



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Changing People and Places Through the Power of the Gospel

May 9, 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

"He is a physician good to all diseases, especially at the binding up of a broken heart. He died that He might heal our souls with the plaster of His own blood, and by that death save us. Shall our sins discourage us when He appears only for sinners?"
- Richard Sibbs, 1630 Puritan pastor

"I remember when the Lord put that precious ointment upon my wounded spirit. Nothing ever healed me until I understood that He died in my place—died that I might not die! And now, today, my heart would bleed itself to death were it not that I believe that He, 'His own Self bore our sins in His own body on the tree.'"
- 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: Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

People: I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”

Leader: Surely he will save you from the fowler’s snare
and from the deadly pestilence.
He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

Psalm 91:1-4 (NIV)

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)

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

The Humble Shall Hear

Psalm 126 (Although We Are Weeping)

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1. I sing the migh - ty pow'r of God that made the moun - tains rise,
 2. I sing the good - ness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;
 3. There's not a plant or flow'r be - low but makes thy glo - ries known;

that spread the flo - wing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.
 that formed the crea - tures with his word and then pro - nounced them good.
 and clouds a - rise and tem - pests blow by or - der from thy throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 Lord, how thy won - ders are dis - played where - e'er I turn my eye,
 while all that bor - rows life from thee is e - ver in thy care,

the moon shines full at his com - mand and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread or gaze u - pon the sky!
 and e - v'ry - where that man can be, thou, God, art pre - sent there.

The Humble Shall Hear

(Psalm 34)

C/V/C/V/C/C

Chorus

Am F C G/B Am F C G/B

I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall be ever in my mouth. My

9 Am F G Am Dm G C

soul shall make its boast in the Lord; the humble shall hear it and re-joice.

Verse 1

17 C Dm G/B C Dm G

Magni-fy the Lord with me, and let us ex - alt His Name to-gether.

25 Am F G Am F Dm G

I sought the Lord and He answered me, and de-livered me from all my fears!

Verse 2

32 C Dm G/B C Dm G

They looked to Him and were ra-diant, and their fac-es will never be ashamed;

40 Am F G Am F Dm G

O taste and see that the Lord is Good! How blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

Psalm 126 (Although We Are Weeping)

V/C/V/C

Verse

1. Our mouths, they were filled filled with laugh - ter;
2. The na - tions will say "He has done great things!"

Our tongues, they were loosed, loosed with joy.
The na - tions will sing songs of joy.

Re-store us, O Lord! Re-store us, O Lord!
Re-store us, O Lord! Re-store us, O Lord!

Chorus

Al-though we are wee - ping, Lord, help us keep so - wing

the seeds of Your King - dom for the day You will reap them!

Your sheaves we will car - ry; Lord, please do not tar - ry!

All those who sow wee- ping will go out with songs of joy!

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.*

Leader: Praise be to our God and heavenly Father who supplies our every need according to his riches in Christ Jesus.

All: Father, thank you for sending Your Son to live a sinless life and die a criminal's death, so that through faith we could be Your children. With one voice we proclaim that the gospel is true! Yet we confess that our lives have not reflected that reality. We have come to You to meet our physical needs while neglecting our spiritual needs. We have not taken a stand with You and have been ashamed to profess our faith. Call us out from the crowd and take away our shame. By Your Spirit help us be a courageous and unified people, committed to the advance of the gospel, and experiencing the fullness of joy that You promise. Amen.

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 Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.
Romans 8:16-17 (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).*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Praise Our Merciful and Gracious God

Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting (below)

Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting

V/V/C/V/C/C

Verse

B \flat /D C/E F^{sus2} B \flat /D C/E F/A

1. Je-sus, I am res - ting, res - ting in the joy of what Thou art._
2. Oh, how great Thy lov - ing-kind-ness, vaster, broad - er than the sea._
3. Sim-ply trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, I be - hold Thee as Thou art._

B \flat /D C^{sus2}/E F^{sus2} B \flat ^{maj7} C F

I am find-ing out the great - ness of Thy lov - ing heart._
 Oh, how mar-vel-ous Thy good - ness lav-ished all on me._
 And Thy love so pure, so change-less sat - is - fies my heart, _

B \flat ^{maj7} C^{sus2}/E F^{sus2}/A Dm C B \flat ^{maj7}

Thou hast bid me gaze up - on Thee, as Thy beau - ty fills my soul_
 Yes, I rest in Thee Be - lov - ed, know what wealth of grace is Thine, _
 sat - is - fies its deep - est long - ings, meets, sup - plies its ev - 'ry need, _

B \flat /D C/E F/A B \flat ^{maj7} C F

for by Thy trans-form - ing pow - er, Thou hast made me whole.
 know Thy cer - tain-ty of prom - ise and have made it mine.
 com-pass-eth me 'round in bless-ings, Thine is love in - deed.

Chorus

B \flat ^{maj7} C/E F/A Dm Am/C B \flat

Je-sus, I am res-ting, res - ting in the joy of what Thou art._

B \flat ^{sus2}/D C^{sus2}/E F^{sus2}/A B \flat ^{maj7} C F

I am find-ing out the great - ness of Thy lov - ing heart.

PROCLAMATION | God feeds his people

Scripture: Mark 5:21-43

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

Sermon: “The Long and the Short of It”

*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 Sing: Dear Refuge Of My Weary Soul (below)

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

C G/B Am⁷ C/G F C/E G^{sus4} G

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;

C G/B Am⁷ C/G C/E F/D C/A G^{sus4}/B C

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.

C/B Am⁷ G^{sus4} G F C/E F Am⁷ C G^{sus4} G

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;

C G/B Am⁷ C/G C F/D C/A G^{sus4}/B C F/C C

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.

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*