



Reformed Presbyterian Church

9:30 am Worship Service

September 24, 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: Josiah Weaver

Organist: Courtney Abbott-Fogie

Choir Director: Rachel Klein

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer/ arr. B. Heastings

All Things Bright and Beautiful/ arr. J.B. Taylor

◇A time of quiet preparation

Kathleen Golias, piano

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Isaiah 55:6-9 (ESV)

Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found;

People: **Call on him while he is near.**

Leader: Let the wicked forsake their ways

People: **And the unrighteous their thoughts.**

Leader: Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them,

People: **And to our God, for he will freely pardon.**

Leader: For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

People: **Neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.**

Leader: As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways

People: **And my thoughts than your thoughts.**

IN PRAYER

***WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 441

Jesus Shall Reign

***WE CONFESS OUR SIN**

Leader: We live in a world filled with darkness and sin. But as John wrote, Jesus came into the world but the world did not recognize him. Let us thank him for the light he brought into our lives and confess that we have failed to reflect his light to others.

People: **You are the light of the world. You have also said that we are the light of the world. But we have failed to let our lights shine as they should. Too often we have looked more like the darkness of the world than the reflection of your glory. Please forgive us and fill us with your Spirit so that others will be drawn to you. Amen.**

***WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*Great Things
Only a Holy God
Draw Me Nearer*

MISSION MOMENT Cheryl Erb, Engaging Disability Ministry

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

(4 years old to 1st grade)

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY

I Will Lift Up My Eyes/ L. Larson

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 4:26-29 (ESV)

²⁶ And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷ He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how.

²⁸ The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

SERMON

Scatter the Seed
Dr. Tim Witmer

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **444**

O Zion Haste, Your Mission High Fulfilling

*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO MUSIC ROOM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

 HOUR (4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Song Lyrics

441 *Jesus Shall Reign*

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does His successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns;
The pris'ner leaps to lose his chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!

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
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

Only A Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?
Who else could make every king bow down?
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises?
What other splendor outshines the sun?
What other majesty rules with justice?
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him, The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy, Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

What other glory consumes like fire?
What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated?
Only a Holy God

Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God, Only my Holy God

Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Come and behold Him, The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy, Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Draw Me Nearer

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Your voice,
And it told Your love to me
But I long to rise in the arms of faith
And be closer drawn to Thee

Draw me nearer
To the cross where Thou hast died
Draw me nearer
To Your precious, bleeding side
Draw me nearer, draw me nearer

Consecrate me now to Your service, Lord
By the pow'r of grace divine
Let my soul look up with a steady hope
And my will be lost in Thine

Draw me nearer
To the cross where Thou hast died
Draw me nearer
To Your precious, bleeding side
Draw me nearer, draw me nearer

There are depths of love that I cannot know
Till I cross the narrow sea
There are heights of joy that I may not reach
Till I rest in peace with Thee

Draw me nearer
To the cross where Thou hast died
Draw me nearer
To Your precious, bleeding side
Draw me nearer, draw me nearer

444 *O Zion Haste, Your Mission High Fulfilling*

O Zion, haste, your mission high fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is light;
that he who made all nations is not willing
one soul should perish, lost in shades of night.
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace;
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

Behold how many thousands still are lying,
bound in the darksome prison-house of sin,
with none to tell them of the Savior's dying,
or of the life he died for them to win.
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace;
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

Proclaim to ev'ry people, tongue, and nation
that God, in whom they live and move, is love:
tell how he stooped to save his lost creation,
and died on earth that man might live above.
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace;
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

Give of your sons to bear the message glorious;
give of your wealth to speed them on their way;
pour out your soul for them in prayer victorious;
and all your spending Jesus will repay.
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace;
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.