

SUNDAY EVENING

Vespers



CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 16, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

Lord's Day Vespers

EVENING WORSHIP AT 6:00 P.M.

EVENING VESPER MEDITATION

Almighty God, we give You thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of vesper light; and we implore You in Your great mercy that, as You enfold us with the radiance of Your light, so You would shine into our hearts the brightness of Your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by Your brightness we may know You to be the true God and Eternal Light, living and reigning forever and ever. Amen.



Prelude

Call to Worship

Isaiah 40:9

Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Hymn

Behold Our God

(see page 6)

Evening Prayer

Congregational Prayer

From *Open and Unafraid*

Minister: Merciful God, You Who weeps with those who weep, Who rescues those who have been oppressed, Who inclines Your ear to the needy, Who draws near to the abandoned, Who binds up the brokenhearted, Who raises up those who are laid low, and Who feels compassion for those who are broken in body or in spirit:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Minister: Do not be deaf to our pain. Have pity on us in our affliction. Bring an end to our distress. Preserve our lives.

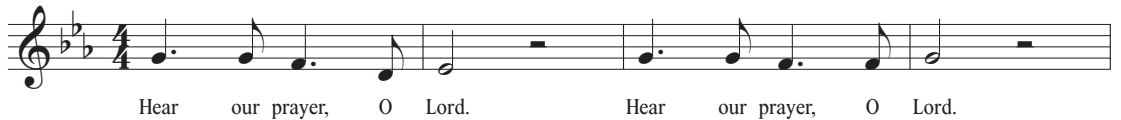
People: **Rescue us. Heal us. Be near to us this day.**

Minister: We pray this so that we might join the company of those who take refuge in You and praise Your Holy Name. We pray this in Jesus' Name, a Man of sorrows, acquainted with grief, on Whom we cast all our cares.

People: **Amen.**

Prayer Response

Hear Our Prayer



Psalm Reading

Psalm 22 (select verses)

Minister: O LORD, do not be far off! O You my Help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

People: I will tell of Your Name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You: You who fear the LORD, praise Him!

Minister: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel! For He has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and He has not hidden His face from him, but has heard, when he cried to Him.

People: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

Minister: For kingship belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations. All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust. Posterity shall serve Him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

People: They shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn, that He has done it.

Hymns

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

(see page 7)

Eternal Weight of Glory

(see page 8)

How Firm a Foundation

(see page 9)

At the last stanza of "How Firm a Foundation," children are dismissed to attend their classes.

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. 7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of His power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, Who created all things, 10 so that through the Church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that He has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in Whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him. 13 So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Homily

BUILDING A MYSTERY

Mr. Cooper

I. Mystery

A. Mysterious Recipients

B. Mysterious Messenger

C. Mysterious Method

II. Enduring Community

A. Vehicle of God’s Wisdom

B. Inevitable Glory

Prayer

Benediction

Benediction Response

The Joy of Jesus

Music and Words by
Rich Mullins, Lowell Alexander and Phil Nash



Behold Our God

Written by : Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird,
Ryan Baird, Stephen Altrogge

1. Who has held the oceans in His hands?
2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?
3. Who has felt the nails upon His hands,

3
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Who can question the authority of His words?
5
bear - ing all the guilt of sin - ful man?

7
Kings and na - tions trem - ble at His voice.
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
God e - ter - nal, hum - bled to the grave,

All cre - a - tion ri - ses to re - joice.
Who can fath - om all His won - drous deeds?
Je - sus, Sav - ior, ri - sen now to reign!

Be - hold our God, seat - ed on His throne. Come, let us a - dore Him.

Be - hold our King, noth - ing can com - pare, come, let us a - dore _____ Him!

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery



1. Come be-hold the won-drous mys-t'ry, in the dawn-ing of the King.
2. Come be-hold the won-drous mys-t'ry, He the per - fect Son of Man.
3. Come be-hold the won-drous mys-t'ry, Christ the Lord up - on the tree.
4. Come be-hold the won-drous mys-t'ry, slain by death, the God of life.



He the theme of heav-en's prais - es, robed in frail hu-man-i - ty.
 In His liv - ing, in His suf - f'ring, nev - er trace, nor stain of sin.
 In the stead of ru - ined sin - ners hangs the Lamb in vic - to - ry.
 But no grave could e'er re - strain Him Praise the Lord, He is a - live!

**Repeat here after 4th verse*



In our long - ing, in our dark - ness, now the
 See the true and bet - ter Ad - am, come to
 See the price of our re - demp - tion see the
 * What a fore - taste of de - liv - 'rance, how un -



light of life has come. Look to Christ, who con - de -
 save the hell-bound man. Christ, the great and sure ful -
 Fa - ther's plan un - fold. Bring - ing man - y sons to
 wa - ver - ing our hope. Christ in pow - er res - ur -



scend - ed, took on flesh to ran - som us.
 fill - ment of the law, in Him we stand.
 Glo - ry; grace un - meas - ured, love un - told.
 rect - ed, as we will be when He comes.

Eternal Weight of Glory



Now the days and hours and mo - ments of our su - ffering seem so —
Oh e - ter - nal weight of glo - ry Oh in - he - ri - tance di -
We will see our woun - ded Sa - vior, we'll be - hold Him face to —



long, and the toil - some wait and won - d'ring threa - ten si - lence to our song. Now our
vine, we will see our Lord re - dee - ming e - very past and fu - ture time. All our
face, and we'll hear our an - gushed sto - ries sung as vic - t'ry songs of grace. *(to chorus)*



pain is real and pre - ssing where our faith is thin and weak but our
pains will be trans - fi - gured like the scars of Christ our Lord we will



hope is set on Je - sus and we cling to Him our strength. **Chorus:** For be -
see the weight of glo - ry and our bro - ken years re - stored.



hold I tell a mys - tery: At the trump - et sound we'll wake! Death is swa - llo - wed up in



vic - t'ry when we meet our King of grace. E - v'ry year we thought was was - ted, ev - ery



night we cried how long, all will be a pas - sing mo - ment in our Sa - vior's vic - tory song.

How Firm a Foundation

1. How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your
2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your
3. "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-suf-
4. "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose, I will not, I

faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What more can he say than to
God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength - en you, help you, and
fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I
will not de - sert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should en -

you he has said, to you who for refuge to Je - sus have fled?
cause you to stand, up - held by my righ-teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
on - ly de - sign your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
deav - or to shake, I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake."

Making a Joyful Noise

Devotional Thoughts on Congregational Singing

*Let God speak directly to His people through the Scriptures,
and let His people respond with grateful songs of praise.*

–Martin Luther

Created to Sing - In His Image

We are creatures uniquely made in God's image (Gen. 1:26-28). We are designed to benefit from beauty in creativity. God made us to be powerfully engaged in our senses and memories to music. Songs have the power to prompt memory or transport us back to some other time and place. Our imagination is another aspect of the dignity we have been given by God. Music ventures into the inner corridors of our soul in ways that other things do not – it moves us deeply.

Echoing through our congregational singing is the communication the divine Author has written into this world. Singing together organizes notes and words in beautiful ways to shine God's dazzling truths into the relativistic grays of our culture. It is an incredible thing that we, the created ones, have been given a way to communicate with the One Who made us and His ears are open and listening as we lift our voices.

As we sing to God and about God together with the people of God, we reflect the truth that we were designed for community both with God and with each other. When His Church sings together with voice upon voice like arms linked across a room, across the globe and across history, we are doing what we were designed to – use our God-given voices to sing praises together to the One Who gave us voices.

Liberally taken from *Sing!, How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family and Church*, by Keith and Kristyn Getty, chapter 1 pp 5-8.



VISITORS

We are honored to have you as our guest today. Please complete the information on our Friendship Register (by scanning the QR code) so that we may respond properly to your visit.



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

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