



GRACE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, December 28, 2025

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Greeting and Blessing*

Responsive Reading*

Psalm 84 (p. 814 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty!

**My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.**

Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young—

a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.

As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs;
the autumn rains also cover it with pools.

They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.

Hear my prayer, O LORD God Almighty; listen to me, O God of Jacob.

Look upon our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one.

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor;

no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

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

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

Hymn of Preparation*

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all—here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on him was laid—here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am his and he is mine—bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand;
Till he returns or calls me home—here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand. Amen.

Congregational Confession of Sin

Leader: Gracious God, we believe that your Law is holy, and your commandments are righteous and good. Your Law reveals our sin and how desperately we need your saving grace.

All: The Sixth Commandment is: “You shall not murder.”

Leader: We confess that we have broken this commandment by harboring thoughts of sinful anger and hatred toward others. Rather than loving our enemies and praying for those who trouble us, we have instead responded with cold indifference and feelings of contempt.

All: Forgive us and grant us a growing desire to love and serve you and others as we follow after our Savior, 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 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*

1 Samuel 20:1-17

Congregational Response

Hymn 299

Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious

Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious: see the Man of Sorrows now;
From the fight returned victorious, ev'ry knee to him shall bow.
Crown him! Crown him! Crowns become the Victor's brow.

Crown the Savior, angels, crown him; rich the trophies Jesus brings;
In the seat of pow'r enthrone him, while the vault of heaven rings.
Crown him! Crown him! Crown the Savior King of kings.

Sinners in derision crowned him, mocking thus the Savior's claim;
Saints and angels crowd around him, own his title, praise his name.
Crown him! Crown him! Spread abroad the Victor's fame!

Hark! those bursts of acclamation! Hark! those loud triumphant chords!
Jesus takes the highest station; O what joy the sight affords!
Crown him! Crown him! King of kings and Lord of lords. 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*

2 Samuel 9

Congregational Response

Hymn 500

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Invited to the King’s Table”
2 Samuel 9

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE

Hymn of Thanksgiving*

Hymn 358

For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor’s crown of gold.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! 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.*

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

Monday, December 29

Scripture: Zechariah 14:1-21; Revelation 20:1-15; Psalm 148:1-14; Proverbs 31:8-9

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 32

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

Tuesday, December 30

Scripture: Malachi 1:1 - 2:17; Revelation 21:1-27; Psalm 149:1-9; Proverbs 31:10-24

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 42

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

Wednesday, December 31

Scripture: Malachi 3:1 - 4:6; Revelation 22:1-21; Psalm 150:1-6; Proverbs 31:25-31

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 43

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

Thursday, January 1

Scripture: Genesis 1:1 - 2:25; Matthew 1:1 - 2:12; Psalm 1:1-6; Proverbs 1:1-6

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 44

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

Friday, January 2

Scripture: Genesis 3:1 - 4:26; Matthew 2:13 - 3:6; Psalm 2:1-12; Proverbs 1:7-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 45

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

Saturday, January 3

Scripture: Genesis 5:1 - 7:24; Matthew 3:7 - 4:11; Psalm 3:1-8; Proverbs 1:10-19

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 46

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

Sunday, January 4

Scripture: Genesis 8:1 - 10:32; Matthew 4:12-25; Psalm 4:1-8; Proverbs 1:20-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 47

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

The Old Testament is full of types of Christ. A type in the Old Testament was a person, action, or object that God intentionally used to point Israel to Christ. For example, the Passover Lamb was a type of Christ, whose blood would be shed in order to take away the sins of his people. The Tabernacle was also a type of Christ who would come to dwell with his people. God used these types—these pictures and shadows—to help Israel look forward to the coming Messiah who would take away the sins of his people. King David's kindness toward Mephibosheth is a beautiful example of the kindness sinners receive from Christ. Every detail in the story points to an aspect of the gospel and encourages us in our relationship with Christ.

1. Read 2 Samuel 9:1. Based on the First Reading during worship from 1 Samuel 20:1-17, why did David want to show covenant faithfulness (kindness) to Saul's family? How does David's action point to Christ's covenant faithfulness toward his people, especially in light of John 17:4?
2. Read all of 2 Samuel 9. Why is Mephibosheth's disability emphasized in the passage? What does this reveal about his helplessness?
3. Why is it so significant that David invited Mephibosheth to eat at the king's table?
4. How does David's kindness toward Mephibosheth throughout the passage point to Christ? How does this passage encourage you in your communion with Christ?



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