

# COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## AT HOME LITURGY

April 19, 2020

This liturgy is set up to be led by the head of household in a family. Saints who worship alone are still encouraged to read aloud as directed. All directions are underlined.

### Preparation for Worship

Read and reflect on the following Scripture passage, praying for the Lord to bless your time of worship:

**Scripture for Meditation**

Lamentations 3:22-24

Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed,  
Because His compassions fail not.  
They are new every morning;  
Great is Your faithfulness.  
"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,  
"Therefore I hope in Him!"

### God Calls Us Into His Presence

Read the following passage aloud together:

**Call to Worship**

Psalms 89:1-2

I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever;  
With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.  
For I have said, "Mercy shall be built up forever;  
Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens."

### *We Respond to God's Call*

Stand and sing the following hymn together:

**Hymn of Praise, No. 32**    *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Listen to tune here: <https://www.cpcjackson.org/sermons/hymn-32-great-is-thy-faithfulness/>

## 32

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*Because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.  
They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lam. 3:22, 23*

1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove, join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide, strength for to - day and bright

pas - sions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

REFRAIN

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

morn - ing new mer - cies I see: all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro -

# HIS UNCHANGEABLENESS

vid - ed— Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, Bdim, D, A7, and D7. The lyrics are: 'vid - ed— Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!'.

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923

FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10.ref.  
William M. Runyan, 1923

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## Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

33

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Ps. 136:1*

1. Let us with a glad - some mind praise the Lord, for he is kind:  
2. Let us sound his name a - broad, for of gods he is the God:  
3. He with all - com - mand - ing might filled the new-made world with light:  
4. All things liv - ing he does feed; his full hand sup - plies their need:

REFRAIN

for his mer - cies shall en - dure, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: '1. Let us with a glad - some mind praise the Lord, for he is kind: 2. Let us sound his name a - broad, for of gods he is the God: 3. He with all - com - mand - ing might filled the new-made world with light: 4. All things liv - ing he does feed; his full hand sup - plies their need: REFRAIN for his mer - cies shall en - dure, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.'

5. He his chosen race did bless in the wasteful wilderness:  
(Refrain)

6. He has with a piteous eye looked upon our misery:  
(Refrain)

7. Let us then with gladsome mind praise the Lord for he is kind:  
(Refrain)

From Psalm 136  
John Milton, 1624; alt.  
Alt. 1990, mod.

INNOCENTS 7.7.7.7.  
French melody, 13th cent.  
Arr. in *The Parish Choir*, 1850

**Have leader pray the following prayer aloud, all responding with “Amen”:**

**Prayer of Adoration**

O God, You are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth, ever faithful to Your people. Your works everywhere praise You, and Your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ our Savior. Receive now our praise and minister Your grace to us in this service of worship. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**God Cleanses Us of Our Sins**

**Be seated. Have leader read the verses before and after, with all praying aloud together.**

**Call to Confession**

1 John 1:8

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

**Confession of Sin**

(kneel, as able)

Leader: Let us confess our sins together.

**All: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In Your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Stand.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***We Respond to God's Declaration***

**All remain standing and sing together:**

**The Gloria Patri**

(with hands lifted)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, amen.*

**Be seated.**

## **God Consecrates Us By His Word**

**Have leader pray the following prayer aloud, all responding with "Amen":**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Lord, Your commandments are our delight. Your testimonies are righteous forever. Give us understanding of Your Word that we might live. This we ask, through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**Have one person read each of the Scripture passages:**

**Old Testament Lesson**     Psalm 16:1-11

Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust.  
O my soul, you have said to the LORD,  
"You are my Lord,  
My goodness is nothing apart from You."  
As for the saints who are on the earth,  
"They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight."  
Their sorrows shall be multiplied who hasten after another god;  
Their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,  
Nor take up their names on my lips.  
O LORD, You are the portion of my inheritance and my cup;  
You maintain my lot.  
The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places;  
Yes, I have a good inheritance.  
I will bless the LORD who has given me counsel;  
My heart also instructs me in the night seasons.  
I have set the LORD always before me;  
Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices;  
My flesh also will rest in hope.  
For You will not leave my soul in Sheol,  
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.  
You will show me the path of life;  
In Your presence is fullness of joy;  
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

#### **New Testament Lesson Acts 2:29-36**

“Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

“For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

‘The Lord said to my Lord,  
“Sit at My right hand,  
Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” ’

“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Homily: **Listen to the message posted on the homepage of the church**  
**website: [www.cpcjackson.org](http://www.cpcjackson.org)**

## *We Respond to God's Instruction*

Have leader ask, "Christians, what do we believe?" Then, all respond by reciting the creed together:

### **Affirmation of Faith**

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
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 Spirit 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 Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshiped 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.

### **The Prayer of the Church**

**Have leader read each section of prayer, all responding after "God of all mercies," with "Hear our prayer" and final "Amen."**

Blessed Lord, we thank You that You give sight to the blind, You open the ears of the deaf, and You make the lame to walk. In the darkness of sin and death, we cry to You. Continually open our ears to Your Word, our minds by Your Spirit, and our hearts by Your grace, that we may know and be thankful for all the blessings You have given to us in Christ, especially the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Strengthen us in faith, that we may serve You with all our body, mind, soul and strength.

God of all mercies,                      **People: Hear our prayer.**

We pray to You, O Lord, on behalf of Your Church and all Your people scattered and isolated in the United States and throughout the world. Keep us safe from illness and injury, and guide pastors, elders, and deacons as they serve Your people boldly in chaotic times. Be with all of the churches that are currently exiled from their regular meeting places, such as Covenant, and grant that this circumstance would be short-lived.

God of all mercies,                      **People: Hear our prayer.**

We ask You, O Lord, to provide us with good and faithful civil servants who will preserve the precious gift of liberty and protect the lives and property of our citizens. Give them godly wisdom, and cause them to obey Your statutes, even in the midst of this Coronavirus pandemic. Forbid evil men from using this as an opportunity to persecute churches and private businesses, and we pray against government overreach and abuse of power.

God of all mercies,                      **People: Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we confess that our nation is a nation deserving of your judgment. We are a nation that has forsaken Your laws. We are a nation of thieves, murderers, and the sexually immoral. We confess these sins to You, and we ask that on account of Jesus's



blood and for the sake of Your Church, You would be gracious to us. During this time, draw the lost to Yourself. May they fear Your judgments and run to Jesus for refuge.

God of all mercies,                    **People: Hear our prayer.**

We do pray for all of those who are suffering from illnesses and injuries of various sorts, including the coronavirus. Grant healing to those who are suffering, and may they give glory to You during their trials. We pray for all members of Covenant – keep us safe from the virus and sustain us until the day that You call us into eternal life.

God of all mercies,                    **People: Hear our prayer.**

Finally, Lord, we thank You for Your generous goodness to us, and that You take pleasure in those who fear You, in those who hope in Your steadfast love. We thank You for demonstrating Your love for us by saving us through Your Son, Jesus Christ who, with You and the Holy Spirit, reign as one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

## **God Commissions Us to Go Into the World**

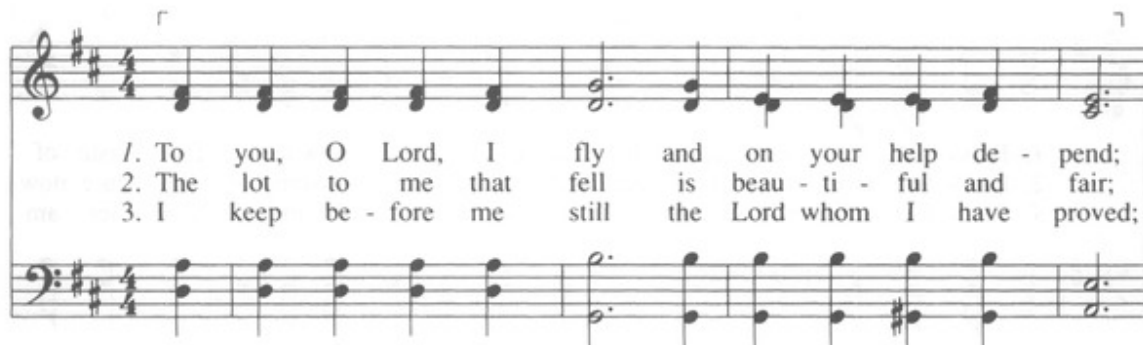
**Hymn of Commitment, No. 692 (Psalm 16)**

*To You, O Lord, I Fly*


*Listen to tune here: <https://www.cpcjackson.org/sermons/hymn-692-to-you-o-lord-i-fly/>*

## To You, O Lord, I Fly

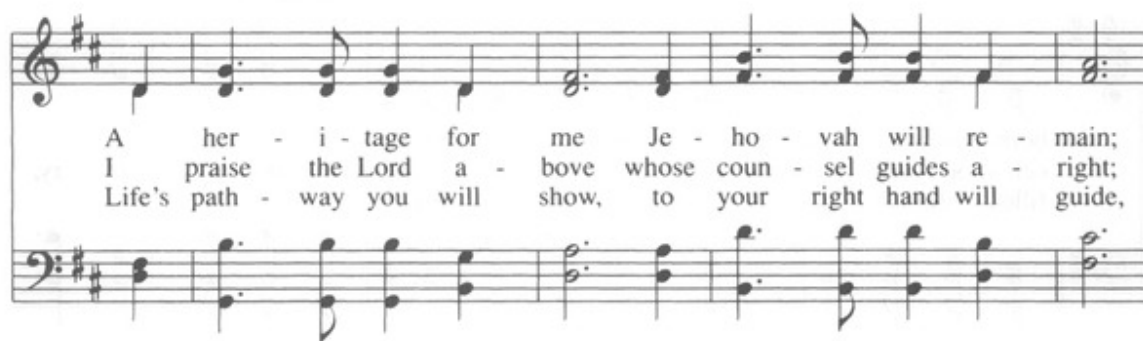
692

*Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. Ps. 16:1*


1. To you, O Lord, I fly and on your help de - pend;  
2. The lot to me that fell is beau - ti - ful and fair;  
3. I keep be - fore me still the Lord whom I have proved;



you are my Lord and King Most High; great God, my soul de - fend.  
the her - i - tage in which I dwell is good be - yond com - pare.  
at my right hand he guards from ill, and I shall not be moved.



A her - i - tage for me Je - ho - vah will re - main;  
I praise the Lord a - bove whose coun - sel guides a - right;  
Life's path - way you will show, to your right hand will guide,



my por - tion rich and full is he, my right he will main - tain.  
my heart in - structs me in his love in sea - sons of the night.  
where streams of plea - sure ev - er flow, and bound - less joys a - bide.

**Closing Prayer**

**Have all pray aloud together Psalm 67:1:**

**God be merciful to us and bless us,**

**And cause His face to shine upon us. Amen.**