

Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time

17 November 2019

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—Jesus Shall Reign, Vs. I



Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

Call to Worship—Psalm 16:1-2, 5-8, 11

Pastor: Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

All: I say to the LORD, "You are my LORD; I have no good apart from you."

Pastor: The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

All: The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

Pastor: I bless the LORD who gives me counsel, in the night also my heart instructs me.

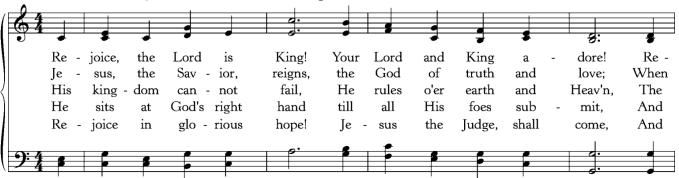
All: I have set the LORD always before me;

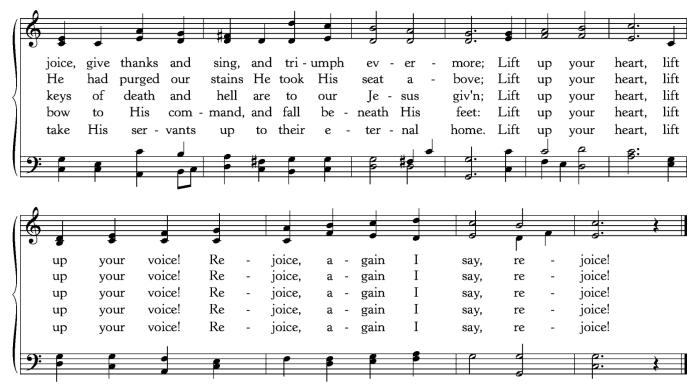
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Pastor: You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy;

All: at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

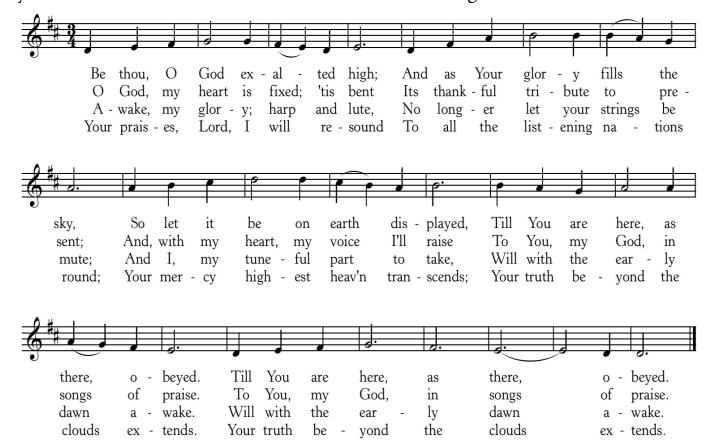
Hymn of Praise—Rejoice, the Lord Is King





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

Hymn of Praise—Psalm 57: Be Thou, O God, Exalted High



Text: Nahum Tate & Nicholas Brady, 1696 from A New Version of the Psalms of David; Music: ©2011 Greyfriars Press

New Testament Reading—Ephesians I:3-I4

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance

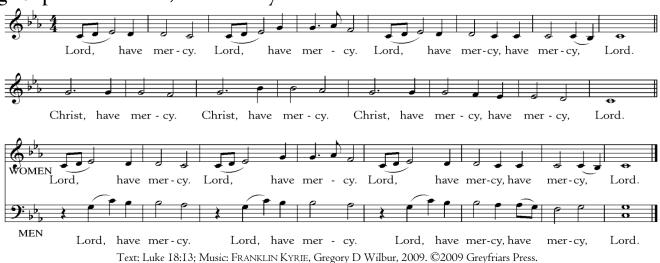
until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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—Lord, Have Mercy



Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 119:9-16

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. You have taught us that we keep our way pure by guarding it according to Your word.

All: We say that we seek You with our whole heart, but we wander from Your commandments.

Pastor: May we store up Your word in our hearts that we might not sin against You.

All: Blessed are You, O Lord; teach us Your statutes.

Pastor: May we regularly seek Your word.

All: Lord, we do not delight in Your testimonies as much as we delight in riches, fame, or self-fulfillment.

Pastor: Teach us to fix our eyes on Your ways.

All: Give us a delight in Your statutes that we may not forget Your word.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—I John 3:4-5

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. Know that Christ appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

Hymn of Praise—Be Thou My Vision



Text: Rob to mo bhoile, a Comdi cride, Ancient Irish Poem, 8th century, trans Mary Byrne, 1880-1931; Music: SLANE, Traditional Irish Melody.

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Genesis 49:I-33

Then Jacob called his sons and said, "Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you what shall happen to you in days to come.

² "Assemble and listen, O sons of Jacob, listen to Israel your father.

³ "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the firstfruits of my strength,

preeminent in dignity and preeminent in power.

⁴Unstable as water, you shall not have preeminence, because you went up to your father's bed;

then you defiled it—he went up to my couch!

⁵ "Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence are their swords.

⁶ Let my soul come not into their council; O my glory, be not joined to their company.

For in their anger they killed men, and in their willfulness they hamstrung oxen.

⁷Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce, and their wrath, for it is cruel!

I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.

⁸ "Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you.

⁹ Judah is a lion's cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up.

He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him?

¹⁰ The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

¹¹ Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine,

he has washed his garments in wine and his vesture in the blood of grapes.

¹² His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.

13 "Zebulun shall dwell at the shore of the sea; he shall become a haven for ships, and his border shall be at Sidon.

14 "Issachar is a strong donkey, crouching between the sheepfolds.

15 He saw that a resting place was good, and that the land was pleasant,

so he bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant at forced labor.

¹⁶ "Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel.

¹⁷Dan shall be a serpent in the way, a viper by the path, that bites the horse's heels so that his rider falls backward.

¹⁸I wait for your salvation, O Lord.

19 "Raiders shall raid Gad, but he shall raid at their heels.

²⁰ "Asher's food shall be rich, and he shall yield royal delicacies.

²¹ "Naphtali is a doe let loose that bears beautiful fawns.

²² "Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a spring; his branches run over the wall.

²³ The archers bitterly attacked him, shot at him, and harassed him severely,

²⁴ yet his bow remained unmoved; his arms were made agile

by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob (from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel),

²⁵ by the God of your father who will help you, by the Almighty who will bless you

with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that crouches beneath,

blessings of the breasts and of the womb.

²⁶ The blessings of your father are mighty beyond the blessings of my parents,

up to the bounties of the everlasting hills.

May they be on the head of Joseph, and on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers.

²⁷ "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey and at evening dividing the spoil."

²⁸ All these are the twelve tribes of Israel. This is what their father said to them as he blessed them, blessing each with the blessing suitable to him. ²⁹ Then he commanded them and said to them, "I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, ³⁰ in the cave that is in the field at Machpelah, to the east of Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite to possess as a burying place. ³¹ There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah— ³² the field and the cave that is in it were bought from the Hittites." ³³ When Jacob finished commanding his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed and breathed his last and was gathered to his people.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Good News in Last Words

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



Text: Joseph P. Holbrook, ca. 1878; Music: TALLIS' CANON, Thomas Tallis, ca, 1567.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

Sursum Corda

Elder: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Elder: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Elder: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Elder: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You,

Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Sung Response—Let Glory Be to God on High



CCLI #11121087 Text: From the Liturgy of St. James & an 8th Century manuscript (Gloria in excelsis Deo); Music: Greyfriars Press, 2018.

Profession of Faith—The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death² to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.³

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,⁴ and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.⁵

He also watches over me in such a way⁶

that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven;⁷ in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.8

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life⁹ and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him. 10

I I Cor. 6:19-20 2 Rom. 14:7-9 3 I Cor. 3:23; Titus 2:14 4 I Pet. I:18-19; I John I:7-9; 2:2 5 John 8:34-36; Heb. 2:14-15; I John 3:I-II 7 Matt. 10:29-31; Luke 21:16-18

8 Rom. 8:28 6 In 6:39-40; 10:27-30; 2 Thess. 3:3; 1 Pet. 1:5 9 Rom 8:15-16; 2 Cor 1:21-22; 5:5; Eph 1:13-14 10 Rom. 8:I-I7

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—Come, Ye Sinners



Text: Joseph Hart, 1712-1768; Music: Southern Harmony, 1835.

Psalm for November—Psalm 95: O Come and Sing to God, the Lord



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—Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer



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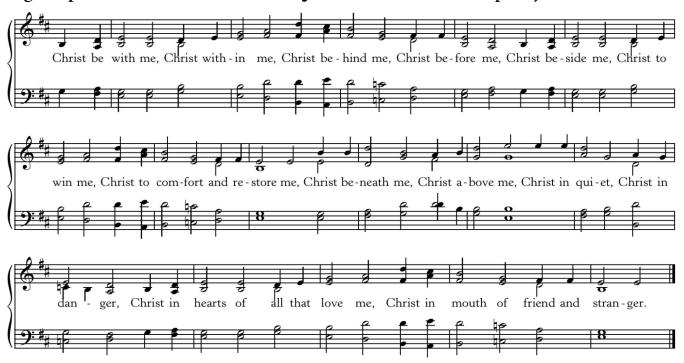
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—from Psalm 119:76-77

May the steadfast love of the Lord comfort you according to His promise to His people. May His mercy come to us that we may live; and may His law be our delight. *Amen*.

Sung Response—Christ Be With Me (from St. Patrick's Breastplate)



Text: Atomriug indui niurt tren, St. Patrick, 372-466, Trans by Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-95; Music: ST. PATRICK CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish Hymn Melody.

Prayer Focus—Austin Royal is the RUF campus minister at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN. Austin and his wife Anna Caroline met through RUF at the University of Georgia and have been married nine years. They have a two year old daughter named Linley. Austin started the work at Austin Peay four years ago. They hope RUF at Austin Peay will have a dynamic impact on churches in middle Tennessee because the vast majority of students who attend Austin Peay live within an hour of Nashville. Please pray for Austin and the RUF ministry in the following ways:

- Please pray for our student leaders that they would be growing in love for God and others, that they would have an increasing desire to serve his kingdom, and that they would be encouraged by how they see God at work on campus.
- Please pray for our freshman students to get connected to each other and upperclassman involved with the ministry.
- Please pray for conversion in the hearts of the many non-Christians involved with this ministry.
- Please pray for Anna Caroline's health, who is recovering from an episode of vertigo, and for good health for the family throughout this winter

- The twelve sons of Jacob are a "mixed bag," to say the least. And yet they are the family that God chooses to work though, to grow and multiply into a nation that will ultimately produce the Messiah. Can you think of other times, in the Bible and in your own life, when God worked through things and people that you didn't expect? What does this teach us about God's character, and how is this good news?
- Once again, Jacob makes his sons swear to him that they will bury him in the promised land. What does Jacob's insistence about being buried "with his fathers" teach us about his faith in God's promises, and how can this inform and strengthen our faith?
- Read through Jacob's words to Judah (49:8-I2). Does this language and imagery remind you of other places in the Bible? How do these verses anticipate Jesus the Messiah?
- Jacob prophetically tells his sons how their future will take shape, "in the days to come." Reflect on how
 God's sovereignty over the future should give you comfort and security in the season of life that you are
 in now.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Ruling Elders

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*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

