



Service of Worship August 3, 2025 9:30am
Eighth 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

“On Eagles’s Wings”

Michael Joncas

Conducted by Christian Chamberlain, EKC! Chorus Intern

arr. Douglas Wagner

*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

Pastor Steve Wing

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 107, The Message)

One: Oh, thank God — God is so good!

All: God’s love never runs out!

One: So, thank God for such marvelous love;

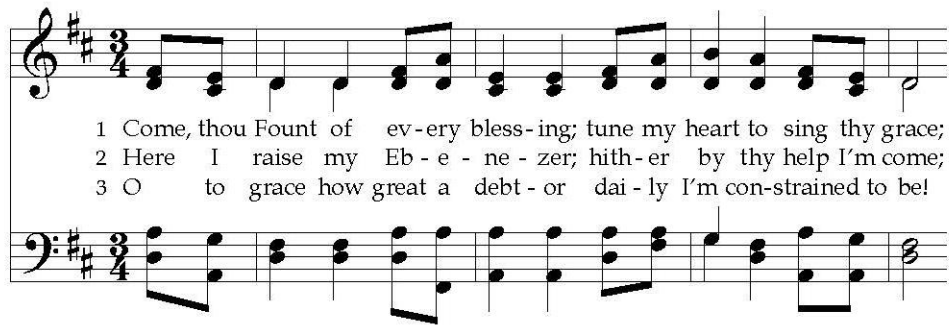
All: For God’s miracle mercy.

*HYMN 475

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



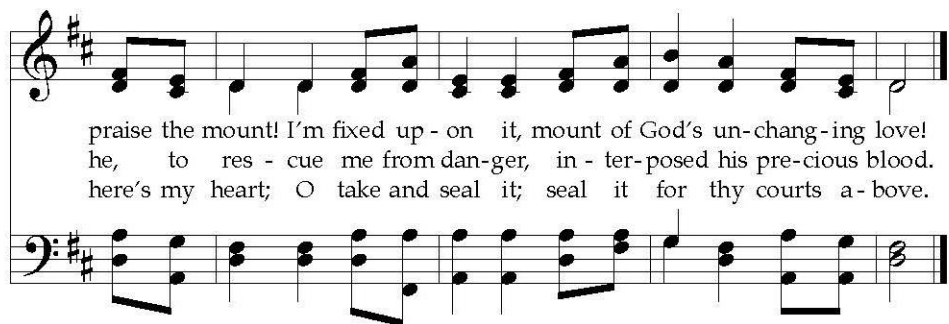
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.
 MUSIC: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

NETTLETON
 8.7.8.7.D

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Emily Nelson Dixon

(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

We come to the plate again and again — swinging hard, hoping for success, trying to make something of our own strength. But faith reminds us: it's not about how many times we miss. It's about the grace that meets us when we return to the dugout, weary and honest. So let us drop our pride, lay down our striving, and turn to the One who welcomes us back every time — with mercy, with love, and with a second chance. Let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

So often, dear God, I stand at the plate. Bat in my hand. I stare down my opposition that stares back at me, just waiting. Leering at me. I am confident. I smile back. I laugh to myself. I will show them! I dig my cleats into the cinder. And with great bravado, I fail. And fail. And fail again. I swing with all my strength, and miss. I miss everything. I've come back to the dugout, Lord. I need a word. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

(from Matthew 5, The Message)

You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God ... You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

People: Thanks be to God!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: **And also with you and all others!**

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 22:54–62 (The Message)

Barbara Douglas

Arresting Jesus, they marched him off and took him into the house of the Chief Priest. Peter followed, but at a safe distance. In the middle of the courtyard some people had started a fire and were sitting around it, trying to keep warm. One of the serving maids sitting at the fire noticed him, then took a second look and said, "This man was with him!"

He denied it, "Woman, I don't even know him."

A short time later, someone else noticed him and said, “You’re one of them.”

But Peter denied it: “Man, I am not.”

About an hour later, someone else spoke up, really adamant: “He’s got to have been with him! He’s got ‘Galilean’ written all over him.”

Peter said, “Man, I don’t know what you’re talking about.” At that very moment, the last word hardly off his lips, a rooster crowed. Just then, the Master turned and looked at Peter. Peter remembered what the Master had said to him: “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” He went out and cried and cried and cried.

ANTHEM

“Prayer of Peace”

Earlene Rentz

(The Prayer of St. Francis)

Linda Robertson, flute

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace

Where there is hatred, Let there be love

Where there is injury, pardon

Where there is doubt, faith

Where there is despair, hope

Where there is darkness, light

Where there is sadness, joy

O Divine Master, may I not so much seek to be consoled as to console

To be understood as to understand;

To be loved as to love,

May I not so much seek to be loved as to love.

It is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned

It is in dying that we are born, we are born into eternal life.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 4:1–14 (The Message)

While Peter and John were addressing the people, the priests, the chief of the Temple police, and some Sadducees came up, indignant that these upstart apostles were instructing the people and proclaiming that the resurrection from the dead had taken place in Jesus. They arrested them and threw them in jail until morning, for by now it was late in the evening. But many of those who listened had already believed the Message — in round numbers about five thousand!

The next day a meeting was called in Jerusalem. The rulers, religious leaders, religion scholars, Annas the Chief Priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander — everybody who was anybody was there. They stood Peter and John in the middle of the room and grilled them: “Who put you in charge here? What business do you have doing this?”

With that, Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, let loose: “Rulers and leaders of the people, if we have been brought to trial today for helping a sick man, put under investigation regarding this healing,

I'll be completely frank with you — we have nothing to hide. By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the One you killed on a cross, the One God raised from the dead, by means of his name this man stands before you healthy and whole. Jesus is 'the stone you masons threw out, which is now the cornerstone.' Salvation comes no other way; no other name has been or will be given to us by which we can be saved, only this one."

They couldn't take their eyes off them — Peter and John standing there so confident, so sure of themselves! Their fascination deepened when they realized these two were laymen with no training in Scripture or formal education. They recognized them as companions of Jesus, but with the man right before them, seeing him standing there so upright—so healed!—what could they say against that?

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"A Game of Failures"

Pastor Steve Wing

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

"Green Pastures"
Linda Dover, organist

Gerald Peterson

*HYMN

"Come, Ye Disconsolate"

Come, Ye Disconsolate

CROSS AND COMFORT

Words: verses 1-2 Thomas Moore, 1816. Verse 3 Thomas Hastings, 1831.

Music: 'Consolator (Webbe)' Samuel Webbe, 1792.

Setting: "The Church Hymnal, Revised and Enlarged" (Episcopal), 1896.

copyright: public domain. This score is a part of the Open Hymnal Project, 2013 Revision.

♩ = 120

1. Come, ye dis - - con - so - late, wher - - 'er ye lan - - guish;
 2. Joy of the des - - o - late, light of the stray - - ing,
 3. Here see the Bread of Life; see wa - ters flow - - ing

Come to the mer - - cy seat, fer - - vent - ly kneel.
 Hope of the pen - - i - tent, fade - - less and pure,
 Forth from the throne of God, pure from a - - bove;

Here bring your woun - ded hearts, here tell your an - - guish;
 Here speaks the Com - fort - er, ten - - der - - ly say - - ing,
 Come to the feast of love; come, ev - - er know - - ing

Earth has no sor - row that Heav'n can - - not heal.
 "Earth has no sor - row that Heav'n can - - not cure."
 Earth has no sor - row but Heav'n can re - - move.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving 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.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

arr. Dale Wood

Linda Dover, organist

Prayer After Communion

Sending

*HYMN

"Sing Wherever I Go"

We the Kingdom

All

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go. (2X)**

**God is for me, he's not against me. I will hold to the plans he has for me.
When I'm broken, he will fix me. I will call on the name of the Lord!**

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go.**

**He's my heart-song in my sorrow. He's my hope and my strength for tomorrow.
When the storms rise all around me, I will call on the name of the Lord!**

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go. (2X)**

**I got joy, joy, joy deep in my soul!
I will sing, sing, sing wherever I go!**

**All my life, all I know, God's been good, good to my soul.
Mountain high, valley low, I'm gonna sing wherever I go. (2X)**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Steve Wing

POSTLUDE

“Glorious Peace”
Kent Ensign & Linn Field, bass soloists

words by John Parker
music by Patti Drennan

*Peace, glorious peace, talkin' 'bout a peace, glorious peace.
There's a brilliance in the moonlight, glowin' brighter than the dawn,
Like it whisperin' at midnight, that's been growin' for so long
Talkin' 'bout a yearnin' and longin' for sweet peace.
Talkin' bout peace, 'bout peace with my brother, peace, glorious peace*

*There's a road we've been a travelin' for many a lonely day,
Like a mighty movin' army marchin' to a place far away
Talkin' 'bout a yearnin' and longin' for sweet peace.
Talkin' bout peace, 'bout peace with my sister,
peace, glorious peace*

*You and me ain't got nobody else, except for you and me,
All I am is all you need, and all you need is me.
When the final page of hist'ry is written on a scroll,
And the sum of ev'ry kindness is measured for each soul
Won't be no 'mount of money that brings you sweet release
Only but what was paid to my brother, sweet glorious peace.*

**Stand in body or spirit*

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

ACT II MEMBERS

SOPRANOS: Nona Boyd, Barbara Douglas, Laura Mathison, Kathleen Miller

ALTOS: Mary Bertoldie, Luanne Field, Cindy Fieser, Deborah Hall, Nancy LaJoie,
Connie Richards, Linda Robertson, Ellie Simon

TENORS: Jim Crist, Jim Kelly, Bill Langley, Jim Mattison, Doug Puckett, Lou Williams

BASSES: Christian Chamberlain, Kent Ensign, Linn Field

Accompanist, Mary Bertoldie
Director, Pam Smith Kelly

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.

