



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship September 4, 2022 9:30am
1st Sunday in the Season of Peace

Gathering

PRELUDE

“Sinfonia” from *Cantata 156*
Bob Dover, clarinet

by J.S. Bach

In worship following reflective music, we are requesting a response of quiet or a contemplative “amen.” Any music that elicits a response of applause is to the glory of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mitch Trigger

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather together in the name of the One who bids us come.

ALL: We gather together to hear the words of the One who is Love.

One: We gather together to sing praises of the One who teaches peace.

ALL: Come, let us worship!.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 305

“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

DARWALL’S 248th

THE CHURCH

305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!

In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

O God, you who are always doing a new thing, we confess that we sometimes close windows against the fresh air of new ideas, against the noise of other people's worries, against the winds of change. God of every place and time, we confess that we often draw the curtains against people who are different, against world news or community concerns. Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes, our shuttered churches, the security systems on our hearts. Open up our lives and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

Equipping

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:13–31 *(CEB)*

On that same day, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself arrived and joined them on their journey. They were prevented from recognizing him.

He said to them, "What are you talking about as you walk along?" They stopped, their faces downcast. The one named Cleopas replied, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?"

He said to them, "What things?"

They said to him, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of his powerful deeds and words, he was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. But there's more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning and didn't find his body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them he is alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn't see him."

Then Jesus said to them, “You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. Wasn’t it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then he interpreted for them the things written about himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets.

When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. But they urged him, saying, “Stay with us. It’s nearly evening, and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight.

ANTHEM

“Creation Will Be at Peace”

Music by Anna Laura Page

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers

Based on Isaiah 11:6–9

*In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease;
in the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace.
The wolf will lie down with the lamb, the cow and bear will feed,
their young will play together; a little child will lead.
The leopard and goat will graze, the lion will feed on straw.
They will war no more; a child will lead them all.
In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease;
in the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace.*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Ephesians 2:14–17 (CEB)

Christ is our peace. He made both Jews and Gentiles into one group. With his body, he broke down the barrier of hatred that divided us. He canceled the detailed rules of the Law so that he could create one new person out of the two groups, making peace. He reconciled them both as one body to God by the cross, which ended the hostility to God. When he came, he announced the good news of peace to you who were far away from God and to those who were near.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“The Big Snack”

Rev. Mitch Trigger

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

arr. Mark Hayes

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

Linda Dover, organist

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

(Individual bread and juice sets are available in the Concourse as you enter the Sanctuary. If you desire a gluten-free option, please see the Communion server at the Sanctuary entrance.)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sending

*HYMN OF CALLING 498 "Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken" BEACH SPRING
Stanzas 1 & 4 All ... Stanza 2 High Voices ... Stanza 3 Low Voices

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

498

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)
F Dm B \flat

1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the Gal - i -
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a qui - et
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in faith we
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your

(D) (Bm)
F Dm

le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of Life from heav - en, was their
room one night. In the bread and wine you gave them, Christ, you
gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the a - ges: "I am
name to share bread for which the mil - lions hun - ger, words that

(G) (D) (A)
B \flat F C

food for - ev - er - more.
came as Light from Light. By your bod - y bro - ken
with you; do not fear!"
tell your love and care.

(Bm) (F \sharp m) (Bm) (G) (A) (D)
Dm Am Dm B \flat C F

for us, by your wine of life out-poured, Je - sus, feed a -

(Bm) (G) (D)
Dm B \flat F

gain your peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The first two stanzas of this text deal with events in the past (the feeding of the multitude and the Last Supper) and the final two with events in the present. The recurring last four lines of each stanza serve as an affirmation of Christ's continuing presence at all times.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“The Heavens Declare the Glory of God” *Psalm XIX*

Linda Dover, organist

by Benedetto Marcello

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

Some music is reprinted by permission of CCLI 1154643 and OneLicense A-705105.
Our Church Streaming & Podcast Licenses are CSPL 048834 through CCLI & included in OneLicense A-705105.
Any videos are shown by permission of CVLI #504397326.

RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE AT TODAY’S WORSHIP SERVICE WITH OUR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE PAD: Click this link: <https://bit.ly/GCPCattendance>, or scan the QR Code below, and it will take you to the link.

