

Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Changing People and Places Through the Power of the Gospel

May 31, 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

"All saints that are united to Jesus Christ their head, by his Spirit and by faith, have fellowship with him in his graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces, and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as to conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man."

- Westminster Confession of Faith 26:1

"He works on us in all sorts of ways. But above all, He works on us through each other. Men are mirrors, or "carriers" of Christ to other men. Usually it is those who know Him that bring Him to others. That is why the Church, the whole body of Christians showing Him to one another is important. It is easy to think that the Church has a lot of different objects -- education, building, missions, holding services... The Church exists for no other purpose but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christ. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became man for no other purpose. It is even doubtful, you know, whether the whole universe was created for any other reason."

- C. S. Lewis

Prelude: Be Still, 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.*

Praise the LORD.

Praise God in his sanctuary;

 praise him in his mighty heavens.

Praise him for his acts of power;

 praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,

 praise him with the harp and lyre,

praise him with timbrel and dancing,

 praise him with the strings and pipe,

praise him with the clash of cymbals,

 praise him with resounding cymbals.

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD.

- Psalm 150:1-6 (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)

His Mercy Is More

Lift High the Name of Jesus

His Mercy Is More

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

You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. — Micah 7:19

Intro

E A E/G# E/D# E/C# E/B E/A E/B B^{sus4} B

Verse

E E/G# A E

1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
2. What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam?
3. What ri - ches of kind - ness He la - vished on us.

B/D# C#m A B^{sus4}

Om - ni - scient, all kno - wing, He counts not their sum.
 What Fa - ther, so ten - der, is cal - ling us home?
 His blood was the pay - ment; His life was the cost.

E F#m⁷ E/G# A

Thrown in - to a sea wi - thout bot - tom or shore,
 He wel - comes the wea - kest, the vi - lest, the poor.
 We stood 'neath a debt we could ne - ver af - ford.

E/G# A E/G# B^{sus4} B⁶ B^{sus4} E

our sins, they are ma - ny; His mer - cy is more.
 Our sins, they are ma - ny; His mer - cy is more.
 Our sins, they are ma - ny; His mer - cy is more.

Chorus

E A E/G# B^{sus4} E/G# A E/G# B^{sus4} B B^{sus4} A E

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness,

B/D# C#m⁷ A/F# E/G# B^{sus4} E A/E A/C# B/D#

new ev-ry morn._Our sins, they are ma-ny; His mer-cy is more.

Lift High the Name of Jesus



1. Lift high the name of Je - sus, of Je - sus our King.
2. Lift high the name of Je - sus, of Je - sus our Lord.
3. Lift high the name of Je - sus, of Je - sus our Light.



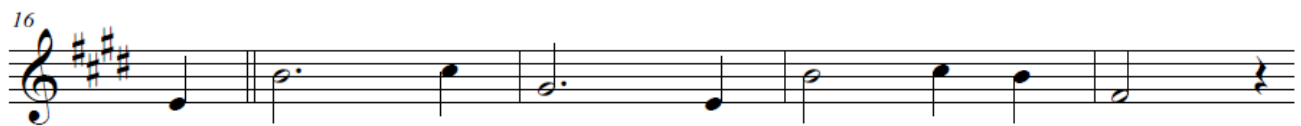
Make known the pow - er of His grace, the beau - ty of His peace.
His pow'r in us is great - er than, is great - er than this world.
No oth - er name on earth can save, can raise a sould to life.



Re - mem - ber how His mer - cy reached and we cried out to Him.
To share the rea - son for our hope, to serve with love and grace,
He o - pens up our eyes to see the har - vest He has grown.



He lift - ed us to sol - id ground, to free - dom from our sin.
that all who see Him shine through us might bring the Fa - ther praise.
We la - bor in His fields of grace as He leads sin - ners home.



Oh sing my soul and tell all He's done



'til the earth and heav - ens are filled with His glo - ry.

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, your Son “gentle and lowly in heart” came to earth to provide forgiveness for our sins and rest for our souls. Yet we confess that we have not lived a life worthy of the calling we received. We have not been humble and gentle. We have not been patient, bearing one another in love. We have not made every effort to keep the unity of Spirit in the bond of peace. Forgive us we pray and help us be “quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry and humbly accept the word planted in us.” Amen.

(From Matthew 11:29; Ephesians 4:1-3; James 1:19-21)

Private Confession

Words of Encouragement

“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are —yet he did not sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” – Hebrews 4:14-16

We Praise Our Merciful and Gracious God

When All Thy Mercies (below)

When All Thy Mercies

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

Verse

F C Dm C B♭ F C Dm

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

B♭ C Dm C B♭ F C B♭ F

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.

Dm C/E F C B♭ C Dm

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

B♭ C Dm C B♭ F C B♭ F

Be-fore 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

Dm Am B♭ F B♭/D C/E F

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

Dm Am B♭ F Dm C B♭ F

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

PROCLAMATION | God feeds his people

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-6

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

Sermon: “The Communion of the Saints”

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**

All to Jesus I Surrender (below)

All to Jesus I Surrender

We have left everything to follow you! Mark 10:28

C F C G⁷ Em G⁷ C F C G⁷ Em C

1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, all to him I free - ly give;
 2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, hum - bly at his feet I bow,
 3. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly thine;
 4. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, Lord, I give my - self to thee;

F C G⁷ Em G⁷ C F C G⁷ Em C

may I ev - er love and trust him, in his pres - ence dai - ly live.
 world - ly plea - sures all for - sak - en, take me, Je - sus, take me now.
 may thy Ho - ly Spir - it fill me, may I know thy pow'r di - vine.
 fill me with thy love and pow - er, let thy bless - ing fall on me.

REFRAIN
 C F C G G G⁷ C

I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all.
 I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all.

F C F C/G G⁷ C 7

All to thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

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*