

The Lord's Service

The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 14, 2025



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

Post Tenebras Lux

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

SILENT PRAYER

GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

† SALUTATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

And also with you!

† CALL TO WORSHIP: John 12:31-32

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.

†* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 246: “Man of Sorrows! What a Name”

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

† Congregation stands, if able | * Seating for latecomers at this time | All Scripture readings are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®). ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Assistive listening devices are available for use during worship services. Please inquire at the sound booth.

GOD CLEANSSES US OF OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION: Psalm 32:1-5

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

CORPORATE CONFESSION: (kneel as able)

**Eternal God,
in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.**

[Silent prayer of personal confession] **Amen.**

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

† **THE PEACE**

† **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.**

†* **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 243: "Praise the Savior Now and Ever"**

GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Esther 7:1-10 (sermon text)

The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the Word of our God will stand forever!

Isaiah 40:8

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Hebrews 2:10-18

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

† **PSALM 63, NO. 663: "O God Eternal, You Are My God!"**

† **GOSPEL READING: Luke 6:20-26**

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Praise be to you, O Christ!

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

Hoist with His Own Petard

1. The Request (vv. 1-6)

2. The Reversal (vv. 7-10)

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic* church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

**catholic=universal*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

† **DOXOLOGY** (with hands lifted)

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

GOD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

+ SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

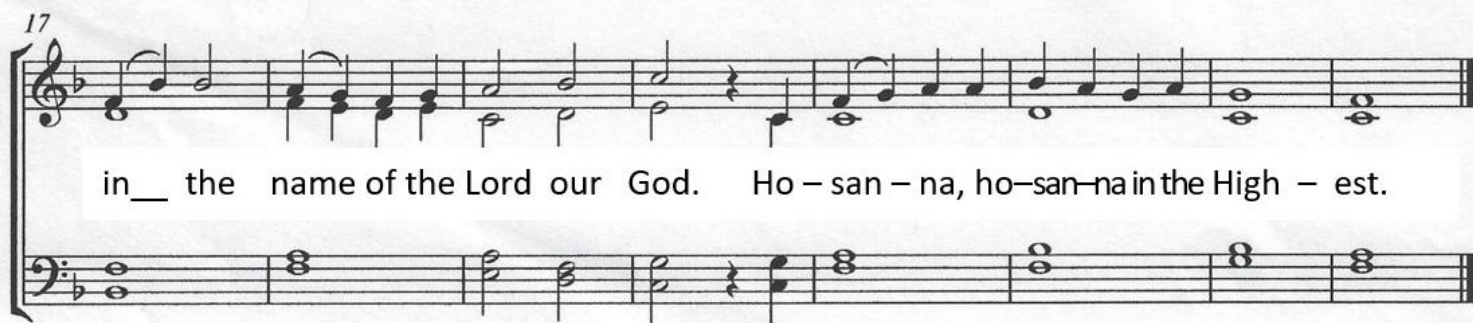
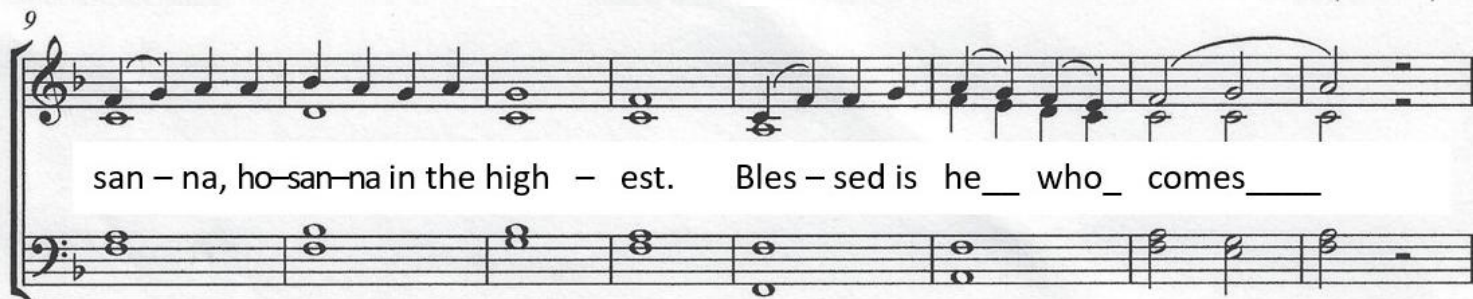
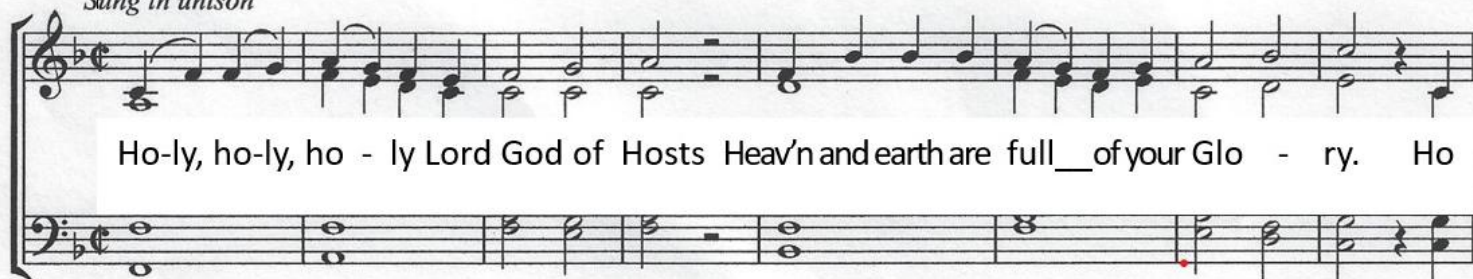
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and arch angels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing ...

+ SANCTUS

Sung in unison



† **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC MEDITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**Distribution of the Bread and Communion in the Body of Christ
Communion Meditation Silence**

Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ

Communion Song: NO. 427 "Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands" (printed on page 8)

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GOD COMMISSIONS US TO GO INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 263: "Lift High the Cross"**

† **BENEDICTION: Galatians 6:14-16**

Let us not boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to us, and we have been crucified to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. Amen.

† **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

† **POSTLUDE**

Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands

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Jesus came and stood among them and said "Put your finger here; see my hands."
John 20:26, 27

Capo 3: ♮ (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B) (Em) (D) (A) (D) ♮

1. A - midst us our Be - lov - ed stands, and bids us
 2. What food lux - u - rious loads the board, when at his
 3. If now, with eyes de - filed and dim, we see the
 4. O glo - rious Bride - groom of our hearts, your pres - ent

(G) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (Em) (B)

view his pierc - ed hands; points to the wound - ed
 ta - ble sits the Lord! The wine how rich, the
 signs, but see not him; O may his love the
 smile a heav'n im - parts! O lift the veil, if

(Em) (D) (A) (D) ♮ (A⁷) (Bm) (Em⁷) (A⁷) (D) ♮

feet and side, blest em - blems of the Cru - ci - fied.
 bread how sweet, when Je - sus deigns the guests to meet!
 scales dis - place, and bid us see him face to face!
 veil there be, let ev - ery saint your glo - ry see!