

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

Prelude

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" arr. Kenon Renfrow (words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #528)

Welcome and announcements

Chad Middlebrooks, pastor of discipleship

* Call to worship

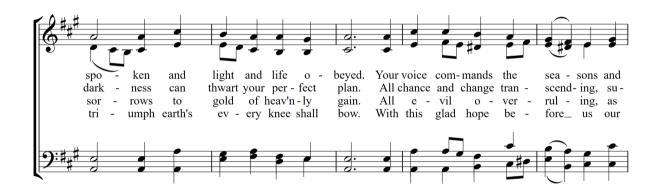
taken from Psalm 29

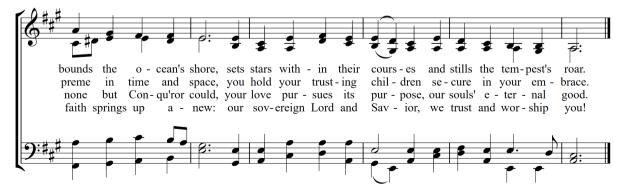
Leader: Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.

All: In his temple all cry, "Glory!" The LORD is enthroned as King forever. The LORD gives strength to his people and blesses his people with peace.

* Hymn of praise







text by Margaret Clarkson, 1982; music by Melchior Teschner, ca. 1615, st. theodulph

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession taken from Isaiah 30

This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it."

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As soon as he hears, he will answer you.

Hymn of confession

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" (continue scrolling for words and music)



text by Joseph Hart, 1759; music from Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835

Silent prayers of confession

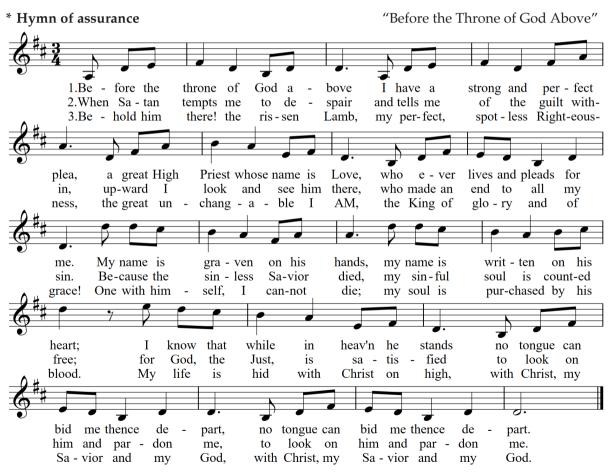
Assurance of God's pardoning grace

Leader: Christian, what do you believe concerning the forgiveness of sins?

All: I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins, nor my sinful nature, which I will struggle against all my life. Rather, in his grace, God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

based on The Heidelberg Catechism, question 56 and Romans 8:1-2



text by Charitie Lees Bancroft, 1863; music by Vikki Cook, 1997

Prayer of intercession for those devastated by storms

Leader: Lord, creator and sustainer of all things, we pray for your mercy to be poured out upon all who have suffered severe devastation and

loss from the recent storms.

All: Lord, our firm foundation, we pray for those who have lost electricity, food, homes, and means of transportation. Their needs are great, and their sense of place and permanence has been shaken. We ask that you would provide for all their needs during this time.

Leader: Lord, in whom our lives are hidden, we pray for those who have lost loved ones or whose loved ones have been injured. Be their firm

shield, great physician, loving shepherd, and eternal hope.

All: Lord, in whom we find refuge, may those who have endured this tragedy either come to a saving knowledge of who you are or become more deeply rooted in you.

Leader: Lord, our light and our salvation, may we, your church, be a powerful force of restoration and tangible help in the rebuilding process. May we be your hands and feet among the suffering, eager

to love and serve in your name.

All: We join with the psalmist in declaring, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

adapted with permission from Douglas Kaine McKelvey's Every Moment Holy and Psalm 73:26

Meditation of hope

"Come, Ye Disconsolate"

Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish, come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel. Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal.

Joy of the desolate, light of the straying, hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure! Here speaks the comforter, tenderly, saying, earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure.

Here see the Bread of Life, see waters flowing forth from the throne of God, pure from above. Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing earth has no sorrow but heav'n can remove. text by Thomas Moore, 1816; music by Ethan McGrath, 2016

* Scripture reading from Acts 10:23b-48

^{23b}The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa went along. ²⁴The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence. ²⁶But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself."

²⁷Talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. ²⁸He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean. ²⁹So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?"

³⁰Cornelius answered: "Four days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me ³¹and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and remembered your gifts to the poor. ³²Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.' ³³So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us."

³⁴Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. ³⁶You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. ³⁷You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

³⁹"We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. ⁴¹He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." ⁴⁸So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon "God's World Mission Surges Forward" Joe Novenson, pastor of senior adults

Three truths that are changing the world:

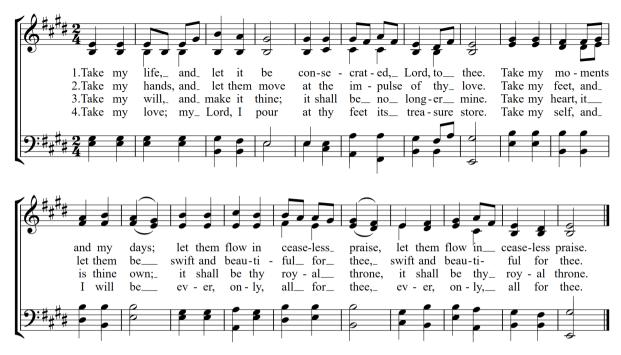
1. God shows no favoritism as he grants his saving favor to his people. (vv. 23-24, 26, 34-43)

2. God alone can change anyone. (vv. 25, 30-43)

3. God sends his Spirit to all kinds of people. (vv. 44-48)

BIG IDEA: God's world mission surges forward as God's Spirit changes Peter and Cornelius to further impact all kinds of people.

Pastoral prayer



text by Frances Havergal, 1874; music by Henri César Malan, 1827, HENDON

- * Benediction
- * Congregational response

"Threefold Amen"

* Postlude

"Let All Things Now Living" arr. Marilyn Ham (words for meditation may be found in your hymnal, #125)

* Congregation standing as you are able

Musicians:

Joy Gibbons – vocalist David Henry – vocalist Ellie Henry – vocalist Joshua Knight – piano David Tahere – soloist