

# SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL Season of Lent 8 March 2020

Not what my hands have done can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers, and sighs and tears can bear my awful load.
—Horatius Bonar

The seed of every sin known to man is in my heart. —Robert Murray M'Cheyne

## 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—from Colossians 1:13-14

The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## Introit—What Wondrous Love Is This, Vs. 1



Text: American Folk Hymn; Music: WONDROUS LOVE, The Southern Harmony, 1835.

# Call to Worship—based on Psalm 96:1-5, 9

Pastor: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, sing to the Lord, all the earth!

All: Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.

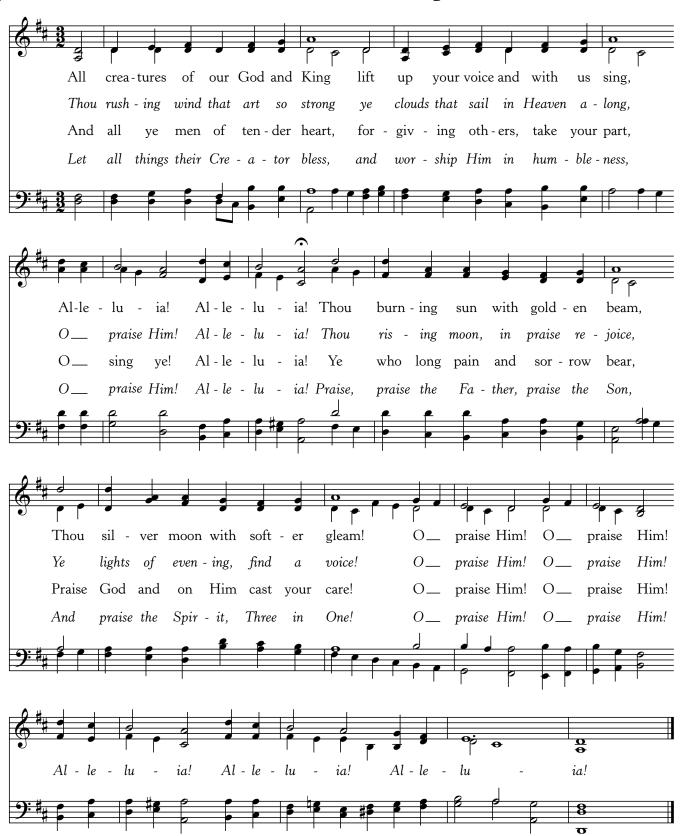
Reader 1: Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples.

Reader 2: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

All: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

Pastor: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth!

## Hymn of Praise—All Creatures Of Our God And King



Text: Francis of Assisi, c. 1225, Tr. William H. Draper, 1919; Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Cologne, 1623.

## 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—Hear Me, All You People (Psalm 49)



Text: *The Psalter*, 1912, Alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2019; Music: ROSE HILL, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

#### Scripture Reading—Ephesians 2:1-5

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### Hymn of Praise—Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me



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

#### Reading of the Word—Romans 3:9-23

<sup>9</sup>What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, <sup>10</sup> as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; <sup>11</sup> no one understands; no one seeks for God. <sup>12</sup>All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one. <sup>13</sup>Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive. The venom of asps is under their lips." <sup>14</sup> Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness. <sup>15</sup>Their feet are swift to shed blood; <sup>16</sup> in their paths are ruin and misery, <sup>17</sup> and the way of peace they have not known." <sup>18</sup>There is no fear of God before their eyes." <sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### Sung Response—Jesus Paid It All, Vs. 3



For noth-ing good have I where-by Thy grace to claim, I'll wash my gar-ments white



In the blood of Cal-v'ry's Lamb. Je - sus paid it all, all to Him I owe;



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

#### Sermon—Our Fallen Condition

—Assistant Pastor, Brian Phillips

#### 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 Romans 3:11-12, 17-18; Psalm 51: 1-2

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. For none are righteous; no one understands, no one seeks for God.

All: All have turned aside; no one does good, not even one.

Pastor: Because of our rebellion, we have not known the way of peace, and there is no fear of God before our eyes.

All: We know our transgressions, and our sins are ever before us.

Pastor: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out

our transgressions.

All: Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.

(Silent prayers of confession)

## Sung Response—Lamb of God



Text: Traditional, based on John 1:29; Music: CLOVERCROFT AGNUS DEI, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

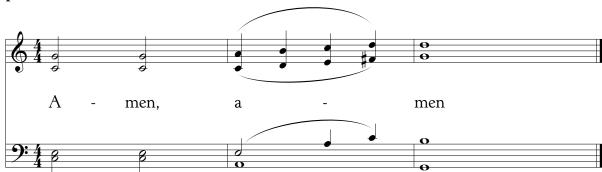
#### Assurance of Pardon—1 John 1:9, Romans 8:33-34; Mark 12:30

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

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

All: Therefore, let us love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength.

## Sung Response—Amen



Text: Traditional; Music: DRESDEN, Johann Naumann, 18th Century.

#### 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.

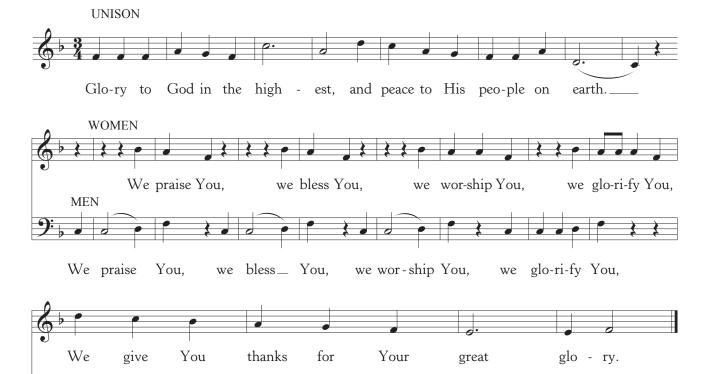
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 Luke 2:14; Music: CLOVERCROFT GLORIA, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

Your

great

glo - ry.

for

thanks

We

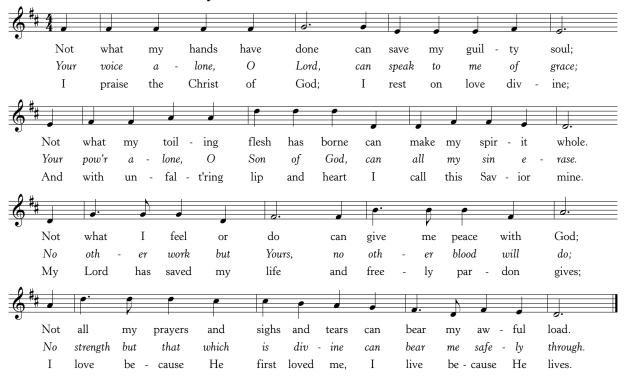
give

You

#### 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.

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



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

## Hymn of Repentance—Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy



## 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 Thanksgiving—O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



Text: Bernard of Clairvaux, 12<sup>th</sup> C. Tr. Paul Gerhardt, 1656; James W. Alexander, 1830; Music: PASSION CHORALE, Hans Leo Hassler, 1601, Arr. J.S. Bach, 1729.

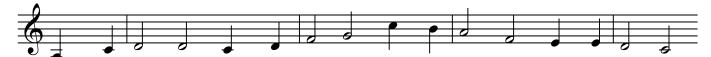
## GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

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—Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Amen*.

## Sung Response—Christ Be With Me (from St. Patrick's Breastplate)



Christ be with me, Christ with in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,



Christ be - side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re - store me,



Christ be - neath me, Christ a - bove me, Christ in qui - et, Christ in dan-ger,



Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.

Text: Atomriug indui niurt tren, St. Patrick, 5th Century, Tr. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1889; Music: ST. PATRICK CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish Hymn Melody.

#### Announcements

## Worship Notes:

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream, All the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him.

In last week's sermon, Pastor Brian focused on God's sovereignty as the starting point for evangelism. This morning, our service centers around the necessity of understanding our own sinfulness—as we'll read from Ephesians 2:1, we are "dead in our trespasses." Hymns such as Rock of Ages, Jesus Paid It All, Not What My Hands Have Done, and Come Ye Sinners, Poor And Needy strike at the heart of our fallen condition. We are "poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore." We stand before a righteous God "naked," "helpless," and "foul." We bring "nothing good," and nothing our "toiling flesh" has endured can make us whole. The only remedy for this terrible situation is Christ, bearing the dreadful curse on the cross. Our final hymn reminds us: "Mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain. Lo here I fall, my Savior, 'tis I deserve Thy place; look on me with Thy favor, vouchsafe to me Thy grace."—Henry C. Haffner

**Key Words:** God, Seek, No, None, Righteous, Sinned, Fall Short, Glory

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**Keystone Verse:** For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)



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