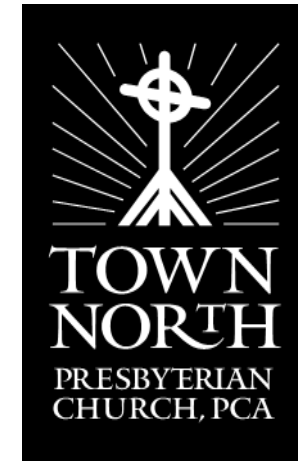


*Town North is a community of disciples
making disciples of Jesus.*



The Week's Order of
WORSHIP
for
THE LORD'S DAY

August 20, 2023

WELCOME TO TOWN NORTH!

We are thankful that the Lord brought you to worship with us today! We know that there are no accidents, and God brought you here to enjoy him in worship this morning.

CHILDREN

Here at Town North, we take great joy in inviting children of all ages to join in our worship service alongside their parents. Crying and noisy children are welcome!

Feel free to use our cry room located in the back of the sanctuary or step out into the narthex if you need to take a short break.

Children's Activity Clipboards are available in the narthex for coloring or taking notes during the worship service. Please return the clipboard and crayons to the shelf after the service.

Nursery is available for children up to 3 years old on the first floor in the Christian Education Building.

CONNECT WITH US

Please sign, pass & return the black attendance pad at the end of the aisle, indicating your attendance with us this morning.

REFLECTION

"The Lord commands all men without exception 'to do good' (Hebrews 13:16)... Now if he has not only deserved no good at your hand, but has also provoked you by unjust acts and curses, not even this is just reason why you should cease to embrace him in love and to perform the duties of love on his behalf (Matthew 6:14; 18:35; Luke 17:3)."

-John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 3.7.6.

PRELUDE

Lynna Harbison

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graham Clark, Youth Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 96:1, 9-13

LEADER: Oh sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth!

PEOPLE: **Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!**

LEADER: Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!
Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."

PEOPLE: **Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it!**

LEADER: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the LORD, for he comes,
for he comes to judge the earth.

PEOPLE: **He will judge the world in righteousness,
and the peoples in his faithfulness.**

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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* SONG OF PRAISE

Our Great God

1. E - ter - nal God, un - chang - ing, mys - te - rious and un -
 2. Lord, we are weak and frail, help - less in the
 3. Let ev - 'ry crea - ture in the sea and ev - 'ry fly - ing

known; Your bound - less love, un - fail - ing, in
 storm. Sur - round us with your an - gels,
 bird, Let ev - 'ry moun - tain, ev - 'ry field and

grace and mer - cy shown. Bright ser - a - phim in
 hold us in your arms. Our cold and ruth - less
 val - ley of the earth; Let all the moons and

cease - less flight a - round Your glo - rious throne; They
 en - e - my, his plea - sure is our harm. Rise
 all the stars in all the u - ni - verse Sing

raise their voi - ces day and night in praise to you a - lone.
 up, O Lord, and he will flee be - fore our sov - reign God.
 prais - es to the liv - ing God who rules them by his Word.

CHORUS

Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry be to our great God! Hal - le -
 lu - jah! Glo - ry be to our great God!

Words and Music: Fernando Ortega and Mac Powell.
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CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

Romans 12:19-21

LEADER: Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ALL: **Almighty God, forgive us for the times we have refused to do good to those who hate us. Forgive us for believing we are ever "justified" in not doing good to those who have harmed us. Forgive us, and make us people who reflect your image and love our enemies. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

In these moments, we individually come to God in prayer, silently confessing personal sins so that we may take hold of the forgiveness won for us by Christ, our Redeemer.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

1 Peter 2:22-24

LEADER: He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

* SONG OF RESPONSE

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us,
 2. *Be - hold the Man up - on a cross,*
 3. I will not boast in an - y - thing:

how vast be - yond all meas - ure
my sin up - on His shoul - ders.
 no gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom.

That He should give His on - ly Son
A - shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice
 But I will boast in Je - sus Christ:

to make a wretch His treas - ure.
call out a - mong the scof - fers.
 His death and res - ur - rection.

How great the pain of sear - ing loss.
It was my sin that held Him there
 Why should I gain from His re - ward?

The Fa - ther turns His face a - way
un - til it was ac - com - plished;
 I can - not give an an - swer.

As wounds which mar the Cho - sen One
His dy - ing breath has brought me life.
 But this I know with all my heart:

bring man - y sons to glo - ry.
I know that it is fin - ished.
 His wounds have paid my ran - som.

Words and Music: Stuart Townend.
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PSALTER READING

David Rogers, Pastor

Psalm 37

Of David.

- Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
 be not envious of wrongdoers!
- 2 For they will soon fade like the grass
 and wither like the green herb.
 - 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good;
 dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
 - 4 Delight yourself in the LORD,
 and he will give you the desires of your heart.
 - 5 Commit your way to the LORD;
 trust in him, and he will act.
 - 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
 and your justice as the noonday.
 - 7 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;
 fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,
 over the man who carries out evil devices!
 - 8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!
 Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.
 - 9 For the evildoers shall be cut off,
 but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.
 - 10 In just a little while, the wicked will be no more;
 though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there.
 - 11 But the meek shall inherit the land
 and delight themselves in abundant peace.
 - 12 The wicked plots against the righteous
 and gnashes his teeth at him,

13 but the Lord laughs at the wicked,
for he sees that his day is coming.
14 The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows
to bring down the poor and needy,
to slay those whose way is upright;
15 their sword shall enter their own heart,
and their bows shall be broken.
16 Better is the little that the righteous has
than the abundance of many wicked.
17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken,
but the LORD upholds the righteous.
18 The LORD knows the days of the blameless,
and their heritage will remain forever;
19 they are not put to shame in evil times;
in the days of famine they have abundance.
20 But the wicked will perish;
the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures;
they vanish—like smoke they vanish away.
21 The wicked borrows but does not pay back,
but the righteous is generous and gives;
22 for those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land,
but those cursed by him shall be cut off.
23 The steps of a man are established by the LORD,
when he delights in his way;
24 though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong,
for the LORD upholds his hand.
25 I have been young, and now am old,
yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken
or his children begging for bread.
26 He is ever lending generously,
and his children become a blessing.

27 Turn away from evil and do good;
so shall you dwell forever.
28 For the LORD loves justice;
he will not forsake his saints.
They are preserved forever,
but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.
29 The righteous shall inherit the land
and dwell upon it forever.
30 The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,
and his tongue speaks justice.
31 The law of his God is in his heart;
his steps do not slip.
32 The wicked watches for the righteous
and seeks to put him to death.
33 The LORD will not abandon him to his power
or let him be condemned when he is brought to trial.
34 Wait for the LORD and keep his way,
and he will exalt you to inherit the land;
you will look on when the wicked are cut off.
35 I have seen a wicked, ruthless man,
spreading himself like a green laurel tree.
36 But he passed away, and behold, he was no more;
though I sought him, he could not be found.
37 Mark the blameless and behold the upright,
for there is a future for the man of peace.
38 But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed;
the future of the wicked shall be cut off.
39 The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.
40 The LORD helps them and delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn 311—Hail to the Lord's Anointed (vv. 1-4)



1. Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2. He comes with com - fort speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong;
 3. He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4. O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth;
 from age to age more glo - rious, all - bless - ing and all - blessed;



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
 and righ - teous - ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val - ley flow.
 his name shall stand for - ev - er— that name to us is Love.

Words: James Montgomery, 1821, 1828; alt. 1990. Based on Psalm 72.
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1864. Public Domain.

1 Samuel 24:1-22

When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, “Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.”² Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel and went to seek David and his men in front of the Wildgoats’ Rocks.³ And he came to the sheepfolds by the way, where there was a cave, and Saul went in to relieve himself. Now David and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave.⁴ And the men of David said to him, “Here is the day of which the LORD said to you, ‘Behold, I will give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it shall seem good to you.’” Then David arose and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul’s robe.⁵ And afterward David’s heart struck him, because he had cut off a corner of Saul’s robe.⁶ He said to his men, “The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my lord, the LORD’s anointed, to put out my hand against him, seeing he is the LORD’s anointed.”⁷ So David persuaded his men with these words and did not permit them to attack Saul. And Saul rose up and left the cave and went on his way.⁸ Afterward David also arose and went out of the cave, and called after Saul, “My lord the king!” And when Saul looked behind him, David bowed with his face to the earth and paid homage.⁹ And David said to Saul, “Why do you listen to the words of men who say, ‘Behold, David seeks your harm’?”¹⁰ Behold, this day your eyes have seen how the LORD gave you today into my hand in the cave. And some told me to kill you, but I spared you. I said, ‘I will not put out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD’s anointed.’¹¹ See, my father, see the corner of your robe in my hand. For by the fact that I cut off the corner of your robe and did not kill you, you may know and see that there is no wrong or treason in my hands. I have not sinned against you, though you hunt my life to take it.¹² May the LORD judge between me and you, may the LORD avenge me against you, but my hand shall not be against you.¹³ As the proverb of the ancients says, ‘Out of the wicked comes wickedness.’ But my hand shall not be against you.¹⁴ After whom has the king of Israel come out? After whom do you pursue? After a dead dog! After a flea!¹⁵ May the LORD therefore be judge and give sentence between me and you, and see to it and plead my cause and deliver me from your hand.”

* RESPONDING IN SONG

Hymn 310—Rejoice, the Lord Is King (vv. 1-5)



1. Re - joice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King a - dore!
2. Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and love;
3. His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit,
5. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,



Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n.
and bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his feet.
and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.

REFRAIN



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Words: Charles Wesley, 1746; alt.
Music: DARWALL, John Darwall, 1770. Public Domain.

* BENEDICTION

1 Peter 5:10-11

PASTOR: And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Lynna Harbison