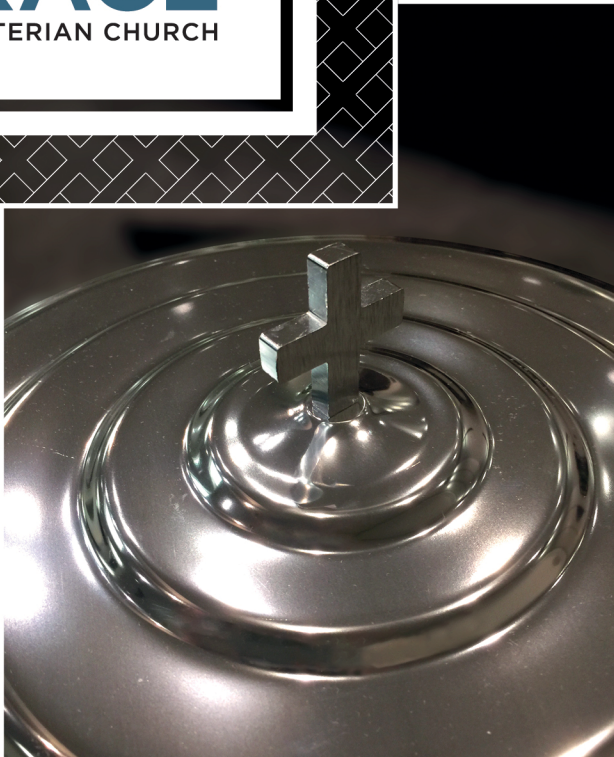




 **GRACE**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



WORSHIP SERVICE

January 26, 2025

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Psalms 34:8

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalms 90 (p. 816 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn men back to dust, saying, “Return to dust, O sons of men.”

**For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.**

You sweep men away in the sleep of death; they are like the new grass of the morning—
though in the morning it springs up new, by evening it is dry and withered.

We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation.

You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

All our days pass away under your wrath;

we finish our years with a moan.

The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength;

yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

Who knows the power of your anger? For your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Relent, O LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy
and be glad all our days.**

Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble.

May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children.

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—

yes, establish the work of our hands.

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

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

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee! Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that your commandments are righteous and good. They reveal your holiness, and they teach us how to live as your children in a way that pleases you.

All: We confess that we broke your commandments by our careless deeds, our hurtful words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts.

Leader: Forgive us, we pray. Apart from Christ there is nothing in us that gives us reason for hope, yet in him we have received pardon and are clothed in his righteousness. Enable us to wholeheartedly believe your assurance of forgiveness and to live godly, righteous, and devout lives as we await our Savior's return.

All: All praise, honor, and glory be to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 4:9-11

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Exodus 15:22-27

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 455

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?

Amazing love! How can it be
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies:
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine.

'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above
(So free, so infinite his grace!),
Humbled himself (so great his love!)
And bled for all his chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me.

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,

And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me? Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed (p. 846)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, 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 and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship ❖

Gloria Patri*

Hymn 735

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*

Matthew 4:1-11

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 13])

Hymn 641

How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me

How long wilt thou forget me,
O Lord, thou God of grace?
How long shall fears beset me,
While darkness hides thy face?
How long shall griefs distress me
And turn my day to night?
How long shall foes oppress me
And triumph in their might?

O Lord my God, behold me,
And hear my earnest cries;
Lest sleep of death enfold me,
Enlighten thou mine eyes;
Lest now my foe insulting
Should boast of his success,
And enemies exulting
Rejoice in my distress.

But I with expectation
Have on thy grace relied;
My heart in thy salvation
Shall still with joy confide;
And I with voice of singing
Will praise the Lord above,
Who, richest bounties bringing,
Has dealt with me in love. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Living Water”
Exodus 15:22-27

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Pastor Rudy Manrique

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 642

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.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

May the peace of God, our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ, the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God, the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings.*

May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his communion,
Make us one in spirit and in heart.

*And to him be praise for his glorious reign;
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—
Christ eternal, the King of kings. Amen.*

SERMON NOTES

“Living Water”

Exodus 15:22-27

1. God tests us for our good.
James 1:12-15; 1 Peter 1:6-7
2. The danger of grumbling:
Grumbling reveals we have forgotten God's grace.
Grumbling is contagious.
Grumbling is a sin we must repent of. (Philippians 2:14)
3. What should we do instead of grumbling?
Cry out to God. (Psalm 3)
Look to Christ. (Matthew 4:1; John 7:37-39)

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, January 27

Scripture: Exodus 4:1 - 5:21; Matthew 18:1-20; Psalm 22:19-31; Proverbs 5:15-21

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 17

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

Tuesday, January 28

Scripture: Exodus 5:22 - 7:25; Matthew 18:21 - 19:12; Psalm 23:1-6; Proverbs 5:22-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 75

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

Wednesday, January 29

Scripture: Exodus 8:1 - 9:35; Matthew 19:13-30; Psalm 24:1-10; Proverbs 6:1-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 76

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

Thursday, January 30

Scripture: Exodus 10:1 - 12:13; Matthew 20:1-28; Psalm 25:1-15; Proverbs 6:6-11

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 77

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

Friday, January 31

Scripture: Exodus 12:14 - 13:16; Matthew 20:29 - 21:22; Ps. 25:16-22; Prov. 6:12-15

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 78

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

Saturday, February 1

Scripture: Exodus 13:17 - 15:18; Matthew 21:23-46; Psalm 26:1-12; Proverbs 6:16-19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 79

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

Sunday, February 2

Scripture: Exodus 15:19 - 17:7; Matthew 22:1-33; Psalm 27:1-6; Proverbs 6:20-26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 80

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 Belize

Dave Eby in Uganda

Christ Bible Institute in Japan

The Shepherd's Church in Riverside

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

After the Lord brings us to faith in him, he then begins the process of sanctification in our lives. By the power of his Holy Spirit and the means he has appointed, he enables us to be conformed more and more to Christ. This is a life-long process that is for our spiritual benefit and blessing. He saves us, sanctifies us, and will one day raise us in glory. John Mackay, in his commentary on Exodus, writes:

It is God's normal way of working that entering into glory does not immediately follow salvation. Rather there is a time of preparation to make his people ready for the inheritance he will bestow on them. That was the method he followed in the case of the Israelites. Free they indeed were from the hand of Egyptian control, but they had still much to learn. For one thing their faith was still very weak, and it would take time for their trust in the Lord to develop so that they would be able to face every set of circumstances without hesitation. They were therefore led into times of difficulty and testing so that their spiritual faculties might be developed through use. It was one thing to sing the praises of their Deliverer, and quite another to live out that faith when confronted with the problems of ordinary living. Overcoming the latter challenge would bring them to a clearer understanding of themselves and of what it meant to have faith in the Lord.

1. Read Exodus 15. What does this chapter reveal about our hearts as we see that Israel's praise of God so quickly turned to grumbling against God?
2. Read James 1:12-15 and 1 Peter 1:6-7. What is the difference between tempting and testing? What do these passages teach about God's purposes in testing us?
3. Review the 3 dangers of grumbling outlined in the sermon. At what times in your life are you tempted to grumble against the Lord? How have you fought against this temptation?
4. How does Moses' cry to the Lord for help reveal his trust in the Lord? What does this teach you about the importance of prayer when you are suffering? Read and reflect on Psalm 3 for more insight.
5. Read Matthew 4:1-11. How does Jesus demonstrate his obedience in this passage? According to John 7:37-39, what benefits do we receive when we trust in him by faith?



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