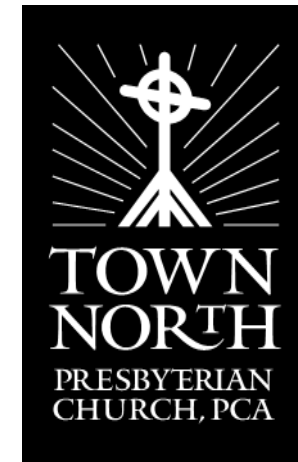


*Town North is a community of disciples
making disciples of Jesus.*



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

August 27, 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

"I was astonished that although I now loved You... I did not persist in enjoyment of my God. Your beauty drew me to You, but soon I was dragged away from You by my own weight and in dismay, I plunged again into the things of this world..."

-Augustine, *Confessions*, Book 7, Penguin Books, 1961, p. 151.

PRELUDE

Lynna Harbison

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graham Clark, Youth Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 18:46-50

LEADER: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,
and exalted be the God of my salvation—
the God who gave me vengeance
and subdued peoples under me,
who rescued me from my enemies;
yes, you exalted me above those who rose against me;
you delivered me from the man of violence.

PEOPLE: **For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations,
and sing to your name.
Great salvation he brings to his king,
and shows steadfast love to his anointed,
to David and his offspring forever**

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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* SONG OF PRAISE

Come Praise and Glorify



1. Come praise and glo - ri - fy our God, the Fa - ther of our
 2. Come praise and glo - ri - fy our God, who gives his grace in
 3. Come praise and glo - ri - fy our God, for we've be - lieved the



Lord. In Christ, He has in heav'n - ly realms, His
 Christ. In him our sins are washed a - way, re -
 Word. And through our faith we have a seal, the



bles - sions on us poured. For pure and blame - less in His sight He
 deemed through sa - cri - fice. In him God has made known to us the
 Spi - rit of the Lord. The Spi - rit guar - an - tees our hope un -



des - tined us to be, and now we've been a -
 myst' - ry of his will; that Christ should be the
 til re - demp - tion's done, un - til we join in



dopt - ed through His Son e - ter - nal - ly
 head of all, his pur - pose to ful - fill
 end - less praise to God, the Three - in - One.

CHORUS



To the praise of your glo-ry, to the praise of your mer - cy and grace



To the praise of your glo-ry, You are the God who saves.

Words and Music: Tim Chester and Bob Kaufin.
 © 2011 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP).

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

Ephesians 4:26-27

LEADER: Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ALL: Lord God Almighty, you are merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We confess that we are a sinful people. We are quick to anger and abounding in hatred toward those who have wronged us. Forgive us for so often lashing out in bitterness and wrath against others, as we try to work our salvation with our own hands. Draw our eyes to Jesus, who was always obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross for us. In Christ we pray, 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

Ephesians 2:8-10

LEADER: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

* SONG OF RESPONSE

His Mercy Is More



1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
 2. What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam?
 3. What rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us.



Om - nis - cient, all - know - ing, He counts not their sum.
 What Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home?
 His blood was the pay - ment, His life was the cost.



Thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore.
 He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor.
 We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford.



Our sins, they are man - y, His mer - cy is more.

CHORUS



Praise the Lord, His mer - cy is more.



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn..



Our sins, they are man - y, His mer - cy is more.

Words and Music: Matt Boswell and Matt Papa.
 © 2016 Messenger Hymns / Love Your Enemies Publishing.

TESTIMONY OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

*Daniel & Rebekah Hodges family,
 Missionaries to Germany*

PSALTER READING

David Rogers, Pastor

Psalm 141

A psalm of David.

O Lord, I call upon you; hasten to me!

Give ear to my voice when I call to you!

² Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,
 and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!

³ Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth;
 keep watch over the door of my lips!

⁴ Do not let my heart incline to any evil,
 to busy myself with wicked deeds
 in company with men who work iniquity,
 and let me not eat of their delicacies!

⁵ Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness;
 let him rebuke me—it is oil for my head;
 let my head not refuse it.

Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds.

⁶ When their judges are thrown over the cliff,
 then they shall hear my words, for they are pleasant.

⁷ As when one plows and breaks up the earth,
 so shall our bones be scattered at the mouth of Sheol.

⁸ But my eyes are toward you, O God, my Lord;
 in you I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless!

⁹ Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me
 and from the snares of evildoers!

¹⁰ Let the wicked fall into their own nets,
 while I pass by safely.

* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn 95—Though Troubles Assail Us (vv. 1-4)

1. Though troubles assail us and dangers af - fright,
 2. *The birds, with - out gar - ner or store - house, are fed;*
 3. When Sa - tan as - sails us to stop up our path,
 4. *No strength of our own and no good - ness we claim;*

though friends should all fail us and foes all u - nite,
from them let us learn to trust God for our bread,
 and cour - age all fails us, we tri - umph by faith,
yet, since we have known of the Sav - ior's great name,

yet one thing se - cures us, what - ev - er be - tide,
His saints what is fit - ting shall ne'er be de - nied
 He can - not take from us, though oft he has tried,
in this our strong tow - er for safe - ty we hide:

the prom - ise as - sures us, "The Lord will pro - vide."
so long as 'tis writ - ten, "The Lord will pro - vide."
 this heart - cheer - ing prom - ise, "The Lord will pro - vide."
the Lord is our pow - er, "The Lord will pro - vide."

Words: John Newton, 1779; from *The New Christian Hymnal*, 1929.
 Music: JOANNA (or ST. DENIO), Traditional Welsh melody. Public Domain.

* SCRIPTURE READING

David Hitt, Elder

1 Samuel 25:1-44

Now Samuel died. And all Israel assembled and mourned for him, and they buried him in his house at Ramah.

Then David rose and went down to the wilderness of Paran. ² And there was a man in Maon whose business was in Carmel. The man was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel. ³ Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. The woman was discerning and beautiful, but the man was harsh and badly behaved; he was a Calebite. ⁴ David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep. ⁵ So David sent ten young men. And David said to the young men, "Go up to Carmel, and go to Nabal and greet him in my name. ⁶ And thus you shall greet him: 'Peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have. ⁷ I hear that you have shearers. Now your shepherds have been with us, and we did them no harm, and they missed nothing all the time they were in Carmel. ⁸ Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have at hand to your servants and to your son David.'"

⁹ When David's young men came, they said all this to Nabal in the name of David, and then they waited. ¹⁰ And Nabal answered David's servants, "Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants these days who are breaking away from their masters. ¹¹ Shall I take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shearers and give it to men who come from I do not know where?" ¹² So David's young men turned away and came back and told him all this. ¹³ And David said to his men, "Every man strap on his sword!" And every man of them strapped on his sword. David also strapped on his sword. And about four hundred men went up after David, while two hundred remained with the baggage.

¹⁴ But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, "Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to greet our master, and he railed at them. ¹⁵ Yet the men were very good to us, and we suffered no harm, and we did not miss anything when we were in the fields, as long as we went with them. ¹⁶ They were a wall to us both by night and by day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep. ¹⁷ Now therefore know this and consider what you should do, for harm is

determined against our master and against all his house, and he is such a worthless man that one cannot speak to him.”

¹⁸ Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves and two skins of wine and five sheep already prepared and five seahs of parched grain and a hundred clusters of raisins and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys. ¹⁹ And she said to her young men, “Go on before me; behold, I come after you.” But she did not tell her husband Nabal. ²⁰ And as she rode on the donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, behold, David and his men came down toward her, and she met them. ²¹ Now David had said, “Surely in vain have I guarded all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belonged to him, and he has returned me evil for good. ²² God do so to the enemies of David and more also, if by morning I leave so much as one male of all who belong to him.”

²³ When Abigail saw David, she hurried and got down from the donkey and fell before David on her face and bowed to the ground. ²⁴ She fell at his feet and said, “On me alone, my lord, be the guilt. Please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant. ²⁵ Let not my lord regard this worthless fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he. Nabal is his name, and folly is with him. But I your servant did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. ²⁶ Now then, my lord, as the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, because the LORD has restrained you from bloodguilt and from saving with your own hand, now then let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be as Nabal. ²⁷ And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. ²⁸ Please forgive the trespass of your servant. For the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the LORD, and evil shall not be found in you so long as you live. ²⁹ If men rise up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living in the care of the LORD your God. And the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. ³⁰ And when the LORD has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you and has appointed you prince over Israel, ³¹ my lord shall have no cause of grief or pangs of conscience for having shed blood without cause or for my lord working salvation himself. And when the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant.”

³² And David said to Abigail, “Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you

this day to meet me! ³³ Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand! ³⁴ For as surely as the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there had not been left to Nabal so much as one male.” ³⁵ Then David received from her hand what she had brought him. And he said to her, “Go up in peace to your house. See, I have obeyed your voice, and I have granted your petition.”

³⁶ And Abigail came to Nabal, and behold, he was holding a feast in his house, like the feast of a king. And Nabal’s heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk. So she told him nothing at all until the morning light. ³⁷ In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. ³⁸ And about ten days later the LORD struck Nabal, and he died.

³⁹ When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, “Blessed be the LORD who has avenged the insult I received at the hand of Nabal, and has kept back his servant from wrongdoing. The LORD has returned the evil of Nabal on his own head.” Then David sent and spoke to Abigail, to take her as his wife. ⁴⁰ When the servants of David came to Abigail at Carmel, they said to her, “David has sent us to you to take you to him as his wife.” ⁴¹ And she rose and bowed with her face to the ground and said, “Behold, your handmaid is a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.” ⁴² And Abigail hurried and rose and mounted a donkey, and her five young women attended her. She followed the messengers of David and became his wife.

⁴³ David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel, and both of them became his wives. ⁴⁴ Saul had given Michal his daughter, David’s wife, to Palti the son of Laish, who was of Gallim.

LEADER: This is the Word of the LORD.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

* BENEDICTION

Hebrews 13:20-21

PASTOR: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Lynna Harbison