



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 3, 2020 | Fellowship Hall Service

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome and announcements

Frank Hitchings, senior associate pastor

* Call to worship

taken from Psalm 89

Leader: I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

All: **I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

Leader: The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones. For who in the skies above can compare with the LORD? Who is like the LORD among the heavenly beings?

All: **O LORD God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**

* Hymn of praise

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"



1. All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pro - strate fall; bring
2. Ye cho - sen seed of Is - rael's race, ye ran - somed from the fall, hail
3. Let ev - 'ry kind - red, ev - 'ry tribe, on this ter - res - trial ball, to
4. O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall; we'll



forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of ___ all; bring
him who saves you by ___ his ___ grace, and crown him Lord of ___ all; hail
him all maj - es - ty ___ a - scribe, and crown him Lord of ___ all; to
join the ev - er - last - ing ___ song, and crown him Lord of ___ all; we'll



forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord ___ of all.
him who saves you by ___ his ___ grace, and crown him Lord ___ of all.
him all ma - jes - ty ___ a - scribe, and crown him Lord ___ of all.
join the ev - er - last - ing ___ song, and crown him Lord ___ of all.

* **Prayer of adoration**

Call to confession

James 1:23-26

Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

taken from Ephesians 1:3-8

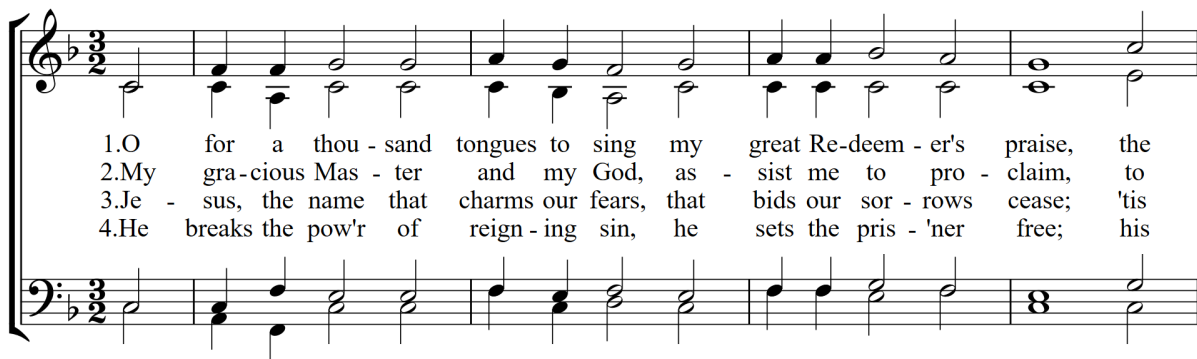
Leader: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

All: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

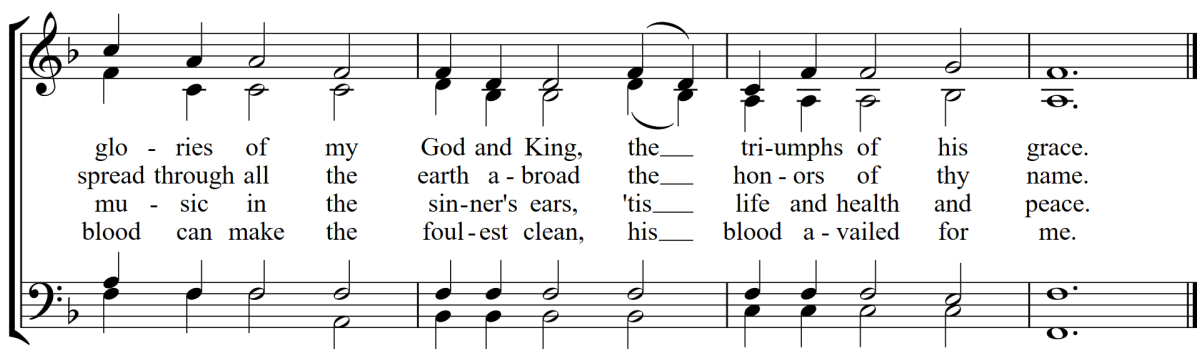
* **Hymn of assurance**

*"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"
(continue scrolling for words and music)*

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"



1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise, the
2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim, to
3. Je - sus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease; 'tis
4. He breaks the pow'r of reign - ing sin, he sets the pris - 'ner free; his



glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace.
spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
blood can make the foul - est clean, his blood a - vailed for me.

text by Charles Wesley, 1739; music by Carl G. Glaser, 1784-1829

Prayer of intercession for those in positions of leadership

Leader: Lord, your word says we are not to put our trust in mortal men who cannot save, but to trust in you. You are the Maker of heaven and earth, yet you graciously use human beings to accomplish your purposes. This morning we pray for those in positions of leadership in our country and around the world. Give them wisdom and understanding, that they might make decisions out of knowledge and true fear of you rather than a desire for the approval of others.

All: **Guide national leaders to act out of justice and mercy, that the economic, diplomatic, ecological, and political tasks of government may be ones that honor you.**

Leader: Give local politicians discernment and insight as they navigate the hardships and crises in their communities. Empower them to work for the good of all people, and align their efforts with your sovereign will.

All: Grant business owners and leaders of organizations wisdom as they make decisions concerning employees, meetings, travel, and community interaction. Let them be quick to listen to wisdom, and give them the ability to lead their communities faithfully.

Leader: Allow family leaders to encourage, support, and guide their families through the coming months. Grant them peace when they are frustrated, humility when they are headstrong, courage when they are afraid, and strength when they are exhausted.

All: We praise you, Lord, true King of all creation, and pray with the psalmist: "May all the kings of the earth praise you, O LORD, when they hear the words of your mouth. May they sing of the ways of the LORD, for the glory of the LORD is great." Amen.

adapted from Shaping the Prayers of the People and Psalm 138:4-5

Hymn of preparation

"Speak, O Lord"



1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your
2. Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true hu-
3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your



Ho - ly Word. Take your truth, plant it deep in us, shape and
mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the
plans for us. Truths un - changed from the dawn of time that will



fash - ion us in your like - ness, that the light of Christ might be
ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our faith to rise, cause our
ech - o down through eter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on your



seen to - day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
eyes to see your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
prom - is - es, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, 'til your



fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.
ne - ver fail, let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

*** Scripture reading from Acts 11:1-18**

¹The apostles and the brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him ³and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."

⁴Peter began and explained everything to them precisely as it had happened: ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. ⁶I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.' ⁸I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹The voice spoke from heaven a second time, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.' ¹⁰This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. ¹¹Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. ¹²The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. ¹⁴He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.' ¹⁵As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. ¹⁶Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

¹⁷"So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could oppose God?" ¹⁸When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God's Word

Sermon

“The Undeniable and Unstoppable Grace of God”

Brian Salter, lead pastor

1. God’s grace for the religious outsider can be quickly and easily opposed by the religious insider. (vv. 1-3)
2. God’s grace for the religious outsider must be often repeated to the religious insider. (vv. 4-16)
3. God’s grace is unstoppable and true, so don’t stand in the way. (vv. 16-18)

Pastoral prayer

* Hymn of response

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

1. Come, thou fount of ev'ry bles-sing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of
2. Here I raise my E-be - ne - zer; hi - ther by thy help I'm come; and I
3. O to grace how great a deb - tor dai - ly I'm con-strained to be; let that
mer - cy, ne - ver ceas - ing, call for songs of lou-dest praise. Teach me
hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus
grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee. Prone to_
some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by_ fla - ming tongues a - bove; praise the
sought me when a stran - ger, wand'-ring from the fold of God: he, to
wan - der, Lord, I feel_ it; prone to_ leave the God I love: here's my
mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang-ing love.
re - scue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

* **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

Ellie Henry – vocalist

Maddie Lee – piano

Hannah Lutz – viola