's will, to Jesus, was the only power that had a right to control the universe. That will did not represent sheer might that behooved to be obeyed; it represented all that was wise and holy and good. To resist was not only infinite madness, but infinite wickedness. —William Blaikie

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 6:40

Jesus said, "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise Him up on the last day."

Sung Response—Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing, Vs. 1



Text: Robert Robinson, 1758; Music: NETTLETON, Asahel Nettleton, 1825.

Call to Worship—Psalm 33:1, 8-12

Pastor: Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

All: Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!

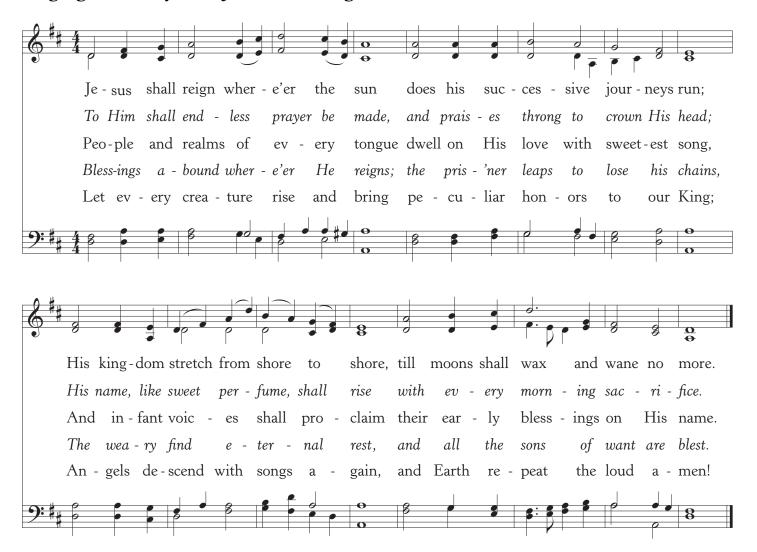
Reader 1: For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm.

Reader 2: The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He frustrates the plans of the peoples.

All: The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations.

Pastor: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!

Congregational Hymn—Jesus Shall Reign



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

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—In Judah The Almighty's Known (Psalm 76)



Text: A New Version of the Psalms of David, 1696, alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021; Music: RODERICK, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Scripture Reading—Psalm 40:4-8

Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie! You have multiplied, O Lord my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told. In sacrifice and offering You have not delighted, but You have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required. Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do your will, O my God; Your law is within my heart."

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Psalm—God Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51)



Text: Psalm 51:1-2, 5-7, 10-15, The Psalter, 1912; Music: REDHEAD, Richard Redhead, 1853.

Reading of the Word—Hebrews 10:1-10

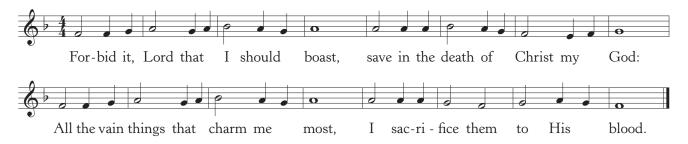
For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. ² Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? ³ But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. ⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, He said, "Sacrifices and offerings You have not desired, but a body have you prepared for Me; ⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings You have taken no pleasure. ⁷ Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God, as it is written of Me in the scroll of the book.'"

⁸ When He said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹ then He added, "Behold, I have come to do Your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—When I Survey The Wondrous Cross, Vs. 2



Text: Isaac Watts, 1709; Music: HAMBURG, Gregorian Chant, arr. Lowell Mason, 1824.

Sermon—I Have Come To Do Your Will

—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 Psalm 40:11-13

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. O Lord, do not restrain Your mercy from us! May Your steadfast love and Your

faithfulness ever preserve us!

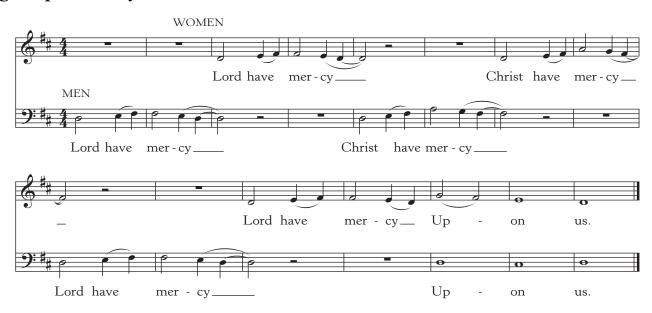
All: Evils have encompassed us beyond number.

Pastor: Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver us! O Lord, make haste to help us!

All: Our iniquities have overtaken us, and we cannot see; they are more than the hairs of our heads; our hearts fail us.

(Silent Prayers of Confession)

Sung Response—Kyrie



Text: Traditional; Music: Nathan George & Henry C. Haffner, 2012.

Assurance of Pardon—Psalm 40:1-3; Matthew 28:19-20

I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and they will put their trust in the Lord.

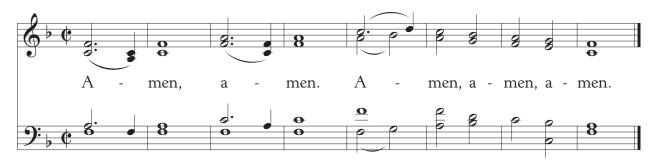
Pastor: This is the promise of God.

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 of the Son and of 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—Fivefold Amen



Text: Traditional; Music: Traditional African-American Spiritual, arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988.

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.

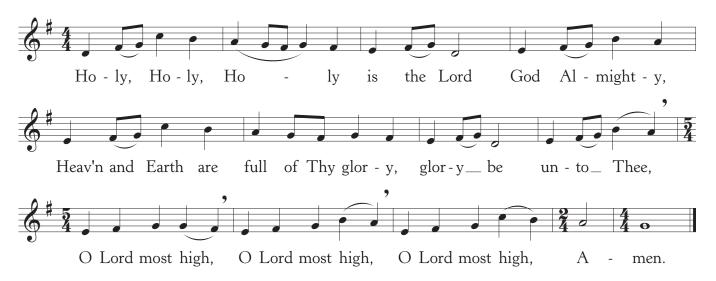
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



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 Psalm—I Waited Patient For The Lord (Psalm 40)



Text: paraphrase of Psalm 40, Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: FINGAL, Irish Melody, arr. Gregory Wilbur & Jeremiah Small, 2008.

Congregational Hymn—There Is No Greater Portrait



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—Jesus Paid It All



Text: Elvina M. Hall, 1865; Music: ALL TO CHRIST, John T. Grape, 1865.

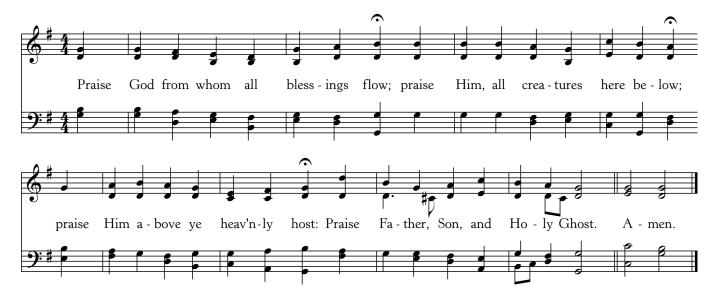
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. *Amen*.

Sung Response—Doxology



Text: Thomas Ken, 1674; Music: OLD 100TH, Louis Bourgeois, 1551.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

Some weeks, each hymn or psalm that we sing in the service has a particular theme or even a particular word in common. For example, the last two weeks each hymn in the service had some reference to Jesus' blood and Jesus' sacrificial death, respectively. This week, the hymns and psalms are more varied, each responding to the elements in the service that precede them. We are called into worship by Psalm 33, which calls the whole earth to "stand in awe" of the Lord who "brings the counsel of the nations to nothing." We respond with Jesus Shall Reign and In Judah The Almighty's Known—Psalm 76, two pieces proclaiming Christ's kingship over the whole earth ("from shore to shore") and that all nations and rulers will pay Him "due reverence." Following the Scripture reading in which the psalmist declares, "Your law is within my heart," we sing God Be Merciful To Me—Psalm 51, asking the Lord, "teach Thy wisdom to my heart." We sing I Waited Patient—Psalm 40 during communion, having read from that same psalm three times previously in the service. The final two hymns, There Is No Greater Portrait and Jesus Paid It All both reflect on the Hebrews 10 passage that we've just heard preached. Since "we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ," we can truly say, "mercy and forgiveness [are] abundant in Your blood." Because Jesus was offered up "once for all," we can sing "all to Him I owe." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Offer, Sacrifice, Sin, Will, Body, Sanctify

Keystone Verse: By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

(Hebrews 10:10)



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