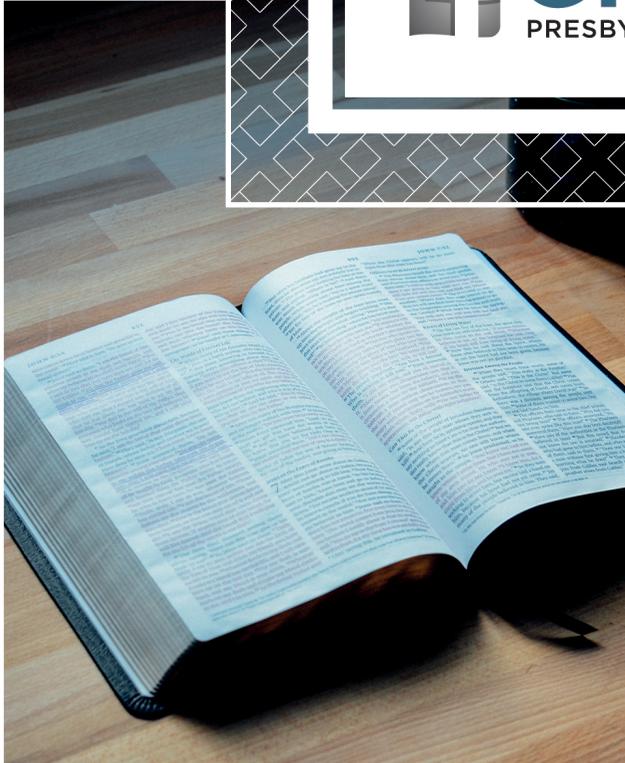


 **GRACE**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!

Amen and Amen.

Psalm 41:13

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 111 (p. 826 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Praise the LORD.

**I will extol the LORD with all my heart
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.**

Great are the works of the LORD;
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

**Glorious and majestic are his deeds,
and his righteousness endures forever.**

He has caused his wonders to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

**He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.**

He has shown his people the power of his works,
giving them the lands of other nations.

**The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.**

They are steadfast for ever and ever,
done in faithfulness and uprightness.

**He provided redemption for his people;
he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

To him belongs eternal praise.

* *Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I thy true son; thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we thank you for your Law which reveals your holiness and our sinfulness.

All: The Seventh Commandment of your Law is, "You shall not commit adultery."

Leader: Lord, we confess that we have broken this commandment. We have lusted with our eyes and entertained perverse thoughts in our minds. Rather than seeking to preserve our own and our neighbor's chastity, we have failed and ask for your forgiveness.

All: Enable us by your Holy Spirit to put off sin and to put on Christ. Help us in our fight against sin, and empower us to act, speak, and think in ways that glorify you. We ask all this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 Peter 2:22-25

Christ committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Exodus 32:1-14

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 647

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the Rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding place,
My never-failing treasury filled
With boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,
My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,
Accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart,
And cold my warmest thought;
But when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

Till then I would thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of thy name
Refresh my soul in death. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 67. *Which is the sixth commandment?*

A. The sixth commandment is, “You shall not murder.”

Q. 68. *What is required in the sixth commandment?*

A. The sixth commandment requires all lawful endeavors to preserve our own lives and the lives of others.

Q. 69. *What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?*

A. The sixth commandment forbids the taking away of our own lives or the lives of our neighbors unjustly, or whatever tends to do so.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

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.

* *Tithes and offerings may be placed in the box at the entrance to the sanctuary or given online through our church's website.*

THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading*

Exodus 32:15-35

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 103])

Hymn 78

O Bless the Lord, My Soul

O bless the Lord, my soul;
Let all within me join,
And aid my tongue to bless his name,
Whose favors are divine.

O bless the Lord, my soul,
Nor let his mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness,
And without praises die.

'Tis he forgives your sins,
'Tis he relieves your pain,
'Tis he that heals your sicknesses
And makes you young again.

He crowns your life with love
When ransomed from the grave;
He that redeemed my soul from hell
Has sovereign pow'r to save.

He fills the poor with good;
He gives the suff'ers rest:
The Lord has judgments for the proud
And justice for th'oppressed.

His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known,
But sent the world his truth and grace
By his beloved Son. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“We Need a Perfect Mediator”
Exodus 32:7-35

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart.
I know that while in heav’n he stands,
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see him there,
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the just, is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me,
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased by his blood!
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Hymn 115, verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One, O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

The daily reading schedule follows the One Year Bible Reading Plan.

Monday, January 12

Scripture: Genesis 26:17 - 27:46; Matthew 9:1-17; Psalm 10:16-18; Proverbs 3:9-10

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 2

Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, January 13

Scripture: Genesis 28:1 - 29:35; Matthew 9:18-38; Psalm 11:1-7; Proverbs 3:11-12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 54

Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, January 14

Scripture: Genesis 30:1 - 31:16; Matthew 10:1-23; Psalm 12:1-8; Proverbs 3:13-15

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 55

Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Botswana and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, January 15

Scripture: Genesis 31:17 - 32:12; Matthew 10:24 - 11:6; Psalm 13:1-6; Prov. 3:16-18

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 56

Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, January 16

Scripture: Genesis 32:13 - 34:31; Matthew 11:7-30; Psalm 14:1-7; Proverbs 3:19-20

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 57

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.
The Shepherd's Church Plant in Riverside and the Manrique Family.

Saturday, January 17

Scripture: Genesis 35:1 - 36:43; Matthew 12:1-21; Psalm 15:1-5; Proverbs 3:21-26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 58

Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, January 18

Scripture: Genesis 37:1 - 38:30; Matthew 12:22-45; Psalm 16:1-11; Proverbs 3:27-32

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 59

Pray for: Our worship this morning.

MISSIONS CORNER

Pray for our missionaries. Their prayer requests are sent out through the Prayer Chain and their newsletters are published in Grace Notes as they become available.

Ray & Michele Call in the Dominican Republic | raycall777@gmail.com

Dave Eby in Uganda | ebyuganda@gmail.com

Christ Bible Institute in Japan | cbijapan.org/en

The Shepherd's Church in Riverside | theshepherdschurchpca.com

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In Exodus 32 we read about Moses' passionate intercession for the people of Israel. While his intercession was effective to a degree, it did not completely spare the people of Israel from God's wrath for sin. A better mediator would be needed to accomplish this. The author of Hebrews describes the superiority of Jesus' mediation by explaining Jesus' current place and posture. His place is now "in heaven" which means that he ministers in the True Tabernacle, the holy place of which the earthly tabernacle was merely a copy and shadow. And there in heaven the posture he adopts is that of being seated. The New Testament regularly describes Jesus as sitting at God's right hand to show his enthronement and authority. The Westminster Larger Catechism Q/A 54 clearly explains the significance of Christ's posture in heaven: "Christ is exalted in his sitting at the right hand of God, in that as God-man he is advanced to the highest favor with God the Father (Phil. 2:9), with all fullness of joy (Acts 2:28; Psalm 16:11), glory (John 17:5), and power over all things in heaven and earth (Eph. 1:22; 1 Peter 3:22); and does gather and defend his church, and subdue their enemies; furnishes his ministers and people with gifts and graces (Eph. 4:10-12; Psalm 110), and makes intercession for them (Rom. 8:34)."

1. Read Exodus 32:1-6 and consider last Sunday's sermon. Why does God forbid us to make images of any Person of the Trinity? Why are we tempted to break this commandment?
2. Read Exodus 32:7-35 and note the ways in which this passage reveals the sinfulness of sin. What was God teaching the people of Israel about themselves and about himself?
3. As you look again at verses 7-35, what do you notice about Moses' love for God and love for the people of Israel?
4. What do you learn about Moses' intercession that you can apply to your prayer life as you pray for yourself and others?
5. Consider the third point of the sermon outline and read the verses referenced from the New Testament. What makes Christ our perfect Mediator? How does this comfort you?



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