

9:00 service + October 8, 2017

 KNOW  BE KNOWN  MAKE KNOWN

The Windows, George Herbert

Lord, how can man preach thy eternal word?

He is a brittle crazy glass:

Yet in thy temple thou dost him afford

This glorious and transcendent place,

To be a window, through thy grace.

But when thou dost anneal in glass thy story,

Making thy life to shine within

The holy preachers; then the light and glory

More reverend grows, and more doth win;

Which else shows waterish, bleak and thin.

Doctrine and life, colors and light, in one

When they combine and mingle, bring

A strong regard and awe; but speech alone

Doth vanish like a flaring thing,

And in the ear, not conscience ring.

Order of Worship

Liturgist is Andrew Dickson

Themes and keywords: endure/endurance, suffering, affliction

Prelude

Prelude in D Major

J. S. Bach

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God calls us to worship

from Psalm 50:15; 34:3, 8, 10

Liturgist: The sovereign Lord says,
"Call upon me in the day of trouble
and I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

So come, magnify the Lord with me,

All: *and let us exalt his name together.*

Liturgist: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**All: *Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him,
for those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.***

We praise God

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Text: Henry F. Lyte 1834

Tune: John Goss 1869

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor, to our fa - thers in dis - tress.
3. God our Fa - ther tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
4. Frail as sum - mer's flow'r we flour - ish; blows the wind and it is gone.
5. An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him face to face.

Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, his praise should
Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to
In his hands he gent - ly bears us; res - cues us from all our
But while mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing
Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, all who dwell in time and

sing? Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia; praise the ev - er last - ing King.
bless. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, glor - ious in his faith - ful - ness.
foes. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, wide - ly as his mer - cy goes.
on. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia; praise the High E - ter - nal One.
space. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia; praise with us the God of grace!

We pray for God to help us worship

Pastor: Christ is risen!

All: *He is risen indeed!*

He died for us that we might live for him.

We greet one another with the peace of Christ

SEATED

God calls us to confess our sin

from Isaiah 30:15, 18

Liturgist: For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In repentance and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." The Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all who wait for him.

We confess our sin

Liturgist: Suffering Servant, you endured the path of suffering in unwavering obedience for the joy of our salvation.

All: *But we confess that we value our personal peace and comfort more than your call to enter your mission through suffering.*

We flee from suffering,

for we fear that affliction will destroy us.

We worry that trials are hatred and punishment from you, or we doubt that you will protect and sustain us.

We find patient endurance unbearable when sin seems to offer easy comfort.

When we fail and suffer,

we lose heart in despair so quickly

that we lose sight of the resurrection working in us,

strength to endure today,

and bright hope in the weight of glory to come.

Lord, have mercy on us.

(silent prayers of confession)

Liturgist: Gracious Lord, forgive us for our fear born of unbelief. By the power of your Holy Spirit, lead our faltering hearts back to you, and give us your peace and strength to stand firm in patient faith and to endure suffering with hope and pour out our lives to serve others.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God declares our forgiveness

from Hebrews 5:8-9; 12:2

Liturgist: Although Jesus was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation. Look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift. In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you, and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

All: *Hallelujah, Amen!*

We praise God

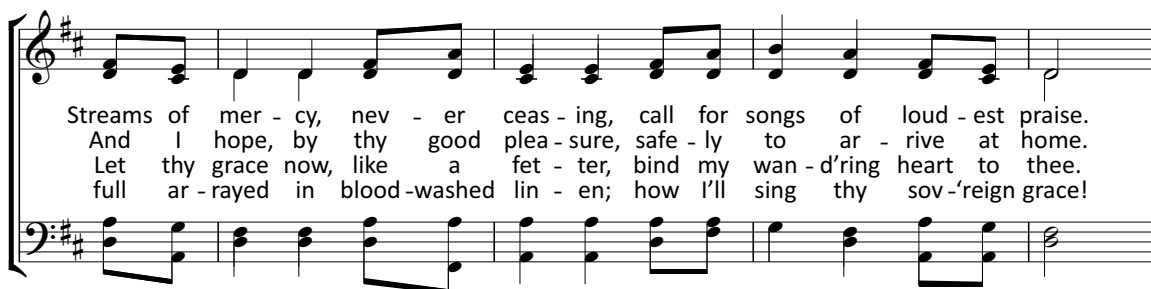
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Text: Robert Robinson 1758

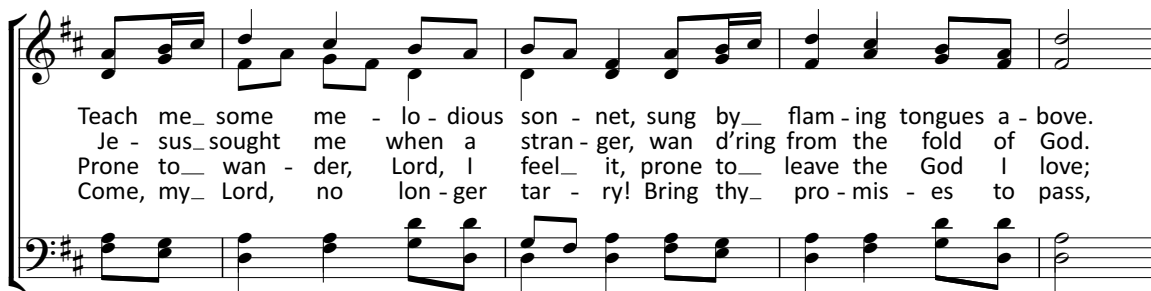
Tune: *Repository of Sacred Music* 1813




1. Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace.
2. Here I raise my E - ben - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come.
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!
4. On that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see thy love - ly face,



Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
And I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Let thy grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.
full ar - rayed in blood - washed lin - en; how I'll sing thy sov - 'reign grace!



Teach me_ some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by_ flam - ing tongues a - bove.
Je - sus_ sought me when a stran - ger, wan d'ring from the fold of God.
Prone to_ wan - der, like Lord, I feel_ it, prone to_ leave the God I love;
Come, my_ Lord, no lon - ger tar - ry! Bring thy_ pro - mis - es to pass,



Praise the mount - I'm fixed u - pon it - mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.
for I know thy pow'r will lead me 'til I'm raised with thee at last.

SEATED

I Thank My God

Chancel Choir

Text: Philippians 1:3-6, 9-10

Music: J. Aaron McDermid

I thank my God when I remember you. In all my prayers, I pray with joy for your partnership in sharing the good news. For I am sure that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ.

This is my prayer: that your love may overflow,
and you will grow in knowledge and depth of understanding.

That you may see what is best and be pure and blameless
for the day of Christ. Amen.

God instructs us in scripture reading

2 Corinthians 6
(pew Bible pp. 966-967)

God instructs us in preaching

“Connection You Can See”
Rev. Dr. Clay Smith

We offer ourselves in gifts and song

How Firm a Foundation

Hymnal #275

Text: John Rippon 1787

Tune: Anonymous 1832

Oh, How He Loves You and Me

Choristers; Elizabeth Smith, director

Text and music: Kurt Kaiser 1975

STANDING (IF ABLE)

We pray for the church and the world

Liturgist: (prayers for the church and the world)

All: *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.*

God feeds us at his table

Central Presbyterian welcomes all Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive Holy Communion with us. If you are not ready to receive communion, you may simply pass the elements by. We also urge you to meditate on one of the prayers below.

Bread: The bread is gluten-free.

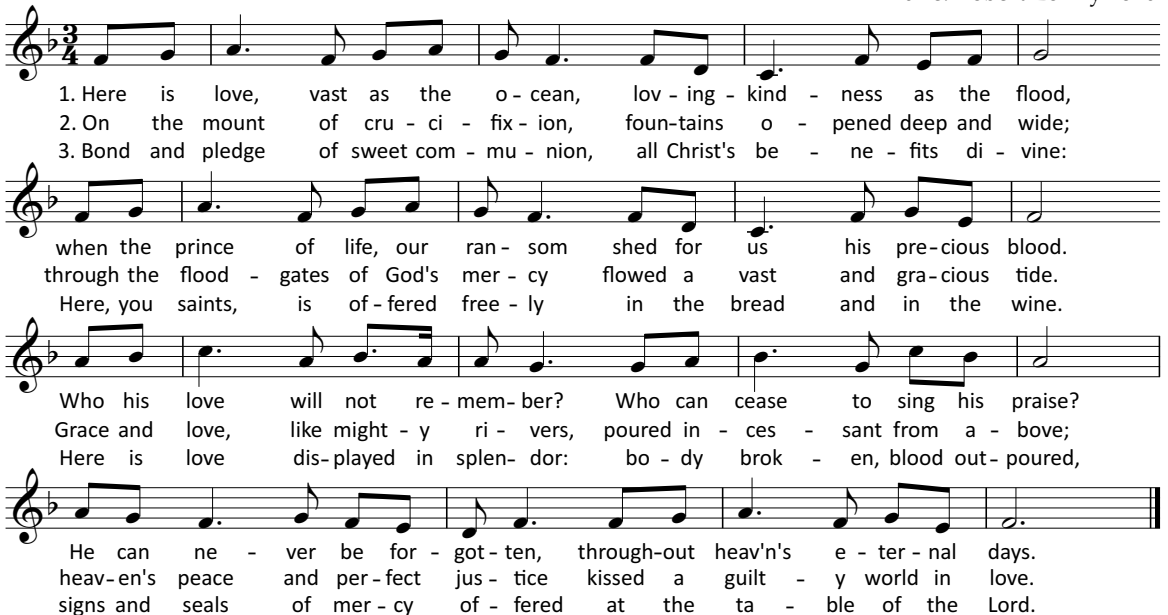
Eating and drinking: Please eat and drink as you receive the bread and the cup when you are ready. We will not hold the elements and wait to eat until all have been served.

Prayer for those searching: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of new belief: Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared believe, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Here Is Love

Text: William Reese 1876
st. 3, W. Todd Weedman 2008
Tune: Robert Lowry 1876



1. Here is love, vast as the o - cean, lov - ing - kind - ness as the flood,
2. On the mount of cru - ci - fix - ion, foun-tains o - pened deep and wide;
3. Bond and pledge of sweet com - mu - nion, all Christ's be - ne - fits di - vine:

when the prince of life, our ran - som shed for us his pre - cious blood.
through the flood - gates of God's mer - cy flowed a vast and gra - cious tide.
Here, you saints, is of - fered free - ly in the bread and in the wine.

Who his love will not re - mem - ber? Who can cease to sing his praise?
Grace and love, like might - y ri - vers, poured in - ces - sant from a - bove;
Here is love dis - played in splen - dor: bo - dy brok - en, blood out - poured,

He can ne - ver be for - got - ten, through-out heav'n's e - ter - nal days.
heav - en's peace and per - fect jus - tice kissed a guilt - y world in love.
signs and seals of mer - cy of - fered at the ta - ble of the Lord.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

God blesses us and sends us out

Pastor: And all God's people said...

All: *Hallelujah! Amen.*

Doxology

Text: Thomas Ken 1709

Tune: Louis Bourgeois, *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;
Praise Him a - bove, ye heavn' - ly hosts; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
Ho - ly Ghost. A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

Postlude

Rigaudon

A. Campra

Sermon discussion questions are available in paper copies at the Hanley Road entrance, on the table outside the Choir Room,
and online at www.centralpres.com at the "Sunday @ Central" page.

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