



**GRACE COVENANT**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Wor(k)ship Sunday

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 8, 2023

SONG TO GATHER

“Goodness of God”

by Jenn Johnson

ALL

**I love you, Lord. Oh, your mercy never fails me.  
All my days I’ve been held in your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**All my life you have been faithful. All my life you have been so, so good.  
With ev’ry breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**I love your voice. You have led me through the fire.  
In darkest night, you are close like no other.  
I’ve known you as a father, I’ve known you as a friend.  
I have lived in the goodness of God.**

**All my life you have been faithful. All my life you have been so, so good.  
With ev’ry breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT IS “WOR(K)SHIP” SUNDAY?

\*SONG TO PRAISE

“God So Loved”

by We the Kingdom

ALL

**Come all you weary, come all you thirsty. Come to the well that never runs dry.  
Drink of the water, come and thirst no more.**

**Come all you sinners, come find his mercy. Come to the table he will satisfy.  
Taste of his goodness, find what you're looking for.**

**For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only son to save us.  
Whoever believes in him will live forever.**

**Bring all your failures, bring your addictions.  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.  
Jesus is waiting there with open arms.**

**For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only son to save us.  
Whoever believes in him will live forever.  
The pow'r of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.  
For God so loved, God so loved the world.**

**Praise God, praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise him, praise him for the wonders of his love. (2x)  
For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only son to save us.  
Whoever believes in him will live forever.**

**Bring all your failures, bring your addictions.  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.  
Jesus is waiting ~ God so loved the world.**

#### **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

**James 2:14–18 (NRSV)**

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith.

**Holy Wisdom, Holy Words**

**Thanks be to God!**

#### **RESPONSIVE READING**

**"Reaching for Rainbows"**

paraphrased from Ann Weems

**One: We believe in God, in Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, and in you and me.**

**All: We believe the Holy Spirit has freed us to worship as a community.**

One: We believe the Holy Spirit works through confetti and ministers;  
puppets and wiggly children

**All: ringing bells and silence; drama and the unexpected; choirs and banners**

One: touching and praying; spontaneity and planning; faith and doubt

**All: tears and laughter; leading and supporting; teaching and learning**

One: dancing and stillness; applauding and giving; hugging and kneeling

**All: creativity and routine; speaking and listening; holding on and letting go**

One: “thank you” and “help me”; Scripture and alleluias; agonizing and celebrating

**All: accepting and caring; through you and through me; through Love.**

One: We believe God’s Holy Spirit lives in this community of dancing, hand-holding  
people where lines of age and politics and lifestyles are crossed.

**All: We believe in responding to God’s grace and love and justice for all people  
by putting our faith into action.**

One: We believe in the Kingdom of God within us and in sharing that  
Kingdom with others.

**All: We believe in Love.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### SONG TO SEND

“Joy of the Lord”

by Rend Collective

**ALL**

**Though the tears may fall, my song will rise, my song will rise to you.**

**Though my heart may fail, my song will rise, my song will rise to you.**

**While there’s breath in my lungs I will praise you, Lord.**

**In the dead of night I’ll lift my eyes, I’ll lift my eyes to you.**

**When the waters rise, I’ll lift my eyes, I’ll lift my eyes to you.**

**While there’s hope in this heart, I will praise you, Lord.**

**The joy of the Lord is my strength! The joy of the Lord is my strength!  
In the darkness I’ll dance, in the shadows I’ll sing, the joy of the Lord is my strength!**

**When I cannot see you with my eyes, let faith arise in you.**

**When I cannot feel your hand in mine, let faith arise to you.**

**God of mercy and love, I will praise you, Lord.**

**Oh, you shine with glory, Lord of light, I feel alive with you.**

**In your presence now, I come alive, I am alive with you.**

**There is strength when I say; “I will praise you, Lord!”**

**The joy of the Lord is my strength! The joy of the Lord is my strength!  
In the darkness I’ll dance, in the shadows I’ll sing, the joy of the Lord is my strength!  
In the darkness I’ll dance, in the shadows I’ll sing, the joy of the Lord is my strength!**

**BENEDICTION AND SENDING**

**WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD**

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