



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship May 5, 2022 9:30am
4th Sunday of Easter

Gathering

PRELUDE "I Need Thee Every Hour" arr. Mark Hayes
Chris Krug, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Mitch Trigger

SHARING OUR SONG "Just Like Jesus Grew" by Ruth Elaine Schram
Joy! (4s-K) – Emily Hussey, director
*Abel Frye, Kamden Frye, Charlotte Hearn, Aidan Hussey,
Evie Schmidt, Magnolia Sellers, and Grant Stromberg*

I am growing just like Jesus grew.
Jesus was a child like me and you.
Jesus helped his mom and I do, too.
Jesus helped his dad and I do, too.
Jesus played with friends, and I do, too.
Jesus went to church, and I do, too.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

One: *"As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you...."* (Isa. 66:13)

All: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

One: *"Can a woman forget her nursing child, fail to pity the child of her womb?
Even these may forget, but I won't forget you."* (Isa. 49:15)

All: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

One: *"But I have calmed and quieted my soul; like a weaned child with its mother,
like a weaned child is my soul within me."* (Ps. 131:2).

All: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

One: *“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...How often I wanted to gather your people together, just as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But you didn’t want that.”*
(Matt. 23:37))

All: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care..

One: *“...but we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother caring for her own children.”* (1 Thess. 2:7)

All: Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

*HYMN 803

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

RESIGNATION

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need 803

(Psalm 23)

1 My shep-herd will sup - ply my need; Je - ho - vah is his name.
 2 When I walk through the shades of death your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

In pas - tures fresh he makes me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.
 one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

He brings my wan - dering spir - it back when I for - sake his ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;

and leads me, for his mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows; your oil a - noints my head.
 no more a strang - er, or a guest, but like a child at home.

The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.

A Time for Children & Parents “Through the Window”

by Ruth Elaine Schram

Celebration! (1st-6th graders) & Adult Quartet

Pam Kelly & Rebecca Prater, directors

Lara Schesser, assistant director

Chris & Angela Krug, accompanists

Celebration! Singers:

Xander Circo, Melo Golston, Nini Golston, Mallory Hearn, Cate Hussey, Liam Hussey, Brynnley Krug, Morgan Krug, Conor Schesser, James Schmidt, Max Soule, Ethan Stromberg, and Harrison Stromberg
Adult Singers: Karen Kesler, Sue Trigger, Andrew Alka, & Patrick O'Halloran

(Children) 1. & 2. Through the window I can see you; I am playing, you are praying, praying for me, faithfully praying, praying for my future, praying for my friends, praying for our fam'ly. May those faithful prayers never end.

(Adults) 1. Through the window I can see you; you are playing, I am praying. praying for your future, praying for your friends, praying for our fam'ly.

May God's hand of blessing always be upon you, guiding you;

May you always follow heaven's ways.

May you grow to be like Jesus; may you live for him all your days.

2. Through the window I can see you; you are playing, oh, I am praying, praying for you, faithfully praying. May God's hand of blessing reach unto your children's children; may they always follow heaven's ways.

May they grow to be like Jesus; may they live for him all their days.

(All) 3. Through the window they will see you; they'll be playing, you'll be praying, praying for them, faithfully praying, praying for their future, praying for their friends, praying for our fam'ly, for their children's children.

May those faithful prayers never end. Amen.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

**God our Parent, we gather to open our hearts to you
trusting that you will welcome us with open arms.**

We come to worship you.

**The One who leads us through times of trial;
the One who supports us in sorrow and struggle;
the One who is beside us when all is bleak.**

Holy One, we praise You.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: You are God's beloved. Peace be with you.

All: **And also with you and all others!**

Equipping

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:22–30

Common English Bible

The time came for the Festival of Dedication in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple, walking in the covered porch named for Solomon. The Jewish opposition circled around him and asked, “How long will you test our patience? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

Jesus answered, “I have told you, but you don’t believe. The works I do in my Father’s name testify about me, but you don’t believe because you don’t belong to my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life. They will never die, and no one will snatch them from my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them from my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

ANTHEM

“The Greatest Love”

by Ken Medema

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers – Sue Trigger, soloist

Suppose I brave the winter winds for you, to be sure you’re safe and warm: This is love.

Suppose I swim the flooded rivers, to protect you from the storm: This is love.

Suppose I stumble through the darkness when I hear your urgent call: This is love.

But if I give my life to save you: This is the greatest love of all!

Suppose I walk through wind and fire, just to be here at your side: This is love.

Suppose I give up friends and fam’ly, suppose for love I lose my pride: This is love.

Suppose I lose my reputation, lose my name, my face, my all: This is love.

But if I give my life to save you: This is the greatest love of all!

I’ve heard it said that love’s a feeling, this is only just a start.

*Most feelings change as fast as weather, but love’s a matter of the mind and will;
a matter of the head and heart.*

Suppose I walk a thousand highways, to bring you back when you are lost: This is love.

Suppose you cost me my possessions, and I gladly bear the cost: This is love.

Suppose I face the soldier’s weapon, suppose I climb the prison wall: This is love.

But if I give my life to save you: This is the greatest love of all!

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 9:36–43

Common English Bible

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas). Her life overflowed with good works and compassionate acts on behalf of those in need. About that time, though, she became so ill that she died. After they washed her body, they laid her in an upstairs room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two people to Peter. They urged, “Please come right away!” Peter went with them. Upon his arrival, he was taken to the upstairs room. All the widows stood beside him, crying as they showed the tunics and other clothing Dorcas made when she was alive.

Peter sent everyone out of the room, then knelt and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. He gave her his hand and raised her up. Then he called God's holy people, including the widows, and presented her alive to them. The news spread throughout Joppa, and many put their faith in the Lord. Peter stayed for some time in Joppa with a certain tanner named Simon..

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"The Ladies Club"

Rev. Mitch Trigger

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC "The King of Love"
Chris Krug, organ

by Wilbur Held

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sending

*HYMN

"God of the Women"

SLANE ("Be Thou My Vision")

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

Tune: Traditional Irish melody ("Be Thou My Vision")

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***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Jubilee!"
Chris Krug, organ

by Gilbert M. Martin

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

*Today's anthem, "Through the Window" by Ruth Elaine Schram
was donated by Celia & Mike Nicholas in loving memory of
Celia's mother, Celia Smith. May 2022*

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