



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210 ♦ 913-345-1256 ♦ gcpc.org

Service of Worship January 24, 2021 10:00am 3rd Sunday After Epiphany

Gathering

PRELUDE "Jesus Loves Me" arr. David Paxton
Linda Dover, organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "Processional" from *Celebrate Life* Music by Buryl Red
"Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"
Video of Exaltation! & Adults in 2018 – Andrew Alka, soloist

CALL TO WORSHIP *(spoken together)*

The invitation is given to every person by Jesus Christ:

"Come to me! Follow me! Be my disciples!"

We come to this time at the invitation of Jesus Christ.

In the name of Christ, we accept the invitation to discipleship.

In the name of Christ, as his disciples, we worship and praise God.

**In the midst of a world where cruelty abounds,
we proclaim the God of Compassion.**

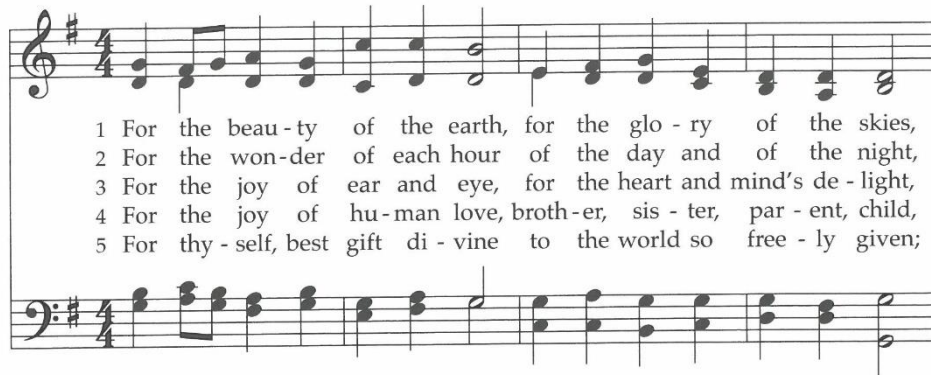
**In the midst of despair that threatens to swallow up whole lives, whole peoples,
we proclaim the God of Hope.**

**In the midst of indifference and apathy,
we proclaim the God of Love.**

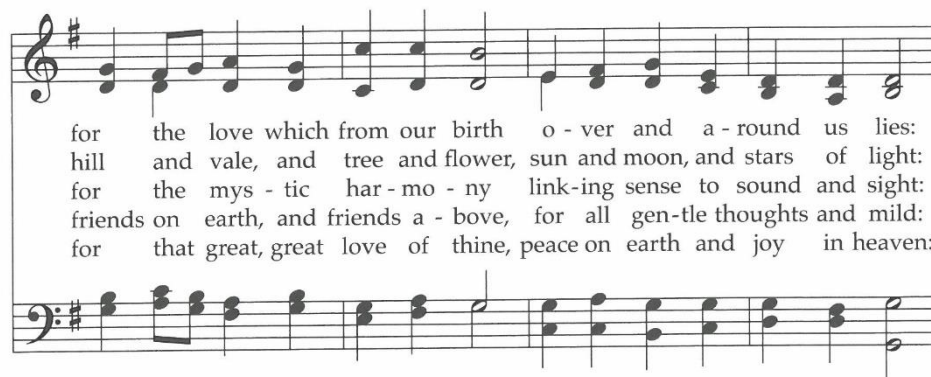
**Come, let us worship together
and share our witness of God's living presence in the world!**

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

For the Beauty of the Earth 14

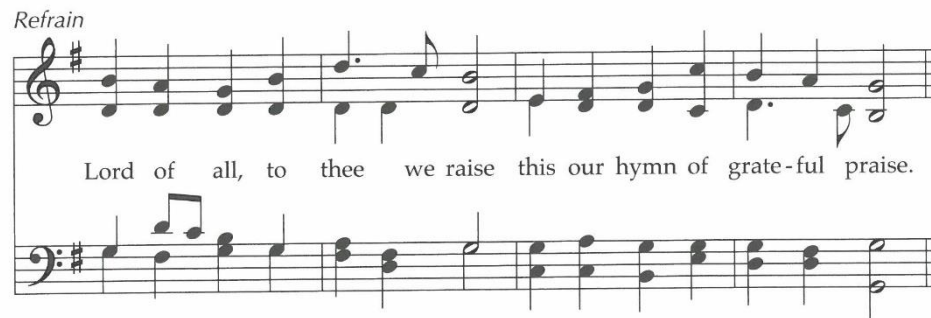


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

A TIME WITH STEWART

PRAYER FOR REFLECTION (*video*)

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

“What Good Can Come From Nazareth?”

AURELIA

**"What good can come from Nazareth? Can any good at all?"
Nathaniel said to Philip when he heard Philip's call.
The prophets never praised it — that little backwoods place.
He thought God wouldn't choose it to be a means of grace.**

**And yet, when he met Jesus, Nathaniel changed his ways.
His words that put down others soon turned to words of praise.
He called our Savior "Rabbi!" and "Son of God!" and "King!"
What change a little listening and openness can bring!**

**"What good can come from strangers?" O God, we hear the shout.
For some hate other people and seek to push them out.
May we who follow Jesus be glad to "Come and see!"
May we learn from each other with true humility.**

**O God of all our cultures, now make us one, we pray.
May we see your grace working in all your lands this day.
May we hear others' stories — what makes them sad or strong,
Till — listening — we find friendship, with love our common song.**

*Biblical Reference: John 1:43-51; Tune: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864 ("The Church's One Foundation")
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Equipping

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:14–20

(Common English Bible)

Jesus' message

After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

Jesus, Be with Us

A hymn for Matthew 25 churches in the PC(USA)

Swing  $E\flat$ Cm Fm $B\flat$ $E\flat$ $E\flat$

Refrain Je - sus, be with us. Help us each day to fol - low the

Cm $F7$ $B\flat$ $A\flat$ $G7$

gos - pel and live as we pray. Send us your Spir - it and

Cm $F7$ Fm $B\flat$ $E\flat$ $E\flat$ *fine*

show us your way. Je - sus, be with us to - day.

Cm Gm Fm $E\flat$

Leader 1 Where there is hun - ger and thirst in the land,
or all 2 Where there is ha - tred be - cause of our skin,
 3 Where there are val - leys of bones, as dust,

Cm Fm $Gsus$ $G7$

shat - ter the sys - tems of greed.
 break down the walls of our tear.
 build up the bod - y of Christ.

Cm Gm $B\flat$ $E\flat$

Je - sus, be with us; make use of our hands.
 Je - sus, be with us; to save us from sin.
 Je - sus, be with us, and help us to trust.

$F7$ $F7$ $B\flat$ $B\flat7$

Lift up your great peo - ple in need.
 In your love, draw us near.
 Teach us a new way of life.

This hymn celebrates God's work through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Matthew 25 invitation (pcusa.org/matthew25)—cradating systemic poverty, dismantling structural racism, and building congregational vitality. The refrain is based on Matthew 1:23, "and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means, 'God is with us,'" and Jesus' closing words in Matthew 28:20, "I am with you always, to the end of the age."

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“All You Works of God, Bless the Lord!”
Linda Dover, organ

arr. Doreen Potter

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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