



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Changing People and Places Through the Power of the Gospel

May 24, 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

"For my own part, I have never ceased to rejoice that God has appointed me to such an office. People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa. . . . Is that a sacrifice which brings its own blest reward in healthful activity, the consciousness of doing good, peace of mind, and a bright hope of a glorious destiny hereafter? Away with the word in such a view, and with such a thought! It is emphatically no sacrifice. Say rather it is a privilege. Anxiety, sickness, suffering, or danger, now and then, with a foregoing of the common conveniences and charities of this life, may make us pause, and cause the spirit to waver, and the soul to sink; but let this only be for a moment. All these are nothing when compared with the glory which shall be revealed in and for us. I never made a sacrifice."

– David Livingstone, 19th Century Missionary to Africa

Prelude: "Soon and Very Soon/On Jordan's Stormy Banks"

Helen Sneller, piano
arr. Cindy Berry

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!

Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Let them praise his name with dancing,

making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;

he adorns the humble with salvation.

- Psalm 149:1-4 (ESV)

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)

Crown Him with Many Crowns

All Glory Be to Christ

All Glory Be To Christ

V/C/V/C/V/C

Verse

1. Should no-thing of our ef-forts stand, no le-ga-cy sur-vive;
2. His will be done, his king-dom come, on earth as is a-bove;
3. When on that day, the great I Am, the faith-ful and the true,

un-less the Lord does raise the house in vain the buil-ders strive.
 who is Him-self our dai-ly bread, praise Him the Lord of love.
 the Lamb who was for sin-ners slain, is ma-king all things new.

To you who boast to-mor-row's gain, tell me what is your life?
 Let li-ving wa-ter sa-tis-fy the thir-sty wi-thout price,
 Be-hold our God shall live with us and be our stead-fast light,

a mist that va-ni-shes at dawn, all glo-ry be to Christ!
 we'll take a cup of kind-ness yet, all glo-ry be to Christ!
 and we shall e'er His peo-ple be, all glo-ry be to Christ!

Chorus

All glo-ry be to Christ our King! All glo-ry be to Christ!

His rule and reign we'll e-ver sing, all glo-ry be to Christ!

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 Father, as Your chosen, holy, and loved people we confess that we have not clothed ourselves “with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.” We do not “bear with each other and forgive one another as the Lord forgave [us].” Forgive us our sin by the power of Your Spirit and grant us the grace to “put on love” as we more deeply comprehend and experience Your love for us. Amen. (From Colossians 3:12-14)

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement

*“If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O LORD, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.”*

- Psalm 130:3-4 (ESV)

We Praise Our Merciful and Gracious God

Power to Redeem (below)

Power to Redeem

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

Verse

F B \flat /F

1. You take what is and You make_ it beau - ti - ful.
 2. No guilt com - petes with in - no - cence cru - ci - fied.

Dm C F B \flat /F Dm C

When love floods in, we're re - stored fo - re - ver - more.
 No grave can hold what Your grace_ has jus - ti - fied.

Chorus

B \flat F C Dm

With breath_ that brings_ the dead_ to life_ ,_ with words_ that pierce_ the dark_ with light_ ,_

B \flat F C F/A B \flat F

on - ly by_ the blood_ are we_ set_ free_ ._ With mer - cy strong_ to car - ry shame_ and

C Dm B \flat C F B \flat /D C/E

nail it to_ a tree_ ,_ oh You_ a - lone_ hold the pow - er to_ re - deem.

Bridge

F/A B \flat F C/G

Re - joi - ce O child_ of God, lift your eyes_ to see:

F/A B \flat F/A C

With ev - 'ry mor - ning light, _ a - gain we are_ re - deemed. _ (Re -)

PROCLAMATION | God feeds his people

Scripture: 2 Kings 6:8-20

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

Sermon: "Do Not Be Afraid"

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**

The Church's One Foundation (below)

The Church's One Foundation

D G/D D D/A A/G D/F# G⁶ D/A A⁷ D

1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - ry na - tion, yet one e'er all the earth,
 3. 'Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,
 4. Yet she on earth hath u - nion with God the Three in One,

A⁷/E D/F# F#⁷#⁵ A/F# G^{o7} G A⁶ Bm⁶ A/C# D Bm⁶ A

she is His new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word:
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace fo - re - ver - more;
 and my - stic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won:

A D A⁷/E D/F# G D/F# Bm Bm/F# F#⁷/E Bm/D B/D# Em

from heav'n He came and sought her to be His ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bles - ses, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her lon - ging eyes are blest,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

A/C# D G/D D G⁷ G Em⁷ D/A A D

with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.
 and to one hope she pres - ses with ev - ry grace en - dued.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly on high may dwell with Thee.

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*