GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Service of Worship   November 1, 2020 10:00am
4th Sunday in the Season of Thanks Giving

Gathering

PRELUDE
“Solemn Melody”                         John S. Dixon

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP  (spoken together)
We have come here as a people of faith,
thankful for all those who have gone before us.
We stand in awe of so many who have served faithfully
and shared and lived the good news.
May their example and their courage be a guide and model for our living.
Together we remember and join in holy fellowship as we sing our praise.

HYMN 37
“Let All Things Now Living”             ASH GROVE
CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

37  Let All Things Now Living

1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
2 By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,

to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;

who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,

by guiding us on to the end of our days.
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.

God’s banners are o’er us; pure light goes before us,
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;

a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
with glad adoration, a song let us raise,

Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle Benedicite, omnia opera Domini (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).

TEXT: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; harm. Gerald H. Knight, 20th cent.

© 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company
Music Hymn. © Royal School of Church Music
A TIME WITH STEWART

PRAYER OF THE DAY AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Most loving God, you have given us a great multitude of witnesses whose lives have testified to the amazing power of your Son’s resurrection. By your presence among us, teach us the truth of life everlasting. Through this day for remembrance of those who have gone before us, grant us inspiration to run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Keep us on the way of truth until we, too, join in endless celebration with all your saints in splendor. In the name of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever, we pray the prayer he taught his disciples, saying:

“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.”

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!

HYMN 510
“We Gather Here in Jesus’ Name”

COME, SHARE THE LORD
LORD’S SUPPER

510 We Gather Here in Jesus’ Name

Come, Share the Lord

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em7)
B♭ F Gm7

1 We gather here in Jesus’ name;
2 He joins us here; he breaks the bread;
3 We’ll gather soon where angels sing;

his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
the Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead;
we’ll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;

for through the loving Son the Father makes us one:
the one we love the most is now our gracious host:
now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:

come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

A7 D A D
C7 F C F F Fine

1 No one is a stranger here; everyone belongs.
2 We are now a family, of which the Lord is head.

Find - ing our for - give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs.
Though un - seen, he meets us here in the break - ing of the bread.

The center of this text recalls Christ’s post-Resurrection meal at Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35), a reminder that the Risen Christ is in our midst when two or three gather in his name (Matthew 18:20) and share a foretaste of the Heavenly Feast (Matthew 26:29/Luke 22:18/Mark 14:25).
"Therefore, get rid of all ill will and all deceit, pretense, envy, and slander. Instead, like a newborn baby, desire the pure milk of the word. Nourished by it, you will grow into salvation, since you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Now you are coming to him as a living stone. Even though this stone was rejected by humans, from God’s perspective it is chosen, valuable. Your yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple. You are being made into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Thus it is written in scripture, Look! I am laying a cornerstone in Zion, chosen, valuable. The person who believes in him will never be shamed. [Isaiah 28:16] So God honors you who believe. For those who refuse to believe, though, the stone the builders tossed aside has become the capstone. This is a stone that makes the people stumble and a rock that makes them fall. Because they refuse to believe in the word, they stumble. Indeed, this is the end to which they were appointed. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who are God’s own possession. You have become this people so that you may speak of the wonderful acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his amazing light. Once you weren’t a people, but now you are God’s people. Once you hadn’t received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

ANTHEM (video) 
“Soon and Very Soon” arr. Jack Schrader
Chancel Choir I
Liz Chandler, Terri Monrad, Sue Trigger, Connie Richards, Gene Wilson, Mitch Trigger, and Joe Hoffman

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
No more dying there, we are going to see the King,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King!
Soon and very...soon.

SERMON
“We Are Family” Rev. Sue Trigger

 Sending

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

REMEMBERING OUR SAINTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
   The Great Thanksgiving
   Breaking of the Bread
   Communion of the People
   Prayer after Communion

HYMN 326  "For All the Saints"  SINE NOMINE
326 For All the Saints

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
   Thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
   Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
   Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
   Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
   We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet
   All are one in thee, for all are thine.

4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
   Steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and
   Hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

5 From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast, through
   Gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
   Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
Harmony, stanza 3

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feeibly struggle; they in glory shine; yet
all are one in thee, for all are thine.

Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

To stanza 4
CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Toccata”

John Wayne Kerr

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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