

Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Changing People and Places Through the Power of the Gospel

May 2, 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, is 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

"Christianity is not merely what a man does with his solitude. It is not even what God does with his solitude. It tells of God descending into the course of publicity of history and there enacting what can – and must – be talked about."

– C.S. Lewis

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

– Jesus, Matthew 5:14-16

Prelude: Bless the Lord, My Soul

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: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

People: **For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.**

Leader: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me.

People: **I will praise the name of God with a song;
I will magnify him with thanksgiving.**

Psalm 95:1-3; 50:14a, 23a; 69:30

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)

Psalm 130 (From Depths of Woe)

Blessed Be Your Name

See the Destined Day Arise

PSALM 130 (FROM DEPTHS OF WOE)

Words by Martin Luther
Music by Christopher Miner

1. From depths of woe I raise to Thee, The voice of lam - en - ta - tion; Lord,
2. To wash a - way the crim - son stain, Grace, grace a - lone a - vail - eth; Our

6 turn a gra - cious ear to me And hear my sup - pli - ca - tion; If
works, a - las! Are all in vain; In much the best life fail - eth; No

10 thou in - i - qui - ties dost mark, Our se - cret sins and mis - deeds dark, **Men:** O
man can glo - ry in thy sight, All must a - like con - fess thy might, And

14 who shall stand be - fore thee? O
Women: O who shall stand be - fore
live a - lone by mer - cy a - lone by And mer -

18 who shall stand be - fore thee?
thee? Who shall stand be - fore thee?
live a - lone by mer - cy a - lone by mer - cy

3. Therefore my trust
is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit;
On Him my soul shall rest, His word
Upholds my fainting spirit;
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort and my sweet support;
I wait for it with patience (echo)
I wait for it with patience (echo)

4. What though I wait
the live-long night,
And till the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in his might;
It doubteth not nor feareth;
Do thus, O ye of Israel's seed,
Ye of the Spirit born indeed;
And wait till God appeareth. (echo)
And wait till God appeareth (echo)

5. Though great our sins
and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow (echo)
From all their sin and sorrow (echo)

Blessed Be Your Name

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

Verse

1. Blessed be Your name in the land that is plen-ti-ful, where Your
 2. Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the de-sert place, though I
 3. Blessed be Your name when the sun's shi-ning down on me, when the
 4. Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suf-fer-ing, though there's

streams of a-bun-dance flow, bles-sed be Your name.
 walk through the wil-der-ness, bles-sed be Your name.
 world's all as it should be, bles-sed be Your name.
 pain in the of-fer-ing, bles-sed be Your name.

Chorus

Ev'ry bles-sing You pour out I'll turn back to praise. When the dark-ness
 clo-ses in, Lord, still I will say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your
 name. Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glo-ri-ous name."

Bridge

You give and take a-way, You give and take a-way. My
 heart will choose to say, "Lord, bles-sed be Your name."

See the Destined Day Arise

*"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me.
Nevertheless, not my will, but your will, be done." — Luke 22:42*

Verse

Bm A G D F#m

1. See the des - tined day a - rise! See a wil - ling sac - ri - fice!
 2. Who but Christ had dared to drain, steeped in gall, the cup of pain,
 3. Ho - ly Je - sus, grant us grace in that sa - cri - fice to place

F#m Bm A G D F#m

Je - sus to re - deem our loss, hangs u - pon the shame - ful cross;
 And with ten - der bo - dy bear thorns, and nails, and pier - cing spear?
 All our trust for life re - newed, par - doned sin and pro - mised good.

F#m A Bm G A

Je - sus, who but You could bear wrath so great and jus - tice fair?
 Slain for us, the wa - ter flowed, min - gled from Your side with blood;
 Grant us grace to sing Your praise, 'round Your throne through end - less days,

A Bm G D A

Ev - ry pang and bit - ter throe, fi - ni - shing Your life of woe?
 Sign to all at - tes - ting eyes of the fi - nished sa - cri - fice.
 E - ver with the sons of light: "Bles - sing, ho - nor, glo - ry, might!"

Chorus

A D^{sus4} D Bm G A

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Lamb of God for sin - ners slain!

A Bm D^{sus4} D G A D F#^{sus4} F#

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus Christ, we praise Your name.

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.*

Gracious and Loving Father, we confess that we were once “dead in our trespasses and sins following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air.” But You, being rich in mercy, and because of Your great love for us, made us alive together with Christ. Yet we confess our indifference toward the lost and admit that we have not lived as witnesses to Your grace. We have neglected to “go home to our friends and tell them how much [You] have done for [us] and how [You have] had mercy on [us].” Forgive us we pray and renew our love for You and our neighbors. Give us grace to remember that You will always be with us, right up to the end of the age. Amen. (from Eph. 2; Mark 5)

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.*

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Psalm 145:14, 17-18 (NIV)

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).*

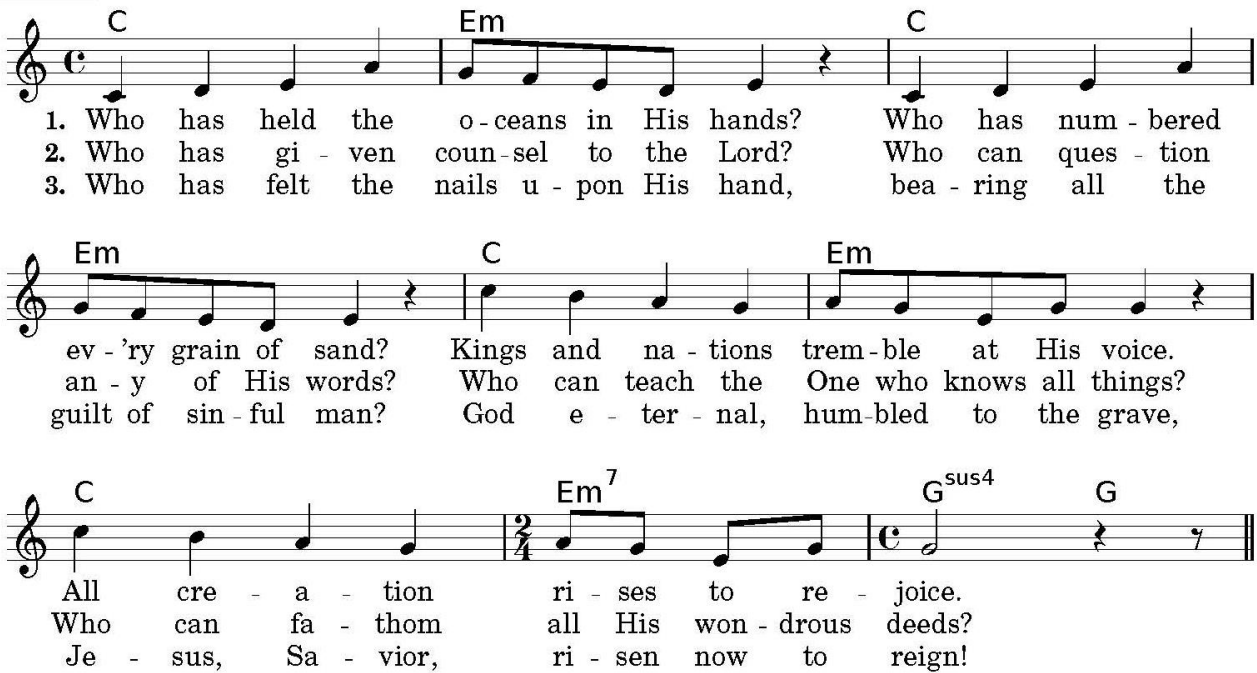
We Praise Our Merciful and Gracious God

Behold Our God (below)

Behold Our God


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

Verse



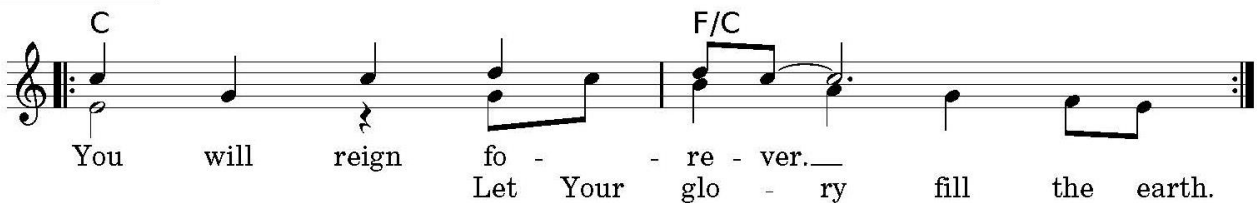
1. Who has held the o - ceans in His hands? Who has num - bered
 2. Who has gi - ven coun - sel to the Lord? Who can ques - tion
 3. Who has felt the nails u - pon His hand, bea - ring all the
 ev - 'ry grain of sand? Kings and na - tions trem - ble at His voice.
 an - y of His words? Who can teach the One who knows all things?
 guilt of sin - ful man? God e - ter - nal, hum - bled to the grave,
 All cre - a - tion ri - ses to re - joice.
 Who can fa - thom all His won - drous deeds?
 Je - sus, Sa - vior, ri - sen now to reign!

Chorus



Be - hold our God, Sea - ted on His throne. Come, let us a - dore Him.
 Be - hold our King, noth - ing can com - pare, come, let us a - dore Him!

Bridge (x4)



You will reign fo - re - ver. Let Your glo - ry fill the earth.

PROCLAMATION | God feeds his people

Scripture: Mark 5:1-20

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

Sermon: “Go Home!”

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

The Lords Supper

Also called the Communion or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church. (The bread is gluten free).

RESPONSE | We respond with thanksgiving

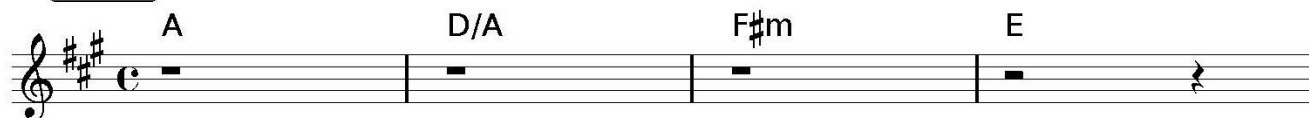
We Sing: All My Ways Are Known to You (below)

All My Ways Are Known to You

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

You search out my path and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. — Psalm 139:3

Intro



Verse



1. In days of peace and days of rest, in times of loss and lone - li - ness, though
2. No trial has come be-yond Your hand. No step I walk be-yond Your plan. The
3. I do not fear the fi - nal night, for death will be the door to life. You

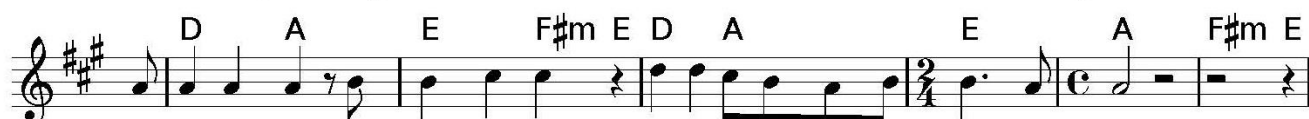


rich or poor, Your word is true, that all my ways are known to You.
 path is dark out - side my view. Still all my ways are known to You.
 take my hand and lead me through, for all my ways are known to You.

Chorus



And O, what peace that I have found wher-e - ver I may be.



For all my ways are known to You. Halle-lujah, they are known to You.

Bridge



O - pen up my eyes so I may see that You have made these ways for me.



O - pen up my eyes so I may see that You, my God, will walk with me. (O - pen)

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*