



# GRACE COVENANT

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship January 21, 2024 9:30am  
Third Sunday after the Epiphany

### Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

"10,000 Reasons"  
Praise Team/ALL

by Matt Redman

**Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, Worship his holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship your holy name**

**The sun comes up it's a new day dawning. It's time to sing your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.**

**Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, Worship his holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship your holy name**

**You're rich in love and you're slow to anger your name is great and your heart is kind  
For all your goodness I will keep on singing ten thousand reasons for my heart to find**

**Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul, Worship his holy name  
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship your holy name**

WELCOME

Rev. Karen Wright

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The invitation is given to every person by Jesus Christ:  
"Come to me! Follow me! Be my disciples!"

ALL: **We come to this place, to this time,  
at the invitation of Jesus Christ.**

ONE: In the name of Christ,

**ALL: we accept the invitation to discipleship.**

ONE: In the name of Christ,

**ALL: as his disciples, we worship and praise God.**

ONE: In the midst of despair that threatens to swallow up  
whole lives, whole peoples,

**ALL: we proclaim the God of Hope.**

ONE: In the midst of indifference and apathy,

**ALL: we proclaim the God of Love.**

**Come, let us worship together**

**and share our witness of God's living presence in the world.**

\*SONG TO PRAISE

“In Christ Alone”

by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend

Praise Team/**All**

## In Christ Alone

(as published by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Words and Music by  
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

**VERSE**

♩ = 60

G D G A D/F# G D/F# Em7 G/A D G

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song; This Cor - ner -  
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less babe! This gift of  
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me; From life's first

D G A D/F# G D/F# Em7 G/A D D/F#

5 stone, this sol - id Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of  
 love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came to save. Till on that  
 forth in glo - rious Day, up from the grave He rose a - gain! And as He  
 cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

G D/F# Asus A D/F# G Bm7 Asus A G D G

9 love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in  
 cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was  
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am His and He is  
 hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; Till He re - turns or calls me

**INSTRUMENTAL**

A D/F# G D/F# Em7 G/A D Am7 Em7 D Dsus D

14 All, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.  
 mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

## 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.)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Karen Wright

**Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than**

involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. 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!**

#### \*SONG OF PEACE

"Called Me Higher"

by Leslie Jordan

Praise Team/**All**

I could just sit~ I could just sit and wait for all your goodness  
Hope to feel your presence  
And I could just stay~ I could just stay right where I am and hope to feel you  
Hope to feel something again

**And I could hold on~ I could hold on to who I am  
and never let you change me from the inside  
And I could be safe, oh, I could be safe here in your arms  
and never leave home, never let these walls down.**

**But you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper  
And I'll go where you will lead me Lord  
you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper  
And I'll go where you lead me Lord**

**Where you lead me~ Where you lead me Lord**

**And I could hold on~ I could hold on to who I am  
and never let you change me from the inside  
And I could be safe, oh, I could be safe here in your arms  
and never leave home, never let these walls down.**

**But you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper  
And I'll go where you will lead me Lord  
you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper**

**And I'll go where you lead me Lord  
Where you lead me~ Where you lead me, Lord  
I will be yours, Lord~ And I will be yours for all my life  
So let your mercy light the path before me**

**'Cause you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper  
And I'll go where you will lead me Lord  
'Cause you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper  
And I'll go where you lead me, Lord, where you lead me.**

**Where you lead me, Lord. Where you lead me. Where you lead me, Lord.**

### Equipping

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jonah 3:1–5, 10 (NRSVue)

Kevin Johnson

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

#### SONG TO REFLECT

“The Commission”

by Cain

Praise Team

*See my hands and look at my feet ~ It's okay if it's hard to believe  
I have faith you will do greater things ~ It's my time to go but before I leave  
Go tell the world about me ~ I was dead but now I live  
I've gotta go now for a little while ~ But goodbye is not the end.*

*Don't forget the things that I taught you ~ I've conquered death and I hold the keys  
Where I go you will go too, someday ~ But there's much to do here before you leave  
Go tell the world about me ~ I was dead but now I live  
I've gotta go now for a little while ~ But goodbye is not*

*The end of the journey, the end of the road ~ My spirit is with you wherever you go  
You have a purpose and I have a plan ~ I'll make you this promise  
I'll come back again but until then  
Go tell the world about me ~ I was dead but now I live  
I've gotta go now for a little while ~ But goodbye is not the end.*

*(Go tell the world) I've gotta go  
(Go tell the world) for a little while  
But goodbye is not the end*

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:14–20 (NRSVue)

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words  
**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Choose Your Adventure"

Rev. Karen Wright

#### 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

### SONG FOR GIVING

**"How Great Is Our God"**

by Chris Tomlin

Praise Team /**ALL**

**The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty  
Let all the Earth rejoice ~ all the Earth rejoice  
He wraps himself in light~ and darkness tries to hide  
And trembles at his voice~ trembles at his voice  
How great is our God, sing with me  
How great is our God, and all will see  
How great, how great is our God  
Age to age he stands, and time is in his hands  
Beginning and the end ~ beginning and the end  
The Godhead Three in One ~ Father Spirit Son  
The Lion and the Lamb ~ the Lion and the Lamb  
How great is our God, sing with me  
How great is our God, and all will see  
How great, how great is our God.**

**Name above all names ~ Worthy of our praise  
My heart will sing How great is our God! (Repeat)**

**How great is our God, sing with me  
How great is our God, and all will see  
How great, how great is our God.**

**Sending**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

### \*SONG TO SEND

**"Called Me Higher" (*reprise*)**

**All**

**And I could hold on~ I could hold on to who I am  
and never let you change me from the inside**

**And I could be safe, oh, I could be safe here in your arms  
and never leave home, never let these walls down.**

**But you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper  
And I'll go where you will lead me Lord  
you have called me higher~ you have called me deeper  
And I'll go where you lead me Lord**

**Where you lead me~ Where you lead me, Lord.**

**GOD'S PEACE TO YOU**

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**GRACE COVENANT**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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