



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Changing People and Places Through the Power of the Gospel

February 28, 2021

Welcome Guests, Friends, & Family!

As a Reformed church, we are part of a long and enduring tradition that places worship as our highest calling. Therefore, we lean heavily on those who have gone before and see the value of creeds, catechisms, responsive readings, and other forms that are part of our heritage. However, our services are not highly liturgical, following a fixed pattern, nor spontaneous, but seek to follow a liturgical pattern that reenacts the gospel and renews us in God's grace. Rather than focusing on getting God to bless us, it focuses on the blessings, promises, and grace that we already have in Christ. Our basic gospel pattern is: We approach God based on His initiation and invitation, we see our sin and confess it, we are assured of forgiveness, we hear the good news, and we respond in faith and obedience.

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REFLECTION | God's people prepare for worship

"When a believer has fallen into a low, sad state of feeling, he often tries to lift himself out of it by chastening himself with dark and doleful fears. Such is not the way to rise from the dust, but to continue in it. It is not the law, but the gospel which saves the seeking soul at first; and it is not a legal bondage, but gospel liberty which can restore the fainting believer afterwards. Slavish fear brings not back the backslider to God, but the sweet wooings of love allure him to Jesus' bosom...Whatever good quality there is in divine grace, you shall enjoy it to the full. All the riches of divine grace you shall receive in plenty; you shall be as it were drenched with it: and as sometimes the meadows become flooded by the bursting rivers, and the fields are turned into pools, so shall you be--the thirsty land shall be springs of water."

- Charles Spurgeon

PRAISE | We praise our merciful & gracious God

The Lord Gathers Us – *Worship is dialogical, meaning it is a conversation between God and his people. Just as God is the initiator of grace in the Gospel, he continues to graciously summon his people to worship. We come and are graciously blessed and renewed by him through the Gospel.*

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;
Make known among the nations what he has done.
Sing to him, sing praise to him;
Tell of all his wonderful acts.
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
Look to the LORD and his strength;
seek his face always.
Remember the wonders he has done,
His miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

**All: He is the LORD our God;
His judgments are in all the earth.
He remembers his covenant forever,
the word he commanded, for a thousand generations.**

Psalm 105:1-5, 7, 8 (NIV94)

Prayer - *The first prayer of the service is meant to invoke the presence and favor of the Triune God in the name of Jesus, giving praise, and asking the Holy Spirit to help us put aside all our distractions and worship God in "Spirit and truth."*

Songs of Praise (below)
May The Peoples Praise You
When All Thy Mercies
Dear Refuge Of My Weary Soul

May the Peoples Praise You

V/V/C/V/V/C/V/C/B/B/C

Verse



1. You have called us out of darkest night, in - to Your glo - rious light, that
2. May our ev - 'ry breath re - tell the grace that broke in - to our strife with
3. All the earth is Yours and all wi - thin, each har - vest is Your own, and
4. May the seeds of mer - cy grow in us for those who have not heard, may
5. This our ho - ly priv - 'lege to de - clare Your prai - ses and Your Name to



we may sing the won - ders of the ri - sen Christ.
 boun - dless love and dee - pest joy, with end - less life.
 from Your hand we give to You, to make Christ known.
 songs of praise build lives of grace to spread Your Word.
 ev - 'ry na - tion, tribe, and tongue Your church pro - claim.

Chorus



May the peo - ples praise You, let the na - tions be glad! All Your bles - sing comes that



we may praise, may praise the Name of Je - sus.

Bridge



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, is the Lord Al - migh - ty.
 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, is the Lord Al - migh - ty.



Worthy, worthy, is the Lamb who was slain. praise Your glo - rious Name. (May the
 All cre - a - tion

When All Thy Mercies

V/C/V/C/V/C/C

Verse



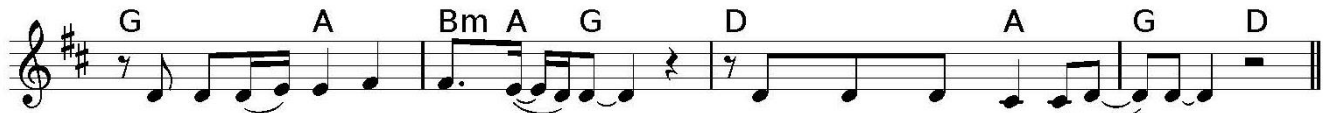
1. When all Thy mercies, O my God, My ri - sing soul sur - veys,
2. When worn with sickness, oft hast Thou With health renewed my face
3. Through ev - ery per - iod of my life Thy goodness I'll pur - sue,



Trans - por - ted with the view, I'm lost In won - der, love, and praise
 And when in sins and sor - row sunk Renewed my soul with grace
 And af - ter death, in dis - tant worlds, The glo - rious theme re - new.

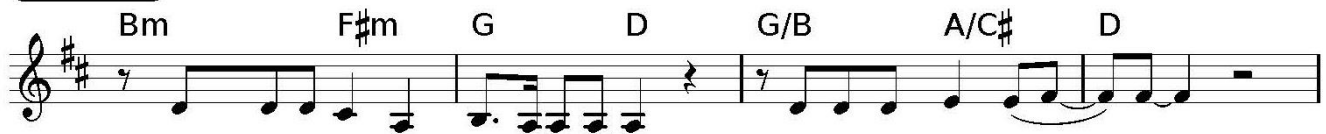


Un - num - bered com - forts to my soul Thy tender care be - stowed,
 Ten thousand thou - sand pre - cious gifts My dai - ly thanks em - ploy;



Before my in - fant heart con - ceived From Whom those com - forts flowed.
 Nor is the least a cheer - ful heart That tastes those gifts with joy.

Chorus



Through all e - ter - ni - ty to Thee A joy - ful song I'll raise



For oh, e - ter - ni - ty's too short To ut - ter all Thy praise!

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul

“Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.” — Proverbs 30:5



1. Dear re - fuge of my wea - ry soul, on Thee, when sor - rows rise,
2. But oh! When gloo - my doubts pre - vail, I fear to call Thee mine;
3. Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face, and shall I seek in vain?
4. Thy mer - cy seat is o - pen still, here let my soul re - treat;



On Thee, when waves of trou - ble roll, my fain - ting hope re - lies.
 The springs of com - fort seem to fail, and all my hopes de - cline.
 And can the ear of sov - 'reign grace be deaf while I com - plain?
 With hum - ble hope at - tend Thy will, and wait be - neath Thy feet.



To Thee I tell each ri - sing grief, for Thou a - lone can heal;
 Yet gra - cious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my on - ly trust;
 No, still the ear of sov - 'reign grace at - tends the mour - ner's prayer;
 Thy mer - cy seat is o - pen still, here let me soul re - treat;



Thy Word can bring a sweet re - lief for ev - 'ry pain I feel.
 And still my soul would cleave to Thee, though pros - trate in the dust.
 O may I e - ver find ac - cess to breathe my sor - rows there.
 With hum - ble hope at - tend Thy will, and wait be - neath Thy feet.

RENEWAL | The Lord forgives his people

Confessing our Sin – *Confession is a time when we are truly honest with ourselves and God, and because he knows our every thought, there is no need to pretend. Thus we confess our sin and admit that we're not what we should be, nor what we will be.*

Holy, holy, holy are You LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of Your glory. The heavens praise Your wonders. There is none like You LORD God Almighty. Your faithfulness surrounds You. You are worthy of all our affection. Yet we worship You with our words and honor You with lip service while our hearts are far from you, our reverence consisting of empty tradition. Be gracious to us O God, according to Your unfailing love and great compassion. Create in us a pure heart and restore the joy of Your salvation, so that we will be a people who worship You in spirit and in truth. Amen. (From Isaiah 6:29; Psalm 89, 51)

Private Confession

Assurance of Pardoning Grace—*During the assurance of pardon, God powerfully speaks to the hearts of Believers, reassuring them of His infinite love and forgiveness provided through faith in Christ.*

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

(Romans 5:1-5, ESV)

Prayer—*The prayer of intercession follows the pattern found in Scripture, as we pray for Civil Authorities (1 Tim 2:1, 2), Christian ministry and mission (Matt. 9:36-38), Salvation of all people (1 Tim. 2:3-4), Sanctification of Believers (Eph. 6:18), and the afflicted (Jm. 5:13-16).*

We Praise Our Merciful and Gracious God

*When I Survey The Wondrous Cross (below)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Gal. 6:14

♯ F C F Gm D Gm F C F 7

1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

B♭ F C7 F C7 F C F C F Gm D

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God: all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down: did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

Gm F C F 7 C7 Dm Gm C7 F 7

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

PROCLAMATION | God feeds his people

Scripture: Mark 2:18-22

We believe the Bible is the inerrant word of the true and living God, and our infallible rule for faith and practice.

Sermon: “Fasting or Feasting?”

The sermon is meant by God’s design to be ancient, timeless truth from his Word, explained, expounded, and applied, so that all who are listening will understand it and be changed by it. It is the way in which God speaks to his church. As J.I. Packer has stated, “God has spoken in the Bible and He has not stuttered.”⁰

RESPONSE | We respond with thanksgiving

We Give – *Our offering is not simply the way our church “pays the bills;” it is an act of worship where we respond to God’s grace and generosity and give back to the Lord His resources as tangible evidence of our love for Him.*

We are grateful for your ongoing generosity to the church. It is your gifts that sustain our ministry here in Cherry Hill and around the world. Please remember that you can give on line by going to this link: <https://secure.egsnetwork.com/donate/CA64B97A627940A>. It is a secure and convenient way to continue your financial support.

***We Sing**

How Firm A Foundation (below)

How Firm a Foundation

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Is. 41:10

G C G D G C

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your
 2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis-mayed; for I am your
 3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go, the riv - ers of
 4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie, my grace, all - suf -

G D⁷ G F D/F# Em Am⁷ C

faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What more can he say than to
 God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength - en you, help you, and
 sor - row shall not o - ver - flow; for I will be with you, your
 fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I

G D G C G D⁷ G 7

you he has said, to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 cause you to stand, up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 trou - bles to bless, and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 on - ly de - sign your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

5. "E'en down to old age all my people shall prove
 my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
 and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
 like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

6. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
 I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
 that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
 I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Benediction | *Please stand as you are able*

From the Latin “beneficiary,” meaning “to bless,” this is the pronouncement of God’s blessing as we are sent out into our places of influence.

We Go – *Heeding his commission, we go to our places of influence to rescue other wandering and lost sheep like ourselves*