

Peace in Anxious Times
March 15, 2020
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago
3rd Sunday of Lent

Lenten Call to Worship

from Psalm 91 and Romans 10: 9, 13

Leader: Let us worship God.
All: **He is our refuge and our fortress,
our God, in whom we trust.**

Leader: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
All: **Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts,
confessing him with our mouths, and worshiping him in spirit and in truth.**



1. He who dwells in the shel-ter of the_ Most High God will a-bide, will a-
2. I will say to the Lord, my strength, my sal - va - tion, I'll a-bide, I'll a-



bide, will a-bide, in the sha-dow of His_ might.____
bide, I'll a-bide, in the sha-dow of Your_ might.____ For his an - gels_ will



guard you_ and His strength will en - fold you.____ With their hands they will lift you



up, with their hands they will lift you up. You are my



re - fuge, my for - tress, my God in_ whom I trust, my I trust._

Psalm 91, Music: Paul van der Bijl, 2014

Confession of Sin, from Lamentations 3

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

**All: Let us lift up our hearts and hands
to God in heaven:
We have transgressed and rebelled.**

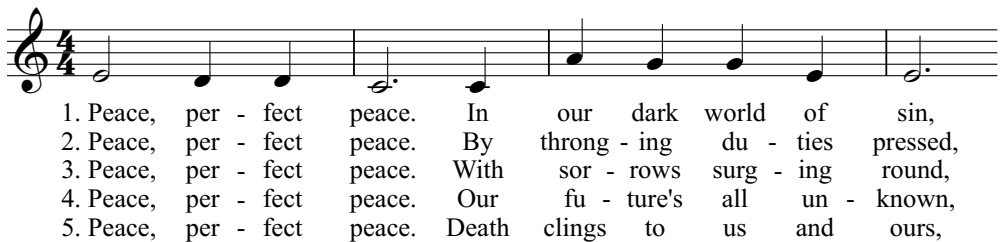
Leader: Our souls are bereft of peace;

**All: Remember our affliction, our wanderings,
and our bitterness.**

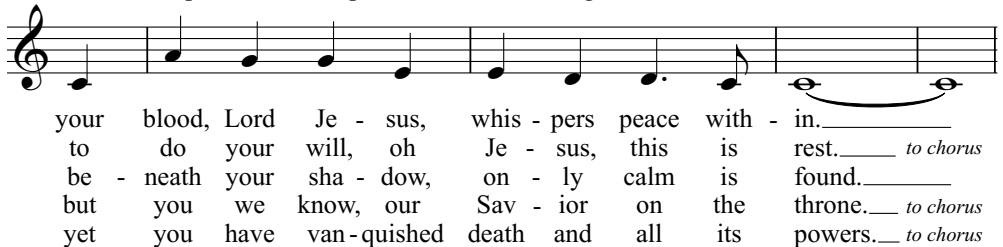
Silent time to pray and confess

A prayer to help with confession:

God of all flesh, in Jesus Christ you have immersed divine splendor and wisdom into human life. You are not repelled by the shabbiness and shamefulness of our lives but seek to redeem us. We confess our repulsion from those whose actions bewilder us, whose sorrow burdens us, or whose good fortune somehow detracts from our lives. Our compassion is limited to those like ourselves. Our kindness is reserved for those kind to us. O God, forgive us. Cleanse us of self-centeredness and open us to the whole breadth and length, height and depth of your love, manifest in all creation. Amen.

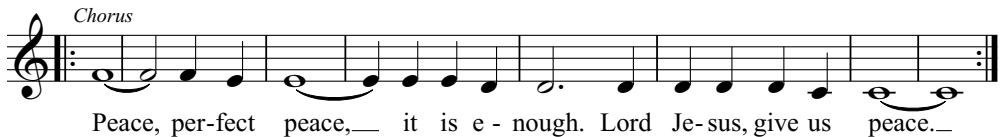


1. Peace, per - fect peace. In our dark world of sin,
2. Peace, per - fect peace. By throng - ing du - ties pressed,
3. Peace, per - fect peace. With sor - rows surg - ing round,
4. Peace, per - fect peace. Our fu - ture's all un - known,
5. Peace, per - fect peace. Death clings to us and ours,



your blood, Lord Je - sus, whis - pers peace with - in. _____
to do your will, oh Je - sus, this is rest. _____ to chorus
be - neath your sha - dow, on - ly calm is found. _____
but you we know, our Sav - ior on the throne. _____ to chorus
yet you have van - quished death and all its powers. _____ to chorus

Chorus



Peace, per-fect peace, ___ it is e - nough. Lord Je - sus, give us peace. ___

Peace, Perfect Peace: Words, Edward Bickersteth, 1875; Music and add. words, Paul van der Bijl, 2020

Assurance of Pardon, *from Lamentations 3 and John 14:27*

Leader: But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

**All: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."**

Leader: Jesus says:

Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you.
Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

All: Sing to Assure



1. Like a ri-ver glor-ious is God's per-fect peace, o-ver all vic-to-ri-ous
2. Hid-den in the hol-low of His bles-sed hand, ne-ver foe can fol-low,
3. Ev'-ry joy or tri-al fal-leth from a-bove, traced up-on our di-al



in its bright in-crease; per-fect, yet it flow-eth ful-ler ev'-ry
ne-ver trai-tor stand; not a surge of wor-ry, not a shade of
by the Sun of Love; we may trust Him ful-ly all for us to



day; per-fect, yet it grow-eth dee-per all the way.
care, not a blast of hur-ry touch the spi-rit there.
do; they who trust Him whol-ly find Him whol-ly true.

Refrain



Stayed up-on Je-ho-vah, hearts are ful-ly blest;



fin-ding, as He pro-mised, per-fect peace and rest.

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker

Peace in Anxious Times, Philippians 4:2–9

I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Go With Joy



1. What hope we have, e-ven in the long-est night, for the
2. What peace we have, e-ven in this wound ed world where the
3. What joy we have, for the stone is rolled a - way, and the
4. What hope we have, e-ven in the long-est night, for the



light will o - ver come.____ We will not fear, for we know the
bat - tle ra - ges on.____ We will not fear, for we know who
tomb holds no-thing now.____ No sting of death, no pow'r o - ver
light will o - ver come.____ And we shall live; sin-ners, we will



sun will rise. Hal-le - lu - jah is our song.____
heals our souls. Hal-le - lu - jah is our song.____ Hal-le-
sin or grave. Hal-le - lu - jah is our song.____
rise to saints. Hal-le - lu - jah is our song.____



lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah! He is ri-sen o - ver all. Hal-le-



lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah is our song.

Hallelujah is Our Song, Words and Music by Sarah Hart, 2013

Leader: **Benediction**

Romans 15:5-7 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Covenant Life

worship | grow and learn | serve

We encourage everyone to get connected to the life of the church in these three ways:

Worship Together. We believe that humans are worshiping beings, made for communion with the Triune God, and that ordering our common worship around the Gospel on Sunday has a profound, formative effect on every part of our lives. The rhythm of Sunday worship is the rhythm of the whole Christian life and it stands counter to lots of other rhythms that clamor for our attention and allegiance in this world. Ordering ourselves together around it strengthens our appetites, imaginations and abilities to live as followers of Jesus wherever we find ourselves. Come to church on Sunday!

Grow and Learn Together. We believe that learning about our faith and growing together in it are necessary for flourishing in the Christian life. The goal of Christian learning is to form us into human beings who are fully swept up into the work God is doing in his world. Learning is more than simply knowing; it is the internalization of truth that leads to mature thinking and acting.

We'd like for everyone to take two core classes while you're here: the Covenant Life Class, an introduction to Christianity and to our church, and The Story of Scripture, which traces themes through Scripture and applies them to our everyday lives. After those classes, consider joining a more intimate Discipleship Cohort that meets with a mentor. For information about these opportunities, contact Pastor David Salsedo (dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org).

We'd like for everyone to consider joining a small group which meets together regularly to build meaningful relationships and live out the Christian life together. They're one of the most important ways of getting care and being connected at Covenant. To find out more about small groups, or to join the small group that meets at church on Wednesdays at 6.30pm, contact Pastor Dan Adamson (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Serve Together. We believe the natural outcome of receiving and experiencing grace is to be propelled outward into mission and service. Every one of us has been given gifts to use for the good of our common life and for the good of the broken world around us. We're called to give of ourselves because we're part of the story of God's reconciliation of all things. Every week there are numerous opportunities to serve at Covenant and elsewhere listed in the order of worship. We encourage everyone to regularly use their gifts in service. To learn more about opportunities to serve, contact Pastor Dan Adamson (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).



*a church, a city,
and a world
continually made new
by the grace of Christ*
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