

*The seeking of the kingdom of God  
is the chief business of the Christian life.*

JONATHAN EDWARDS

*The Christian cannot be satisfied so long as any human activity is opposed  
to Christianity... The church must not only seek to conquer every man for  
Christ, but also the whole of the man.*

J. GRESHAM MACHEN

*Live in the kingdom of God in such a way that it provokes questions  
for which the gospel is the answer.*

LESLIE NEWBIGIN

*The bottom line: each of our lives is shaped by the war between the  
kingdom of God and the kingdom of self.*

PAUL DAVID TRIPP

*They are prepared for the potluck supper at First Presbyterian but not for  
the marriage supper of the lamb...*

FREDERICK BUECHNER

# **WORSHIP SERVICE |** *THE LORD'S DAY – JANUARY 8, 2017*

*10:30 AM – \*Latecomers may be seated*

## **\*WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP |** *Psalm 61:1-3*

Leader: Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer.

**People: From the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint.**

Leader: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I

**People: For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.**

### **\*HYMN OF PRAISE |** *For The Beauty Of The Earth*

For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies.

*Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this, our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,  
sun and moon and stars of light.

For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight.

For each perfect gift of thine,  
to our race so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n.

## **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

### **THE 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil – for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## CONFESSION OF FAITH | *The Heidelberg Catechism*

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

## GLORIA PATRI

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.

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON | *1 Peter 2:1-12*

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—<sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup> you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup> So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

**\*HYMN OF CONFESSION | *Thy Mercy My God***

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,  
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;  
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,  
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;  
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;  
But through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,  
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,  
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;  
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,  
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,  
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;  
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.  
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

Am I beautiful? What fuel for pride! Am I deformed? What an occasion for repining! Am I gifted? How I lust after applause! Am I unlearned? How I despise what I do not have! Am I in authority? How prone to abuse my trust, make will my law, exclude others' enjoyments, serve my own interests! Am I inferior? How much I grudge others' preeminence! Am I rich? How exalted I become!

You know that all these are snares by my corruptions, and that my greatest snare is myself. I grieve that my apprehensions are dull, my thoughts mean, my affections callous, my expressions low, my life inconsistent; Yet what can You expect of dust but insincerity, of corruption but defilement? Keep me ever mindful of my natural condition, but let me not forget my heavenly title, or the grace that can deal with every sin. Amen.

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE | *Lamentations 3:22,23***

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

**HIS TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS**

*If your child is a 4 or 5-year-old Pre-K student this year, we would like to invite him/her to join us for Prep for Worship! This class is intended to help your child transition from full time nursery to full time worship. Prep for Worship children will remain with their parents in the worship service until the hymn that immediately follows Tithes and Offerings. At that time, parents will escort their child to the Lower Warehouse building for Prep for Worship.*

**HYMN OF PREPARATION** | *Holy Holy Holy*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee  
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

**SERMON – REV. HAL FARNSWORTH** | *For Your Consideration*

*Haggai 1*

In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the hand of Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest: <sup>2</sup> “Thus says the Lord of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord.” <sup>3</sup> Then the word of the Lord came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, <sup>4</sup> “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? <sup>5</sup> Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. <sup>6</sup> You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.

<sup>7</sup> “Thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. <sup>8</sup> Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the Lord. <sup>9</sup> You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the Lord of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house. <sup>10</sup> Therefore the heavens above you have withheld the dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. <sup>11</sup> And I have called for a drought on the land and the hills, on the grain, the new wine, the oil, on what the ground brings forth, on man and beast, and on all their labors.”

<sup>12</sup> Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him. And the people feared the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Then Haggai, the messenger of the Lord, spoke to the people with the Lord's message, “I am with you, declares the Lord.” <sup>14</sup> And the Lord stirred up the

spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people. And they came and worked on the house of the Lord of hosts, their God, <sup>15</sup> on the twenty-fourth day of the month, in the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

### **CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION**

*Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to share in this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and their neighbor, and who seek strength to live in a deeper communion with Jesus. If you are not a Christian, or you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the Church. Note about Communion Wine: the outer ring of the tray contains wine and all other rings contain non-alcoholic grape juice.*

### **HYMN OF COMMITMENT | On Jordan's Stormy Banks**

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,  
And cast a wishful eye  
To Canaan's fair and happy land,  
Where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains,  
Shines one eternal day;  
There God the Son forever reigns,  
And scatters night away.

*I am bound (I am bound)  
I am bound (I am bound)  
I am bound for promised land,  
I am bound (I am bound)  
I am bound (I am bound)  
I am bound for promised land.*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath  
Can reach that healthful shore;  
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death,  
Are felt and feared no more.(Repeat chorus)

When shall I reach that happy place,  
And be forever blessed?  
When shall I see my Father's face,  
And in His bosom rest?

### **BENEDICTION | Ephesians 3:20-21**

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.