



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH of  
CHATTANOOGA

*The Vision of First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga  
is to be a city-center church  
compelled by Christ's love  
to make disciples in our homes, city, and the world.*

**Worship Service | April 18, 2021**  
9:00 AM

PREPARING HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

**THE PRAISE OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Hosea 6:1-3*

Reader: Come, let us return to the LORD;

**People: for He has torn us, that He may heal us; He has struck us down, and He will bind us up.**

Pastor: After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will raise us up, that we may live before Him.

**People: Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; His going out is sure as the dawn; He will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.**

HYMNS OF PRAISE

*“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”  
“His Mercy Is More”*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Colossians 1:15-20*

**He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.**

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S PEOPLE

GREETING & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH\*

*\*Parents, please walk your children PreK - 1<sup>st</sup> grade to Children's Church and pick them up immediately following the worship service.*

**THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE**

SERMON

*“The Church as Cause”  
2 Cor. 2:5-8, 11, 14-16  
Dr. Tim Kirk*

**TASTING GOD'S GRACE**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

[silence]

**All: Merciful Lord,**

**We confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in You there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy.**

**We are spiritually poor, but You are rich. Therefore, Christ came to be merciful to the poor and to show us the immeasurable riches of Your grace.**

**Strengthen our faith and trust in You. We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us. We are cold in love; warm us and make our hearts fervent for You that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give You thanks, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### WORDS OF PRAISE

Pastor: Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Alleluia.

**People: Alleluia.**

Pastor: “These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Take these in remembrance that Jesus Christ died for you. Feed on them in your heart by faith, and drink remembering that Christ’s blood was shed for you.”

### HYMN OF RESPONSE

*“Ob, How Good It Is”*

### THE SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

#### BENEDICTION

*Ephesians 3:20-21*

Pastor: Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen!**

*The flowers on display in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of my husband, Harry Croft Bickel, by Caroline Bickel and their children, Caroline McLoughlin, Harry Bickel Jr., Florence Doud, and Laura Peoples.*

*Flowers from today’s display will be arranged by the flower committee and delivered by volunteers to our homebound and hospitalized on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.++*

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## Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*Verse 1*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near  
Join me in glad adoration

*Verse 2*

Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth  
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

*Chorus*

Praise the Lord! (Let the earth hear His voice)  
Praise the Lord! (Let the people rejoice)  
Come to Him (Come to Him) through His Son  
And give Him the praise for the things He has done

*Verse 3*

Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper thy work and defend thee  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee  
Ponder anew what the Almighty will do  
If with His love He befriend thee

*Verse 4*

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the "Amen!" sound from His people again  
Gladly fore'er we adore Him

## His Mercy Is More

*Verse 1*

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?  
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more

*Chorus*

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more

*Verse 2*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more

*Verse 3*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us!  
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more

## Oh, How Good It Is

### *Verse 1*

**Oh, how good it is  
When the family of God  
Dwells together in spirit  
In faith and unity  
Where the bonds of peace  
Of acceptance and love  
Are the fruit of His presence  
Here among us**

### *Chorus*

**So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord  
And with one heart we'll live out His word  
Till the whole earth sees  
The Redeemer has come  
For He dwells in the presence of His people**

### *Verse 2*

**Oh, how good it is  
On this journey we share  
To rejoice with the happy  
And weep with those who mourn  
For the weak find strength  
The afflicted find grace  
When we offer the blessing  
Of belonging**

### *Verse 3*

**Oh, how good it is  
To embrace His command  
To prefer one another  
Forgive as He forgives  
When we live as one  
We all share in the love  
Of the Son with the Father  
And the Spirit**