



# GRACE COVENANT

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship May 14, 2023 9:30am  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day

### Gathering

PRELUDE "Prelude in F" arr. Todd Kendall  
(harpsichord)  
Linda Dover, organist  
*In the spirit of Mother's Day, the settings used for today's organ music  
are nontraditional — and very childlike. Enjoy!*

WELCOME Rev. Mitch Trigger

SHARING OUR SONG "We All Belong to God" by Ruth Elaine Schram  
Joy! Singers (4s-1<sup>st</sup> graders)  
Emily Hussey & Hilary Schmidt, directors  
*Singers: Rowan Cabe, Abel Frye, Henry Frye, Kamden Frye, Charlotte Hearn, Nathan Hearn,  
Sophia Hearn, Aidan Hussey, Evelyn Schmidt, Magnolia Sellers, & Grant Stromberg*  
***(Refrain) Ev'ryone, ev'rywhere, ev'ry living thing; animals and people, they all belong to God.***  
*Ev'ry bird and ev'ry bee, ev'ry squid and manatee, ev'ry moose and chimpanzee, ev'rything you see. (Refrain)*  
*People far across the sea, people close to you and me, and the people in between, ev'ryone you see. (Refrain)*

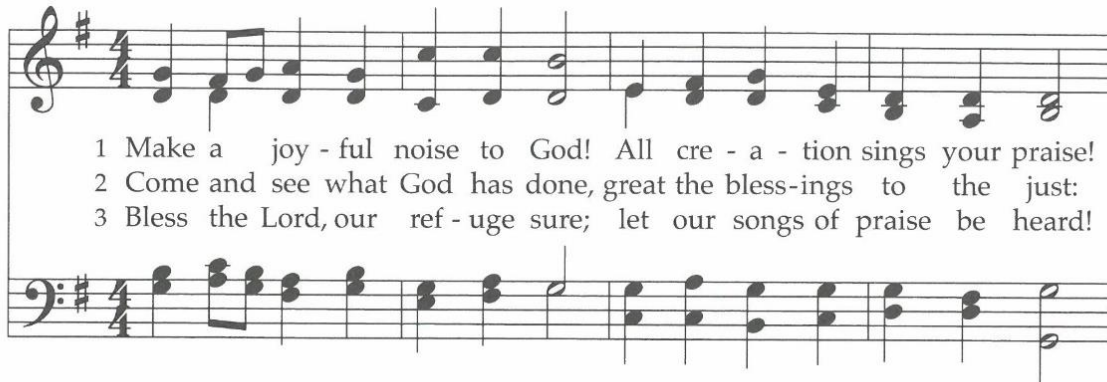
### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We've come to worship God,  
**ALL: who loved us before we were yet born,**  
ONE: who knows us even better than we know ourselves,  
**ALL: whose presence never leaves us,**  
ONE: and whose love for us never ceases.  
**ALL: This is our God. Let's worship together!**

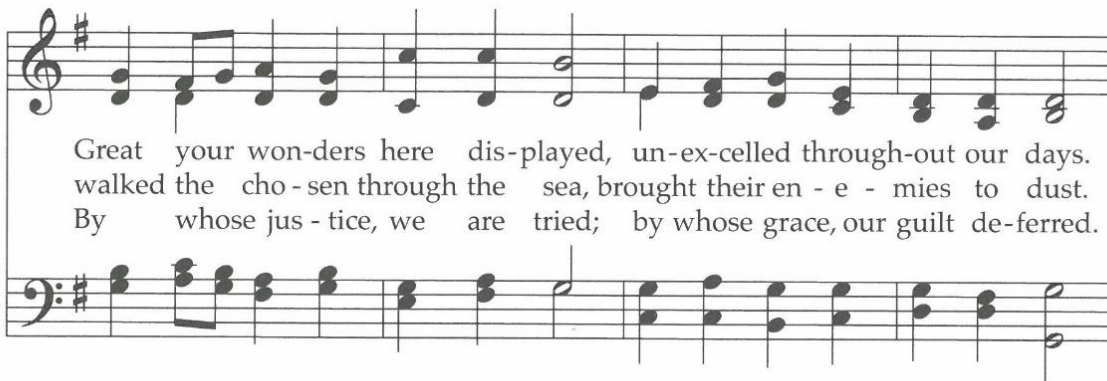
GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

# Make a Joyful Noise to God! 54

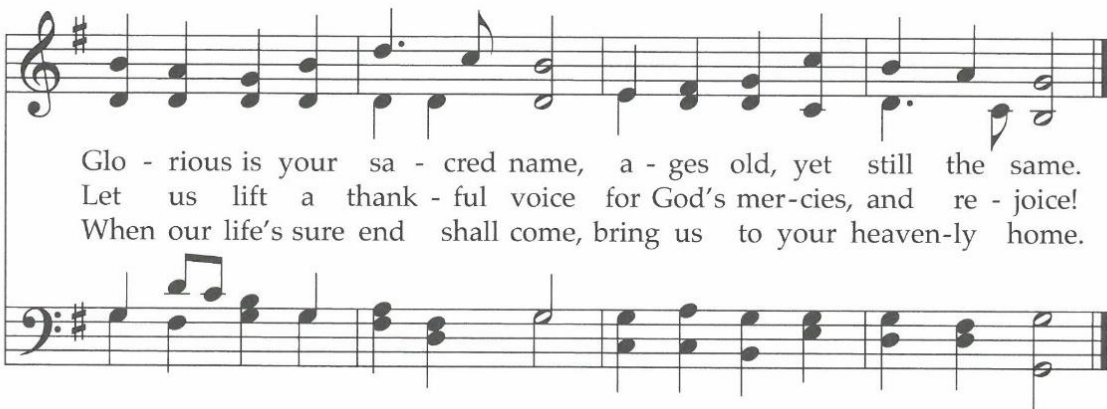
(Psalm 66)



1 Make a joy - ful noise to God! All cre - a - tion sings your praise!  
 2 Come and see what God has done, great the bless-ings to the just:  
 3 Bless the Lord, our ref - uge sure; let our songs of praise be heard!



Great your won-ders here dis-played, un-ex-celled through-out our days.  
 walked the cho - sen through the sea, brought their en - e - mies to dust.  
 By whose jus - tice, we are tried; by whose grace, our guilt de-ferred.



Glo - rious is your sa - cred name, a - ges old, yet still the same.  
 Let us lift a thank - ful voice for God's mer-cies, and re - joice!  
 When our life's sure end shall come, bring us to your heaven-ly home.

This paraphrase of Psalm 66 maintains a corporate tone more suitable for congregational singing than does the original psalm, which moves to a personal narrative in its latter part. The reference to "all creation" is strengthened by the associations of the tune (see no. 14).

TEXT: Michael Morgan, 1995, alt.

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

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DIX  
7.7.7.7.7.7

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Grace Elizabeth Hearn, daughter of Brandon & Katie Hearn

Nathan Cullen Hearn, son of Amanda & Kevin Hearn

Sophia Lynn Hearn, daughter of Amanda & Kevin Hearn

*(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)*

## SUNG PRAYER FOR FAMILIES "Through the Windows"

by Ruth Elaine Schram

Celebration! Choir (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders)

Pam Kelly, director – Angela Krug, accompanist

Lara Schesser, assistant director

*Singers:* Helen Blankers, Melo Golston-Circo, Nini Golston-Circo, Xander Circo,

Mallory Hearn, Caitlin Hussey, Liam Hussey, Brynnley Krug, James Schmidt,

Max Soule, Ethan Stromberg, & Harrison Stromberg

and

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers

Rebecca Prater, director – Linda Dover, accompanist

*(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 CONFESSION *(Together)*

**Father and mother of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, Jesus declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life, bring life to others, and give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your**

**children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

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

\*HYMN 607

**“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

## Equipping

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17:22-31 (CEB)

Nancy Kalesz

Paul stood up in the middle of the council on Mars Hill and said, “People of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. As I was walking through town and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: ‘To an unknown God.’ What you worship as unknown, I now proclaim to you. God, who made the world and everything in it, is Lord of heaven and earth. He doesn’t live in temples made with human hands. Nor is God served by human hands, as though he needed something, since he is the one who gives life, breath, and everything else. From one person God created every human nation to live on the whole earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands. God made the nations so they would seek him, perhaps even reach out to him and find him. In fact, God isn’t far away from any of us. In God we live, move, and exist. As some of your own poets said, ‘We are his offspring.’ “Therefore, as God’s offspring, we have no need to imagine that the divine being is like a gold, silver, or stone image made by human skill and thought. God overlooks ignorance of these things in times past, but now directs everyone everywhere to change their hearts and lives. This is because God has set a day when he intends to judge the world justly by a man he has appointed. God has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

## ANTHEM

**“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”**

J. S. Bach

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers

*Jesu, joy of man’s desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright.*

*Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light.*

*Word of God, our flesh that fashion’d with the fire of life impassion’d.*

*Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying round thy throne.*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 14:15-21 (CEB)

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. I will ask the Father, and he will send another Companion, who will be with you forever. This Companion is the Spirit of Truth, whom the world can't receive because it neither sees him nor recognizes him. You know him, because he lives with you and will be with you. "I won't leave you as orphans. I will come to you. Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Because I live, you will live too. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them loves me. Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

**Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

"Unseen and Unknown"

Rev. Mitch Trigger

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## MINUTE FOR MISSION

Children's Team

Angela Krug

## A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

## OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

"Jesus Loves Me"

arr. William B. Bradbury

Linda Dover, organist

*Notice a conversation between children (woodharp, chrysoglott, blown bottle)  
and adults (flutes and strings).*

[Sending](#)

\*HYMN 282

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

DOWN AMPNEY

## 282 Come Down, O Love Divine

1 Come down, O Love Di - vine; seek out this soul of mine,  
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn  
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with your own ar - dor glow - ing.  
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing.  
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing.

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear,  
 And let your glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
 For none can guess God's grace, till Love cre - ates a place

and kin - dle it, your ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

This *lauda spirituale*, a kind of vernacular Italian sacred song from the late Middle Ages and Renaissance, was translated into English in the 19th century but received little notice until this tune (named for the composer's birthplace) was created for *The English Hymnal*.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

“Postlude on FOREST GREEN”

Traditional English Melody

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

arr. David Lowe

Linda Dover, organist

*pan flute, woodharp, strings and a 32' contra violone*

## GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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