



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship March 12, 2023 9:30am
3rd Sunday in Lent

Gathering

WELCOME

Rev. Mitch Trigger

INTROIT

+“Anthem for Winds and Percussion”
GCPC Orchestra – Pam Smith Kelly, director

by Claude T. Smith
arr. Joseph Benjamin Earp

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: As a deer longs for flowing streams,

ALL: so our souls long for you, O God.

ONE: Our souls thirst for God, for the living God.


ALL: When shall I come and behold the face of God?

*HYMN 396



“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”
(Stanza 1 High Voices ... Stanza 2 Low Voices ... Stanzas 3 & 4 All)

HOLY MANNA



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.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(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.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are more aware of our thirst for your presence, your love, your guidance on life's journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that led us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don't run deep enough and don't last. We come to your well today desperate and thirsty for Christ's living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace. 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

Matthew 7:1–3 (NRSVUE)

Kevin Johnson

"Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For the judgment you give will be the judgment you get, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye but do not notice the log in your own eye?"

Anthem

"O Love"

Music by Elaine Hagenberg

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers

Words by George Matheson

with Ky Townsend, cello

O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee.

I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee;

*I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.
O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee.
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be ...
that morn shall tearless be. O Love, that will not let me go.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 12:15–17 (NRSVUE)

Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“First Impressions”

Rev. Mitch Trigger

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

arr. Troy Armstrong

“How Sweet the Sound”
(Setting of “Amazing Grace”)

GCPC Orchestra *with* Linda Dover, piano
Pam Smith Kelly, director

[Sending](#)

*HYMN

“The Servant Song”

THE SERVANT SONG

424 The Servant Song

Serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13

Eb Eb⁴ Eb EbM⁷ Ab/Eb Eb Fm/Eb Eb Cm Fm⁷/C Cm⁷ Fm Eb/G Bb

1. Broth - er, sis - ter, let me serve you, Let me be as Christ to you;
 2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; We're to - geth - er on this road.
 3. I will hold the Christ - light for you In the night - time of your fear;
 4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
 5. When we sing to God in heav - en, We shall find such har - mo - ny,
 6. Broth - er, sis - ter, let me serve you, Let me be as Christ to you;

1 Ab Eb/Bb⁷ Eb Ab/C Gm/Bb Fm/Ab Eb/G Fm Eb/G Fm/Ab Cm Ab⁶ Bb⁷ Eb

Pray that I may have the grace to Let you be my ser - vant too.
 We are here to help each oth - er Walk the mile and bear the load.
 I will hold my hand out to you, Speak the peace you long to hear.
 I will share your joy and sor - row Till we've seen this jour - ney thro'.
 Born of all we've known to - geth - er Of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.
 Pray that I may have the grace to Let you be my ser - vant too.

5 6 7 8

TEXT: Richard Gillard
MUSIC: Richard Gillard

THE SERVANT SONG
8.7.8.7.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Anthem for Winds and Percussion”

by Claude T. Smith

GCPC Orchestra – Pam Smith Kelly, director

arr. Joseph Benjamin Earp

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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***+Today is the premiere presentation of Joseph Benjamin Earp's arrangement of
"Anthem for Winds and Percussion"
originally written by Claude T. Smith.***

GCPC Orchestra

Pam Smith Kelly, director

Violin: Becky Showalter, Chris Lindsay, Edwin Fukunaga

Bass: Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney

Flute: Bob Dover and Debbie Stewart

Bassoon: Lisa England

Clarinets: Amy Jantz, Lauren Bond, and Robin Thompson

Bass Clarinet: Pat Setser

Trumpet: Phil Holmes and Russ Thompson

Horn: Jim Kelly, Diane Paris, Sherry Berard, Ellin Schoenfeld

Trombone: David England

Euphonium: Lara Schesser

Tuba: Trey Bures, Paul Weisenborn, Brent Herdman

Percussion: Ken Eberhart, Doug Mayle, Keith Langabee