

THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | WORSHIP IN WORD & SACRAMENT

March 19, 2023 | 6:00 P.M.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN SING

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*THE HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 275“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION & LORD’S PRAYER

*THE CONFESSION OF FAITHThe Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; and His kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the Prophets. And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

*catholic means *general* or *universal*; that is to say, we confess that the Church is more than First Presbyterian Church or the PCA.

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

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Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory? Luke 24:26

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

1. The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; the vic - to - ry of life is
 2. The pow'rs of death have done their worst, but Christ their le - gions hath dis -
 3. The three sad days have quick - ly sped; he ris - es glo - rious from the
 4. He closed the yaw - ning gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high por - tals
 5. Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread sting thy ser - vants

won; the song of tri - umph has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 persed: let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 • dead: all glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 fell: let hymns of praise his tri - umphs tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
 free, that we may live and sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Latin hymn
 Tr. by Francis Pott, 1861

PALESTRINA 8.8.8.al.
 Giovanni P. da Palestrina, 1591; arr.

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit— just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Lord, the great and awesome God, You are righteous, but today we are covered with shame, because we have sinned against You. Though You are merciful and forgiving, we have turned away from You, we have rebelled against You, and have refused to obey Your good and perfect commands.

O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and who made a name for Yourself that endures to this day, let not Your anger fall upon us. Turn to us and hear our prayer and forgive us, showing us Your grace and mercy. For Your sake, O God, do not delay, because Your Church and Your people bear Your Name.

THE SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

*THE PSALM OF THE MONTH NO. 122 “I Was Filled With Joy and Gladness”

1. ¹I was filled with joy and glad-ness when they said with one ac - cord,
 2. ³As a cit - y bound to - geth - er is Je - ru - sa - lem de - signed.
 3. ⁶Pray for peace, the peace of Zi - on: “Pros - per those who love you well!
 4. ⁸For the sake of my com - pan - ions, for my broth - ers, I will say:



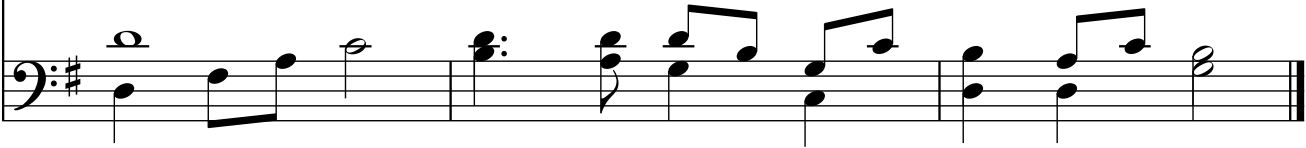
“Let us make our pil - grim jour - ney to the house of God the LORD.”
⁴There, by law, the tribes as - cend - ing thank the LORD in praise com - bined.
⁷Peace be in your walls for - ev - er; safe - ty in your tow - ers dwell!”
 “May God’s peace a - bide with - in you!” For the tem - ple’s sake I pray.



²O Je - ru - s’lem, O Je - ru - s’lem, we are stand - ing in your
⁵Thrones of Da - vid, thrones of Da - vid, there for roy - al jus - tice
⁷Peace and safe - ty, peace and safe - ty in Je - ru - sa - lem a -
⁹For the LORD’s house, for the LORD’s house I will ev - er seek your



gates; (*in your gates*) we are stand - ing in your gates.
 stand; (*jus - tice stand*) there for roy - al jus - tice stand.
 bound; (*a - bound*) in Je - ru - sa - lem a - bound.
 good; (*seek your good*) I will ev - er seek your good.



THE SCRIPTURE READINGRomans 11:16-24

THE SERMON“Faith & Power”

I. Introduction

A. Israel’s Stumbling

B. Alternating Views

II. Main Argument

A. The Instrumentality of Faith (vv. 16-21)

1. The Character of the First Fruits (v. 16)

a. What is Paul arguing regarding the so-called rejection of Israel?

b. What was the importance of *faith* in the firstfruits?

c. What does the holiness of the firstfruits indicate about the whole?

2. The Humility Becoming of Those Grafted (vv. 17-20)

a. Why were branches grafted in?

b. Why is it remarkable the Apostle Paul speaks this way re: the Jews?

3. The Warning to the Gentiles (v. 21)

a. Where does saving faith lead us?

b. What does the distinction between the Jew and Gentile *not* indicate?

B. The Power of God (vv. 22-24)

1. Continue in Kindness (v. 22)

a. What do the words translated *kindness* and *severity* mean?

- b. What must the Gentiles do in order to avoid the situation in which the unbelieving Jews find themselves?
 - c. How does the Apostle rule out works, faithfulness, or fruitfulness as having a role in remaining right with God?
 - d. How is the Apostle Paul's exhortation to the Gentiles similar to that given to the Jews in Acts 13?
2. Possibility of Salvation (v. 23)
- a. Of whom does the Apostle now speak?
 - b. Why does the Apostle put this in the negative: *do not continue in unbelief*?
 - c. What is the role of God's power in this?
3. Probability of Restoration (v. 24)
- a. What sort of argument does the Apostle Paul make here?
 - b. Why is the Apostle Paul writing with increasing optimism regarding the ultimate status of the Hebrew people?

III. Conclusion

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 519.....“Fountain of Never-Ceasing Grace”

WE COMMUNE WITH CHRIST BY FAITH

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

please hold the elements until all have been served so we may partake together

gluten free bread is available in the cups | white grape juice is available for those who cannot consume any alcohol

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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Fountain of Never-Ceasing Grace

If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. John 7:37

1. Foun - tain of nev - er - ceas - ing grace, your saints' ex - haust - less theme,
 2. In you we have a righ - teous - ness by God him - self ap - proved;
 3. As all, when Ad - am sinned a - lone, in his trans - gres - sion died,

great ob - ject of im - mor - tal praise, es - sen - tial - ly su - preme,
 our rock, our sure foun - da - tion this, which nev - er can be moved.
 so by the righ - teous - ness of One are sin - ners jus - ti - fied;

we bless you for the glo - rious fruits your in - car - na - tion gives,
 Our ran - som by your death was paid, for all your peo - ple giv'n,
 we to your mer - it, gra - cious Lord, with hum - blest joy sub - mit,

the righ - teous - ness which grace im - putes, and faith a - lone re - ceives.
 the law you per - fect - ly o - beyed, that they might en - ter heav'n.
 a - gain to par - a - dise re - stored, in you a - lone com - plete.

*THE PSALM OF THANKSGIVING NO. 117“Praise Jehovah, All Ye Nations!” (page 8)

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE RESPONSE.....“The Doxology”

Praise God , from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

¹Praise Je - ho - vah, all ye na - tions, all ye peo - ple praise pro - claim;

²for his grace and lov - ing - kind - ness O sing prais - es to his name.

For the great - ness of his mer - cy con - stant praise to him ac - cord;

ev - er - more his truth en - dur - eth; hal - le - lu - jah, praise the Lord!