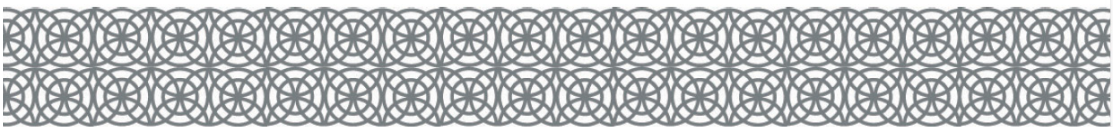


SUNDAY EVENING

*Vespers*



**CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP**

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JUNE 18, 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

Ephesians 6:11-13

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

## Hymn

*Oh Church, Arise*

(see page 5)

## Congregational Prayer

Adapted from Thomas a'Kempis (1380-1471)

Minister: Lord, what is our confidence which we have in this life?

**People: It is You, O Lord, our God, Whose mercies are without number.**

Minister: Where has it ever been well with us without You, or where could it be ill with us, when You were present?

**People: We rather choose to be pilgrims on earth, than without You to possess Heaven.**

Minister: Where You are, there is Heaven; and where You are not, there is death and hell.

**People: There is none that can help us in our necessities, but only You, our God; You are our hope; You are our confidence.**

Minister: Although You expose us to diverse temptations and adversities, yet You order all this to our advantage; in which trial of us You are no less to be loved and praised, than if You had filled us full of heavenly consolations.

## Evening Prayer

### Prayer Response

*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

5  
Hear our cry for mercy. Teach us Your will.

### Psalm Reading

Psalm 18 (selected verses)

Minister: I love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in Whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

**People: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.**

Minister: I call upon the LORD, Who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies. With the merciful You show Yourself merciful; with the blameless man You show Yourself blameless; with the purified You show yourself pure; and with the crooked You make Yourself seem tortuous.

**People: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.**

Minister: For You save a humble people, but the haughty eyes You bring down. For it is You Who light my lamp; the LORD my God lightens my darkness. This God—His way is perfect; the Word of the LORD proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him.

**People: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.**

Minister: For Who is God, but the LORD? And Who is a rock, except our God? — the God Who equipped me with strength and made my way blameless.

**People: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.**

## Hymn Medley

*The Solid Rock* (see page 7)  
*In Christ Alone* (see page 8)  
*Be Thou My Vision* (see page 9)

*At the last stanza of "Be Thou My Vision," children are dismissed to attend their classes.*

## Evening Scripture Lesson

Proverbs 6:16-19, 18:21

16 There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to Him: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

## Homily

### **WORDS, THE POWER OF LIFE OR DEATH**

Mr. Clark

Proverbs 6:16-19, 18:21

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*Additional selected verses can be found on page 4.*

## Benediction

### Benediction Response

*Revelation 22:21-22*

**He Who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."**

**He Who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."**

**"Surely I am coming soon."**

**Amen. Come Lord Jesus. Amen. Come Lord Jesus, come.**



## WORDS, THE POWER OF LIFE OR DEATH

### *Selected Verses*

**Proverbs 8:13** – The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.

**Proverbs 10:11** – The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

**Proverbs 10:20** – The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is of little worth.

**Proverbs 12:18** – There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

**Proverbs 12:25** – Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad.

**Proverbs 13:3** – Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

**Proverbs 15:1** – A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

**Proverbs 15:2** – The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly.

**Proverbs 15:4** – A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

**Proverbs 19:1** – Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.

**Proverbs 21:23** – Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

**Proverbs 25:11** – A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

# O Church, Arise

1. O church, a - rise, and put your ar - mor on; hear the  
2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, but to  
3. So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line starting on the first measure and the second and third lines starting on the second measure.

call of Christ our Cap - tain, for now the weak can say that  
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the  
grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle; that we may run with faith, to

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line starting on the first measure and the second and third lines starting on the second measure.

they are strong, in the strength that God has giv - en.  
wound - ed whole, we will fight with faith and val - or.  
win the prize of a ser - vant, good and faith - ful.

The third system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line starting on the first measure and the second and third lines starting on the second measure.

With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a -  
 When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the  
 As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing

gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold, whose bat - tle  
 out - come is se - cure. And Christ will have the prize for  
 tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls, and hun - ger

cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.  
 which he died, an in - her - i - tance of na - tions.  
 for the day when, with Christ, we stand in glo - ry.

# The Solid Rock

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1. My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' blood and  
 2. When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -  
 3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the  
 4. When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in

righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but  
 chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, my  
 whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 him be found; dressed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

*Refrain*

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all  
 then is all my hope and stay.  
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

WORDS: Edward Mote, 1834  
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1863

SOLID ROCK  
 LM with refrain  
 1 Corinthians 3:11



## In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
 3. There in the ground his bo - dy lay, Light of the  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -  
 world by dark - ness slain. Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious  
 pow'r of Christ in me. From life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and  
 ness, scorned by the ones He came to  
 day up from the grave he rose a -  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace when fears are  
 save. 'Till on the cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of  
 gain. And as he stands in vic - to - ry sin's curse has  
 ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in  
 God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was  
 lost its grip on me, for I am his and he is  
 pluck me from his hand. 'Till he re - turns or calls me



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.

# Be Thou My Vision

*Unison*

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all  
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er  
3. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won; may I reach

The first system of music is in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a treble and bass staff with a unison vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all; 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er; 3. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won; may I reach.

else to me, save that thou art — thou my best thought by  
with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,  
heav-en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: else to me, save that thou art — thou my best thought by; with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,; heav-en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what.

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres-ence my light.  
I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

The third system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics are: day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres-ence my light.; I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.; ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

## **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.

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come,  
this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome  
in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

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