



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship August 2, 2026 9:30am
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

*The prelude, the first act of worship, sets the tone for what is to follow.
So, we invite you as worshipers to gather, to transition from your busy lives
into a sacred place of communion with God and with each other. – Dr. Kimo Smith, adapted*

PRELUDE

“Amazing Grace”

arr. Gay & Jim Jones

Bob Dover, clarinet & Linda Dover, accompanist

*Worship is our central identifying act as Christians. In our liturgy, music, preaching,
and praising we can best demonstrate and practice what we believe.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Unison*)

*God calls us to worship. We respond so we can focus on our time together
and to prepare for the coming of the Spirit in our midst.*

ONE: Come, people of God, with every breath and every gift.

ALL: We gather not as spectators, but as participants in the worship of our living God.

ONE: Come with songs of joy and prayers of hope.

ALL: Come with questions, doubts, gratitude, and longing.

ONE: God has called us together to praise, to listen, and to be transformed.

ALL: The One who created us now meets us in this place. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Let us worship God.

GATHERING

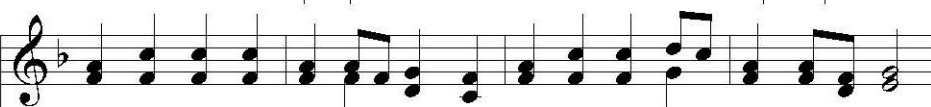
Brethren, We Have Met to Worship 396



1 Breth-ren, we have met to wor-ship and a - dore the Lord our God.
 2 Sis - ters, will you come and help us? Mo-ses' sis - ter aid - ed him.
 3 Is there here a trem-bling jail-er, seek-ing grace and filled with fears?
 4 Let us love our God su - preme-ly; let us love each oth - er, too.



Will you pray with all your pow - er while we try to preach the word?
 Will you help the trem-bling mourn-ers who are strug-gling hard with sin?
 Is there here a weep-ing Mar - y pour-ing forth a flood of tears?
 Let us love and pray for sin - ners till our God makes all things new.



All is vain un - less the Spir - it of the ho - ly One comes down.
 Tell them all a - bout the Sav - ior. Tell them that he will be found.
 Breth-ren, join your cries to help them; sis - ters, let your prayers a - bound!
 Christ will call us home to heav - en; at his ta - ble we'll sit down.



Breth - ren, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.
 Sis - ters, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.
 Pray, O pray, that ho - ly man - na will be scat-tered all a-round.
 Christ will gird him-self and serve us with sweet man-na all a-round.

This hymn comes out of the early 19th-century southern camp meeting experience, where believers were invited to pray for new converts, often likened to biblical characters such as Paul's jailer (Philippians 1:12-13). As its name shows, the five-note tune was created for this text.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

The prophet Jeremiah reminds us that worship is more than words spoken in a sanctuary. God desires hearts shaped by mercy, justice, and love. When we gather to confess our sins, we do not come in fear or shame. We come in honesty, trusting in God's abundant grace. We remember that, as human beings, we fall short, and in the same breath we take comfort in God's faithful love as we seek God's forgiveness. Let us pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Gracious and merciful God, You call us to worship you with our whole lives, yet too often our praise ends when the service is over. We sing of your love, but fail to love our neighbors. We speak of your peace, yet hold on to anger and resentment. We proclaim your justice, yet overlook those who are hurting. We celebrate your generosity, yet cling tightly to what we have.

Forgive us for treating worship as a routine rather than an opportunity to be transformed by your Spirit. Shape our lives to reflect the songs we sing, the prayers we pray, and the grace we receive. Shape our lives to worship beyond these walls and be light to the world. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We are reminded that God is gracious and forgiving. In Jesus we find a bridge of faith to God that can never be destroyed. There is truly nothing that can separate us from God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time, is on summer hiatus. 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.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you and all others!

*RESPONSE 582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

GLORY TO GOD

582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B $\flat$ F B $\flat$ F B $\flat$ F Gm F



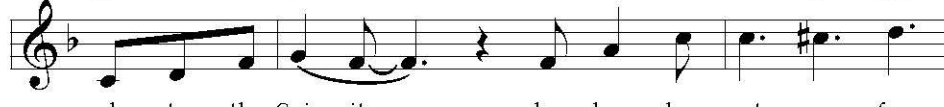
1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B $\flat$ E $\flat$ B $\flat$ Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Equipping

Part of our worship together is hearing the word read and proclaimed.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 7:1–11 (NRSVue)

Allen York

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all you people of Judah, you who enter these gates to worship the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and let me dwell with you in this place. Do not trust in these deceptive words: "This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord."

For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt, then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave to your ancestors forever and ever.

Here you are, trusting in deceptive words to no avail. Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, "We are safe!" — only to go on doing all these abominations? Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your sight? I, too, am watching, says the Lord.

ANTHEM

"You Are Not Alone"

Molly Ijames

Chancel Choir

Patrick O'Halloran, director & Linda Dover, accompanist

This anthem was originally commissioned by the faithful members of GCPC, honoring the many years of now retired Director of Music Ministries: Rebecca Prater

*When the sun spills glory on the road ahead,
or when looming rainclouds in the sky are spread,
every path is charted, every step is known,
I am walking with you; You are not alone.*

*Do not be afraid, my beloved child,
do not be dismayed, I am still your God.
I will never leave you; trust the truth you know:
I will journey with you everywhere you go.*

*When the shadows deepen in the moonless night,
and the mist surrounds you, hiding stars from sight,
with the dark descending, dimming all you see,
look up, my beloved, lift your eyes to Me.*

*When the winds of summer freshen youthful days,
when the autumn splendors fill midlife with praise,
when the snows of winter burden age with care,
through each turning season, you will find Me there.*

*Do not be afraid, my beloved child,
do not be dismayed, I am still your God.
I will never leave you; trust the truth you know:
I will journey with you everywhere you go.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 150

Praise the Lord!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
 praise him in his mighty firmament!
Praise him for his mighty deeds;
 praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
Praise him with trumpet sound;
 praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance;
 praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals;
 praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Reports from The Field: Glorifying God”

Rev. Karen Wright

*HYMN 515

“I Come with Joy”

DOVE OF PEACE

I Come with Joy

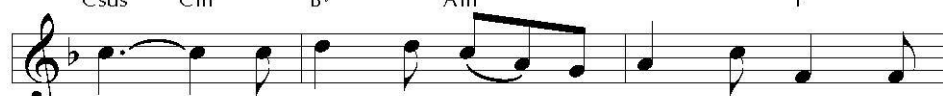
515

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B^b (A) C (D) F (Bm) Dm



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has

(Asus) (Am) (G) (F#m) (D)
 Csus Cm B^b Am F



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

(Em) (D/F#) (G) (A) (Am7) (D)
 Gm F/A B^b C Cm7 F



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com-mu - nion bread, in Christ's com-mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we." The unadorned language of this text is well matched to the simple shape note tune that sets it here.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1993
 MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977
 Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company
 Music Arr. © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

DOVE OF PEACE
 8.6.8.6.6

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

"I Shall Not Want"

Audrey Assad / Bryan Brown

Esme Dixon, solo & Linda Dover, piano

*From the love of my own comfort
 From the fear of having nothing
 From a life of worldly passions*

Deliver me O God

*From the need to be understood
And from a need to be accepted
From the fear of being lonely
Deliver me O God*

*And I shall not want, no, I shall not want
When I taste Your goodness, I shall not want*

*From the fear of serving others
Oh, and from the fear of death or trial
And from the fear of humility
Deliver me O God*

*And I shall not want, no, I shall not want
When I taste Your goodness I shall not want
No, I shall not want, no, I shall not want
I shall not want*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

One of two sacraments in the church. The common made holy. The word enacted.

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion

"Josefin's Dopvals"

"Faraway"

Cal Sweeten, dulcimer

Roger Tallroth

Peter Jung

Prayer After Communion

Sending

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show 33

(Psalm 150)

1 Praise the Lord! God's glo - ries show,
 2 Earth to heaven ex - alt the strain, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Strings and voic - es, hands and hearts,

saints with - in God's courts be - low,
 Send it, heaven, to earth a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia!
 in the con - cert, bear your parts,

an - gels round the throne a - bove,
 Age to age, God's mer - cies trace, Al - le - lu - ia!
 All that breathes, your Lord a - dore,

all who see and share God's love.
 Praise God's prov - i - dence and grace! Al - le - lu - ia!
 sing - ing praise for - ev - er - more,

Originally cast as two eight-line stanzas, this 19th-century paraphrase of Psalm 150 was slightly shortened when it was set to the present tune with recurring Alleluias. The Welsh tune is actually older than the text and bears a name meaning "the church of St. Mary."

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Fuga in F"
Linda Dover, organist

J.S. Bach

**Stand in body or spirit*

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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