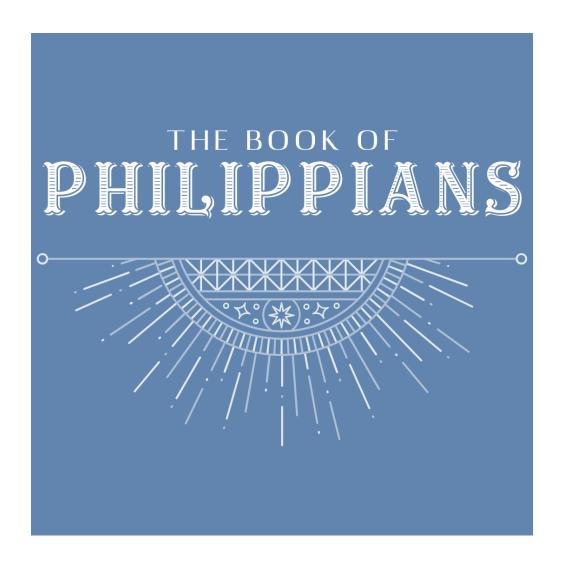


CORNERSTONE

Presbyterian Church

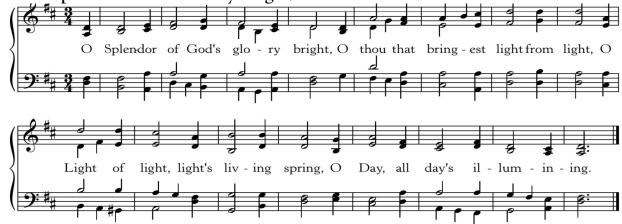


SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Last Sunday in Epiphany 23 February 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 92:I-4, 12-I3

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

All: to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,

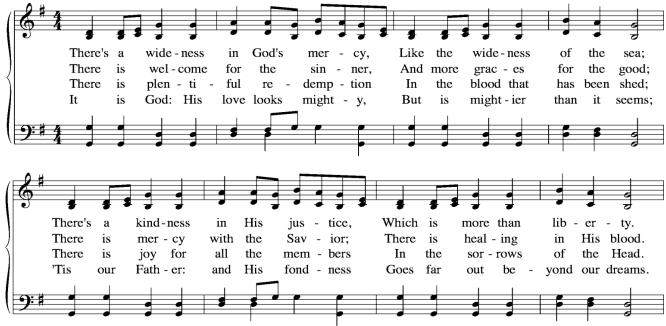
Pastor: to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

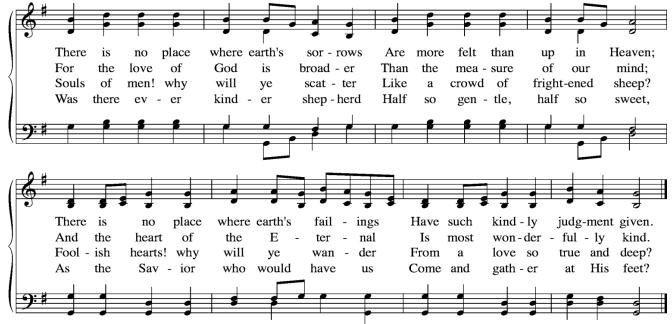
All: For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

Pastor: The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

All: They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

Hymn of Praise—There's a Wideness in God's Mercy





Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1854; Music: HOLY MANNA, Attr. To William Moore, 1825.

Hymn of Praise—How Firm a Foundation



Text: Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787; Music: FOUNDATION, Traditional American Melody

New Testament Reading—2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

¹³ But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. ¹⁴ To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

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 James 1:12-15

Pastor: Lord, we come to You confessing. You call the person blessed who remains steadfast under trial, for when they have stood the test, they will receive the crown of life.

All: You have promised life to those who love You and who stand firm.

Pastor: In our weakness and in our desire to avoid responsibility, we want to say that we are being tempted by You.

All: We know You cannot be tempted with evil and that You tempt no one, but we want to shift blame.

Pastor: In fact, it is our own desires that entice and lure us when we are tempted.

All: We place our desires as the affection of our hearts instead of desiring You.

Pastor: Our sinful desires when they have conceived give birth to sin.

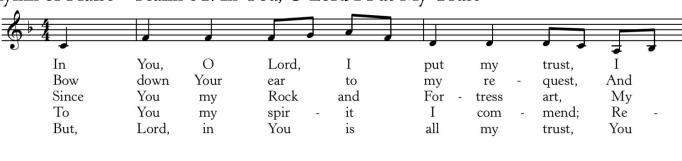
All: And sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

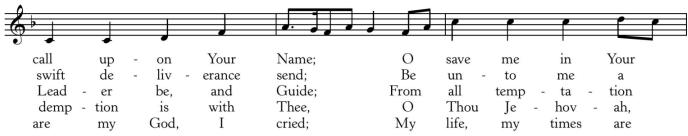
Silent Prayers of Confession

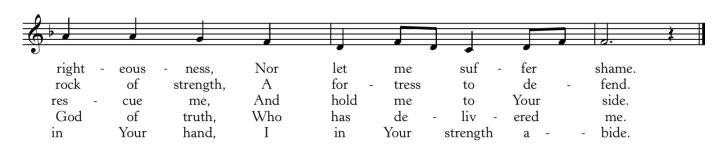
Assurance of Pardon—based on Colossians 3:12-13

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Hymn of Praise—Psalm 31: In You, O Lord I Put My Trust







Text: Psalm 31, Paraphrase; Music: Kentucky Harmony.

The Reading of the Word—Philippians I:27-30

²⁷ Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰ engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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 5

Walking Worthy of the Gospel

—Tony Giles, 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.

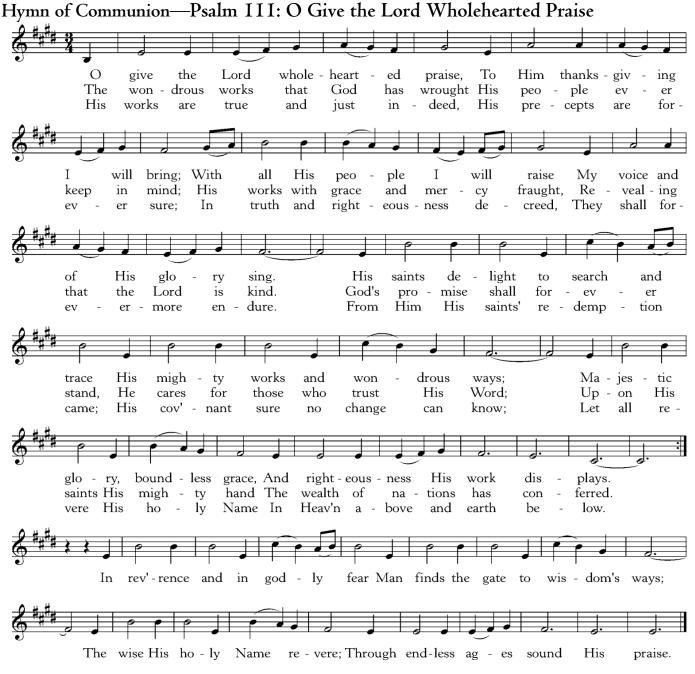
Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

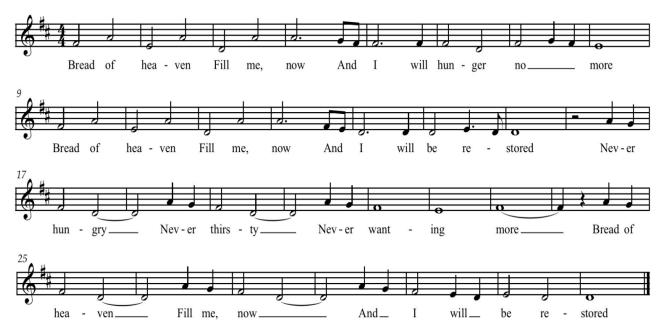
The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us.

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—Bread of Heaven



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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—May the Mind of Christ, Vs I-5



Text: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925; Music: St. Leonards, A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925.

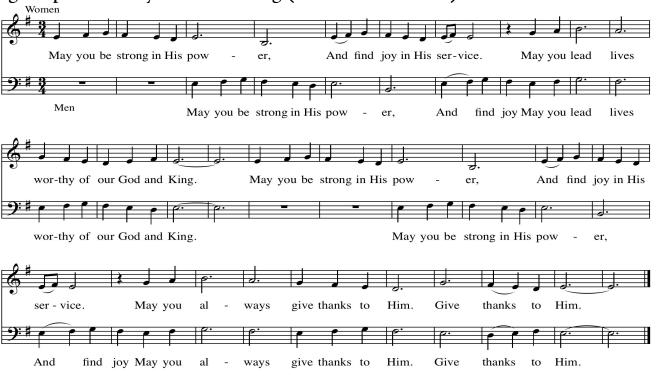
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word. *Amen.*

Sung Response—May You Be Strong (Colossians I:10-II)



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Prayer Focus—Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Western Kentucky University is located in Bowling Green, Kentucky and led by Rev. Ross Lockwood. Ross is in his 5th year as campus minister, and RUF at WKU is in it's 13 year on campus. RUF is the college ministry agency of the PCA, and its mission is "to reach students for Christ and equip them to serve." RUF works towards this mission through weekly Large Group Bible studies, student and staff led small groups, and regular outreach and fellowship events. RUF at WKU currently has two interns, Cathy Clark and Thomas Fleming who work diligently to reach students on campus. Ross and his wife, Anne Todd, have two boys Bo (5) and Ira (2) and are expecting a third in August! Please pray for RUF at WKU in the following ways:

- Pray for the Lockwoods as they prepare to welcome a third boy in the family!
- Pray for the local PCA church Grace & Peace during their senior pastoral search.
- Pray for RUF's spring break mission trip to serve the inner city of St. Louis through New City Church (Mar 7-13)
- Pray for the conversions of the unbelievers in connection with RUF
- Pray the Wednesday night Large Group Bible study through Esther would be a time for all students to experience Christ's hospitality and grace.

Today's message "Walking Worthy of the Gospel" is taken from Philippians 1:27-30. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends or Home Fellowship Group.

- I. Where have you experienced some degree of opposition from those who have little or no sympathy for your faith? How do you tend to respond to that opposition?
- 2. Where do you need to exhibit a gospel-formed "courage that does not blink?" How would a deep understanding of the gospel enable you to respond in a manner that is in keeping with the gospel?
- 3. Are you more fearful of those outside the church or frustrated with those inside the church? How does Paul's admonition in this passage address both of those attitudes?
- 4. What would it look like for you to strive "side by side" with other followers of Christ? Do you have comrades in arms beside you? If so, describe those relationships.
- 5. How does awareness of Jesus Christ's suffering "for us" (I Peter 3:18) enable us to endure suffering in our own lives? Take some time to ask for the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ (Phil. I:19) to do just that.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (260-1884) Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (943-8443) Jim Payne (497-0613) Terry Cheney (579-7089) Joe Haworth (289-7543) Jim Smith (347-4188)

Deacons

 Mark Elliott (477-1041)
 Kevin McClung (243-9228)

 Gene King (806-3726)
 Jim Robinson (587-0442)

 Mike Payne (579-6453)
 Todd Russell (319-4803)

Larry Thompson (901-734-1520) Bob Vermilye (599-9577) David Steffens (557-5316)

*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

