



GRACE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH





WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 15, 2026

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
Psalm 63:2-3

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading* Psalm 23 (p. 791 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
he restores my soul.

He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

** Congregation is requested to stand, if able.*
The pastor will read the plain text; the congregation will read the bold text.

Hymn of Preparation* Hymn 6

O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord

O come, my soul, bless thou the Lord thy Maker, and all within me bless his holy name;
Bless thou the Lord, forget not all his mercies, his pard'ning grace and saving love proclaim.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

Good is the Lord and full of kind compassion, most slow to anger, plenteous in love;
Rich is his grace to all that humbly seek him, boundless and endless as the heav'ns above.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

His love is like a father's to his children, tender and kind to all who fear his name;
For well he knows our weakness and our frailty, he knows that we are dust, he knows our frame.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

We fade and die like flow'rs that grow in beauty, like tender grass that soon will disappear;
But evermore the love of God is changeless, still shown to those who look to him in fear.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

High in the heav'ns his throne is fixed forever, his kingdom rules o'er all from pole to pole;
Bless ye the Lord through all his wide dominion, bless his most holy name, O thou my soul.
Bless him forever, wondrous in might, bless him, his servants that in his will delight. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Heavenly Father, we come before you to acknowledge our sin, because if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. You know us even better than we know ourselves; none of our transgressions are hidden from your sight.

All: We confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and we have failed to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. It grieves us that we continually fall short of what your Word commands. Forgive us, and help us walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. All glory, honor, and praise 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 Colossians 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading* Malachi 4

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

All Glory Be to Christ

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive;
Unless the Lord does raise the house, in vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, tell me, what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn, all glory be to Christ!
All glory be to Christ, our King, all glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, all glory be to Christ!

His will be done, his Kingdom come, on earth as is above;
Who is himself our daily bread, praise him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price;
We'll take a cup of kindness yet, all glory be to Christ!
All glory be to Christ, our King, all glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, all glory be to Christ!

When on the day the great I AM, the Faithful and the True;
The Lamb, who was for sinners slain, is making all things new,
Behold our God shall live with us and be our steadfast light,
And we shall e'er his people be, all glory be to Christ!
All glory be to Christ, our King, all glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, all glory be to Christ! Amen.

Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 57. *Which is the fourth commandment?*

A. The fourth commandment is "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

Q. 58. *What is required in the fourth commandment?*

A. The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.

Q. 59. *Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly Sabbath?*

A. From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.

Q. 60. *How is the Sabbath to be sanctified?*

A. The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.

Q. 61. *What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?*

A. The fourth commandment forbids the omission, or careless performance, of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, or works, about our worldly employments or recreations.

Q. 62. *What are the reasons attached to the fourth commandment?*

A. The reasons attached to the fourth commandment are, God's allowing us six days of the week for our own employments, his challenging a special propriety in the seventh, his own example, and his blessing the Sabbath day.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship ❖

Doxology*

Hymn 732

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* Luke 1:1-25

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month: Psalm 148) Hymn 18

You Holy Angels Bright

You holy angels bright, who wait at God's right hand,
Or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command,
Assist our song, for else the theme too high does seem for mortal tongue.

You blessed souls at rest, who ran this earthly race,
And now, from sin released, behold the Savior's face;
God's praises sound, as in his sight with sweet delight you do abound.

All nations of the earth, extol the world's great King;
With melody and mirth his glorious praises sing;
For he still reigns, and will bring low the proudest foe that him disdains.

Sing forth Jehovah's praise, you saints, that on him call!
Him magnify always, his holy churches all!
In him rejoice, and there proclaim his holy name with sounding voice.

My soul, bear now your part, triumph in God above;
With a well-tuned heart sing now the songs of love;
You are his own, whose precious blood shed for your good his love made known.

Away, distrustful care! I have your promise, Lord;
To banish all despair, I have your oath and word;
And therefore I shall see your face and there your grace shall magnify.

With your triumphant flock then I shall numbered be;
Built on th'eternal Rock, his glory we shall see.
The heav'ns so high with praise shall ring and all shall sing in harmony. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon Pastor Ben Muresan

"Prayers Answered and Promises Fulfilled"
Luke 1:1-25

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

GOD'S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving* Hymn 580

Lead On, O King Eternal

Lead on, O King eternal,
The day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest
Thy tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation
Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal,
We lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal,
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
The sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords loud clashing,
Nor roll of stirring drums,
But deeds of love and mercy,
The heav'nly Kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal:
We follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning
Where'er thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us;
We journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest;
Lead on, O God of might. Amen.

Benediction*

Congregational Benediction Response* (Sung to TRINITY)

To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be, hence evermore.
His sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
And to eternity love and adore. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

"Prayers Answered and Promises Fulfilled"
Luke 1:1-25

1. God keeps his covenant promises.
   Malachi 3:1; 4:5-6

2. God answers our prayers.
   1 Samuel 1:27

3. God is kind and patient with us.
   Psalm 103:8-10

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, November 16
Scripture: Ezekiel 33:1 - 34:31; Hebrews 13:1-25; Psalm 115:1-18; Proverbs 27:21-22
Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 13
Pray for: Our federal, state, and local government leaders.

Tuesday, November 17
Scripture: Ezekiel 35:1 - 36:38; James 1:1-18; Psalm 116:1-19; Proverbs 27:23-27
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 104
Pray for: Our military, police, fire, and medical personnel.

Wednesday, November 18
Scripture: Ezekiel 37:1 - 38:23; James 1:19 - 2:17; Psalm 117:1-2; Proverbs 28:1
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 105
Pray for: Our covenant children and Christian military chaplains.
The churches in Finland and persecuted Christians.

Thursday, November 19
Scripture: Ezekiel 39:1 - 40:27; James 2:18 - 3:18; Psalm 118:1-18; Proverbs 28:2
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 106
Pray for: Our Elders, Deacons, Women's Ministry, & the PCA.

Friday, November 20
Scripture: Ezekiel 40:28 - 41:26; James 4:1-17; Psalm 118:19-29; Proverbs 28:3-5
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 107
Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.
The Shepherd's Church Plant in Riverside and the Manrique Family.

Saturday, November 21
Scripture: Ezekiel 42:1 - 43:27; James 5:1-20; Psalm 119:1-16; Proverbs 28:6-7
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 1
Pray for: The preaching and for our Sunday School teachers.

Sunday, November 22
Scripture: Ezekiel 44:1 - 45:12; 1 Peter 1:1-12; Psalm 119:17-32; Proverbs 28:8-10
Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 2
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
Dave Eby in Uganda
Christ Bible Institute in Japan
The Shepherd's Church in Riverside

LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

While the Gospel of Luke is its own book with a beginning and end, in reality it is part of the larger story of how God saves a people for his glory. God made a promise in Genesis 3:15 that he would send a Savior who would defeat the serpent and redeem his people, and Luke documents how God fulfilled that promise in the fullness of time through Jesus Christ. The dawn of this fulfillment came with the birth of John the Baptist, who served as a herald of Christ, to go "before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared" (Luke 1:17).

1. Read Luke 1:1-4. What words and phrases in these verses reveal how and why Luke wrote this gospel? How does this point to the accuracy and reliability of Scripture?
2. Read Luke 1:5-7. What other godly couples in the Bible suffered barrenness? What is the significance of this theme in the Bible, and how does it show God's kindness even in the midst of the suffering of his people?
3. Read Luke 1:8-17. What would John's role be in redemptive history according to Gabriel? How would this fulfill Malachi 3:1 and 4:5-6? How does this reveal God's faithfulness?
4. Read Luke 1:18-25 and reflect on the differences between Elizabeth's and Zechariah's responses to the promise of John's birth? How is God's kindness revealed in the midst of Zechariah's doubt? What do you learn about faith from this account?



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