



**Reformed Presbyterian Church**

**9:30 am Worship Service**

**April 30, 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: Rusty Rutter, Elder

Organist: Courtney Abbott-Fogie

Choir Director: Rachel Klein

**PRELUDES**

*Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us/* arr. M. White

*Almighty, Unchangeable God/* C. Berry

◇A time of quiet preparation

Kathleen Golias, piano

**WORDS OF GREETING**

**WE APPROACH GOD**

IN WORD

adapted from Psalm 93

Leader: The LORD reigns,

People: **He is clothed with majesty.**

Leader: The LORD has clothed Himself with strength;

People: **Your throne is established from of old;**

Leader: The LORD on high is mighty.

People: **Your testimonies are fully confirmed;  
Holiness befits Your house, O  
LORD, forevermore.**

IN PRAYER

**\*WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 167

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

**\*WE CONFESS OUR FAITH**

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 86 & 87

Leader: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

People: **Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.**

Leader: What is repentance unto life?

People: **Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.**

**\*WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*Christ Our Glory*

*Revelation Song*

*I See the Lord*

**WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

(4 years old to 1<sup>st</sup> grade)

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

WELCOME TO VISITORS

**WE SEEK GOD'S FACE**

Prayers of God's People

**WE OFFER OUR GIFTS**

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY *O Sing to the Lord/ F. Ritter*

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 9 (ESV)

SERMON

*Rebuilding for His Glory...with Repentance (1)*

Dr. Tim Witmer

**\*WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE 467

*Wonderful Grace of Jesus*

\*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO MUSIC ROOM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

HOUR (4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

## Song Lyrics

### 167 *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

When morning gilds the skies  
my heart awaking cries:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Alike at work and prayer,

to Jesus I repair:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

When sleep her balm denies,  
my silent spirit sighs,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

When evil thoughts molest,

with this I shield my breast,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind?

A solace here I find,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Or fades my earthly bliss?

My comfort still is this,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

In heav'n's eternal bliss

the loveliest strain is this,

May Jesus Christ be praised!

The pow'rs of darkness fear,

when this sweet chant they hear:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth's wide circle round,

in joyful notes resound;

May Jesus Christ be praised.

Let air and sea and sky,

from depth to height, reply:

May Jesus Christ be praised.

Be this, while life is mine,

my canticle divine:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this th' eternal song

through all the ages on:

May Jesus Christ be praised!

***Christ Our Glory***

1) Our rest is in heaven; our rest is not here  
Then why should we tremble when trials draw near?  
Be still and remember Christ carries our pain  
He shares in our suffering -through Him hope will reign

**Chorus 1**

Christ our glory, Christ our hope  
Christ our King forevermore  
Our Savior's in heaven; He rules from His throne,  
And cares for the people He chose as His own

**Verse 2**

No hours should be wasted on seeking our joy  
And placing our hope in what will be destroyed  
We look for a city that hands have not raised  
We long for a country that sin has not stained

**Chorus 2**

Christ our glory, Christ our hope  
Christ our King forevermore  
We look for a city that hands have not raised  
We long for a country that sin has not stained

**Verse 3**

Though trouble and anguish increase all the more  
They cannot compare to the glory in store  
Come joy or come sorrow, whatever befalls  
The light of the Savior will outshine them all

**Chorus 3**

Christ our glory, Christ our hope,  
Christ our King forevermore  
Christ our glory, Christ our hope,  
Christ our King forevermore  
Christ our glory, Christ our hope,  
Christ our King forevermore  
Come joy or come sorrow,  
whatever befalls  
The light of the Savior will outshine them all

### ***Revelation Song***

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.  
Holy, holy is He. Sing a new song  
to Him who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.  
Holy, holy is He. Sing a new song  
to Him who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.  
You are my everything, and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color,  
Flashes of lighting, rolls of thunder,  
Blessing and honor, strength and  
glory and power be to You, the only wise King.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.  
You are my everything, and I will adore You.

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder,  
at the mention of Your name.  
Jesus, Your name is power, breath and living water,  
such a marvelous mystery!

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.  
You are my everything, and I will adore You.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.  
You are my everything, and I will adore You.

*I See the Lord*

I see the Lord seated on the throne exalted  
And the train of His robe fills the temple with glory  
And the whole earth is filled  
And the whole earth is filled  
And the whole earth is filled with His glory

Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy  
Holy is the Lord

Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy  
Holy is the Lord

I see the Lord seated on the throne exalted  
And the train of His robe fills the temple with glory  
And the whole earth is filled  
And the whole earth is filled  
And the whole earth is filled with His glory

Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy  
Holy is the Lord

Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy  
Holy is  
Holy is  
Holy is the Lord

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

**467 *Wonderful Grace of Jesus***

Wonderful grace of Jesus,  
Greater than all my sin;  
How shall my tongue describe it,  
Where shall its praise begin?  
Taking away my burden,  
Setting my spirit free;  
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

Refrain:

Wonderful the matchless grace of Jesus,  
Deeper than the mighty rolling sea;  
Higher than the mountain, sparkling like a fountain,  
All-sufficient grace for even me!  
Broader than the scope of my transgressions,  
Greater far than all my sin and shame;  
Oh, magnify the precious Name of Jesus, Praise His  
Name!

Wonderful grace of Jesus,  
Reaching a mighty host,  
By it I have been pardoned,  
Saved to the uttermost;  
Chains have been torn asunder,  
Giving me liberty;  
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

Wonderful grace of Jesus,  
Reaching the most defiled,  
By its transforming power,  
Making him God's dear child,  
Purchasing peace and heaven  
For all eternity—  
And the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.



## SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 9 (ESV)

Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads. <sup>2</sup> And the Israelites separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. <sup>3</sup> And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for a quarter of the day; for another quarter of it they made confession and worshiped the LORD their God. <sup>4</sup> On the stairs of the Levites stood Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani; and they cried with a loud voice to the LORD their God. <sup>5</sup> Then the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, “Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

<sup>6</sup> “You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you. <sup>7</sup> You are the LORD, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham. <sup>8</sup> You found his heart faithful before you, and made with him the covenant to give to his offspring the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite. And you have kept your promise, for you are righteous.

<sup>9</sup> “And you saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea, <sup>10</sup> and performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted arrogantly against our fathers. And you made a name for yourself, as it is to this day. <sup>11</sup> And you divided the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on dry land, and you cast their pursuers into the depths, as a stone into mighty waters. <sup>12</sup> By a pillar of cloud you led them in the day, and by a pillar of fire in the night to light for them the way in which they should go. <sup>13</sup> You came down on Mount Sinai and spoke with them from heaven and gave them right rules and true laws, good statutes and commandments, <sup>14</sup> and you made known to them your holy Sabbath and commanded them commandments and statutes and a law by Moses your servant. <sup>15</sup> You gave them bread from heaven for

their hunger and brought water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and you told them to go in to possess the land that you had sworn to give them.

<sup>16</sup>“But they and our fathers acted presumptuously and stiffened their neck and did not obey your commandments.

<sup>17</sup> They refused to obey and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them, but they stiffened their neck and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them. <sup>18</sup> Even when they had made for themselves a golden calf and said, ‘This is your God who brought you up out of Egypt,’ and had committed great blasphemies, <sup>19</sup> you in your great mercies did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud to lead them in the way did not depart from them by day, nor the pillar of fire by night to light for them the way by which they should go. <sup>20</sup> You gave your good Spirit to instruct them and did not withhold your manna from their mouth and gave them water for their thirst. <sup>21</sup> Forty years you sustained them in the wilderness, and they lacked nothing. Their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.

<sup>22</sup>“And you gave them kingdoms and peoples and allotted to them every corner. So they took possession of the land of Sihon king of Heshbon and the land of Og king of Bashan.

<sup>23</sup> You multiplied their children as the stars of heaven, and you brought them into the land that you had told their fathers to enter and possess. <sup>24</sup> So the descendants went in and possessed the land, and you subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gave them into their hand, with their kings and the peoples of the land, that they might do with them as they would. <sup>25</sup> And they captured fortified cities and a rich land, and took possession of houses full of all good things, cisterns already hewn, vineyards, olive orchards and fruit trees in abundance. So they ate and were filled and became fat and delighted themselves in your great goodness.

<sup>26</sup>“Nevertheless, they were disobedient and rebelled against you and cast your law behind their back and killed your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to you, and they committed great blasphemies. <sup>27</sup> Therefore you gave them into the hand of their enemies, who made them suffer. And in the time of their suffering they cried out to you

and you heard them from heaven, and according to your great mercies you gave them saviors who saved them from the hand of their enemies.<sup>28</sup> But after they had rest they did evil again before you, and you abandoned them to the hand of their enemies, so that they had dominion over them. Yet when they turned and cried to you, you heard from heaven, and many times you delivered them according to your mercies.<sup>29</sup> And you warned them in order to turn them back to your law. Yet they acted presumptuously and did not obey your commandments, but sinned against your rules, which if a person does them, he shall live by them, and they turned a stubborn shoulder and stiffened their neck and would not obey.<sup>30</sup> Many years you bore with them and warned them by your Spirit through your prophets. Yet they would not give ear. Therefore you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.<sup>31</sup> Nevertheless, in your great mercies you did not make an end of them or forsake them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

<sup>32</sup> “Now, therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love, let not all the hardship seem little to you that has come upon us, upon our kings, our princes, our priests, our prophets, our fathers, and all your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria until this day.<sup>33</sup> Yet you have been righteous in all that has come upon us, for you have dealt faithfully and we have acted wickedly.<sup>34</sup> Our kings, our princes, our priests, and our fathers have not kept your law or paid attention to your commandments and your warnings that you gave them.

<sup>35</sup> Even in their own kingdom, and amid your great goodness that you gave them, and in the large and rich land that you set before them, they did not serve you or turn from their wicked works.

<sup>36</sup> Behold, we are slaves this day; in the land that you gave to our fathers to enjoy its fruit and its good gifts, behold, we are slaves.

<sup>37</sup> And its rich yield goes to the kings whom you have set over us because of our sins. They rule over our bodies and over our livestock as they please, and we are in great distress.

<sup>38</sup> “Because of all this we make a firm covenant in writing; on the sealed document are the names of our princes, our Levites, and our priests.