

# G R A C E   C O M M U N I T Y

*Presbyterian Church, PCA*

## ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 23, 2017

**10:30 AM**

### **Reflection:**

"As God's covenant remains, the psalmist entrusts himself to this pledged love, and turns his attention [in Psalm 13], not to the quality of his faith, but to its object and its outcome."

*Derek Kidner*

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

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### **WORSHIP IN PRAISE**

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### **Silent Preparation**

### **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.*

### **Call to Worship.....***Psalm 90*

Minister: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

People: **Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

Minister: So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

People: **Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

### **Prayer of Invocation**

## Hymn of Invocation.....*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* (#30)



1.Our God, our help in a - ges past, our  
2.Under the shad - ow of your throne your  
3.Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
- 4.A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are  
5.The bu - sy tribes of flesh and blood, with  
6.Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears  
7.Our God, our help in a - ges past, our



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is your  
earth re - ceived her frame, from ev - er - last - ing  
- like an eve - ning gone; short as the watch that  
all their lives and cares, are car - ried down - ward  
all its sons a - way; they fly for - gott - en,  
hope for years to come: O be our guard while



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
you are God, to end - less years the same.  
- ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
by your flood, and lost in foll - 'wing years.  
as a dream dies at the op - 'ning day.  
trou - bles last, and our e - ter - nal home.

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past” is recognized by most hymn scholars as one of the finest compositions in all of English Hymnody, enjoying “unbroken popularity since it was first introduced,” according to Raymond Glover. Written in England during a time of anxiety surrounding the potential succession to the throne of the Catholic brother of Queen Anne, the hymn echoes the Jewish author of Psalm 90 as well as the suppressed Dissenters of the Established Church. Traditionally sung during a time of national distress or remembrance of saints, the hymn is appropriate for almost any moment of great solemnity. According to hymnologist Albert Bailey, Isaac Watts’ genius—indeed a gift for singers of the hymn—is the “possibility of making the Jewish past celebrate the Protestant English present.”

Rozanna Gooey

## Hymn of Preparation.....*Beneath the Cross of Jesus (#251)*

1. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand,  
2. Up - on the cross of Je - sus mine eyes at times can see  
3. I take, O cross, thy shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place:  
  
the shad - ows of a might - y Rock with - in a wea-ry land;  
the ver - y dy-ing form of One who suf - fered therefor me;  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun-shine of his face;  
  
a home with-in the wild - er - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
and from my strick-en heart with tears two won - ders I con-fess,  
con-tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss;  
  
from the burn-ing of the noon-tide heat and the bur-den of the day.  
the won-ders of re-deem-ing love and my un-wor-thi - ness.  
my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

“The hymn is full of comforting, and perhaps paradoxical language, about the cross, after all, an instrument of the cruelest torture. These include in stanza two “the shadow of a mighty rock,” “a home within the wilderness,” “a rest upon the way.” An omitted third stanza provides additional images of consolation: a “happy shelter,” “refuge tried and sweet,” a “trysting place,” and “a ladder up to heaven,” a reference to Jacob’s ladder. This hymn is more of a personal meditation on the cross and one’s own mortality than a hymn written for a specific time of the Christian Year.”

C. Michael Hawn

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## WORSHIP IN CONFESSION AND PARDON

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### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

### Words of Comfort and Promise.....*from Psalm 13*

*I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.*

*I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.*

## Hymn of Response.....*Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder*



1.Let us love and sing and won - der,  
2.Let us love the Lord who bought us,  
3.Let us sing though fierce temp - ta - tion  
4.Let us won - der grace and jus - tice,  
5.Let us praise and join the chor - us



Let us praise the Sa - vior's name, He has hushed the law's  
Pit - ied us when en - e - mies Called us by his grace  
Threat - ens hard to bear us down. For the Lord our strong  
Join and point to mer - cy's store. When through grace in Christ  
Of the saints en - throned on high. Here they trust - ed Him



loud thun - der, He has quenched Mount Si -  
and taught us Gave us ears and gave  
sal - va - tion Holds in view the con -  
our trust is, Jus - tice smiles and asks  
be - fore us. Now their prais - es fill



- nai's flame, He has washed us with His blood, He has  
us eyes. He has washed us with His blood, He has  
- qu'ror's crown. He who washed us with His blood, He who  
no more. He who washed us with His blood, He who  
the sky. Thou hast washed us with Thy blood, Thou hast



washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,  
washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,  
washed us with His blood, He who washed us with His blood,  
washed us with His blood, He who washed us with His blood,  
washed us with Thy blood, Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,



He has brought us nigh to God.  
He pre - sents our souls to God.  
Soon will bring us home to God.  
Has se - cured our way to God.  
Thou art wor - thy Lamb of God.

**Confession of Faith.....*The Westminster Larger Catechism\****  
Ruling Elder Andrew Caudal

Elder: What is sin?

**People:** **Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.**

Elder: What does every sin deserve?

**People:** **Every sin deserves God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.**

Elder: What does God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse, due to us for sin?

**People:** **To escape the wrath and curse of God, due to us for sin, God requires of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption.**

Elder: What is faith in Jesus Christ?

**People:** **Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.**

\*The First General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, meeting at the Briarwood Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Alabama, December 4-7, 1973, adopted the Confession of Faith, the Larger Catechism and the Shorter Catechism as the doctrinal standards of the Church. This is the Confession and Catechisms as agreed upon by the Assembly of Divines at Westminster which met from 1643-1647. All ministers and officers in the Presbyterian Church in America must subscribe to the Westminster Standards as a faithful and systematized expression of doctrine and theology that we find in God's Word.

**The First Reading of God's Word.....Revelation 6:9-11**  
p. 1031

**The Second Reading of God's Word.....Psalm 13:1-6**  
p. 453

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Amen!

### Prayer of Consecration

We offer an optional **Children's Church** for children 4 years old through 1<sup>st</sup> grade. If you choose to have your children participate, you may dismiss them for CC as we sing the hymn printed below. Please know we welcome and encourage your children to remain with you during the sermon. However, in CC they will be hearing from the same text that the sermon is based upon, so you may discuss the message as a family after church if you wish to do so.

**Hymn of Preparation.....*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word (#303)***

1. Bless-ed Je - sus, at your word we are gath-ered  
2. All our knowl-edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est

all to hear you; let our hearts and  
dark - ness shroud ed, till your Spir - it

souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear  
breaks our night with the beams of truth un - cloud -

you, by your teach - ings sweet and ho - ly,  
ed. You a - lone to God can win us;

drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.  
you must work all good with - in us.

**Hearing from God's Word.....*Psalm 13***  
Rev. Kyle Oliphint

*How Long, O LORD?*

# THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Please see instructions on the inside back cover of your bulletin*

Use the quotes below to help focus your heart and mind on this celebration:

**“The settled happiness and security which we all desire, God withholds from us by the very nature of the world: But joy, pleasure, and merriment, He has scattered broadcast. We are never safe, but we have plenty of fun, and some ecstasy. It is not hard to see why. The security we crave would teach us to rest our hearts in this world and oppose an obstacle to our return to God: A few moments of happy love, a landscape, a symphony, a merry meeting with our friends, a swim or a football match, have no such tendency. Our Father refreshes us on the journey with some pleasant inns, but will not encourage us to mistake them for home.”**

*C.S. Lewis*

“Realize that if you are to change your belief about God, you will also have to change your belief about yourself.”

*Cornelius Van Til*

**“When a man comes under the blood of Christ, his whole capacity as a man is refashioned. His soul is saved, yes, but so are his mind and his body. True spirituality means the lordship of Christ over the total man.”**

*Francis Schaeffer*

“From beginning to end, the Holy Scriptures testify that the predicament of fallen humanity is so serious, so grave, so irremediable from within, that nothing short of divine intervention can rectify it... When Jesus came to the cross to bear the sin of the world in fathomless darkness, there was no substitute for him. He himself was the Lamb. God did not withhold his Son, his only Son. The Son himself became the substitute—for us. God the Father and God the Son *together, with a single will*, enacted the eternal purpose of God that the second person of the blessed Trinity would become ‘once for all’ the perfect burnt offering, for us human beings and for our salvation.”

*Fleming Rutledge*

**“The more we know of God, the more unreservedly we will trust him; the greater our progress in theology, the simpler and more child-like will be our faith.”**

*J. Gresham Machen*

# Communion Hymns

## I Need Thee Every Hour (#674) – Annie Hawks/Robert Lowry

1. I need Thee every hour,  
Most gracious Lord;  
No tender voice like Thine  
Can peace afford.

*Refrain: I need Thee, O I need Thee;  
Every hour I need Thee;  
O bless me now, my Savior,  
I come to Thee.*

2. I need Thee every hour,  
Stay Thou nearby;

Temptations lose their pow'r  
When Thou art nigh. *Refrain*

3. I need Thee every hour,  
In joy or pain;  
Come quickly and abide,  
Or life is in vain. *Refrain*

4. I need Thee every hour,  
Most Holy One;  
O make me Thine indeed,  
Thou blessed Son. *Refrain*

## He Will Hold Me Fast – Ada Habershon/Matthew Merker

1. When I fear my faith will fail,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
When the tempter would prevail,  
He will hold me fast.  
  
I could never keep my hold  
Through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold;  
He must hold me fast.

*Refrain: He will hold me fast,  
He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so,  
He will hold me fast.*

2. Those He saves are His delight,  
Christ will hold me fast;

Precious in His holy sight,  
He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost;  
His Promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost,  
He will hold me fast. *Refrain*

3. For my life He bled and died,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied;  
He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life,  
He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight,  
When He comes at last! *Refrain*

## Jesus I Am Resting, Resting – Jean Pigott/David Hampton

1. Jesus, I am resting, resting  
In the joy of what Thou art;  
I am finding out the greatness  
Of Thy loving heart.  
Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee,  
And Thy beauty fills my soul,  
For by Thy transforming power  
Thou hast made me whole.

*Refrain: Jesus I am resting, resting  
In the joy of what Thou art;  
I am finding out the greatness  
Of Thy Loving Heart.*

2. Oh how great Thy loving kindness,  
Vaster, broader than the sea!

O, how marvelous Thy goodness  
Lavished all on me!  
Yes I rest in Thee, beloved,  
Know what wealth of grace is Thine  
Know Thy certainty of promise,  
And have made it mine. *Refrain*

3. Ever lift Thy face upon me  
As I work and wait for Thee;  
Resting 'neath Thy smile, Lord Jesus,  
Earth's dark shadows flee.  
Brightness of my Father's glory,  
Sunshine of my Father's face,  
Keep me ever trusting, resting,  
Fill me with Thy grace. *Refrain*

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## WORSHIP IN GRATITUDE

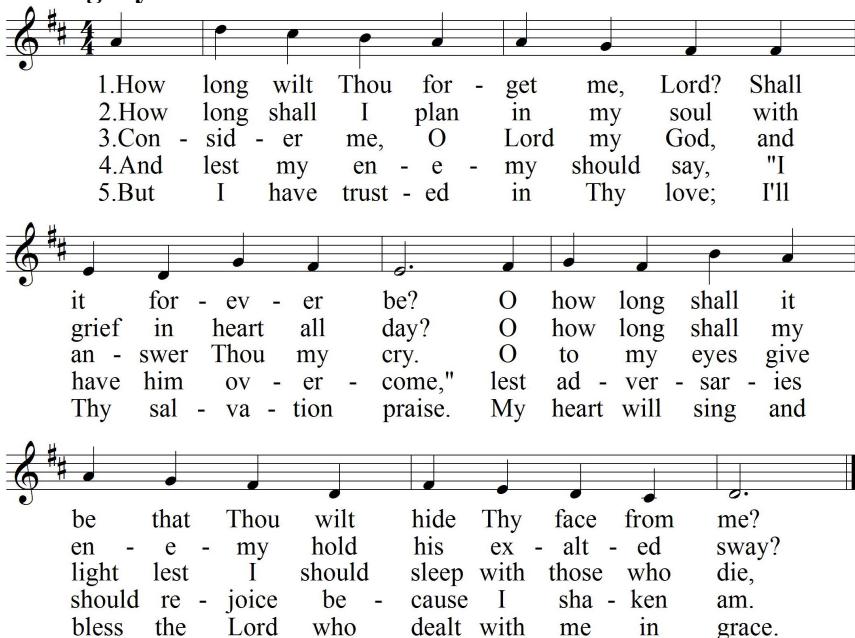
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### Offertory.....*O God Beyond All Praising*

*O God beyond all praising,  
we worship you today  
and sing the love amazing  
that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder  
at every gift you send,  
at blessings without number  
and mercies without end:  
we lift our hearts before you  
and wait upon your word,  
we honor and adore you,  
our great and mighty Lord.*

*Then hear, O gracious Savior,  
accept the love we bring,  
that we who know your favor  
may serve you as our king;  
and whether our tomorrows  
be filled with good or ill,  
we'll triumph through our sorrows  
and rise to bless you still:  
to marvel at your beauty  
and glory in your ways,  
and make a joyful duty  
our sacrifice of praise.*

### Closing Hymn .....*Psalm 13*



1.How long wilt Thou for - get me, Lord? Shall  
2.How long shall I plan in my soul with  
3.Con - sid - er me, O Lord my God, and  
4.And lest my en - e - my should say, "I  
5.But I have trust - ed in Thy love; I'll

it for - ev - er be? O how long shall it  
grief in heart all day? O how long shall my  
an - swer Thou my cry. O to my eyes give  
have him ov - er - come," lest ad - ver - sar - ies  
Thy sal - va - tion praise. My heart will sing and

be that Thou wilt hide Thy face from me?  
en - e - my hold his ex - alt - ed sway?  
light lest I should sleep with those who die,  
should re - joice be - cause I sha - ken am.  
bless the Lord who dealt with me in grace.

### Benediction

## **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Even though the financial condition of the church is sound, the officers of GCPC are concerned about the years-long downward trend in giving, especially when coupled with the growth in our membership. We believe that our generosity should be informed by our understanding of the gospel. Please watch this space. If you have any questions, please speak with our Treasurer or any of our Church Officers.

**January giving:** \$35,892

**February giving:** \$41,141

**March giving:** \$42,263

**Projected 2017** (receipts based on giving to date): \$477,186

**2017 Budget:** \$475,118 annual / \$39,593 monthly

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For 2017, we are providing a basic Family Worship plan to help our families to more regularly worship together during the week. In each weekly bulletin, we will provide a Daily Bible Reading plan, questions from the Catechisms, a hymn for you to learn together, and prayers for you to use as a family.

**Weekly Hymn:** *Psalm 13*

**Shorter Catechism for Young Children –**

- **Q14** "Where do you learn how to love and obey God? / **Answer:** "In the Bible alone."

**Shorter Catechism –**

- **Q14** "What is sin?" / **Answer:** "Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God."

**Bible Reading:**

- Mon – 4/24 – Numbers 1 & Psalm 35
- Tue – 4/25 – Numbers 2 & Psalm 36
- Wed – 4/26 – Numbers 3 & Psalm 37
- Thurs – 4/27 – Numbers 4 & Psalm 38
- Fri – 4/28 – Numbers 5 & Psalm 39
- Sat – 4/29 – Numbers 6 & Psalm 40-41
- Sun – 4/30 – Numbers 7 & Psalm 42-43

**Next Week's Passages:**

- Adult Sunday School: **Exodus 13:1-22**
- Preaching: **Psalm 14**

### **Morning Prayer:**

- *Our gracious heavenly Father: we thank You for how You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. You are the Giver of every blessing we enjoy. Teach us to see every moment of this day as an opportunity to live for You and not ourselves. Help us to see trials and afflictions as opportunities for growth and deliverance from our greatest enemy – our sinful flesh. Grow us in our delight and obedience of You as we seek to glorify You in all that we do. Purge from us selfishness, the fear of man, and the pride that seeks to keep us from trusting in You. May the cross of Jesus be our joy and boast as we begin this day, amen.*

### **Midday Prayer:**

- *Our wonderful and merciful Lord: as we stop to enjoy Your gracious provision of our daily bread, we commend our hearts and minds to You, asking that You would set them on what is truly honorable, virtuous, pure, lovely, and excellent. Let whatever anxieties and fears that may have surfaced this morning be answered by Your Spirit of comfort and truth who assures us that though the mountains sway and the valleys tremble, the rivers of sorrow will not overwhelm, for You are with us. Teach us the comfort of Your rod and staff as we are guided by Your loving Son, our Good Shepherd. In His name, we pray, amen.*

### **Evening Prayer:**

- *Our holy Father: we are thankful for everything You have provided this day. We are overwhelmed at the thought of Your goodness and kindness toward us. We humbly ask that whatever sinful thoughts, ungracious words or deeds, we have committed, You would grant us forgiveness for the sake of Your Son. Let our hearts be filled with the joy that comes from knowing You, the true God. You are our treasure and delight. Keep us as we close our eyes to rest, in Your holy name we pray, amen.*

## Nursery Volunteers (please arrive by 10:15)

### **Today: Eric and Erin Sizemore**

- Next week: Jim and Lorna Sizemore
- 4/30: Tim and Kathryn Stackpole
- 5/7: Leonard and Michelle Stifflemire
- 5/14: Tangunyi family

### Upcoming events:

#### **Officer Examinations**

- Please pray for your officer candidates: Rhett Bentson (deacon), Broc Chambers (deacon), Philip Hamby (deacon), and Dan Bent (ruling elder). They will be taking their oral and written exams in the next few weeks. Those who satisfy the requirements will be put before you for election on Sunday, May 21. We will have a Congregational Meeting that Sunday, immediately following our worship service, so that you may vote.

#### **Dinner Club is back!**

- We will be put into groups of 3-4 families, and each family will take a turn hosting dinner for the group. To sign up, please email or text Meagan Dennison at 817-653-0359 or [meagandennison@yahoo.com](mailto:meagandennison@yahoo.com). We would like to start by May 1, so sign up soon!

#### **The Harrison Nursing Home Ministry:**

- TODAY at 2:30 PM

#### **Student Ministries of Grace:**

- **Camp Cookout Fundraiser: TODAY!** We have your Sunday lunch covered as our MS and HS students will be cooking lunch and offering their services with a silent auction. All proceeds will go to help funding their way to our Reformed Youth Ministries' summer camps.

#### **Ladies of Grace:**

- Check the LOG Facebook page for upcoming groups!

#### **Guy's of Grace: [e-sizemore@att.net]**

- Join us for our bi-monthly Bible study of the Book of Romans on Wednesday nights at 7. Our next meeting is on 4/26.

#### **Things to Know:**

- Interested in membership? [officegcpcfw@gmail.com](mailto:officegcpcfw@gmail.com)
- Would like to meet with one of our pastors?
  - Pastor Kyle: [koliphint@gmail.com](mailto:koliphint@gmail.com)
  - Pastor Davis: [daviswmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:daviswmorgan@gmail.com)