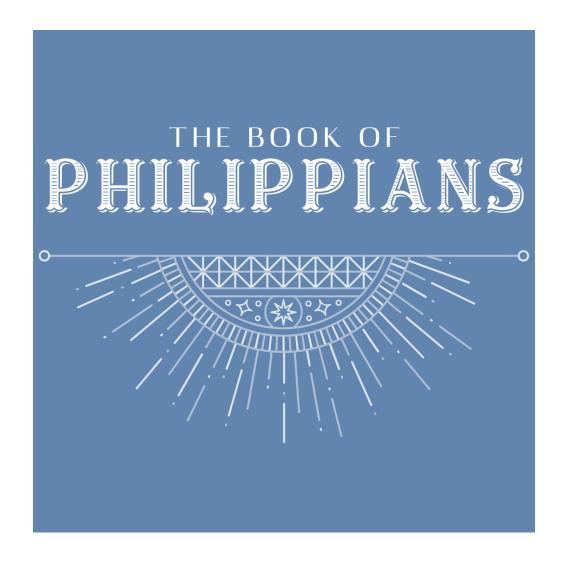


CORNERSTONE

Presbyterian Church



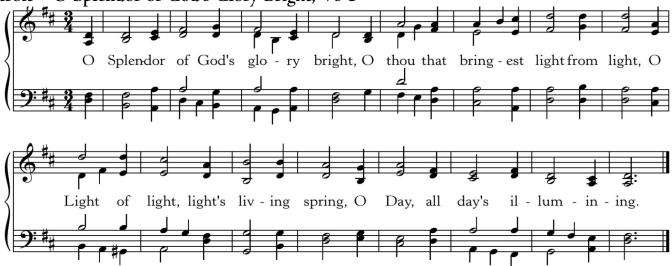
Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal Third Sunday in Epiphany

26 January 2020

God calls His people to worship and come before Him. The Creator of all things reveals Himself through His Word and calls us into His presence.

Prelude, Announcements & Preparation

Introit—O Splendor of God's Glory Bright, Vs I



Text: St. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, Michael Praetorious, 1571-1621.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 33:1, 4-5, 8-9, 18-22

Pastor: Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

All: For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

Pastor: He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

All: Let all the earth fear the LORD;

let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

Pastor: For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,

on those who hope in his steadfast love,

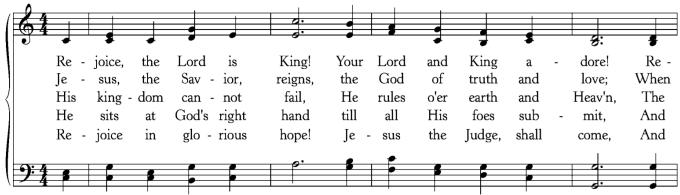
All: that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

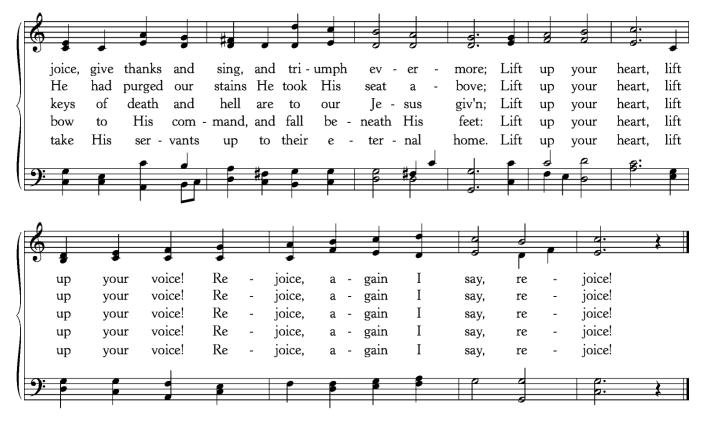
Pastor: Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

All: For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

Pastor: Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Hymn of Praise—Rejoice, the Lord Is King





Text: Charles Wesley, 1746; Music: DARWALL, John Darwall, 1770.



Text: Latin Hymn, 8th Century, Tr. By John Chandler, 1837; Music: KINGSFOLD, Old English Folk Song

New Testament Reading—Ephesians 2:4-10

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE & RECONCILIATION

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Sung Response—Search Me, O God



Text: J. Edwin Orr, 1936; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2018. © 2018 Greyfriars Press, Used by Permission.

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 37:3-5, 7-8, 39-40

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. You call us to trust in You and do good,

All: We have not delighted ourselves in You, Lord, and our hearts have not desired You.

Pastor: We have failed to commit our ways to You, nor have we trusted in You.

All: We are not still before You. We have not waited patiently for You, O Lord.

Pastor: Lord, teach us to refrain from anger and forsake wrath.

All: Turn our hearts from that which tends to evil.

Pastor: For the salvation of the righteous is from You, Lord,

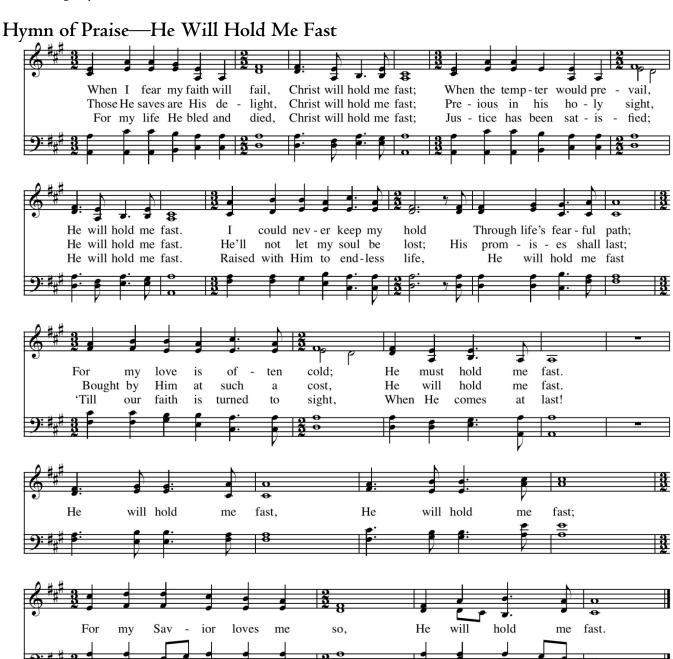
You are our stronghold in times of trouble.

All: Deliver us, O Lord. May we always take refuge in You.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—Romans 5:1-2

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



CCLI #11121087 Text vv. 1-2 Ada Habershon (1861-1918), Alt words vv.1-2, lyrics v.3, Matt Merker; Music: Matt Merker, © 2013

The Reading of the Word—Philippians I:I-5

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

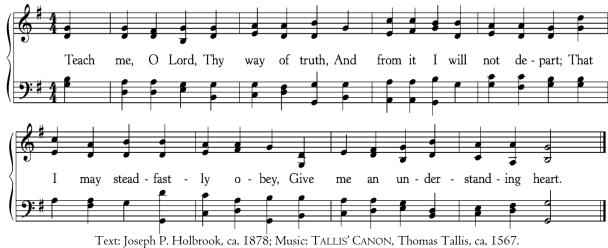
All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—Press on Toward the Goal: A Study of Philippians, Part I

Thanking God for Gospel Partnership

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

Sung Response—Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Way of Truth, Vs I



Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven

and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,

from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,

The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* "Catholic" refers to the universal church of God's people throughout all time and from all places

Sung Response—Gloria



CCLI #11121087 Text: Luke 2:14; Music: Franklin Gloria, Gregory D Wilbur, 2012 ©2012 Greyfriars Press.

God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us.

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. You can find some sample prayers on the next page. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.



Hymn of Communion—I Hunger and I Thirst



Text: John S.B. Monsell, 1866; Music: Nathan Johnson, 2017, Used by Permission.

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

If you are not able to partake in the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth. Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief. Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise—My Hope is Built on Nothing Less



Text: Edward Mote, 1834: Music: SOLID ROCK, 1992. © 1992 Greyfriars Press. Used by Permission.

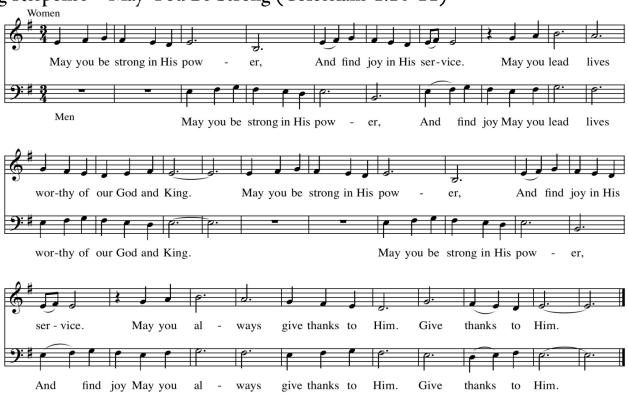
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—Jude 1:24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. *Amen*.





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Today's message, "Thanking God for Gospel Partnership" is taken from Philippians I:I-5. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG)

- Paul introduces Timothy and himself as "servants of Jesus Christ." What does this description teach us about Paul's sense of identity? (see also I Cor. 6:20)?
- Paul writes to the "saints at Philippi." What does Paul's use of saint as a description of a Christian teach us about Paul's view of Christians? Though rarely used in this day, why is this term important for Christian identity?
- What does the phrase "partnership in the gospel" teach us about the nature of true Christian fellowship? How can such fellowship be cultivated among Christians?
- How can Paul be so certain that what's begun in the lives of the Christians in Philippi will come to completion? In what way is this assuring to you right now?
- What from today's message had a special ministry in your life? How is the Lord calling you to respond to today's message?

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Presbyterian Church in America

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

