



# GRACE COVENANT

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship March 27, 2022 9:30am  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent / Building Vital Congregations Sunday

### Gathering

PRELUDE

“Prelude in D Major”  
“The Lord’s My Shepherd”  
Linda Dover, organ

by J.K.F. Fischer  
by Patricia Lou Harris

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mitch Trigger

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

We are gathered to worship our God.

**Send your Spirit upon us.**

We come from many places, with many burdens.

**Send your Spirit upon us.**

We turn our hearts to you, O God.

**Send your Spirit upon us, and make us your beloved family...**

\*HYMN 775

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

**Stanza 1 Beth Lillian, soloist ... Stanzas 2 & 3 All**

*The two equal phrases in each line suggest that this African American spiritual shares some characteristics of work or field songs that were used to coordinate the efforts of slaves involved in tasks (road clearing, ditch digging, etc.) that needed combined rhythmic strokes.*

## I Want Jesus to Walk with Me 775

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

The two equal phrases in each line suggest that this African American spiritual shares some characteristics of work or field songs that were used to coordinate the efforts of slaves involved in tasks (road clearing, ditch digging, etc.) that needed combined rhythmic strokes.

## TIME WITH STEWART

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

We admit we are hesitant to walk to Jerusalem and beyond with you, God of Glory.  
In a world where we worry about tomorrow before enjoying today,  
we race by your moments of silence, of learning.  
In that flood of worries, which can overwhelm us,  
we may miss that assurance that you have not cut us off from your grace.  
In the deserts of our desires, we may ignore that feast of hope,  
of joy, of life you offer to us.  
Forgive us and have mercy on us, Gentle Guardian of our souls.  
In humility, may we offer our lives to others.  
In love, may we share your grace with everyone we meet.  
In hope, may we wait for you all our days,  
as you come to us in the life and joy of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior...

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

In this place we find God's word, God's way,  
God's love, God's forgiveness.  
What more do we need to sustain us as we continue as pilgrims along the Way?  
**In every wilderness, on every road; in every moment, in every life;  
in every journey, in every heart, we receive the daily bread we need—  
God's hope, God's mercy, God's joy.  
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: You are God's beloved. Peace be with you.  
**All: And also with you and all others!**

## Equipping

### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Peter 3:18–22

(CEB)

Christ himself suffered on account of sins, once for all, the righteous one on behalf of the unrighteous. He did this in order to bring you into the presence of God. Christ was put to death as a human, but made alive by the Spirit. And it was by the Spirit that he went to preach to the spirits in prison. In the past, these spirits were disobedient—when God patiently waited during the time of Noah. Noah built an ark in which a few (that is, eight) lives were rescued through

water. Baptism is like that. It saves you now—not because it removes dirt from your body but because it is the mark of a good conscience toward God. Your salvation comes through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is at God’s right side. Now that he has gone into heaven, he rules over all angels, authorities, and powers.

ANTHEM

“City Called Heaven”

arr. Josephine Poelinitz

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers I

African American Spiritual

Sue Trigger, soloist

*I am a poor pilgrim of sorrow. I’m left in this old wide world alone!  
I ain’t got no hope for tomorrow. I’m trying to make it, make heaven my home.*

*Sometimes I’m tossed and I’m driven Lord.*

*Sometimes I just don’t know which way to turn.*

*I heard of a city called heaven. I’m trying to make it, make heaven my home.*

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON (video) Mark 1:9–15

(NIV)

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.” At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“Where’s Jesus?”

Rev. Mitch Trigger

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sending

\*HYMN 340

“This Is My Song”

FINLANDIA

***Stanza 1 High Voices ... Stanza 2 Low Voices ... Stanza 3 All Parts***

## This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,  
 3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.  
 thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
 Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.  
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Lloyd Stone; stanza 3, Georgia Harkness, alt.

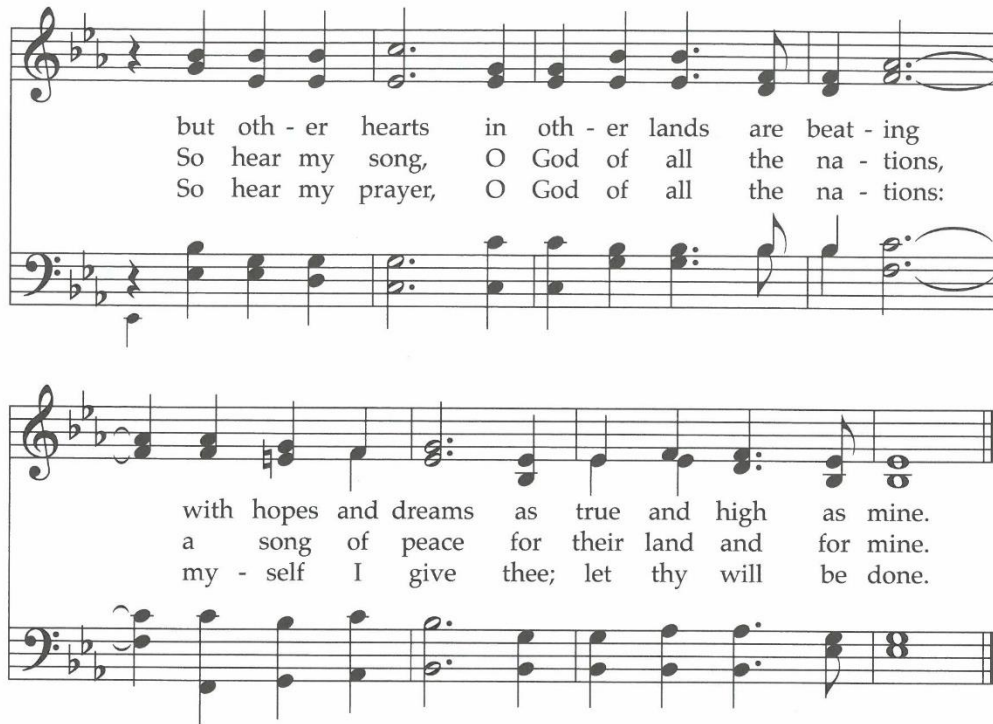
MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933, alt.

Text Sts. 1–2 © 1934, ren. 1962 The Lorenz Corp.; St. 3 © 1964 The Lorenz Corp.

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 The Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

FINLANDIA  
 11.10.11.10.11.10

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing  
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.  
my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Rigaudon”  
Linda Dover, organ

by André Campra  
arr. Diane Bish

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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