

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

Gratitude, devotion, dedication to the Lord who had rescued them and given them a new life, [the] sense of being commissioned by him and empowered by his Spirit to do that work of heralds, messengers and ambassadors, was the main motive of evangelism in the early Church. These men had been gripped by the love of God which had taken concrete form in the person of Jesus and had stooped to unbelievable depths in the agonies of Calvary. Magnetized by this love, their lives could not but show it, their lips could not help telling it; *we cannot but speak of the things which we have seen and heard* [Acts 4:20] well sums up the attitude of spontaneous loving devotion to God which acted as the mainspring of their evangelistic efforts. They were convinced that the salvation promised long ago in the Scriptures had actually become a reality through what Jesus had done. How could they keep quiet? In such a day of good tidings they could not hold their peace.

Michael Green
Evangelism in the Early Church

MARCH 23, 2025
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are glad you decided to come and worship our God and Father through his Son Jesus Christ by His Spirit with us today!

We want you to feel welcome, and we've prepared this guide to help you enter body and soul into worship. We deeply believe that worship is not just watching and listening; we are called to be active and engaged in the dialog between the covenant God who speaks and his people who respond. Please note:

- the words of Scripture are in *italics*,
 - **boldface type** indicates congregational participation,
 - words in *red* are guides to what's happening, and
 - the † symbol means everyone stands, as able.
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If you are a visitor, please take a moment to scan the QR code below and fill out the form. We want to acknowledge your presence today with a note of thanks. Please let us know if there is a way we may be of help or encouragement to you today.



Also, we have coffee and snacks in the fellowship hall following worship. We hope you will stay for a while so that we can get to know one another a little bit.

LORD'S DAY DIVINE SERVICE

The Welcome and Announcements

*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
~ Matthew 5:7*

The Prelude

*Take a moment to prepare in silence for worship
and to pray for God's assistance to worship him rightly.*

GOD CALLS US | WE GATHER TOGETHER AND PRAISE HIM

The Apostolic Greeting

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

† The Call to Worship

Psalm 103:6-8, 10-11

*In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost,
Amen!*

The LORD be with you!

And with your spirit!

The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth. Let us worship God.

† The Hymn of Praise

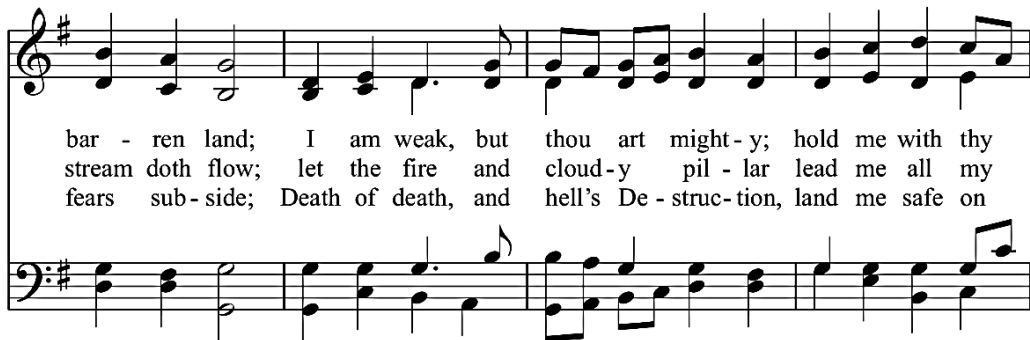
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

† Please stand, as able

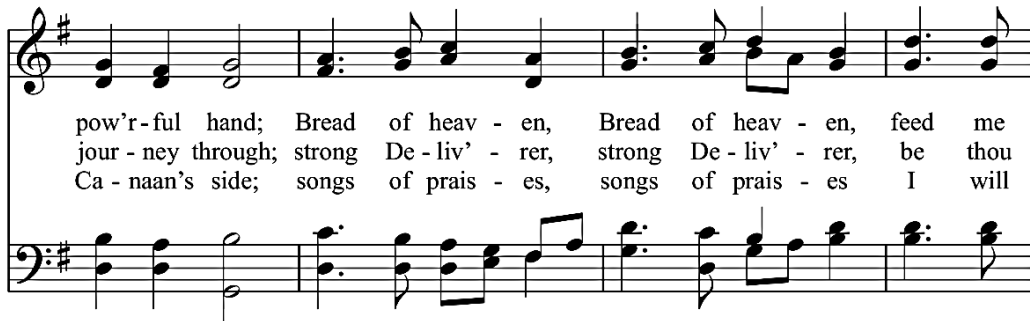
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's De - struc - tion, land me safe on



pow'r - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en, feed me
jour - ney through; strong De - liv' - rer, strong De - liv' - rer, be thou
Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es I will



'til I want no more, (*want no more*) feed me 'til I want no more.
still my strength and shield, (*strength and shield*) be thou still my strength and shield.
ev - er give to thee, (*give to thee*) I will ev - er give to thee.

†**The Opening Prayer, *in unison***

Prayers for Common Worship (1936)

Turn to the LORD with all your heart; return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. (Deuteronomy 30:10; Joel 2:13)

Lord God our Father: You robe yourself with light as with a garment; no one can look at you and live, no thought can comprehend. Praise be to you, for in your great love and mercy you have revealed yourself—the compassionate Father, the Guardian, the Savior of your people. Grant us, we pray, the aid of your Spirit, the one who cleansed and comforts our souls, as now we come to you in the name of Christ to worship and adore you. All glory, praise, and thanks be you most Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, One God now and forever. AMEN.

†**The Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.

GOD CLEANSSES US | WE CONFESS OUR SINS

The Call to Confession

Acts 3:20

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us lift up our prayers and humbly confess our sins to God our Father, seeking and imploring his grace through Jesus Christ our Mediator.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

The Confession of Sin, *in unison*

Lord God of Mercy: You sent your only Son Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride—we see ourselves as pure when we are stained, as wise when we are foolish, as great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy on us, O Lord our God and forgive our sin for Jesus' sake. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ our Redeemer...

Take a moment of silence to confess your particular sins to God through Jesus Christ our Advocate and Shield who sits at the God's right hand.

The Proclamation of Forgiveness

Luke 2:10-11

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

To all those who sincerely repent as we have prayed and look to Jesus Christ alone for their salvation, the message of the angels is good news indeed, and I declare to you the promise of God: he has forgiven your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. AMEN.

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to his people on earth!

The Prayer for Grace

Order of Worship, Reformed Church in the US (1866)

Let us lift up our hearts to God in heaven.

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

Let us pray together to the Lord:

Almighty God, who has been the hope and confidence of your people in all ages: Mercifully regard, we beseech you, the prayer with which we cry to you out of the depths, and stretch forth the right hand of your majesty for our salvation and defense; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

GOD CONSECRATES US | WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND OFFERING

The Offering Prayer and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

GOD SPEAKS TO US | WE HEAR IN FAITH

The Scripture Readings for the 3rd Sunday in Lent

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 55:1-9*

The Epistle Reading: *1 Corinthians 10:1-13*

The Gospel Reading: *Luke 13:1-9*

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 55:1-9*

*Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.
Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!*

The Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

†The Gospel Reading: *Luke 13:1-9*

There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

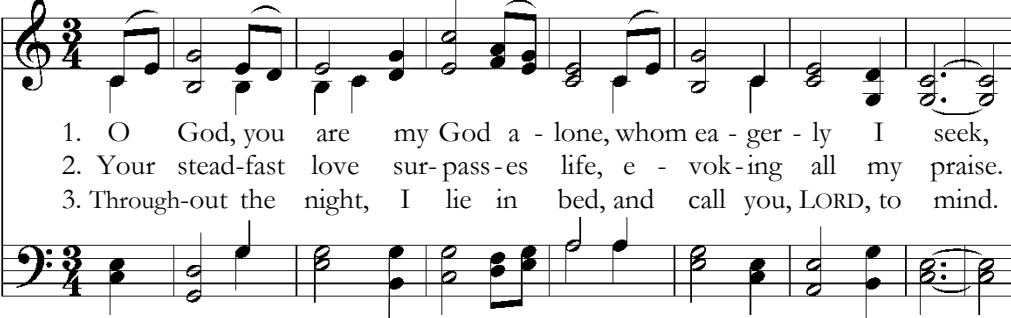
The Sermon Text: *Luke 10:25-37*

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

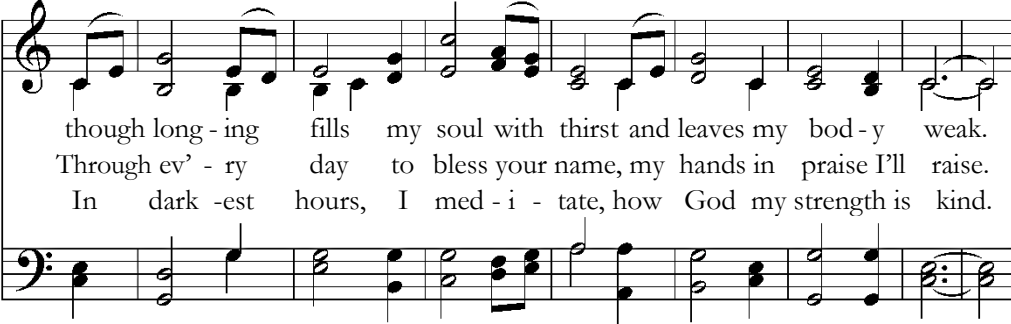
But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

The Prayer for Illumination


Psalm 63: O God, You Are My God Alone



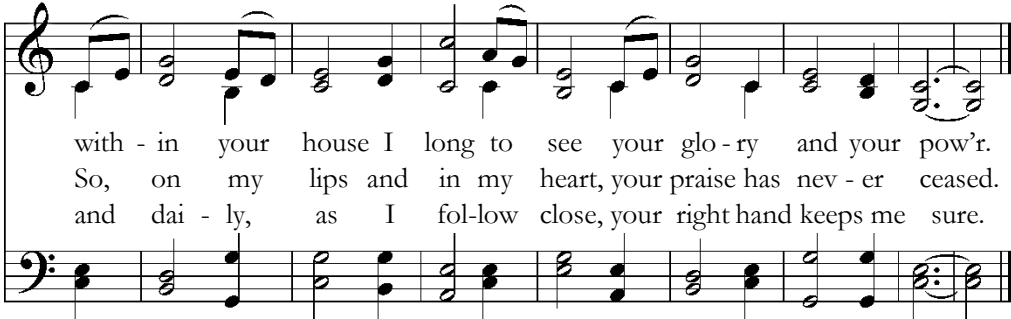
1. O God, you are my God a - lone, whom ea - ger - ly I seek,
2. Your stead-fast love sur-pass-es life, e - vok-ing all my praise.
3. Through-out the night, I lie in bed, and call you, LORD, to mind.



though long - ing fills my soul with thirst and leaves my bod - y weak.
Through ev' - ry day to bless your name, my hands in praise I'll raise.
In dark - est hours, I med - i - tate, how God my strength is kind.



Just like a dry and bar - ren land a - waits a fresh'ning show'r,
My deep - est needs you sat - is - fy as with a sump-tu'us feast.
Be - neath the sha - dow of your wing I live and feel se - cure;



with - in your house I long to see your glo - ry and your pow'r.
So, on my lips and in my heart, your praise has nev - er ceased.
and dai - ly, as I fol - low close, your right hand keeps me sure.

The Sermon: Jesus and the Bible Teacher

GOD COMMUNES WITH US | WE EAT AND DRINK
WITH THE LORD AND ONE ANOTHER

The Invitation to the Meal and Fencing of the Table

Prayers for Those Not Communing

If you are not able to receive Communion, please use the time to pray and meditate.

For Those Searching for the Truth

Lord Jesus Christ: You have said you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If indeed you are the Savior of the World, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are and of what you have done. Give me an understanding of you that is true, coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you have promised to give to all who seek you. Amen.

For Those Now Receiving Christ

Lord Jesus Christ, I recognize that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserve in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

For Those Struggling with Sin

If you are a baptized believer in Christ and are struggling with sin, you should still come forward for Communion. As it says in our Larger Catechism 172:

One who doubts of his being in Christ, or of his due preparation for the sacrament of the Lord's supper, may have true interest in Christ, though he is not yet assured thereof; and in God's account has it, if he is duly affected with the apprehension of the lack of it, and sincerely desires to be found in Christ, and to depart from iniquity: in which case (because promises are made, and this sacrament is appointed, *for the relief even of weak and doubting Christians*) he is to bewail his unbelief, and labor to have his doubts resolved; and, so doing, he may and ought to come to the Lord's supper, that he may be further strengthened.

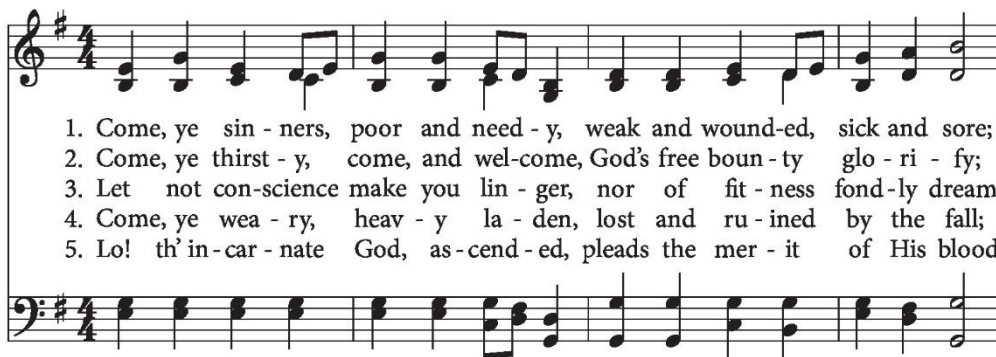
†The Hymn of Preparation

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

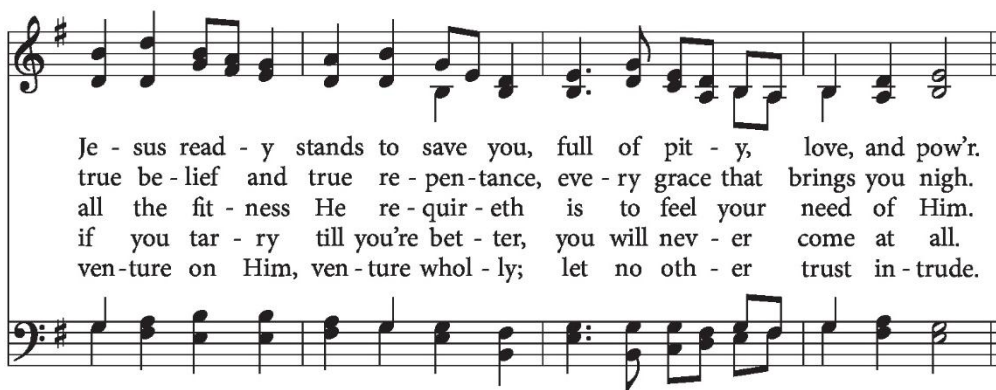
†The Confession of Our Faith, *in unison*

The Nicene Creed

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy



1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;
2. Come, ye thirst - y, come, and wel-come, God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy;
3. Let not con-science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond-ly dream;
4. Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y la - den, lost and ru - ined by the fall;
5. Lo! th' in - car - nate God, as - cend - ed, pleads the mer - it of His blood;



Je - sus read - y stands to save you, full of pit - y, love, and pow'r.
true be - lief and true re - pen - tance, eve - ry grace that brings you nigh.
all the fit - ness He re - quir - eth is to feel your need of Him.
if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er come at all.
ven - ture on Him, ven - ture whol - ly; let no oth - er trust in - trude.

The Nicene Creed

WE BELIEVE IN one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.

AND IN one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;

Who for us, and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

And he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

AND WE BELIEVE IN the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son
together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;

AND WE BELIEVE IN one holy catholic and apostolic Church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

AND WE LOOK for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

†The Passing of the Peace

1 Corinthians 6:11; Romans 5:1

You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

†The Words of Institution

Mark 14:22-25

†The Prayer of Humble Access, *in unison*

Book of Common Prayer (1552)

We do not presume to come to this your table, O Merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your many and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord who ever loves to show mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his cup, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. AMEN.

The Prayer of Consecration

The Savoy Liturgy of Richard Baxter (1661)

The Serving of the Elements

Brothers and sisters, lift your eyes from the visible elements and lift up your heart to heaven, where Christ is now, seated at the right hand of the Father, from where he will come again to complete our redemption. In him alone are all the promises of God fulfilled and all Spiritual blessings found.

Come to the Table now in joy of heart, in Spirit-wrought unity, in holy love, and partake of the Feast of Christ, giving thanks for the great love that God has shown us.

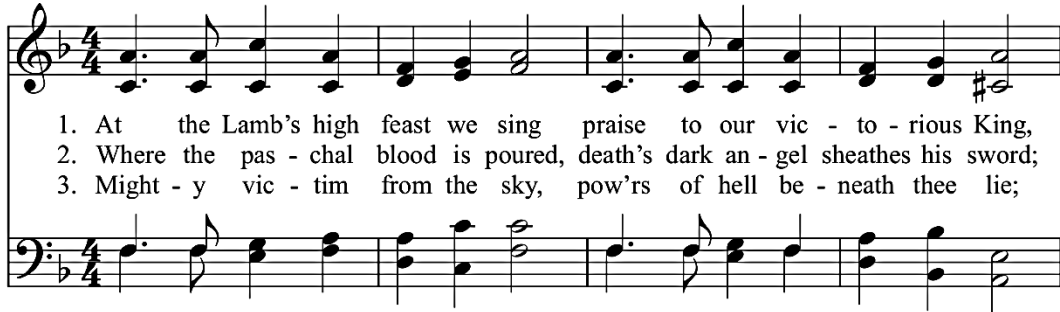
The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!*

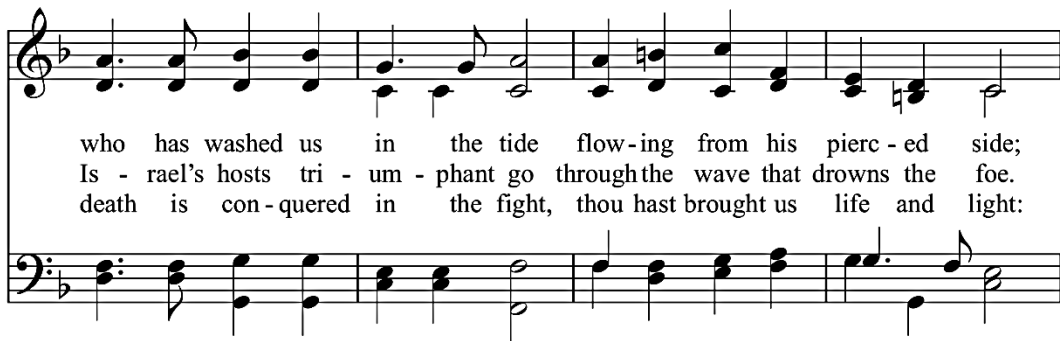
†The Hymn of Response

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

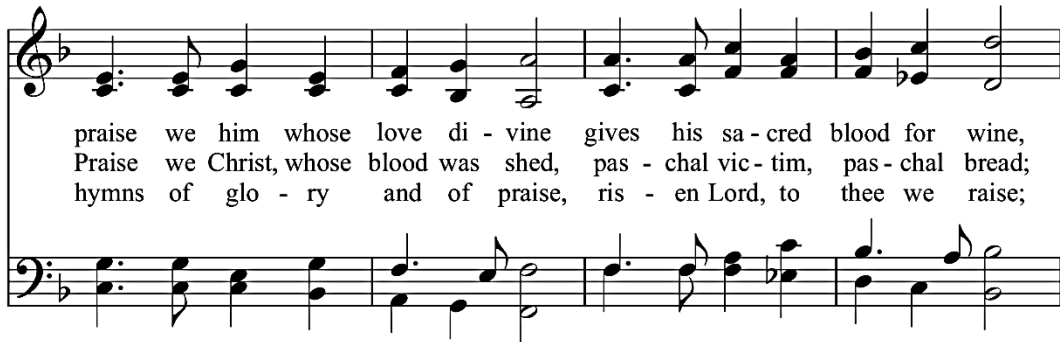
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



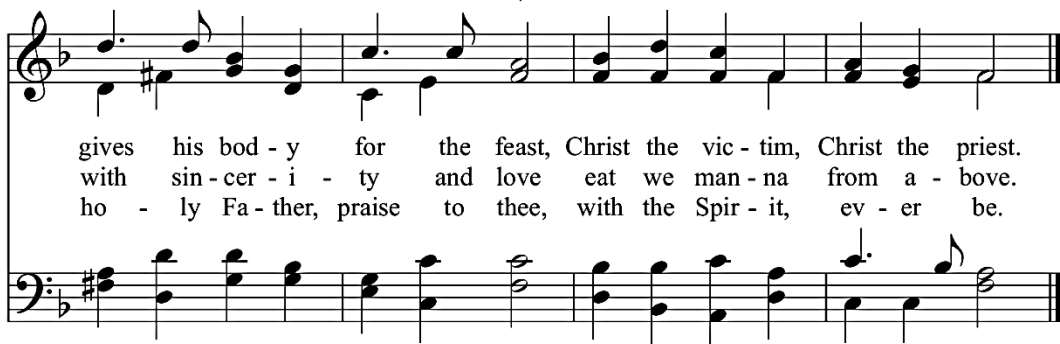
1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,
2. Where the pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
3. Might - y vic - tim from the sky, pow'rs of hell be - neath thee lie;



who has washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
death is con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:



praise we him whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred blood for wine,
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal vic - tim, pas - chal bread;
hymns of glo - ry and of praise, ris - en Lord, to thee we raise;



gives his bod - y for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
ho - ly Fa - ther, praise to thee, with the Spir - it, ev - er be.

The Prayers of the People

The Church Around the World

The Reformed church in Italy, especially the PCA church plant in Lecce, *Chiesa Presbiteriana Pietra Vivente* (chiesapietravivente.com/en/home), and their pastor Vincenzo Coluccia and his family.

PCA Churches and Pastors in New York State Presbytery

Oneonta Church Plant, Oneonta—Pastor Cody Gibson

New Life Church, Canton (our mother church)—Pastor Larry Veinott

Agencies Grace Supports Financially

Care Net of NNY

Geneva Benefits Group—Paul Joiner, Director of Ministerial Wellbeing

Government and Political Leadership

New York State Governor Kathy Hochul; Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado; members of the Legislature and Judiciary.

Grace Church

Mark Saltzman, Elder Emeritus from New Life Canton, who is battling a resurgent leukemia and waiting for a bone marrow transplant

The Lord's Prayer, *in unison*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

GOD COMMISSIONS AND BLESSES US | WE GO OUT TO SERVE GOD

†Closing Hymn

May the Grace of Christ Our Savior

May the grace of Christ our Savior
and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favor,
rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion,
joys which earth cannot afford. Amen.

†The Song of Simeon, *in unison*

Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. AMEN.

†The Commission

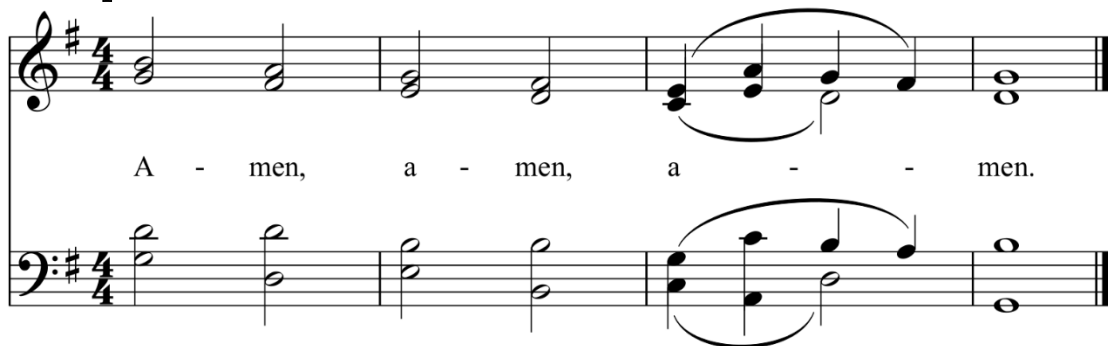
Matthew 28:18-20

†The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

*The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

†The People's Amen



A - men, a - men, a - - men.

LIFE TOGETHER AT GRACE

THURSDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

Thursday night fellowship will meet at the Harryman's for supper at 6:00 p.m. This is a time for all. Soup and bread for women, children, men, and strangers. The men's Bible study will follow at 7:00 in Bob's study.

BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

Best wished and happy birthday to Samantha Mocho (3/4), Margot Rankin (3/6), Micah Smith and Maclin Mocho (3/18).

NEXT FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Plan on staying after the service on Sunday, April 6 to enjoy our monthly meal together. It might be the perfect time for you to invite someone.

BENEVOLENCE SUPPORT

With the advice and approval of the Session, Grace Church has added benevolence support to our ministry. As of now we will be supporting two charitable organizations in the amount of \$100.00 per month.

- **CareNet of NNY (carenetnny.com)** is a Christian 501c3 nonprofit here in Watertown that labors to “educate, support, and empower women and couples facing unplanned pregnancies” with both pre- and post-natal support.
- **Geneva Benefits Group (genevabenefits.org)** is the charitable support and relief agency of the PCA that “supports those called to ministry so they can focus on their calling,”— churches, pastors and their families, and non-ordained ministry staff.

Also, the Session approved a one-time donation of \$1000.00 to the church plant in Oneonta. We give thanks to God that he allowed us to begin to share his bountiful goodness to us!

NOTES ON COMMUNION

- The inner rings of cups contain wine, the outer ring grape juice.
- Gluten-free bread is available.
- Our custom is to wait until everyone has been served, whereupon we eat and drink together.
- After the service, please place your empty cup in the basket provided near the entrance.
- Non-communing children are encouraged to come to the Table with their parents, where they will receive a prayer of blessing.

CONTACT US

Pastor

The Reverend Mr. Frank C. Ellis, Jr.
fellisjr@gmail.com

Our Session – New Life Presbyterian Church, Canton, NY

The Reverend Mr. Laurence Veinott – larrynlpc@gmail.com
Dr. Phillip Bridgman

Church Mailing Address

986 Bradley Street, PMB #105
Watertown, NY 13601

315 296 2004

gracepcawatertown.org



Please let us know you worshiped with us today!

We would like to acknowledge your presence with us today. You will not be added to any mailing lists without your permission, and we will not share your information with anyone. Please fill this out and put it in the offering plate when it comes by.

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

- I am an out of town visitor.
- I live in the area and am visiting for the first time today.
- I would like more information about Grace. Please have someone contact me.
- Please send me more information about _____
- I would like to meet the pastor for coffee or lunch.

*We are God's people.
We proclaim Christ,
who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
In him we are
Taught by the Truth and
Liberated by the Life to
Walk in the Way.
The goal of our instruction is love
for God and neighbor
that flows from a pure heart and
a clear conscience and
a sincere faith.*



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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