

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Ordinary Time 6 August 2023

The most important and useful work of Luther's whole life was the translation of the New Testament, by which he brought the teaching and example of Christ to the mind and heart of the Germans in life-like reproduction. It was a republication of the gospel. He made the Bible the people's book in church, school, and house. If he had done nothing else, he would be one of the greatest benefactors of the German-speaking race. —Philip Schaff

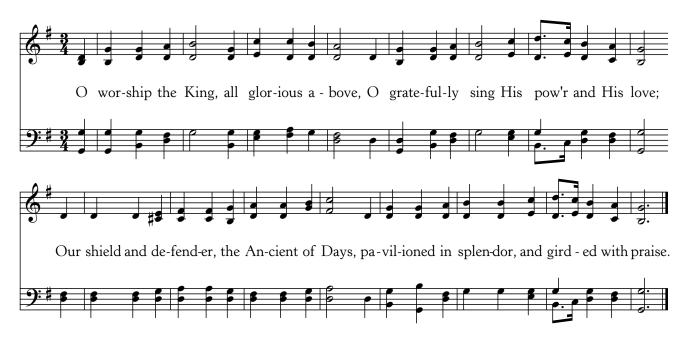
GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

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 10:9

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.

Sung Response—O Worship The King, Vs. 1



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

Call to Worship—from Psalm 111:1-2, 7-9

Leader: Praise the Lord!

All: We will give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

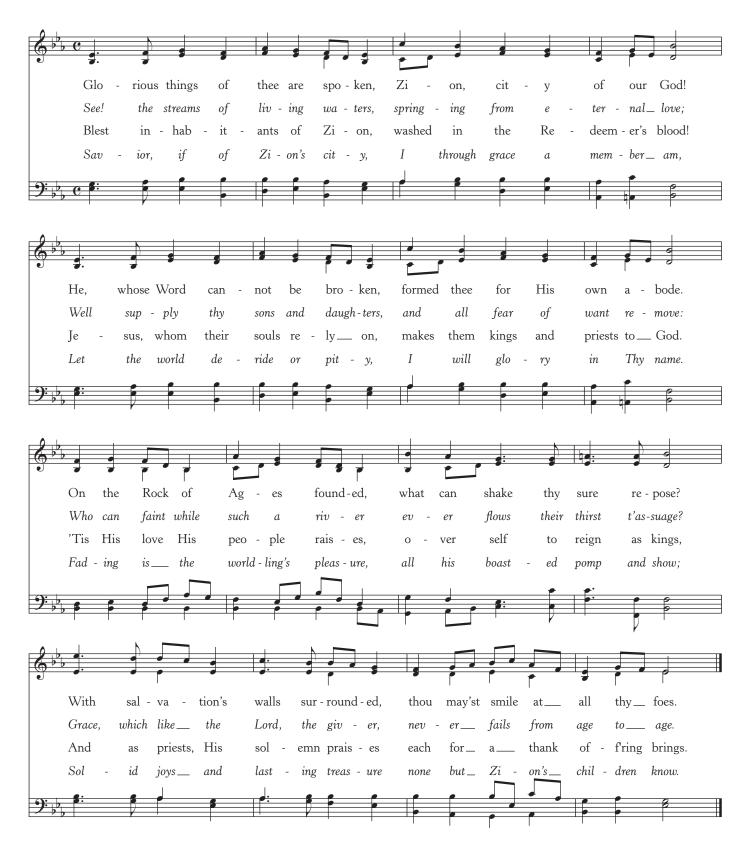
Reader 1: The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy.

Reader 2: They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

All: He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

Leader: Holy and awesome is His name!

Congregational Hymn—Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken



Text: John Newton, 1789; Music: AUSTRIA, Joseph Haydn, 1779.

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 Lord Ever Hear You (Psalm 20)



Text: Edward Collier, *Lyrics from the Psalter*, 1907, alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2021; Music: STAR POINTER, Henry C. Haffner, 2021.

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 8:16-20

Bind up the testimony; seal the teaching among my disciples. I will wait for the Lord, who is hiding His face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in Him. Behold, I and the children whom the Lord has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the Lord of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion. And when they say to you, "Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter," should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn—If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee



If thou but suf - fer God to guide thee and hope in Him through all thy ways,

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

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



He'll give thee strength, what - e'er be - tide thee, and bear thee through the e - vil days.

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

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



Who trusts in God's un - chang-ing love builds on the rock that naught can move.

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

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

Text: Georg Neumark, 1641, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; Music: NEUMARK, Georg Neumark, 1657.

Baptism of Kingston Guitierrez, son of Carlos and Laura Guitierrez

Reading of the Word—2 Timothy 3:10-17

You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹ my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. ¹² Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sung Response—Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word, Vs. 1



Lord, keep us stead-fast in Thy Word, curb those who fain by craft or sword



Would wrest the king-dom from Thy Son, and set at naught all He hath done.

Text: Martin Luther, 1542, tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt. 2007; Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, Joseph Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543.

Sermon—Where We Learn Wisdom for Salvation

—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 Isaiah 30:9-13

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. For we are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the

instruction of the Lord.

All: We say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy what is right; speak to us

smooth things, prophesy illusions."

Pastor: We have turned aside from the path and spoken no more about the Holy One of Israel.

All: We have despised Your Word and trusted in oppression and perversity.

Pastor: Our iniquity is like a breach in a high wall.

Assurance of Pardon—Isaiah 30:18-19; Romans 3:23-24

Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him. For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. As soon as He hears it, He answers you.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

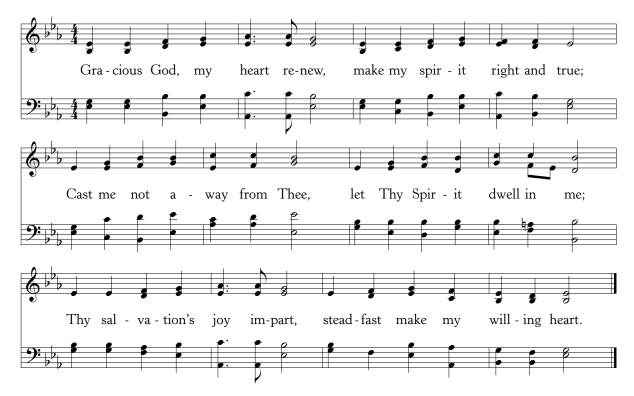
All: This is the Word of the Lord.

Pastor: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified by His grace as a gift through the

redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.

Sung Response—God Be Merciful To Me (Psalm 51), Vs. 5



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:



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 Psalm—Alleluia! How Blest The Man (Psalm 112)



Text: Psalm 112:1-4, 6-8, 10, The Psalter of the United Presbyterian Church, 1887, alt. Henry C. Haffner 2018; Music: POTTSVILLE, Henry C. Haffner, 2018.

Congregational Hymn—We Will Feast In The House Of Zion



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.

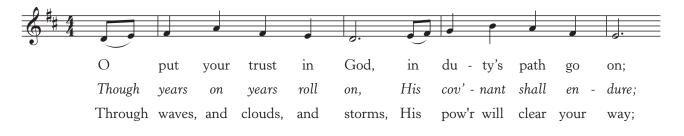
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

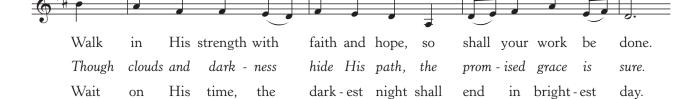
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

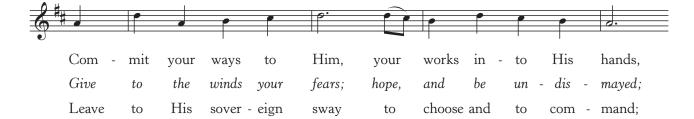
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Congregational Hymn—O Put Your Trust In God









Heav'n and Earth com - mands. And rest on His un chang-ing Word, who sighs God hears your and counts your tears; God shall lift vour head. So shall you, wond'-ring, own His way, How wise, how strong His hand.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1656, tr. John Wesley, 18th century.; Music: TERRA BEATA, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915.

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 2 Timothy 4:18

May the Lord rescue you from every evil deed and bring you safely into His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Unto Christ Who Loved Us



CCLI #2844402 ©1936 Oxford University Press; Text: Revelation 1:5-6; Music: Unto Him Who Loved Us, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1936.

Announcements

Worship Notes:

The hymns and psalms we sing this morning call us to stand firm in the face of persecution, clinging to the Scriptures as our anchor in the storm. Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken declares that God's Word cannot be broken and that we are surrounded with "salvation's walls," while The Lord Ever Hear You—Psalm 20 cries out to the Lord for help amid trouble and fear. In the midst of "evil days," If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee urges us to perform our duties faithfully and "trust His Word." We ask the Lord to make and keep us steadfast in Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word and God Be Merciful To Me—Psalm 51. Alleluia! How Blest The Man—Psalm 112 describes the man who delights in God's Word as unmoved, firmly established, and enduring in righteousness—a man who can say with We Will Feast In The House Of Zion, "[I] will not be burned by the fire," and "my soul, be not afraid." The closing hymn, O Put Your Trust In God, calls us to go out in "duty's path," resting on "His unchanging Word" even in darkest night.

—Henry C. Haffner

Key words: Persecution, Rescue, Godly, Believe, Scripture, Wise, Salvation, Good Work

Keystone verse: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for

training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)



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Elders Emeritus
Phil Hutcheson Steve Nelson

Deacons

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 Jimmy Allen (on sabbatical)
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All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.