

A photograph of a dilapidated room. On the left, a window with a white frame is open, letting in bright light. The walls are covered in peeling paint, with a section of red paint on the left and a section of purple paint on the right. A simple wooden chair with a curved back is positioned in the center of the room. The floor is made of large, dark tiles, some of which are stained with red paint. The overall atmosphere is one of decay and abandonment.

A Throne Unshaken

June 27, 2021
5th Sunday after Pentecost
Covenant Presbyterian
Church of Chicago

Welcome

Green for the Season of Pentecost

Green represents growth, bountifulness, hope, and the victory of life over death in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

From Psalm 47:1-2, 5-6

Leader: Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

**All: For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,
A great king over all the earth.**

Leader: God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

**All: Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

1 I sing the migh - ty power of God that made the moun - tians rise,
 2 I sing the good - ness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes your glo - ries known,

that spread the flo - wing seas a - broad and built the lof - ty skies.
 he formed the crea - tures with his word and then pro - nounced them good.
 and clouds a - rise and tem - pests blow by or - der from your throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 Lord, how your won - ders are dis - played wher - e'er I turn my eye,
 while all that bor - rows life from you is e - ver in your care,

the moon shines full at his com - mand and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread or gaze up - on the sky!
 and e - very - where that I may be, you, God, are pre - sent there.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God, Words: Isaac Watts, 1715. Music: Gesangbuch der H. W. K. Hofkapelle, 1784

Confession of Sin, from 1 Peter 1:13-16

Prepare your minds for action, and be sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

All: Father, forgive us our undisciplined and distracted hearts and minds.
We so easily give in to those unholy passions
that drive us away from the open arms of your Son.
Have mercy on us and reveal to us by your Spirit
the hope we have in Christ alone.

Silent time to pray and confess

1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-lone, Christ a-
2. What truth can calm the trou-bled soul? God is good, God is
lone. What is our on-ly con-fi-dence? That our souls to Him be
good. Where is His grace and good-ness known? In our great Re-dee-mer's
long. Who holds our days with-in His hand? What comes, a-part from His com-
blood. Who holds our faith when fears a-rise? Who stands a-bove the stor-my
mand? And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand..
trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Un-to the shore, the rock of Christ?
— O sing hal-le-lu-jah! Our hope springs e-ter-nal; O sing hal-le
lu-jah! Now and e-ver we con-fess Christ our hope in life and death.

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death, Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Christ Covenant Church, Atlanta, GA, 2020

Assurance of Pardon, from 1 Peter 1:3-4

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is
imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.*

All:

3. Un - to the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!" And what re - ward will hea - ven bring? E - ver - las - ting life with Him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and death will be destroyed, And we will feast in end-less joy, When Christ is ours for - e - ver - more.

O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O sing hal - le lu - jah! Now and e - ver we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It begins in 3/4 time and concludes with a double bar line. The final section of the score features a change in time signature to 2/4, then 3/4, then 2/4, and finally 3/4.

Lessons from the Word

Gospel Lesson -
New Testament Lesson -

John 4.7-15
Ephesians 3.14-19

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

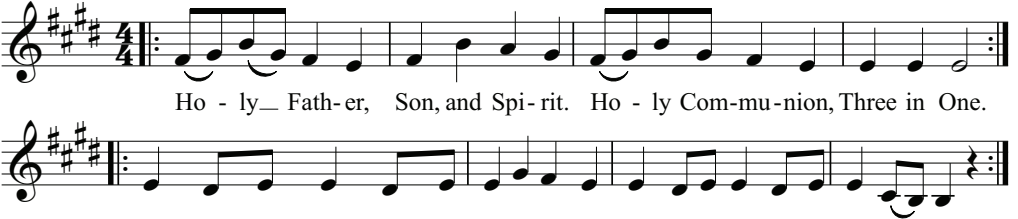
The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker
You Are My God, Psalm 63

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food,
and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,
when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.

But those who seek to destroy my life
shall go down into the depths of the earth;
they shall be given over to the power of the sword;
they shall be a portion for jackals.
But the king shall rejoice in God;
all who swear by him shall exult,
for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

All: 

Ho - ly_ Fath-er, Son, and Spi-rit. Ho - ly Com-mu-nion, Three in One.

Come with Your peace, with Your in-vi-ta-tion. Bind us to-ge-ther in ho-ly_ love.

Celebrate the Table: The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

All: In the fullness of time, out of your great love for the world, you sent your only Son to be one of us, to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Leader: By the baptism of his suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension you gave birth to your Church, and delivered us from slavery to sin and death. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



Distribute the Bread & Cup

Please note that we serve both red wine and white grape juice.
All wafers are gluten free and available in a single serve cup.

Receiving Communion

Communion (also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. We invite all to partake of this sacrament who trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, and seek strength to live more faithfully for him.

Respond to the Table

Leader: Remembering your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.
With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you
to be a living and holy sacrifice
dedicated to your service.

All: **Great is this mystery of faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

3. Un - to the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!" And what re - ward will hea-ven bring? E - ver - las - ting life with Him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and death will be destroyed, And we will feast in end-less joy, When Christ is ours for-e- ver - more.

O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O sing hal - le lu - jah! Now and e - ver we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

2nd Service only

Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life. Then we will be able to boast on the day of Christ that we did not run or labor in vain. Phillipians 2:16

Commissioning

The Commissioning of The Gospel Justice Center Team
Prayer led by Pastor Aaron Baker

All: Congregational Prayer of Blessing:

Gracious God, by water and the Spirit you claimed us as your own,
cleansing us from sin and giving us new life.
You made us members of your body, the church,
calling us to be your servants in the world.
Renew in this team the covenant you made in their baptism.
Continue the good work you have begun in them.
Send them forth in the power of your Spirit to love and serve you with joy
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God will give you strength, God will give you peace,
God will give you hope, in your
time of need. Go in the name of Christ. Go with the
Word of Life. Shine like the stars in this dark-ening world.
Walk in his love, filled with his joy, blame-less and pure.

Stars in the World (Phil.2:15-16), Words and Music, Paul van der Bijl, 2012

Go With Joy, from 1 Peter 3:18

Leader: As we enter this week,
May you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All: To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Chorus

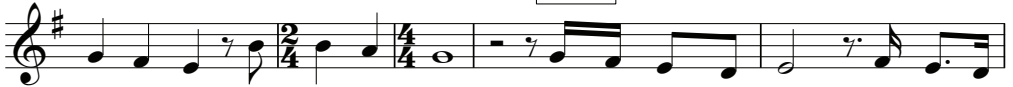


We will feast in the House of Zi - on. We will sing with our



hearts re-stored. "He has done great things," we will say to - ge - ther.

Verses



We will feast and weep no more. 1. We will not be burned by the
2. In the dark of night, be-fore the
3. Ev - ery vow we've bro - ken and be-



fire. He is the LORD our God. We are not con-
dawn, my soul, be not a - fraid. For the pro-mised
trayed. You are the Faith - ful one. And from the



sumed by the flood. Up-held, pro-tec - ted, ga - thered up.
morn - ing, oh, how long? Oh, God of Ja - cob, be my strength.
gar - den to the grave, bind us to - ge - ther, bring sha - lom.

We Will Feast in The House of Zion, by Sandra McCracken, 2015, Westside Anglican Fellowship, Nashville, TN.

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.

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Session

Aaron Baker (Moderator), Dan Adamson, David Dillon, Kevin Jones, Brad Lewis, Steve Lehmann, David Salsedo, Ryan Von Drehle. *Please direct correspondence for the Session to session@covenantchicago.org.*

Diaconate

Rich Lane, Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan Ellison, Phil Koerner, Paul Leo, Joel Miller, Shane Rector, Jenny Smith, Deb Van Der Molen, Matt Ver Steeg

Treasurer: Ben Harvey

If you're in need or wish to speak with a deacon, you can email us at diaconate@covenantchicago.org.



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

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