

Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Changing People and Places Through the Power of the Gospel

May 17, 2020

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

"Our community with one another consists solely in what Christ has done to both of us. This is true not merely at the beginning, as though in the course of time something else were to be added to our community; it remains so for all the future and to all eternity. I have community with others and I continue to have it only through Jesus Christ. The more genuine and the deeper our community becomes, the more will everything else between us recede, the more clearly and purely will Christ and his work become the one and only thing that is vital between us. We have one another only through Christ, but through Christ we do have one another, wholly and for all eternity."

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Life Together

Prelude: Once In Royal David's City

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.*

Praise the Lord.

How good it is to sing praises to our God,
how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
his understanding has no limit.

The Lord sustains the humble
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with grateful praise;
make music to our God on the harp.

Praise the Lord!

Psalm 147:1,5-7,20c (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)

May The Peoples Praise You
Blessed Be Your Name

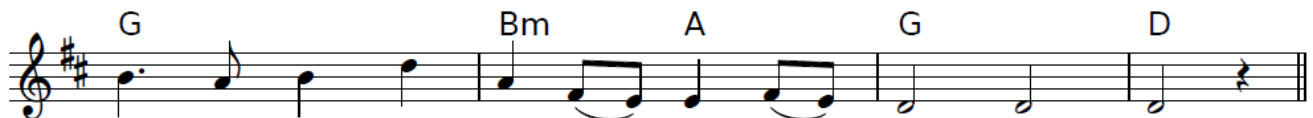
May the Peoples Praise You

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

Verse

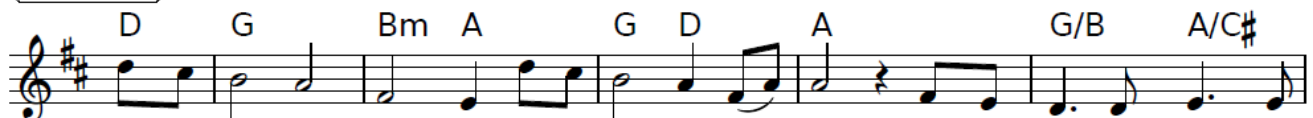


1. You have called us out of dar-kest night, in - to Your glo-rious light, that
2. May our ev - 'ry breath re - tell the grace that broke in - to our strife with
3. All the earth is Yours and all wi - thin, each har - vest is Your own, and
4. May the seeds of mer - cy grow in us for those who have not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

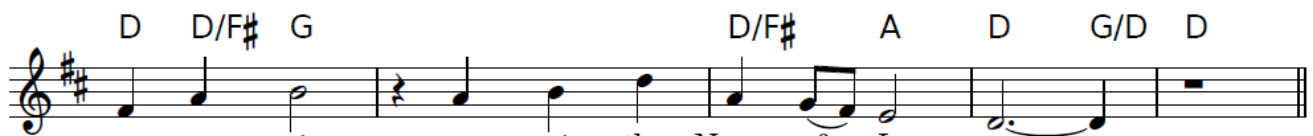


we may sing the won - ders of the ri - sen Christ.
 boun - dless love and dee - pest joy, with end - less life.
 from Your hand we give to You, to make Christ known.
 songs of praise build lives of grace to spread Your Word.
 ev - 'ry na - tion, tribe, and tongue Your church pro - claim.

Chorus



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

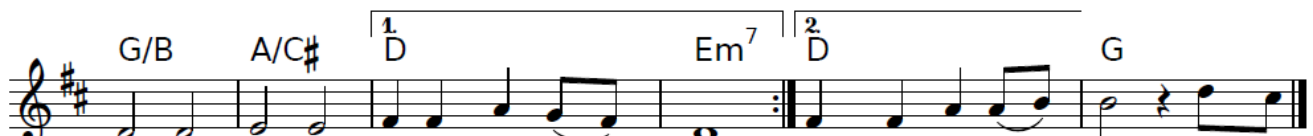


we may praise, may praise the Name of Je - sus.

Bridge



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



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

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

5 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

9 Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise. When the dark-ness
 14 closes in, Lord, still I will say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your
 19 name. Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glo-ri-ous name."

Bridge

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

Father we confess that we have not thought about “whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable,” nor of what is excellent and worthy of praise. We have lived like You are not paying attention to us and do not care for us. We have been anxious about our health, our job, our finances, and our relationships and have not presented our requests to You. Forgive us we pray and give to us the “peace which transcends all understanding,” and guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Amen
(From Philippians 4:5-9)

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement

“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.”
– Romans 5:1-2

We Praise Our Merciful and Gracious God

And Can It Be That I Should Gain (below)

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

Verse

1. And can it be that I___ should gain an in - t'rest in the_
 2. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove, so free, so in - fi -
 3. Long my im - pri - soned spi - rit___ lay fast bound in sin and
 4. No con - dem - na - tion now___ I___ dread; Je - sus, and all in___

Sav - ior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his pain? For
 nite his grace! Emp - tied him - self___ of all but love, and
 na - ture's night; thine eye dif - fused___ a quick - 'ning ray; I
 him, is mine! A - live in him, my li - ving Head, and

me, who him to death pur - sued? A - ma - zing love! How -
 bled for A - dam's help - less race. 'Tis mer - cy all, im -
 woke, the dun - geon flamed with light; my chains fell off, my
 clothed in righ - teous - ness di - vine, bold I ap - proach th'e -

can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 mense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.
 heart was free; I rose, went forth, and fol - lowed thee.
 ter - nal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Chorus

A - ma - zing love! How can it be that
 (A - ma - zing love!) (How can it be)

thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 (that thou, my God,)

PROCLAMATION | God feeds his people

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-20

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

Sermon: "A Fight to the Finish"

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."

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](#). It is a secure and convenient way to continue your financial support.

***We Sing**

Christ Is Mine Forevermore (below)

Christ is Mine Forevermore

1, 2, 3, C, B(3x), C, Tag(2x)

Verse

1. Mine are days that God has num - bered; I was made to walk with Him. Yet, I
 2. Mine are tears in times of sor - row, dark - ness not yet un - der - stood. Through the
 3. Mine are days here as a stran - ger, pil - grim on a nar - row way. One with

look for word - ly trea - sure and for - sake the King of kings. But mine is
 val - ley I must trav - el where I see no earth - ly good. But mine is
 Christ I will en - coun - ter harm and ha - tred for His name. But mine is

hope in my Re - deem - er; though I fall, His love is sure. For Christ has
 peace that flows from heav - en, and the strength in times of need. I know my
 ar - mor for this bat - tle, strong e - nough to last the war. And He has

paid for ev' - ry fail - ing; I am His for - ev - er - more. shore.
 pain will not be wast - ed; Christ com - pletes His work in me.
 said He will de - liv - er safe - ly to the gold - en

Chorus

And mine are keys to Zi - on's ci - ty where be - side the King I walk. For there my

Tag

heart has found its trea - sure; Christ is mine for - ev - er - more.

Bridge

Come re - joice now, O my soul, for His love is my re - ward. Fear is

gone and hope is sure; Christ is mine for - ev - er - more. Come re

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*