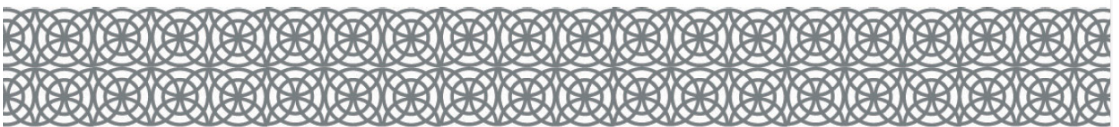


SUNDAY EVENING

Vespers



CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 23, 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

Psalm 99:1, 5

The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! Exalt the Lord our God; Worship at His footstool!
Holy is He!

Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(see page 6)

Evening Prayer

Congregational Prayer of Confession

Adapted from a prayer of Samuel Johnson

O Lord, in Whose hands are life and death, by Whose power we are sustained, and by Whose mercy we are spared – look upon us with pity. Forgive us for neglecting that which You assigned us. Help us to remember, O God, that every day is a gift from You, and should be used according to Your command. We repent of our negligence, and pray Your mercy upon us, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Prayer Response

Lord Have Mercy



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 116 (select verses)

Minister: I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

People: Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

Minister: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the Name of the LORD:

People: “O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”

Minister: For You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling; I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living. What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits to me?

People: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the LORD, I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.

Minister: O LORD, I am Your servant; I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the Name of the LORD.

People: I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people, Praise the LORD!

Hymn

Before the Throne of God Above

(see page 7)

At the last stanza of “Before the Throne of God Above,” children are dismissed to attend their classes.

Remember, O Lord, what has befallen us; look, and see our disgrace! 2 Our inheritance has been turned over to strangers, our homes to foreigners. 3 We have become orphans, fatherless; our mothers are like widows. 4 We must pay for the water we drink; the wood we get must be bought. 5 Our pursuers are at our necks; we are weary; we are given no rest. 6 We have given the hand to Egypt, and to Assyria, to get bread enough. 7 Our fathers sinned, and are no more; and we bear their iniquities. 8 Slaves rule over us; there is none to deliver us from their hand. 9 We get our bread at the peril of our lives, because of the sword in the wilderness. 10 Our skin is hot as an oven with the burning heat of famine. 11 Women are raped in Zion, young women in the towns of Judah. 12 Princes are hung up by their hands; no respect is shown to the elders. 13 Young men are compelled to grind at the mill, and boys stagger under loads of wood. 14 The old men have left the city gate, the young men their music. 15 The joy of our hearts has ceased; our dancing has been turned to mourning. 16 The crown has fallen from our head; woe to us, for we have sinned! 17 For this our heart has become sick, for these things our eyes have grown dim, 18 for Mount Zion which lies desolate; jackals prowl over it. 19 But You, O Lord, reign forever; Your throne endures to all generations. 20 Why do You forget us forever, why do You forsake us for so many days? 21 Restore us to Yourself, O Lord, that we may be restored! Renew our days as of old— 22 unless You have utterly rejected us, and You remain exceedingly angry with us.

Homily

RESTORE US TO YOURSELF

Mr. Howell

1. Struggling to Survive: vv. 1-10
2. Suffering in Shame: vv. 11-14
3. Sorrowing for Zion: vv. 15-18
4. Searching for God: vv. 19-22

Prayer

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to and the Fencing of the Table

Participation requires your reverence and attention, discernment of the Lord's Body, a clear understanding of the meaning of the Lord's Supper, meditation on Christ's suffering and death, self-judgment, sorrow for sin, desire for Christ, feeding on Him in faith, trusting in Him, rejoicing in His love, giving thanks for His grace, renewal of your covenant with God and commitment to Christ, and your special love to all Christians.

Hymn of Preparation

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

(see page 8)

Confession of Our Faith

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds; God of God; Light of Light; Very God of Very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from Heaven; And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into Heaven; And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Lord and Giver of Life; Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; Who spake by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead; And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of Humble Access

Words of Institution

Serving of the Meal

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

(see page 9)

Benediction

Benediction Response

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

**We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
He has done great things, we will say together.
We will feast and weep no more.**



Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly reign -
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend
 4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal -
 eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so gent - ly sus -
 thee! Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at -
 him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be -

va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his tem - ple draw
 tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have
 tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can
 fore him! Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a -

near, join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 do, if with his love he be - friend thee.
 gain; glad - ly for - e'er we a - dore him.

Before The Throne Of God Above



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair And tells me
3. Be - hold Him there the ris - en Lamb, My per - fect



strong and per - fect plea. A great high Priest whose Name is
of the guilt with - in, Up - ward I look and see Him
spot - less right - eous - ness, The great un - change - a - ble I



Love Who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is
there Who made an end of all my sin. Be - cause the
AM, The King of glo - ry and of grace, One with Him -



grav - en on His hands, My name is writ - ten on His
sin - less Sav - ior died My sin - ful soul is count - ed
self I can - not die. My soul is pur - chased by His



heart. I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can
free. For God the just is sat - is - fied To look on
blood, My life is hid with Christ on high, With Christ my



bid me thence de - part. No tongue can bid me thence de - part.
Him and par - don me. To look on Him and par - don me.
Sav - ior and my God! With Christ my Sav - ior and my God!

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Word - Fanny Crosby
Music - W. Howard Doane



Pass me not, O gent - le__ Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry;
Let me at Thy throne of__ mer - cy Find a__ sweet re - lief,
Trust - ing on - ly in Thy mer - it, Would I__ seek Thy face;
Thou the Spring of all my com - fort, More than life to me,



While on__ oth - ers Thou art call - ing, Do not pass me__ by.
Kneel - ing there in deep con - tri - tion; Help my un - be - lief.
Heal my wound - ed, brok - en spir - it, Save me by Thy grace.
Whom have I on earth be - side__ Thee? Whom in heav'n but__ Thee?



Sav - ior, Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry;_____



While on oth - ers Thou art call - ing, Do not pass me__ by.

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Refrain



We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our



hearts re - stored. He has done great things we will say to - ge - ther.

Verse



We will feast and weep no more.

1. We will not be
2. In the dark of
3. Ev - ery vow we've



burned by the fire. He is the Lord our God. We are not con -
night be - fore the dawn. My soul be not a - fraid; for the pro - mised
bro - ken and be - trayed. You are the faith - ful One. and_ from the



sumed by the flood. Up - held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up.
morn - ing, O how long. O God of Ja - cob be_ my strength.
gar - den to the grave. Bind us to - ge - ther bring sha - lom.

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 – Singing with Creation

Creation sings the Father’s song and when we sing as God’s people it brings us into line with the whole of the rest of creation.

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;
Make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,
with trumpets and the blast of the ram’s horn – shout for joy before the Lord, the King.
Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.
Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;
let them sing before the Lord, for He comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity (Psalm 98:4-8).*

To praise Him is the original desire sewn into every fiber of our God-designed humanity and into every aspect of our God-designed world. When we sing God’s praise, we join with the tune of the cosmos.

Paul Tripp has noted “God is the ultimate musician. His music transforms your life. The notes of redemption rearrange your heart and restore your life. His songs of forgiveness, grace, reconciliation, truth, hope, sovereignty, and love give you back your humanity and restore your identity.”

Our singing should lead our hearts to Him. We do not worship the created art of singing; we worship Him. Don’t sing primarily because you love singing, or keep quiet because you do not. Sing because you love Who made you, and formed you, and enables you to sing.

Liberally taken from *Sing!, How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family and Church*, by Keith and Kristyn Getty, chapter 1, pp 9-10.



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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