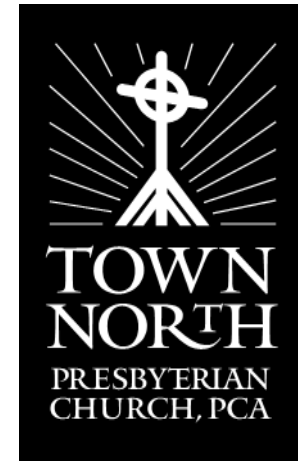


*Town North is a community of disciples  
making disciples of Jesus.*



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

*October 8, 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.

## PRELUDE

*Lynna Harbison*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Graham Clark, Youth Director*

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

### *Psalm 99:1-3*

LEADER: The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!

PEOPLE: **He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!**

LEADER: The LORD is great in Zion;  
he is exalted over all the peoples.

PEOPLE: **Let them praise your great and awesome name!  
Holy is he!**

ALL: **Exalt the LORD our God,  
and worship at his holy mountain;  
for the LORD our God is holy!**

## \* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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\* SONG OF PRAISE

*Only a Holy God*



1. Who else co - mmands all the hosts of hea - ven?  
 2. What o - ther beau - ty de - mands such prai - ses?  
 3. What o - ther glo - ry con - sumes like fi - re?  
 4. Who else could re - scue me from my fail - ing?



Who else could make ev' - ry king bow down?  
 What o - ther splen - dor out shines the sun?  
 What o - ther pow - er can raise the dead?  
 Who else would of - fer His on - ly Son?



Who else can whis - per and dark - ness trem - bles?  
 What o - ther maj - es - ty rules with jus - tice?  
 What o - ther name re - mains un - de - feat - ed?  
 Who else in - vites me to call Him Fa - ther?



On - ly a Ho - ly God

CHORUS



Come and be - hold Him the One and the On - ly



Cry out sing Ho - ly for - ev - er a Ho - ly God Come and



wor - ship the Ho - ly God



God On - ly my Ho - ly God

BACK TO CHORUS

Words and Music: Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Dustin Smith, Rich Thompson.  
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CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

*Matthew 21:21-22*

LEADER:

And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen. And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*based on Mark 9:24*

**ALL:**           **Lord,  
we believe; help our unbelief!  
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.

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Hymn 457—Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (vv. 1-3)*

1. Come, thou fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2. Here I raise my Eb-en - e - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;  
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;  
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.  
Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;  
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God:  
Prone to wan - der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:  
praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758;  
Music: NETTLETON, Asahel Nettleton, 1825. Public Domain.

**Matthew 17:1-21**

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. <sup>3</sup> And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” <sup>8</sup> And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup> And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.” <sup>10</sup> And the disciples asked him, “Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?” <sup>11</sup> He answered, “Elijah does come, and he will restore all things. <sup>12</sup> But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands.” <sup>13</sup> Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

<sup>14</sup> And when they came to the crowd, a man came up to him and, kneeling before him, <sup>15</sup> said, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he has seizures and he suffers terribly. For often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. <sup>16</sup> And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered, “O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.” <sup>18</sup> And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was healed instantly. <sup>19</sup> Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” <sup>20</sup> He said to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.”

*Karl & Debbie Dortzbach*

PRAYING TOGETHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

*David Schlimme, Elder*

\* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD’S WORD

**Hymn 528—My Faith Looks Up to Thee (vv. 1-4)**

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of  
 2. May thy rich grace im-part strength to my  
 3. While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a-  
 4. When ends life's tran-sient dream, when death's cold

Cal-va-ry, Sav-ior di-vine: now hear me  
 faint-ing heart, my zeal in-spire; as thou hast  
 round me spread, be thou my guide; bid dark-ness  
 sul-len stream shall o'er me roll, blest Sav-ior,

while I pray, take all my guilt a-way, O let me  
 died for me, O may my love to thee pure, warm, and  
 turn to day, wipe sor-row's tears a-way, nor let me  
 then, in love, fear and dis-trust re-move; O bear me

from this day be whol-ly thine.  
 change-less be, a liv-ing fire.  
 ev-er stray from thee a-side.  
 safe a-bove, a ran-somed soul.

Words: Ray Palmer, 1830.  
 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1832. Public Domain.

\* SCRIPTURE READING

*Matthew 21:12-22*

And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers."

<sup>14</sup> And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. <sup>15</sup> But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant, <sup>16</sup> and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read,

"Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise?"

<sup>17</sup> And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

<sup>18</sup> In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. <sup>19</sup> And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once.

<sup>20</sup> When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?" <sup>21</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen. <sup>22</sup> And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

LEADER: This is the Word of the LORD.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

*Andrew Cies, Pastor*

*"Three Mountains and One Fig Tree"*

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## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Grape juice is in the purple cups in the center of the tray. Wine is in the clear cups around the outside of the tray. The matzo bread is gluten free.*

*Please hold the elements until everyone is served. Used cups may be placed in the baskets in the narthex after the service.*

### \* RESPONDING IN SONG

#### *By Faith*



1. By faith we see the hand of God;
2. *By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth*
3. By faith the pro - phets saw a day
4. *By faith the church was called to go;*
5. By faith this moun - tain shall be moved



In the light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign  
*with the pow'r of His pro - mise in their hearts*  
 when the longed for Mess - i - ah would a - ppear  
*in the pow'r of the Spi - rit to the lost;*  
 and the pow'r of the gos - pel shall pre - vail;



In the lives of those who prove His faith - ful - ness;  
*of a Ho - ly Ci - ty built by God's own hand:*  
 with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death  
*To de - li - ver cap - tives and to preach good news,*  
 for we know in Christ all things are poss - i - ble



who walk by faith and not by sight.  
*a place where peace and jus - tice reign.*  
 and rise tri - um - phant from the grave.  
*in ev - 'ry cor - ner of the earth.*  
 for all who call u - pon His name.

## CHORUS



We will stand as child - ren of the pro - mise; We will



fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the



work is done; We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

Words and Music: Stuart Townend, Keith Getty & Kristyn Getty. © 2009 Getty Music Publishing.

### \* BENEDICTION

*Andrew Cies, Pastor*

#### **Romans 15:13**

PASTOR:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Amen.

### POSTLUDE

*Lynna Harbison*