





GRACE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!
So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.
All the earth worships you and sings praises to you;
they sing praises to your name.”

Psalm 66:3-4

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 96 (p. 819 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;

tremble before him, all the earth.

Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns.”

The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;

let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.

Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy; they will sing before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his truth.

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

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! Amen.*

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Gracious God, we confess that you are holy and perfect. We feel unworthy to enter into your presence because we again have failed to keep all your commandments.

All: We confess that we have sinned against you and others, and that we have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you, our God.

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, and help us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

All: Thank you for the assurance we have of forgiveness through the blood of our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

Private Confession of Our Sins**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Colossians 2:13-14

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading*

Psalms 2

Congregational Response

Hymn 517

I've Found a Friend, O Such a Friend!

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend!
He loved me ere I knew him;
He drew me with the cords of love,
And thus he bound me to him;
And round my heart still closely twine
Those ties which naught can sever,
For I am his, and he is mine,
Forever and forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend!
He bled, he died to save me;
And not alone the gift of life,
But his own self he gave me!
Naught that I have mine own I'll call,
I'll hold it for the Giver,
My heart, my strength, my life, my all
Are his, and his forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend!
All pow'r to him is given,
To guard me on my onward course,
And bring me safe to heaven:
Eternal glory gleams afar,
To nerve my faint endeavor:
So now to watch, to work, to war;
And then to rest forever.

I've found a Friend, O such a Friend!
So kind and true and tender,
So wise a Counselor and guide,
So mighty a defender!
From him who loves me now so well
What pow'r my soul can sever?
Shall life or death, shall earth or hell?
No! I am his forever. Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 33. *What is justification?*

A. Justification is an act of God's free grace, in which he pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

Q. 34. *What is adoption?*

A. Adoption is an act of God's free grace, by which we are received as sons of God, and have a right to all the privileges of that standing.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship ❖

Doxology*

Hymn 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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*

John 1:1-14

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [from Psalm 96])

Hymn 62

Sing to the Lord, Sing His Praise

Sing to the Lord, sing his praise, all you peoples,
New be your song as new honors you pay;
Sing of his majesty, bless him forever,
Show his salvation from day to day.

Tell of his wondrous works, tell of his glory,
Till through the nations his name is revered;
Praise and exalt him, for he is almighty;
God over all let the Lord be feared.

Vain are the heathen gods, idols and helpless;
God made the heav'ns, and his glory they tell;
Honor and majesty shine out before him,
Beauty and strength in his temple dwell.

Give unto God Most High glory and honor,
Come with your off'rings and humbly draw near;
In holy beauty now worship Jehovah,
Tremble before him with godly fear.

Make all the nations know God reigns forever;
Earth is established as he did decree;
Righteous and just is the King of the nations,
Judging the people with equity.

Let heav'n and earth be glad; waves of the ocean,
Forest and field, exultation express;
For God is coming, the Judge of the nations,
Coming to judge in his righteousness. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ray Call

“Jesus: The Word of Life”
1 John 1:1-4

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 307

Nothing but the Blood

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
*O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my cleansing this I see—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my pardon this my plea—nothing but the blood of Jesus.
*O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

Nothing can for sin atone—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done—nothing but the blood of Jesus.
*O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

This is all my hope and peace—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness—nothing but the blood of Jesus.
*O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

Now by this I’ll overcome—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Now by this I’ll reach my home—nothing but the blood of Jesus.
*O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus. Amen.*

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response*

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

Honor, glory, might, and merit,
Be to God and God alone!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
One in Three and Three in One. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

“Jesus: The Word of Life”
1 John 1:1-4

1. Jesus Incarnate
2. Jesus Manifest
3. Jesus Proclaimed
4. Jesus Fellowship
5. Jesus Joy

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, October 6

Scripture: Jeremiah 6:16 - 8:7; Colossians 2:8-23; Psalm 78:1-31; Proverbs 24:26

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 20

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

Tuesday, October 7

Scripture: Jeremiah 8:8 - 9:26; Colossians 3:1-17; Psalm 78:32-55; Proverbs 24:27

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 77

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

Wednesday, October 8

Scripture: Jeremiah 10:1 - 11:23; Col. 3:18 - 4:18; Psalm 78:56-72; Prov. 24:28-29

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 78

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

Thursday, October 9

Scripture: Jeremiah 12:1 - 14:10; 1 Thess. 1:1 - 2:8; Psalm 79:1-13; Prov. 24:30-34

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 79

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

Friday, October 10

Scripture: Jeremiah 14:11 - 16:15; 1 Thess. 2:9 - 3:13; Psalm 80:1-19; Prov. 25:1-5

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 80

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

Saturday, October 11

Scripture: Jeremiah 16:16 - 18:23; 1 Thess. 4:1 - 5:3; Psalm 81:1-16; Proverbs 25:6-8

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 81

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

Sunday, October 12

Scripture: Jeremiah 19:1 - 21:14; 1 Thess. 5:4-28; Psalm 82:1-8; Proverbs 25:9-10

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 82

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

Throughout the ages there have been many who deny basic truths about our Lord Jesus, and this was as true in the early church as it is today. John writes his epistle to help assure Christians that the Apostolic deposit of faith was indeed true—and that they could be confident in putting their faith in Jesus. John affirms the basic truth that Jesus indeed came in the flesh—both in his birth as well as in his resurrection. There were likely false teachers in the church who denied that Jesus came in the flesh, claiming that he only appeared to come in the flesh. But if Jesus did not come in the flesh, then our faith is futile. In order to save sinful human beings, the Savior needed to be truly God and truly man. The Westminster Confession of Faith summarizes it succinctly: “very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man” (WCF 8.2).

Jesus was born under law and was the second Adam (cf. Rom. 5), accomplishing that which Adam could not and did not, namely, fulfilling the law of God perfectly as our representative or federal head. John wrote to these beloved believers to convince them of the truth and efficacy of their Savior and his redemptive work on their behalf. His desire was that these Christians would enjoy the deep fellowship that is found only in the body of Christ and foundationally with the Father and the Son. John’s perspective was that the believers would find fullness of joy in clinging to Christ in their union with him and with his people.

1. Why is it important that the Apostles were true eyewitnesses of the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus?
2. Read John 1:1-3 with our passage in mind. Notice in our text that John says that Jesus was “from the beginning” and was “with the Father.” What implications can be drawn from these statements? What relation do you think these statements in 1 John have with the prologue in the Gospel of John?
3. Notice that John does not explicitly mention the name of Jesus until the last part of verse 3. What are other significant terms in the passage early on that immediately clue us into the fact that John is speaking of the Messiah? Why are they so important?
4. Verse 3 mentions the word “fellowship.” What is significant about the two aspects of fellowship mentioned here? What is fellowship in this context, and why do you think it is so important?
5. Biblically speaking, and especially in the writings of John, what do you think it means to have “complete” or “full” joy? What does this look like practically in your life?



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