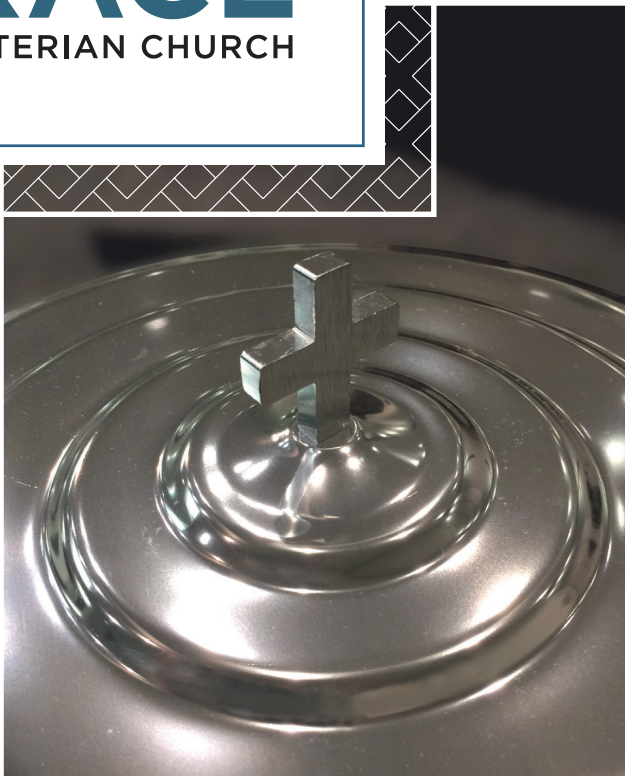


 **GRACE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH





# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, May 18, 2025

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

**Psalm 46:1**

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

### Greeting and Blessing\*

### Responsive Reading\*

Psalm 121 (p. 831 in the *Trinity Hymnal*)

I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
where does my help come from?

**My help comes from the LORD,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot slip—  
he who watches over you will not slumber;

**indeed, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

The LORD watches over you—  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**the sun will not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

The LORD will keep you from all harm—  
he will watch over your life;

**the LORD will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forevermore.**

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

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



***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,  
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever. Amen.

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** Gracious God, we approach you as your children, filled with your Holy Spirit by whom we are enabled and emboldened to cry, "Abba! Father!"

**All:** Though we approach as your children, we confess that we have not behaved as those who are called by your name. We have sinned against you and others, and it grieves us that we continually fall short of what your Word commands.

**Leader:** Forgive us, O Lord, and cause us to walk in your ways. Work in us by your Holy Spirit so that we will always seek to do what is pleasing in your sight.

**All:** We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Prophet, Priest, and King, who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

**Private Confession of Our Sins**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Ephesians 4:31-32

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.



## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

Ruth 1:1-18

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

Hymn 610

### *“Take Up Your Cross,” the Savior Said*

“Take up your cross,” the Savior said,  
“If you would my disciple be;  
Take up your cross with willing heart,  
And humbly follow after me.”

Take up your cross; let not its weight  
Fill your weak soul with vain alarm;  
His strength shall bear your spirit up,  
And brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross; nor heed the shame,  
And let your foolish pride be still;  
Your Lord refused not e’en to die  
Upon a cross, on Calv’ry’s hill.

Take up your cross, then, in his strength,  
And calmly sin’s wild deluge brave;  
’Twill guide you to a better home,  
It points to glory o’er the grave.

Take up your cross, and follow on,  
Nor think till death to lay it down;  
For only he who bears the cross  
May hope to wear the glorious crown. Amen.



## Confession of Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q. 98.** *What is prayer?*

**A.** Prayer is an offering up of our desires to God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

**Q. 99.** *What rule has God given for our direction in prayer?*

**A.** The whole Word of God is of use to direct us in prayer; but the special rule of direction is the form of prayer that Christ taught his disciples, commonly called “the Lord’s Prayer.”

**Q. 100.** *What does the Preface of the Lord’s Prayer teach us?*

**A.** The Preface of the Lord’s Prayer, which is, “Our Father in heaven,” teaches us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father, able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.

## 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\*

Ephesians 5:22 - 6:9

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 32])

Hymn 551

### *How Blest Is He Whose Trespass*

How blest is he whose trespass has freely been forgiv'n,  
Whose sin is wholly covered before the sight of heav'n.  
Blest he to whom Jehovah will not impute his sin,  
Who has a guileless spirit, whose heart is true within.

While I kept guilty silence my strength was spent with grief,  
Thy hand was heavy on me, my soul found no relief;  
But when I owned my trespass, my sin hid not from thee,  
When I confessed transgression, then thou forgavest me.

So let the godly seek thee in times when thou art near;  
No whelming floods shall reach them, nor cause their hearts to fear.  
In thee, O Lord, I hide me, thou savest me from ill,  
And songs of thy salvation my heart with rapture thrill.

I graciously will teach thee the way that thou shalt go,  
And with mine eye upon thee my counsel make thee know.  
But be ye not unruly, or slow to understand;  
Be not perverse, but willing to heed my wise command.

The sorrows of the wicked in number shall abound,  
But those that trust Jehovah, his mercy shall surround.  
Then in the Lord be joyful, in song lift up your voice.  
Be glad in God, ye righteous, rejoice, ye saints, rejoice. Amen.



**Professions of Faith**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Sermon**

Pastor Ben Muresan

“The Fifth Commandment: Honor Your Parents”  
Exodus 20:12

## **GOD’S BLESSING ON HIS PEOPLE**

**Hymn of Thanksgiving\***

Hymn 660

### ***O God Beyond All Praising***

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,  
At blessings without number and mercies without end:  
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
That we who know your favor may serve you as our King;  
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
We’ll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise. Amen.



## **Benediction\***

### **Congregational Benediction Response\***

(Sung to STUTTGART [Hymn 5])

May the grace of Christ our Savior  
And the Father's boundless love,  
With the Holy Spirit's favor,  
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union  
With each other and the Lord,  
And possess, in sweet communion,  
Joys which earth cannot afford. Amen.



# SERMON NOTES

## “The Fifth Commandment: Honor Your Parents”

Exodus 20:12

The summary of the Law: Love the Lord, and love your neighbor. (Matthew 22:34-40)

1. The reasons why God gave us the Fifth Commandment:

Because our sinful tendency is to dishonor our parents.

Because God works through godly parents to teach covenant children the faith.

Because godly families make up the foundation of strong churches and nations.

2. How we are to keep the Fifth Commandment:

Children, honor your parents “in the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:1-3; Colossians 3:20)

Parents, love and lead your children in a godly way. (Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21)

Honor those in authority over you. (1 Peter 3:13-17)

3. Learn from and trust in Christ, who perfectly kept this commandment.

Jesus perfectly honored his earthly parents. (Luke 2:51; John 19:26-27)

He perfectly honored his heavenly Father. (John 8:29)

As THE obedient Son, he bore God’s wrath in our place, granting us the grace of adoption and willing submission. (Ephesians 2:3-5)

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# HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

## **Monday, May 19**

Scripture: 1 Samuel 24:1 - 25:44; John 10:22-42; Psalm 116:1-19; Proverbs 15:20-21

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 33

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

## **Tuesday, May 20**

Scripture: 1 Samuel 26:1 - 28:25; John 11:1-54; Psalm 117:1-2; Proverbs 15:22-23

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 64

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

## **Wednesday, May 21**

Scripture: 1 Sam. 29:1 - 31:13; John 11:55 - 12:19; Psalm 118:1-18; Proverbs 15:24-26

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 65

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

## **Thursday, May 22**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 1:1 - 2:11; John 12:20-50; Psalm 118:19-29; Proverbs 15:27-28

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 66

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

## **Friday, May 23**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 2:12 - 3:39; John 13:1-30; Psalm 119:1-16; Proverbs 15:29-30

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 67

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

## **Saturday, May 24**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 4:1 - 6:23; John 13:31 - 14:14; Psalm 119:17-32; Prov. 15:31-32

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 68

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

## **Sunday, May 25**

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1 - 8:18; John 14:15-31; Psalm 119:33-48; Proverbs 15:33

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 69

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**



# **EVENING GATHERING for PRAYER and HYMNS**

**Scripture Reading and Opening Prayer**

**Hymn 99** “My Song Forever Shall Record”

**Prayer of Praise, Adoration, and Thanksgiving**

**Devotion**

**Hymn 299** “Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious”

**Prayer for Church Members**

**Hymn 348** “Jesus, with Thy Church Abide”

**Prayer for The Shepherd’s Church**

**Hymn 642** “Be Thou My Vision”

**Closing Prayer**





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