



Reformed Presbyterian Church

9:30 am Worship Service

January 15, 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
Worship Leader: Josiah Weaver, Ruling Elder
Organist: Courtney Abbott-Fogie
Choir Director: Rachel Klein

PRELUDE

☐ A time of quiet preparation

Prelude in E Flat/ B. Marcello
Holy, Holy, Holy/ arr. E. Lorenz

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Psalm 145:10-13 (ESV)

Leader: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you!

People: **They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,**

Leader: To make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

People: **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

IN PRAYER

***WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE **345**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

Leader: Since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Heb. 10:19-22 ESV

People: **Loving God, we confess before you and each other that our lives are not pure and holy apart from the cleansing we have from the work of Christ. And we confess that too often Christ in us is hidden by our actions that wound rather than heal, that tear down rather than build up. Give us a desire to follow Jesus in full obedience to your will and your way. We pray trusting in your forgiveness and in the power of your Holy Spirit to lead and guide us in paths of justice and righteousness for your name's sake. Amen.**

***WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*May the Peoples Praise You
Before the Throne of God Above
How Great is Our God*

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY

Song of Trust/ arr. D. Music

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 2 (ESV)

SERMON

Rebuilding...With Commitment
Rebuilding for His Glory: A Study of the Book of Nehemiah

Dr. Tim Witmer

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **305**

Arise, My Soul, Arise

*WORDS OF PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Song Lyrics

345 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

Glorious things of Thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken,
formed Thee for His own abode.
on the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake Thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all Thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply Thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
who can faint while such a river ever flows
their thirst t'assuage?
grace, which like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring,
showing that the Lord is near.
thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which He gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city
I, through grace, a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in Thy name:
fading is the worldling's pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken, words by John Newton, music by Franz Joseph Haydn © Public Domain

May the Peoples Praise You

You have called us out of darkest night Into Your glorious light
That we may sing the wonders of The risen Christ

May our every breath retell the grace That broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy With endless life

May the peoples praise You, Let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes That we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus

All the earth is Yours and all within Each harvest is Your own
And from Your hand we give to You To make Christ known

May the seeds of mercy grow in us For those who have not heard
May songs of praise build lives of grace To spread Your Word

May the peoples praise You, Let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes That we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus

This our holy privilege to declare Your praises and Your name
To every nation, tribe and tongue, Your church proclaims

May the peoples praise You, Let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes That we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus

Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
Worthy, worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty
All creation praise Your glorious Name

May the peoples praise You, Let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes That we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus

Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there,
Who made an end to all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold him there! The Risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!

One with Himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased with His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Before the Throne, words and music by Charite Lees Bancroft and Vikki Cook © 1997 PDI Worship RPC: CCLI
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How Great Is Our God

The splendor of the King Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
And trembles at His voice

How great is our God, Sing with me
How great is our God, And all will see how great
How great is our God

And age to age He stands, And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

How great is our God, Sing with me
How great is our God, And all will see how great
How great is our God

Name above all names, Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing, How great is our God

How great is our God, Sing with me
How great is our God, And all will see how great
How great is our God

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305 *Arise, My Soul, Arise*

Arise, my soul, arise
Shake off your guilty fears
The bleeding Sacrifice
In my behalf appears
Before the throne my Surety stands
Before the throne my Surety stands
My name is written on His hands

He ever lives above
For me to intercede
His all redeeming love
His precious blood to plead
His blood atoned for every race
His blood atoned for every race
And sprinkles now the throne of grace

Five bleeding wounds He bears
Received on Calvary
They pour effectual prayers
They strongly plead for me:
"Forgive him, O forgive, " they cry
"Forgive him, O forgive, " they cry
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

My God is reconciled;
His pard'ning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child
I can no longer fear;
with confidence I now draw nigh,
with confidence I now draw nigh,
and "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 2

2 In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence.² And the king said to me, “Why is your face sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing but sadness of the heart.” Then I was very much afraid.³ I said to the king, “Let the king live forever! Why should not my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' graves, lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”⁴ Then the king said to me, “What are you requesting?” So I prayed to the God of heaven.⁵ And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' graves, that I may rebuild it.”⁶ And the king said to me (the queen sitting beside him), “How long will you be gone, and when will you return?” So it pleased the king to send me when I had given him a time.⁷ And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah,⁸ and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress of the temple, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall occupy.” And the king granted me what I asked, for the good hand of my God was upon me.

⁹ Then I came to the governors of the province Beyond the River and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent with me officers of the army and horsemen.¹⁰ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the people of Israel.

¹¹ So I went to Jerusalem and was there three days.¹² Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. And I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There was no animal with me but the one on which I rode.¹³ I went out by night by the Valley Gate to the Dragon Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem

that were broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire.¹⁴ Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but there was no room for the animal that was under me to pass.¹⁵ Then I went up in the night by the valley and inspected the wall, and I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned.¹⁶ And the officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, and I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest who were to do the work.

¹⁷ Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision."¹⁸ And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the good work.¹⁹ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they jeered at us and despised us and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"²⁰ Then I replied to them, "The God of heaven will make us prosper, and we his servants will arise and build, but you have no portion or right or claim in Jerusalem."