



PARISH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time

11 June 2023

If you believe what you like in the Gospel, and reject what you don't like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself.
—Augustine of Hippo

Will the circle be unbroken, by and by, Lord, by and by.
—Ada Habershon and A.P. Carter

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—Galatians 5:25

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Sung Response—Holy God, We Praise Your Name, Vs. 1



Ho - ly God, we praise Your name; Lord of all, we bow be - fore You!

All on Earth Your scep - ter claim. All in Heav'n a - bove a - dore You:

In - fi - nite Your vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Your reign.

Text: based on *Te Deum*, 4th century, attr. Ignace Franz, 1774;
Music: GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1774.

Call to Worship—from 1 Chronicles 16:8-9, 29-31, 34

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name.

All: **Make known His deeds among the peoples!**

Reader 1: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works!

Reader 2: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth; yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

All: **Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.**

Pastor: Let them say among the nations, “The Lord reigns!”

All: **Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.**

Pastor: His steadfast love endures forever!

Congregational Hymn—Come, Thou Almighty King

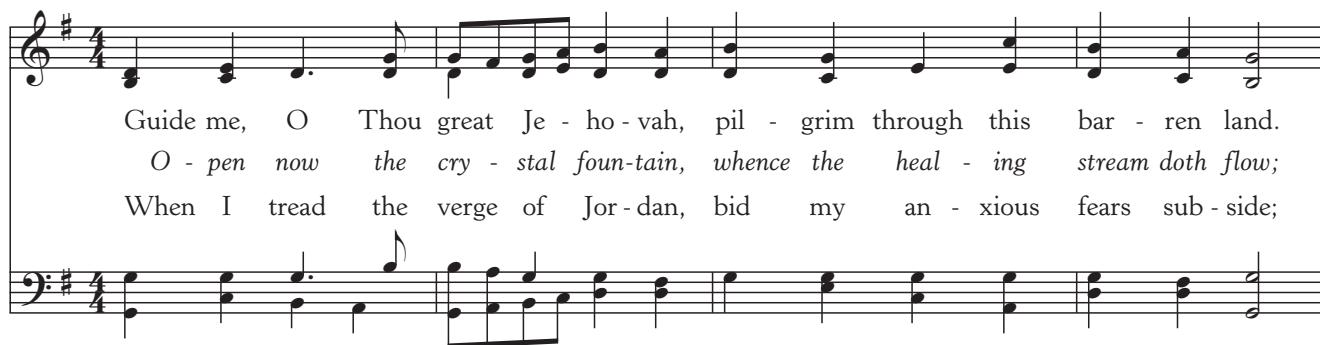
The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Come, Thou Al - might - y King, help us Thy name to sing,
Come, Thou In - car - nate Word, gird on Thy might - y sword,
Come, Ho - ly Com - for - ter, Thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
To Thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be,

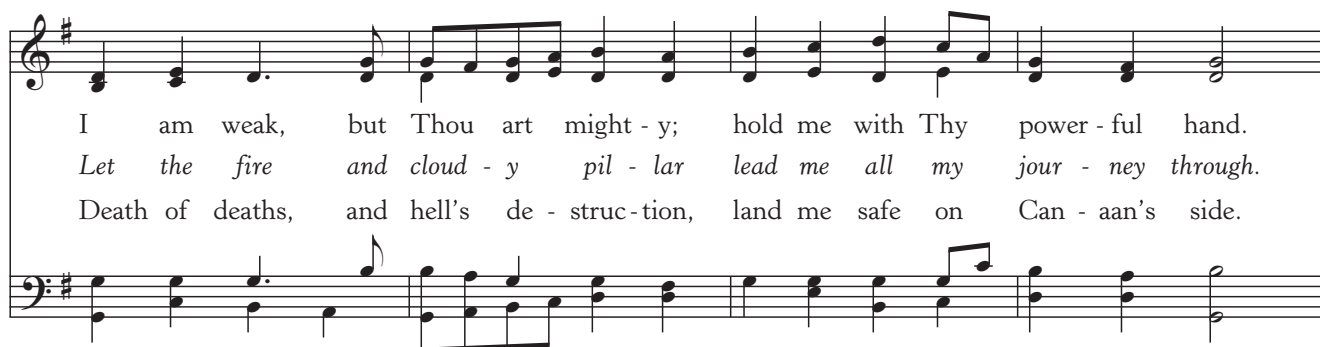
Help us to praise! Fa - ther all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
Our prayer at - tend! Come, and Thy peo - ple bless, and give Thy Word suc - cess,
In this glad hour. Thou Who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
Hence, ev - er - more. Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days!
Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend!
And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power!
And to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore!

Congregational Hymn—Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this bar - ren land.
 O - pen now the cry - stal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;
 When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, bid my an - xious fears sub - side;



I am weak, but Thou art might - y; hold me with Thy power - ful hand.
 Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through.
 Death of deaths, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on Can - aan's side.



Bread of Heav - en, Bread of Heav - en, feed me till I want no
 Strong De - liv - 'rer, strong De - liv - 'rer, be Thou still my Strength and
 Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to



More; (*want no more*) feed me till I want no more.
 Shield; (*Strength and Shield*) be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
 Thee; (*give to Thee*) I will ev - er give to Thee.

Text: William Williams, 1745; Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1907.

Baptism of Thomas Gregory, son of Ryan and Trinity Gregory

Reading of the Word—1 John 5:1-12

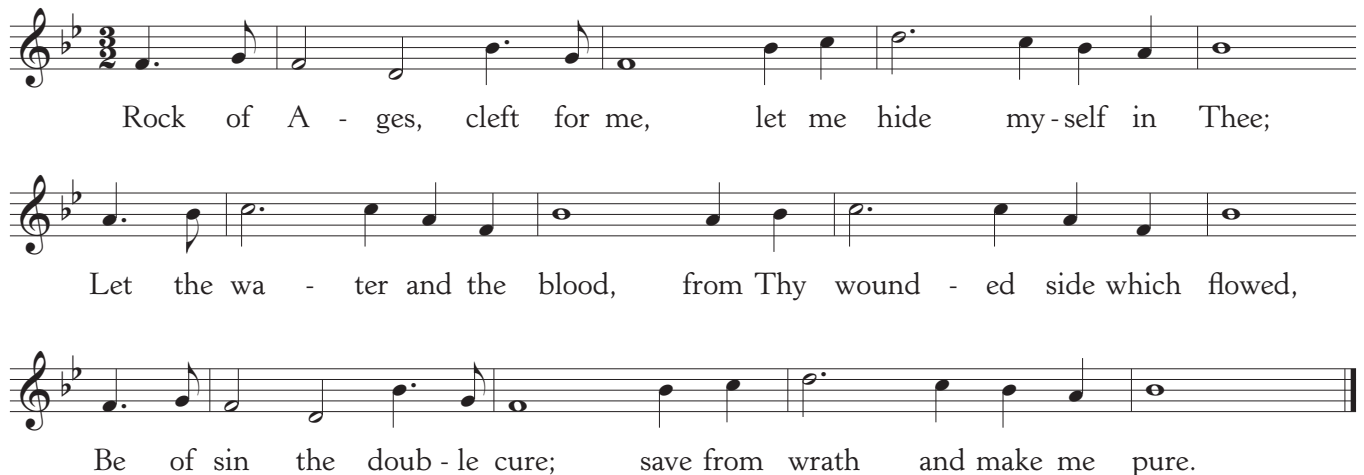
Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of Him. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey His commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶ This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ For there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹ If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that He has borne concerning His Son. ¹⁰ Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning His Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me, Vs.1



Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in Thee;

Let the wa - ter and the blood, from Thy wound - ed side which flowed,

Be of sin the doub - le cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

Text: Augustus Toplady, 1776; Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1830.

Sermon—*May the Circle Be Unbroken*

—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 Jeremiah 2:11-13; 3:12; 4:2

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Your love is everlasting, but our love is fickle. Though there is no shadow or turning with You, though You change not, we are ever-changing, ever-wavering. We acknowledge that all too often our love is misplaced, and we have practically made gods out of those things which are not gods at all.

All: **We have exchanged our glory for that which does not profit.**

Pastor: Even as we confess, we are made desolate, for we have committed two evils: we have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living waters. And instead, we have hewed out cisterns for ourselves.

All: **Ours are broken cisterns; they can hold no water.**

Assurance of Pardon—Titus 2:11-14; Acts 1:8

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

All: **This is the Word of the Lord.**

Pastor: For Christ Himself confirmed: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses.”

All: **“In Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”**

Sung Response—Jesus, Lover Of My Soul, Vs. 4

Plen-teous grace with Thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

Let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:

Thou of life the foun-tain art, free - ly let me take of Thee;

Spring Thou up with - in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740; Music: MARTYN, Simeon B. Marsh, 1834.

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
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might

MEN
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might Hea-ven and Earth are

Hea-ven and Earth are full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

full of Your glo-ry, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hos-

Lord. Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

san-na, Hos-san-na, Hos-san-na in the high-est.

Text: Traditional, based on Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9; Music: CLOVERCROFT SANCTUS, 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.

Congregational Hymn—Not What My Hands Have Done



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.

Congregational Hymn—Nothing But The Blood



What can wash a - way my sin? Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
For my par - don, this I see, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
Noth - ing can for sin a - tone: Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
This is all my hope and peace, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;

What can make me whole a - gain? Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
For my cleans - ing this my plea, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
Naught of good that I have done: Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
This is all my right - eous - ness, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Oh! pre - cious is the flow that makes me white as snow;—

No oth - er fount I know, Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1876; Music: PLAINFIELD, Robert Lowry, 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.

Congregational Hymn—There Is No Greater Portrait



There is no great - er por - trait of love and sac - ri - fice
He ran the race be - fore Him though it was filled with pain,
The Son of Man was lift - ed be - fore cre - a - tion's eyes;
O Sav - ior, let this sin - ner be ran - somed by the flood



Than Je - sus leav - ing glo - ry and lay - ing down His life.
And walked the road to glo - ry in a - go - ny and shame.
Was mocked and scorned by sol - diers, by kings and priests de - spised.
Of mer - cy and for - give - ness a - bun - dant in Your blood.



When I look on the suf - fer - ings my Sav - ior chose to bear,
Then for the joy be - fore Him, He chose to bear the cross,
But now the Son is ris - en, as - cend - ed to the skies.
O Lord, be my sal - va - tion, Your Ho - ly Spir - it send



It fills my heart with sor - row to think I put Him there.
Pur - sued His Fa - ther's plea - sure and count - ed all else loss.
By an - gels He is wor - shipped; by na - tions glor - i - fied.
To change my heart and cause me to love You to the end.

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—Isaiah 60:1

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Gloria Patri



Glor - y be_ to the Fath - er, and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is_ now, and ev - er shall be,

World_ with - out end. A - men. A - - - men.

Text: Lesser Doxology, 2nd century;
Music: Nathan George, 2015, harm. Henry C. Haffner, 2015.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood and these three agree. —1 John 5:7-8

Today's sermon text contains this striking poetic passage about "the Spirit and the water and the blood"—one that has caused no shortage of debates throughout church history. Are these "witnesses" to Christ's incarnation? Is John referencing Jesus' birth and death, the beginning and end of His earthly ministry, or the elements that left His body at the crucifixion? Perhaps the Trinity is in view, or all of these and more? You'll find all three images (water, blood, spirit) in the hymns we sing throughout the service. *The Wicked Man Fears Not The Lord (Psalm 36)*, *Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah*, and *Jesus, Lover Of My Soul* all reference water in some way: the "river of delight" found in God's presence, and the "crystal fountain" and "healing streams" of His loving care. *Not What My Hands Have Done* and *Nothing But The Blood* speak of Jesus' blood ("no other blood will do"), fitting for communion hymns. The sung response in the center of the service, *Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me*, mentions "the water and the blood from Thy wounded side," while *There Is No Greater Portrait* concludes the service with a prayer for the Holy Spirit to "cause [us] to love You to the end." —Henry C. Haffner

Key Words: Believes, Born, Loves, Obey, Overcomes, Water, Blood, Spirit

Keystone Verse: Everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. (1 John 5:4)



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Jason Parolini (497-3337)	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.