



**REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**September 14, 2025**  
**9:30 am Worship Service**

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

**Today's Speaker:** Lincoln Fitch

**Worship Leader:** Nick Crowther, Ruling Elder

**Organist:** Courtney Brooke

**Choir Director:** Rachel Klein

**PRELUDE**

*Jesus, Refuge of the Weary/ J. Thommen*  
*Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult (Hymn 591)/ arr. D. Wood*

**WORDS OF GREETING**

**WE APPROACH GOD**

IN WORD

Mark 1:14-15 (ESV)

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

IN PRAYER

**\*WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 554 *From the Depths of Woe I Raise to Thee*

**\*WE CONFESS OUR SIN**

adapted from The Valley of Vision prayer "Sins"

**Unison:** Merciful Lord, pardon all our sins of this day,  
week, year, all the sins of my life, sins of early,  
middle, and advanced years, of omission and  
commission, sins in private and in the family, in  
study and recreation, in the busy haunts of men, in  
the study of the Word and neglect of it, in prayer  
irreverently offered and coldly withheld, in time  
misspent, in yielding to Satan's wiles, in opening my  
heart to his temptations. Pardon all our sins, known  
and unknown, felt and unfelt, confessed and not  
confessed, remembered or forgotten. Good Lord,  
hear; and hearing, forgive.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Psalm 103:11–12 (ESV)

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great  
is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far  
as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our  
transgressions from us.

**\*WE CONFESS OUR FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

**Leader:** Christian, what do you believe?

**People:** I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell<sup>1</sup>.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right  
hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he  
will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic<sup>2</sup> church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen

<sup>1</sup> meaning the God-forsaken state of Jesus in his suffering, death, and burial. <sup>2</sup> meaning universal

**\*WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*Great Things  
How Great is Our God  
Speak, O Lord*

**WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

(ages 4–6 years old)

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

WELCOME TO VISITORS

**WE SEEK GOD'S FACE**

Prayers of God's People

**WE OFFER OUR GIFTS**

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need/* arr. M. Wilberg

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 6:1-30 (ESV)

Kelly Interrante, reader

He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup> And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands?" <sup>3</sup> Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household." <sup>5</sup> And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. <sup>6</sup> And he marveled because of their unbelief.

And he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup> And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup> He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts—<sup>9</sup> but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup> And he said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. <sup>11</sup> And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." <sup>12</sup> So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. <sup>13</sup> And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

<sup>14</sup> King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these

miraculous powers are at work in him.”<sup>15</sup> But others said, “He is Elijah.” And others said, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.”<sup>16</sup> But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.”<sup>17</sup> For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her.<sup>18</sup> For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.”<sup>19</sup> And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not,<sup>20</sup> for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

<sup>21</sup> But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee.<sup>22</sup> For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you.”<sup>23</sup> And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom.”<sup>24</sup> And she went out and said to her mother, “For what should I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the Baptist.”<sup>25</sup> And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”<sup>26</sup> And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her.<sup>27</sup> And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison<sup>28</sup> and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother.<sup>29</sup> When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

<sup>30</sup> The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught.

SERMON

***Why Jesus is Rejected***  
The Gospel of Mark series  
Lincoln Fitch

**\*WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **455**

*And Can It Be That I Should Gain*

WORDS OF PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

## SONG LYRICS

### **554** *From Depths of Woe I Raise to Thee*

From depths of woe I raise to thee the voice of lamentation;  
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me and hear my supplication:  
if thou iniquities dost mark, our secret sins and misdeeds dark,  
O who shall stand before thee?

To wash away the crimson stain, grace, grace alone availeth;  
our works, alas! are all in vain; in much the best life faileth:  
no man can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might,  
and live alone by mercy.

Therefore my trust is in the Lord, and not in mine own merit;  
on him my soul shall rest, his Word upholds my fainting spirit:  
his promised mercy is my fort, my comfort,  
and my sweet support;  
I wait for it with patience.

What though I wait the live-long night,  
and till the dawn appeareth,  
my heart still trusteth in his might; it doubteth not nor feareth:  
do thus, O ye of Israel's seed, ye of the Spirit born indeed;  
and wait till God appeareth.

Though great our sins and sore our woes  
his grace much more aboundeth;  
his helping love no limit knows, our utmost need it soundeth.  
Our Shepherd good and true is he,  
who will at last his Israel free from all their sin and sorrow.

### ***Great Things***

Come let us worship our King Come let us bow at His feet  
He has done great things  
See what our Savior has done See how His love overcomes  
He has done great things He has done great things

Oh, hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave  
You free every captive and break every chain  
Oh God, You have done great things  
We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive  
Oh Jesus, our Savior, Your name lifted high  
Oh God, You have done great things

You've been faithful through every storm You'll be faithful forevermore  
You have done great things And I know You will do it again  
For Your promise is "Yes and amen"  
You will do great things God, You do great things

Oh, hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave  
You free every captive and break every chain  
Oh God, You have done great things  
We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive  
Oh Jesus, our Savior, Your name lifted high  
Oh God, You have done great things

Hallelujah God, above it all Hallelujah God, unshakable  
Hallelujah, You have done great things  
Hallelujah God, above it all  
Hallelujah God, unshakable Hallelujah,  
You have done great things  
You've done great things

Oh, hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave  
You free every captive and break every chain  
Oh God, You have done great things  
We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive  
Oh Jesus, our Savior, Your name lifted high  
Oh God, You have done great things  
You have done great things Oh God, You do great things

## ***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

*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



**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!