

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil.

~Luke 4:1-2

When Christ willed to be tempted by the devil, he figuratively transferred us into himself. We [read] in the gospel that our Lord Jesus Christ was tempted in the desert by the devil and this is exactly what happened. In Christ you were being tempted because Christ had his human flesh from you, just as he won salvation for you from himself. He received death from you, just as he gained life from himself for you. From you he received reproaches and from himself for you he gained glory and honor. In the same way he suffered the temptation for you and he won from himself the victory for you.

If we have been tempted in him, in him we conquer the devil. Do you notice that Christ has been tempted and fail to notice that he overcame temptation? Recognize your own self, tempted in him and conquering also in him. He might have avoided the devil completely but had he not been tempted, he would have failed to give you the [victory] when you are tempted.

*~St. Augustine of Hippo,
On Psalm 61:1-2*

MARCH 9, 2025
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

LORD'S DAY DIVINE SERVICE

The Welcome and Announcements

*God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him.*

~ John 3:17

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 118:19-24

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!

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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

† The Hymn of Praise, p. 10

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation, vv. 1-4

† Please stand, as able

†**The Opening Prayer**, *in unison*

Prayers for Common Worship (1936)

Christ is able to save completely those who draw near to God through him, because he always lives to plead on their behalf. (Hebrews 7:25)

Almighty Father, you have promised to receive the worship and hear the prayers of those who believe in your only Son Jesus Christ. We beseech you mercifully to incline your ear to us who now come before you in him, our Mediator and Advocate. Anoint us with your Holy Spirit that we may offer praise and prayers acceptably to you and receive from you the gracious blessings you give in Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. AMEN.

†**The Doxology**

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation, v. 5

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laude and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One. One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run. AMEN.

GOD CLEANSSES US | WE CONFESS OUR SINS

The Call to Confession

Lamentations 3:40-41

Beloved in the Lord! In the assurance of faith, let us confess our sins to God our Father, asking him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the LORD!

Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven!

The Confession of Sin, p. 11

Psalms 51:1-9: God Be Merciful to Me

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

Isaiah 53:3

He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

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 in peace to the Lord:

We beseech you, O Lord, by the mystery of our Savior's fasting and temptation, to arm us with the same mind that was in him toward all evil and sin; and give us grace to keep our bodies in such holy discipline, that our minds may be always ready to resist Satan, and obey the motions of your Holy Spirit; 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 1st Sunday in Lent

The Old Testament Reading: *Deuteronomy 26:1-11*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Epistle Reading: *Romans 10:5-13*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

† The Gospel Reading: *Luke 4:1-13*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

†The Psalm, p. 12

Psalm 91: Who with God Most High Finds Shelter

The Sermon Text: *John 7:53–8:11*

The Prayer for Illumination

The Sermon: Caught in the Act

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

The Invitation to the Meal and Fencing of the Table

†The Hymn of Preparation, p. 13

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted, vv. 1-3

†The Confession of Our Faith, p. 14, *in unison*

The Nicene Creed

†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

1 Corinthians 11:23-27

†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 Strasbourg Liturgy of John Calvin (1545)

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, p. 13 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted, v. 4

The Prayer of Intercession

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

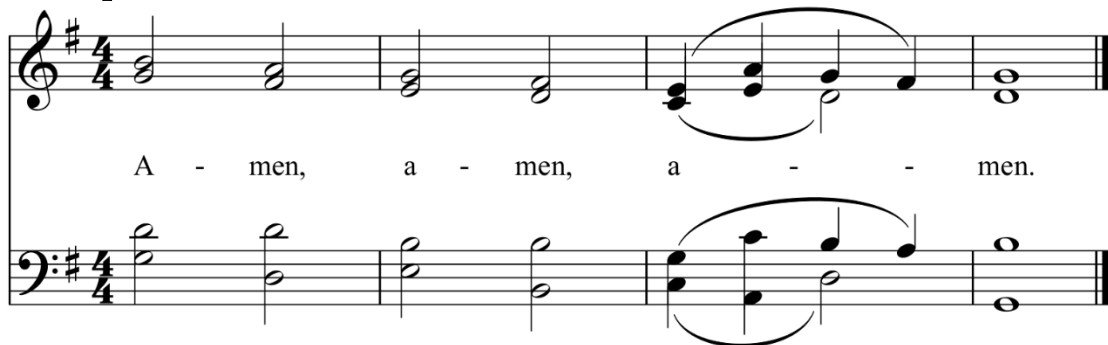
Matthew 28:18-20

† 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.

SERMON NOTES

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation, vv. 1-4



1. Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner - stone,
2. All that ded - i - cat - ed cit - y, dear - ly loved of God on high,
3. To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of hosts, to - day:
4. Here vouch - safe to all thy ser - vants what they ask of thee to gain,
5. Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or to the Son,




- cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious, bind - ing all the church in one;
 in ex - ul - tant ju - bi - la - tion pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy;
 • with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness hear thy peo - ple as they pray;
 what they gain from thee for - ev - er with the bless - ed to re - tain,
 laud and hon - or to the Spir - it, ev - er Three and ev - er One,



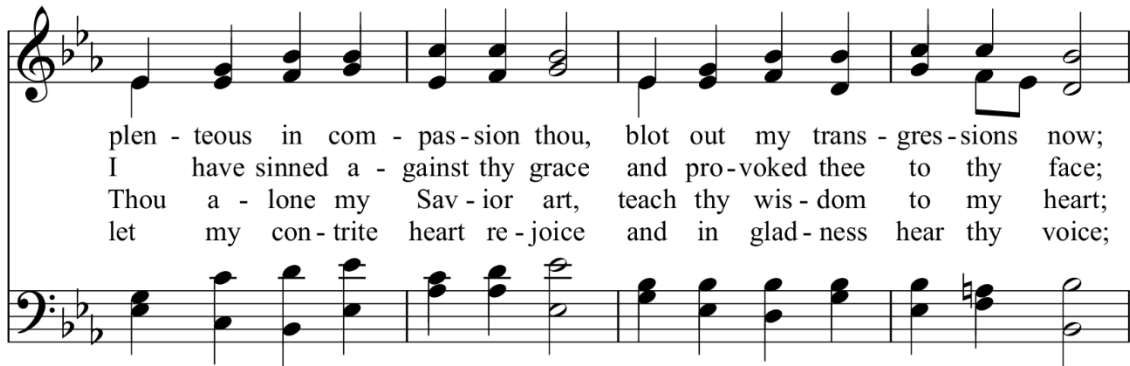
- ho - ly Zi - on's help for - ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 God the One in Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 • and thy full - est ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 and here - af - ter in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
 One in might, and One in glo - ry, while un - end - ing ag - es run.



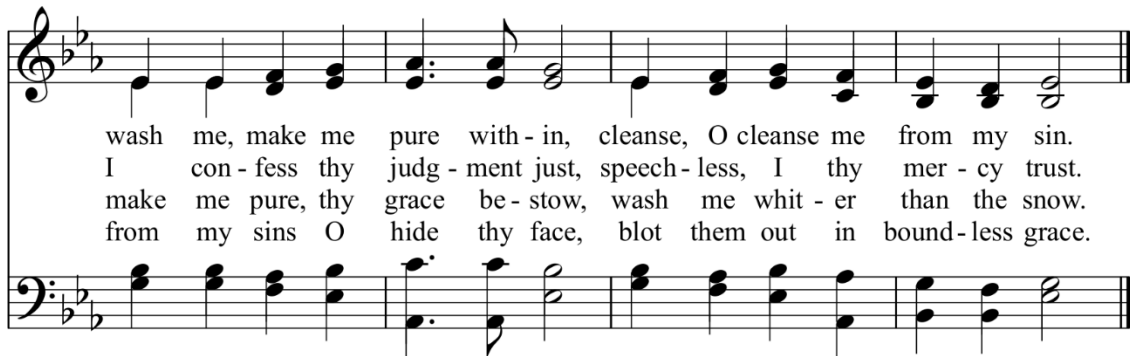
Psalm 51:1-9: God Be Merciful to Me



1. God, be mer - ci - ful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea;
2. My trans - gres - sions I con - fess, grief and guilt my soul op - press;
3. I am e - vil, born in sin; thou de - sir - est truth with - in.
4. Bro - ken, hum - bled to the dust, by thy wrath and judg - ment just,



plen - teous in com - pas - sion thou, blot out my trans - gres - sions now;
I have sinned a - gainst thy grace and pro - voked thee to thy face;
Thou a - lone my Sav - ior art, teach thy wis - dom to my heart;
let my con - trite heart re - joice and in glad - ness hear thy voice;



wash me, make me pure with - in, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
I con - fess thy judg - ment just, speech - less, I thy mer - cy trust.
make me pure, thy grace be - stow, wash me whit - er than the snow.
from my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in bound - less grace.

Psalm 91: Who with God Most High Finds Shelter

1. Who with God most High finds shel - ter In the'Al-might - ty's shad - ow hides.
 2. God's own truth, your shield and buck - ler: You will fear no ill by night,
 3. You have made the LORD your re - fuge, God Most High your dwell - ing place;
 4. You shall tram - ple ser - pents, li - ons, Tread on all your dead - ly foes.

To the LORD I'll say, "My Ref - uge!" In my God my trust a - bides.
 Nor the shafts in day - light fly - ing, Nor my dis - ease that shuns the light,
 Noth - ing ev - il shall be - fall you; In your tent no scourge you'll face.
 For his love to Me I'll save him, Keep him, for my name he knows;

From the fowl - er's snare He'll save you, From the dead - ly pes - ti - lence;
 Nor the plague that wastes at noon - day. At your side ten thou - sand fall:
 He will an - gels charge to keep you, Guard you well in all your ways.
 When he calls Me I will an - swer, Save and hon - or him will I.

Cov - er you with out - spread pin - ions, Make His wings your con - fi - dence.
 You will on - ly see this judg - ment Which re - wards the wick - ed all.
 In their hands they will up - hold you Lest your foot a stone should graze.
 I will show him my sal - va - tion, With long life will sat - is - fy.

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

1. Strick - en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, see him dy - ing on the tree!
 2. Tell me, ye who hear him groan - ing, was there ev - er grief like his?
 3. Ye who think of sin but light - ly nor sup - pose the e - vil great
 4. Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, here the ref - uge of the lost;

'Tis the Christ by man re - ject - ed; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!
 Friends thro' fear his cause dis - own - ing, foes in - sult - ing his dis - tress;
 here may view its na - ture right - ly, here its guilt may es - ti - mate.
 Christ's the Rock of our sal - va - tion, his the name of which we boast.

'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed Proph - et, Da - vid's son, yet Da - vid's Lord;
 man - y hands were raised to wound him, none would in - ter - pose to save;
 Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed, see who bears the aw - ful load;
 Lamb of God, for sin - ners wound - ed, sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt!

by his Son God now has spo - ken: 'tis the true and faith - ful Word.
 but the deep - est stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.
 'tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
 None shall ev - er be con - found - ed who on him their hope have built.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW SERMON SERIES/ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Today we begin a new coordinated sermons series/Sunday school class on encounters with Jesus and evangelism based on *Learning Evangelism from Jesus* by Jerram Barrs. Each week's sermon from a Gospel passage will lay the groundwork for the class discussion the following week.

If anyone would like to purchase a copy of the book, let Pastor Frank know; he can order them from the publisher for \$17.00 (about \$6.00 less than Amazon).

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

PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

Prayer request cards for our intercessory prayer time are available on the table where the bulletins are found. If you use one, please write your requests briefly and legibly on the card and put it in the collection plate when it is passed. We will continue ask for spoken prayer requests before prayer time.

NOTES ON COMMUNION

- The inner rings of cups contain wine, the outer ring grape juice.
- Gluten-free bread (rice and corn flour based) 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.

*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.*



GRACE
Presbyterian Church
Watertown, New York



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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