



**Reformed Presbyterian Church**

**9:30 am Worship Service**

**April 23, 2023**

**Reformed Presbyterian Church** exists to be a stream of God's refreshing grace for people from all walks of life.

**Today's speaker:** Dr. Tim Witmer, Interim Pastor

Worship Leader: Phil Weaver, Elder

**PRELUDES**

*The 23th Psalm* by Albert Hay Malotte

*The Lord's Prayer* by Albert Hay Malotte

◇A time of quiet preparation Sarah Shafer, vocals; Jim Harris, piano

**WORDS OF GREETING**

**WE APPROACH GOD**

IN WORD

Psalm 19:7-9 (ESV)

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect,

**People: Refreshing the soul.**

Leader: The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,

**People: Making wise the simple.**

Leader: The precepts of the Lord are right,

**People: Giving joy to the heart.**

Leader: The commands of the Lord are radiant,

**People: Giving light to the eyes.**

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure,

**People: Enduring forever.**

Leader: The decrees of the Lord are firm,

**People: And all of them are righteous.**

IN PRAYER

**\*WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 455

*And Can It Be That I Should Gain*

**WE CONFESS OUR FAITH** Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 1-3

Leader: What is the chief end of man?

**People: Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him for ever.**

Leader: What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

**People: The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.**

Leader: What do the Scriptures principally teach?

**People: The Scriptures principally teach, what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.**

**\*WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*To God Be the Glory*

*10,000 Reasons*

*Speak, O Lord*

**WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

WELCOME TO VISITORS

**WE SEEK GOD'S FACE**

Prayers of God's People

**WE OFFER OUR GIFTS**

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*/ arr. by Duane Funderburk  
Sarah Shafer, vocals; Jim Harris, piano

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 8 (ESV)

SERMON

*Rebuilding for His Glory...with Truth*  
Dr. Tim Witmer

**\*WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **606**

*Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord*

\*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO MUSIC ROOM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL  
HOUR (4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

## Song Lyrics

### **455 *And Can It Be That I Should Gain***

And can it be that I should gain  
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing Love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! Th'Immortal dies:  
who can explore His strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds inquire no more.  
Amazing love! how can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

He left His Father's throne above,  
(so free, so infinite His grace!)  
humbled Himself (so great His love!)  
and bled for all His chosen race;  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for,  
O my God, it found out me.  
Amazing love! how can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.  
Amazing love! how can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach th'eternal throne,  
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.  
Amazing love! how can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

***To God Be the Glory***

Verse 1

To God be the glory great things He has done  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life gate that we may go in

Chorus

Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done

Verse 2

O perfect redemption the purchase of blood  
To every believer the promise of God  
The vilest offender who truly believes  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives

Verse 3

Great things He has taught us  
Great things He has done  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder our transport when Jesus we see

### ***10,000 Reasons***

Refrain: Bless the Lord oh my soul  
Oh my soul Worship his holy name  
Sing like never before Oh my soul  
I worship your holy name

The sun comes up. Its a new day dawning  
Its time to sing your song again  
What ever may pass and whatever lies before me  
Let me be singing when the evening comes

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger  
Your name is great and your heart is kind  
For all your goodness I will keep on singing  
10,000 reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing  
The end draws near and my time has come  
Soon my soul will sing your praise un-ending  
10,000 years and there forever more

Bless the Lord oh my soul  
Oh my soul, Worship his holy name  
Sing like never before, Oh my soul  
I worship your holy name  
I worship your holy name  
I worship your holy name

Sing like never before  
Oh my soul, I worship your holy name  
(Jesus I will)  
I worship your holy name  
I worship your holy name

***Speak, O Lord***

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your Holy Word  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us, Lord, full obedience  
Holy reverence, true humility  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity  
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority  
Words of pow'r that can never fail  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory

***606 Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord***

Teach me thy way, O Lord; teach me thy way!  
Thy guiding grace afford; teach me thy way!  
Help me to walk aright, more by faith, less by sight;  
lead me with heav'nly light; teach me thy way!

When I am sad at heart, teach me thy way!  
When earthly joys depart, teach me thy way!  
In hours of loneliness, in times of dire distress,  
in failure or success, teach me thy way!

When doubts and fears arise, teach me thy way!  
When storms o'erspread the skies, teach me thy way!  
Shine thro' the cloud and rain, thro' sorrow, toil, and pain;  
make thou my pathway plain; teach me thy way!

Long as my life shall last, teach me thy way!  
Where'er my lot be cast, teach me thy way!  
Until the race is run, until the journey's done,  
until the crown is won, teach me thy way!



## SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 8 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. <sup>2</sup>So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. <sup>4</sup>And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. <sup>6</sup>And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>7</sup>Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. <sup>8</sup>They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. <sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." <sup>11</sup>So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved." <sup>12</sup>And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them. <sup>13</sup>On the second day the heads of fathers' houses of all the people, with the priests and the Levites, came together to Ezra the scribe in order to study the words of the Law. <sup>14</sup>And they found it

written in the Law that the LORD had commanded by Moses that the people of Israel should dwell in booths during the feast of the seventh month,<sup>15</sup> and that they should proclaim it and publish it in all their towns and in Jerusalem, “Go out to the hills and bring branches of olive, wild olive, myrtle, palm, and other leafy trees to make booths, as it is written.”<sup>16</sup> So the people went out and brought them and made booths for themselves, each on his roof, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the square at the Water Gate and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim.<sup>17</sup> And all the assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and lived in the booths, for from the days of Jeshua the son of Nun to that day the people of Israel had not done so. And there was very great rejoicing.<sup>18</sup> And day by day, from the first day to the last day, he read from the Book of the Law of God. They kept the feast seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly, according to the rule.