



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 19, 2020 | Fellowship Hall Service

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome and announcements

Aaron Tolson, pastor of youth ministry

* Call to worship

based on Isaiah 40 and Jeremiah 32

Leader: The sovereign LORD sits enthroned above the circle of the earth. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy. Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these?

All: He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

Leader: The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

All: Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you. Great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds!

* Hymn of praise

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing al - le -
 2. Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n a - long, O__
 3. And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers, take your part, O__
 4. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble - ness, O__

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gold - en beam, thou
 praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing morn in praise re - joice, ye
 sing ye, al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row bear, praise
 praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son, and

sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O__ praise him, O__ praise him, al - le -
 lights of eve - ning, find a voice,
 God and on him cast your care,
 praise the Spir - it, three in one,

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession

Luke 18:9-14

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Hymn of confession

"Jesus, I Come"



1. Out of my bon - dage, sor - row, and night, Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come...
2. Out of un - rest and ar - ro - gant pride, Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come...
3. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come...

In - to thy free - dom, glad - ness, and light, Je - sus, I come to thee...
In - to thy bles - sed will to a - bide, Je - sus, I come to thee...
In - to the joy and light of thy home, Je - sus, I come to thee...

Out of my sick - ness and in - to thy health, out of my want - ing and in - to thy wealth,
Out of my - self to dwell in thy love, out of de - spair in - to rap - tures a - bove,
Out of the depths of ru - in un - told, in - to the peace of thy shel - ter - ing fold,

out of my sin and in - to thy - self, Je - sus, I come to thee...
up - ward for - ev - er on wings like a dove, Je - sus, I come to thee...
ev - er thy glo - rious face to be - hold, Je - sus, I come to thee...

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Hebrews 10:10b-14

We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

* Hymn of assurance

*“'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”
(continue scrolling for words and music)*

“'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

1.'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to take him at his word;
2.O how sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to trust his clean-sing blood;
3.Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Je - sus, just from sin and self to cease;

just to rest up - on his pro-mise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
just in sim - ple faith to plunge me 'neath the heal - ing, clean-sing flood!
just from Je - sus sim - ply ta - king life and rest, and joy and peace.

Je - sus, Je - sus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!

Je - sus, Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust him more!

Prayer of intercession for those who feel lonely and afraid

Leader: O Lord, our Shepherd and Friend, pour out your mercy this day on those who, during these days of shelter-in-place, are feeling lonely and afraid. Make your presence known to them and comfort them with the realities of your power and goodness.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: God our Father, your Word promises that you set the lonely in families, and that when we pass through the waters you will be with us. Even in this time of isolation, we believe that you are a God who keeps his promises. We ask that your Spirit would work in the hearts of your people to create avenues for meaningful communication and strong relationships.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: O Lord, our light and our salvation, your Word promises that you are close to the brokenhearted and that you save the crushed in spirit. We ask that you would draw near to those feeling alone, depressed, and neglected. Demonstrate to them your tender care and enduring faithfulness, that they might know your love and praise your name.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord. We join with the apostle Paul in affirming, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For we are convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

based on Psalm 68, Isaiah 43, Psalm 27, Psalm 34, and Romans 8

* Scripture reading from Acts 10:1-23a

¹At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. ²He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. ³One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!" ⁴Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. ⁵Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. ⁶He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea." ⁷When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants. ⁸He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa.

⁹About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. ¹¹He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. ¹²It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air. ¹³Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." ¹⁴"Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." ¹⁵The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." ¹⁶This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.

¹⁷While Peter was wondering about the meaning of the vision, the men sent by Cornelius found out where Simon's house was and stopped at the gate. ¹⁸They called out, asking if Simon who was known as Peter was staying there. ¹⁹While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Simon, three men are looking for you. ²⁰So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them." ²¹Peter went down and said to the men, "I'm the one you're looking for. Why have you come?" ²²The men replied, "We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a righteous and God-fearing man, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to have you come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say." ²³Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“God’s Gracious Work in Peter and Cornelius”

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

1. God’s preparation of Cornelius (a “good” man without the Gospel) (vv. 1-8)
 - God is preparing people outside our boundaries and comfort zones to receive the Gospel.

2. God’s preparation of Peter (a believer needing to grow in the Gospel) (vv. 9-16)
 - God stretches his people to move beyond their boundaries and take the Gospel to those whom he has prepared.

3. God’s progress in Peter’s heart (vv. 17-23a)
 - Peter welcomes the gentiles as his guests!

BIG IDEA: As the Gospel advances, God is changing both the believer and the unbeliever.

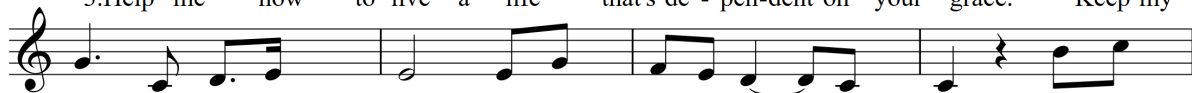
Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

"O Great God"



1. O great God of high-est heav'n, oc-cu-py my low-ly heart. Own it
2. I was blind-ed by my sin, had no ears to hear your voice, did not
3. Help me now to live a life that's de-pen-dent on your grace. Keep my



all and reign su-preme. Con-quer ev-'ry re-bel pow'r. Let no
know your love with-in, had no taste for heav-en's joys. Then your
heart and guard my soul from the e-vils that I face. You are



vice or sin re-main that re-sists your ho-ly war. You have
Spir-it gave me life, o-pened up your Word to me through the
worth-y to be praised with my ev-'ry thought and deed. O great



loved and pur-chased me; make me yours for-ev-er-more.
gos-pel of your Son, gave me end-less hope and peace.
God of high-est heav'n, glo-ri-fy your name through me.

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* Benediction

* Doxology

**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.**

* Postlude

* *Congregation standing as you are able*

Musicians for this week:

Joel Christie – vocalist

David Henry – guitar, vocalist

Maddie Lee – piano

Hannah Lutz – viola

Hannah Pulliam – vocalist

Today we celebrate the births of Dorothy Charles Whittaker, born to Lindsey and Robert Whittaker on April 13, and Alice Elizabeth Holm, born to Mary Clare and Seth Holm on April 14.