



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship October 31, 2021 9:30am
4th Sunday of Thanks Giving — Reformation Sunday

Gathering

PRELUDE

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Linda Dover, organist

NETTLETON
arr. Robert Lau

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mitch Trigger

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Video*)

We hear the voice of God calling, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

We feel the Spirit moving among us, moving us to acts of compassion and justice.

We know the love of Jesus. We love because Christ first loved us.

Come, worship God together.

Come, let us serve our God, who calls us by name.

HYMN 771

“What Is the World Like”

(Stanzas 2, 3, & 5)

NEW WORLD

What Is the World Like 771

Capo 1: (G) (Em7) (C) (D)
 A^b Fm7 D^b E^b

1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,

(Em) (C) (Am) (B7)
 Fm D^b B^bm C7

Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:
 Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;
 No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;
 Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,
 filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.

(Em) (Am) (D) (G)
 Fm B^bm E^b A^b

roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
 watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.
 peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.
 tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.
 Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,

(C) (Em7) (Am7) (D) (G)
 D^b Fm7 B^bm7 E^b A^b

This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
 This is how God longs for us when we roam.
 This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
 This is how God read - ies us for the light.
 this is a new world where God's will is done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text and tune were written to conclude a hymn festival at the 2009 Annual Conference of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. Four parables framed both the festival and the hymn: the Mustard Seed, the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the Ten Bridesmaids.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Compassionate God, Jesus set the standard for loving others. He healed, he comforted, he lifted up, he taught, and he loved others. Help us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Help us to be kind, generous, and open to those around us. Above all, help to see all people as your children, all as neighbors to one another. 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!

GOSPEL LESSON

The Gospel of Luke 10:25–37

Kevin Johnson

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

ANTHEM

"Foundations"

arr. Joseph Martin

*Incorporating "How Firm a Foundation" and
"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"*

Linda Dover & Chris Krug, 4-hand piano

Chancel Singers I

Lauren Bond, Karen Kesler, Laura Farris, Susan Hayden, Susan Sutherland,

Sue Trigger, Linda Bruns, David Sutherland, Paul Bruns, & Bob Dover

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!

766 The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and

love are found, there can the church be known.
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” by Johann Gottfried Walther
Linda Dover, organist arr. Duane Plash

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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