

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, July 11, 2021

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:  
Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

**Isaiah 43:1**

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

### Greeting and Blessing\*

### Responsive Reading\*

Psalm 97 (p. 820)

The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad;

**let the distant shores rejoice.**

Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

**Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side.**

His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

**The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.**

The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

**All who worship images are put to shame, those who boast in idols—  
worship him, all you gods!**

Zion hears and rejoices and the villages of Judah are glad because of your judgments, O LORD.

**For you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.**

Let those who love the LORD hate evil,

**for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**

Light is shed upon the righteous and joy on the upright in heart.

**Rejoice in the LORD, you who are righteous, and praise his holy name.**

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

***I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art***

I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art, my only trust and Savior of my heart,  
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake; I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the King of mercy and of grace, reigning omnipotent in ev'ry place:  
So come, O King, and our whole being sway; shine on us with the light of thy pure day.

Thou art the Life, by which alone we live, and all our substance and our strength receive;  
O comfort us in death's approaching hour, strong-hearted then to face it by thy pow'r.

Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness, no harshness hast thou and no bitterness:  
Make us to taste the sweet grace found in thee and ever stay in thy sweet unity.

Our hope is in no other save in thee; our faith is built upon thy promise free;  
O grant to us such stronger hope and sure that we can boldly conquer and endure. Amen.

**Congregational Confession of Sin**

**Leader:** Heavenly Father, it pains us to think about how many times we have sinned against you and our neighbors. As we recall our actions and our thoughts this past week, we are reminded of how we fall short of your glory.

**All:** It pains us also to think about how many good deeds we failed to do as your people. You placed before us opportunities to show love and kindness, to extend forgiveness, and to share the gospel, yet we did not walk in obedience.

**Leader:** Forgive us, we pray, and cleanse us from our sins. Work in us by your Word and Spirit, and give us both the desire and the power to do what pleases you.

**All:** All 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 Timothy 1:15-17

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

## ADORATION AND PRAISE

First Reading\*

Isaiah 5:1-7

Congregational Response (Hymn of the Month)

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. 67.** *Which is the sixth commandment?*

**A.** The sixth commandment is, “You shall not murder.”

**Q. 68.** *What is required in the sixth commandment?*

**A.** The sixth commandment requires all lawful endeavors to preserve our own lives and the lives of others.

**Q. 69.** *What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?*

**A.** The sixth commandment forbids the taking away of our own lives or the lives of our neighbors unjustly, or whatever tends to do so.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Stewardship

### Gloria Patri\*

Hymn 734

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.

# THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Second Reading\*

John 15:1-17

Congregational Response (Psalm of the Month [Psalm 22])

Hymn 9 (printed on p. 12)

## *All You That Fear Jehovah's Name*

All you that fear Jehovah's name,  
His glory tell, his praise proclaim;  
You children of his chosen race,  
Stand... in awe before his face,  
Stand... in awe before his face.

The suffering One he has not spurned,  
Who unto him for help has turned;  
From him he has not hid his face,  
But answered his request in grace,  
But answered his request in grace.

O Lord, your goodness makes me raise  
Amid your people songs of praise;  
Before all them that fear you, now  
I worship you and pay my vow,  
I worship you and pay my vow.

For all the meek you will provide;  
They shall be fed and satisfied;  
All they that seek the Lord shall live  
And never-ending praises give,  
And never-ending praises give.

The Lord's unfailing righteousness  
All generations shall confess;  
From age to age shall men be taught  
What wondrous works the Lord has wrought,  
What wondrous works the Lord has wrought. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

Pastor Ben Muresan

“Abide in Christ”  
John 15:1-11

## **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\***

(Hymn 115, verse 5)

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father,  
Praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit,  
Three in One,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Amen.







# HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

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

## Monday, July 12

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 12:19 - 14:17; Romans 1:1-17; Psalm 9:13-20; Proverbs 19:4-5

Catechism: The Westminster Confession of Faith: Chapter 30

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

## Tuesday, July 13

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 15:1 - 16:36; Romans 1:18-32; Psalm 10:1-15; Proverbs 19:6-7

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 35

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

## Wednesday, July 14

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 16:37 - 18:17; Romans 2:1-24; Psalm 10:16-18; Prov. 19:8-9

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 36

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

## Thursday, July 15

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 19:1 - 21:30; Romans 2:25 - 3:8; Psalm 11:1-7; Prov. 19:10-12

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 37

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

## Friday, July 16

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 22:1 - 23:32; Romans 3:9-31; Psalm 12:1-8; Proverbs 19:13-14

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 38

Pray for: Our members who have ongoing health care needs.  
Our pregnant mom.

## Saturday, July 17

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 24:1 - 26:11; Romans 4:1-12; Psalm 13:1-6; Proverbs 19:15-16

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 39

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

## Sunday, July 18

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 26:12 - 27:34; Romans 4:13 - 5:5; Psalm 14:1-7; Prov. 19:17

Catechism: The Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q/A 40

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 | Presbyterian Church in Belize**

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## LORD'S DAY DEVOTION AND QUESTIONS

In John 15, we encounter another one of Jesus' seven "I am" statements. As we have learned during our study through John's gospel, each of these statements vividly describes Jesus' saving work for his people. The statements are:

- "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35);
- "I am the light of the world" (8:12);
- "I am the door" (10:7);
- "I am the good shepherd" (10:11);
- "I am the resurrection and the life" (11:25);
- "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (14:6);
- and "I am the true vine" (15:1).

The critical word that reveals the importance of Jesus' "I am" statement in John 15 is "true"—Jesus says, "I am the *true* vine." The nation of Israel was planted by God in the Promised Land as his vine, but the nation failed to produce good fruit. Rather than seeking covenant faithfulness and obedience to the Lord (which is the fruit of righteousness), Israel disobeyed the Lord and produced only wild grapes—sin, bloodshed, and idolatry. Jesus, however, was the *true* vine. He was the shoot from the stump of Jesse, who obeyed God with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength. His life was characterized by perfect righteousness. As a result, all those who are united to him, the true vine, are assured that he has accomplished salvation by his obedience, and he gives eternal life to his people.

1. For review, read each of the "I am" statements listed above in their contexts and consider what each reveals about Jesus' saving work.
2. Read Isaiah 5:1-7. How is God's grace toward Israel described in this passage? What did God expect of Israel? What did Israel produce instead, and what was God's judgment upon the nation?
3. What does it mean that the Father "prunes" (John 15:2) the branches that bear fruit? What does this look like in our lives as Christians?
4. What does it mean to "abide" (John 15:4) in Christ? How is abiding in Christ revealed in our love for him and our obedience to his commands?
5. Do you see the fruit of saving faith in your own life? Why is it important to evaluate your growth in grace as a Christian?
6. What are the results of abiding in Christ that you learned in the sermon? Do you see these results in your own life?

## All You That Fear Jehovah's Name

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*You who fear the LORD, praise him! Ps. 22:23*

♩ F Gm F C F 7

1. All you that fear Je - ho - vah's name, his glo - ry tell, his  
 2. The suf - f'ring One he has not spurned, who un - to him for  
 3. O Lord, your good - ness makes me raise a - mid your peo - ple  
 4. For all the meek you will pro - vide; they shall be fed and  
 5. The Lord's un - fail - ing righ - teous - ness all gen - er - a - tions

C G7 C F C7 F 7 D7

praise pro - claim; you chil - dren of his cho - sen race, stand ... in  
 help has turned; from him he has not hid his face, but an - swered  
 • songs of praise; be - fore all them that fear you, now I wor - ship  
 sat - is - fied; all they that seek the Lord shall live and nev - er -  
 shall con - fess; from age to age shall men be taught what won - drous

Gm C7 F C F Gm F C F 7

awe be - fore his face, stand ... in awe be - fore his face.  
 his re - quest in grace, but an - swered his re - quest in grace.  
 • you and pay my vow, I wor - ship you and pay my vow.  
 end - ing prais - es give, and nev - er - end - ing prais - es give.  
 works the Lord has wrought, what won - drous works the Lord has wrought.