



Service of Worship July 20, 2025 9:30am
Sixth 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 “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” arr. John Carter
(MARTYRDOM)

Linda Dover, organist

This hymn provides an introspective treatment of Christ’s crucifixion and when sung, calls forth self-sacrifice from the beholder. The tune may have originated as an 18th-century Scottish folk song. John Carter’s arrangement elicits joy and reflects the love and grace we receive from Jesus, our savior.

In worship following reflective music, we are requesting a response of quiet or a contemplative “amen.” Any music that elicits a response of applause is to the glory of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Karen Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP Karen Wright

ONE: When we missed the mark, Christ stepped to the plate — humble, obedient, full of grace.

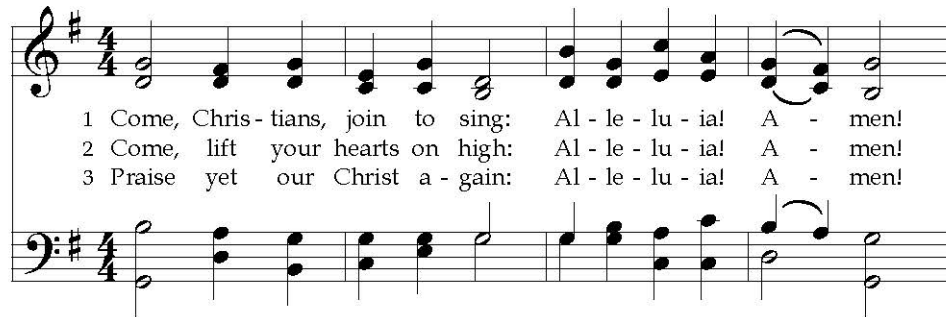
ALL: Jesus, our Savior, came not to condemn the world, but to save it in love.

ONE: He is the cleanup hitter of heaven — the One who lifts the broken, heals the wounded, and carries our burdens.

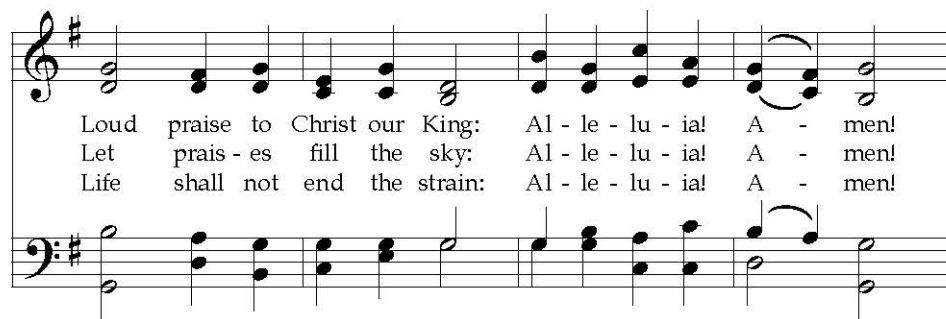
ALL: At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that He is Lord. Let us worship the One who gave everything — so that we might live.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN

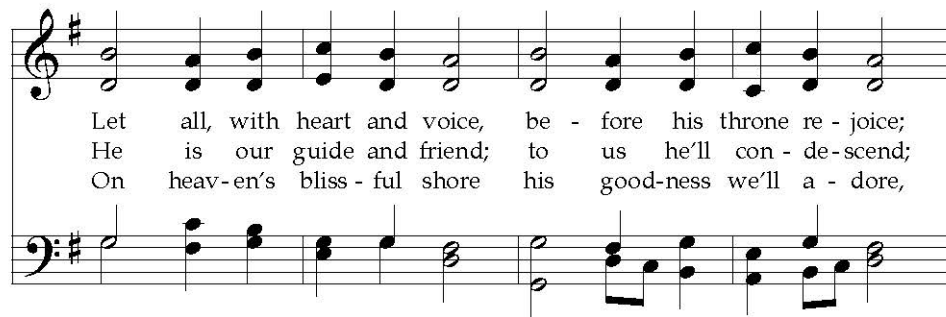
267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing



1 Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de-scend;
 On heav-en's bliss - ful shore his good-ness we'll a - dore,



praise is his gra-cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

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.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

Though Christ humbled Himself for our sake, we often chase status, control, and perfection. Let us come honestly before God, trusting in the One who lifts us up and makes us whole.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Gracious God, You stepped into our world not with judgment, but with love. Yet we confess that we have turned away — grasping at our own glory, ignoring the needs of others, and forgetting the self-giving example of Jesus. We swing and miss at what truly matters. Forgive us. By Your mercy, clean our hearts, renew our minds, and teach us again how to walk in the way of Christ — with humility, compassion, and courage. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, But that the world might be saved through Him. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you and all others!

*HYMN 634

“To God Be the Glory”

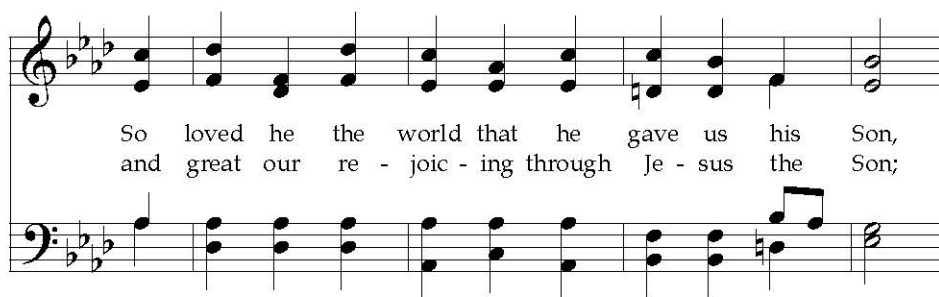
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

ADORATION

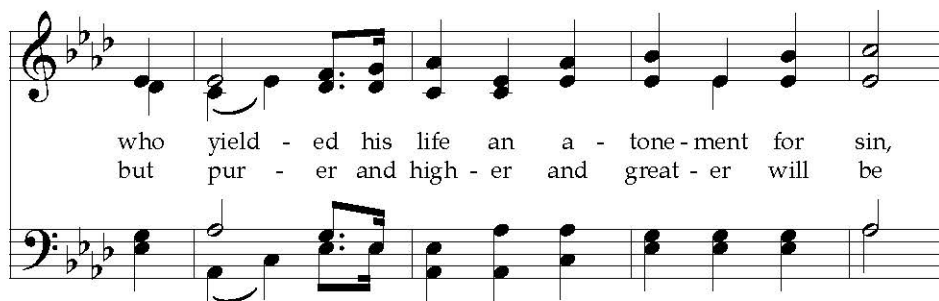
634 To God Be the Glory



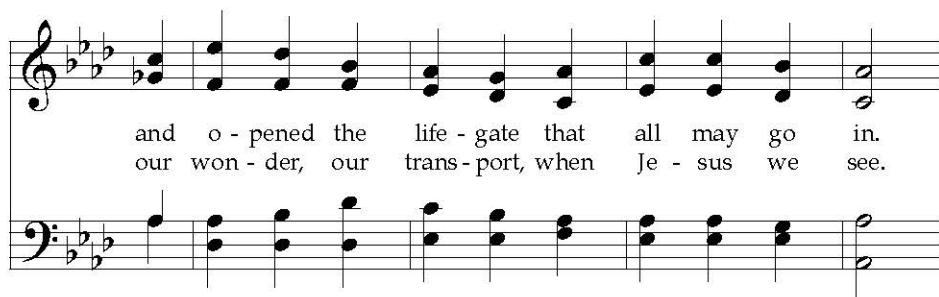
1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,



So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;



who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be



and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

TEXT: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875
MUSIC: William Howard Doane, 1875

TO GOD BE THE GLORY
11.11.11 with refrain

ADORATION

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,

and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 3:16–17 (NRSVue)

Tom Stroud

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

ANTHEM

“All This and More”

Deborah Dresie

Summer Choir & Linda Dover, piano

*A gentle dawn, a world so new, a sun to grace a sky so blue,
A hope so bright to shine within, to teach a heart to trust again.*

*A night so still to soothe a soul, a shelter warm to shield the cold;
A star-lit sky, a holy view, all this and more I find in you.*

*Day and night Your love remains a shining light, a burning flame.
In times of joy, in times of pain, Your love is here with me the same.*

*O Lord, hear the song and the faithful prayer of a soul which is grateful to Thee.
For wherever I go, love will find me there, and truth will set me free.*

*A friend so kind to walk beside, a hand so strong to be my guide,
A faith so sure to see me through, all this and more I find in you.*

*Unending love and gratitude,
All this and more I give to you.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 2:5–11 (NRSVue)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.
Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC “I Heard About a Man”

Allen York, solo

Raymond Brown

Words by Ragan Courtney

*I heard about a man who came to live in time.
He did happy things with water and new wine.
He helped the crippled up, and He made the blind to see.
And then you know what else He did?
He gave Himself for me.*

*He was a simple man. He really had no home.
He’d go and stay where He was asked;
and the next morning He’d be gone.
He made a leper whole and He set the prisoner free.
And then you know what else He did?
He came to stay with me.*

*Because I know this One who was man and yet divine,
Because I know what love can do in just a second’s time,
Because He made me truly whole,
He’s the one who gave my soul a song to sing.*

*He was a humble man, yet always He was bold.
He’d stop and talk for just a spell and see clear to your soul.
He fed a hungry crowd and He withered up a tree
And then you know what else He did?
He blossomed forth in me!*

[Sending](#)

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

Rejoice, the Lord Is King! 363

Descant

4 Re-joyce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

1 Re - joyce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
 2 Our Sav - ior, Je - sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
 3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;
 4 Re - joyce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.

Re - joyce, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.
 when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.
 the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given.
 and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re-joyce!

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re-joyce, a - gain I say, re-joyce!

Each stanza of this enthronement text prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4.
 "Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune
 (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

POSTLUDE

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

arr. Phillip Lane

Non-traditional pan flute, wood harp, and Zimbelstern stops will send you forth into the week!

**Stand in body or spirit*

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

Music and/or lyrics are reprinted by permission of CCLI 1154643 and OneLicense A-705105.
Our Church Streaming & Podcast Licenses are CSPL 048834 through CCLI & included in OneLicense A-705105.
Any videos are shown by permission of CVLI #504397326.



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Boulevard ♦ Overland Park, KS 66210
Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ www.gcpc.org

RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE AT TODAY’S WORSHIP SERVICE WITH OUR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE PAD:
Click this link: <https://bit.ly/GCPCattendance>, or scan the QR Code below, and it will take you to the link.

