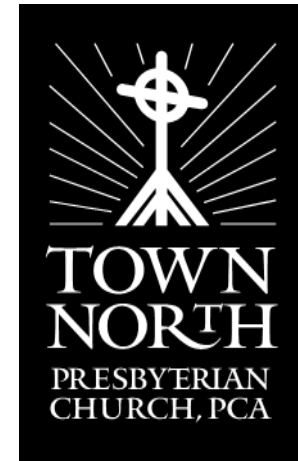


*Town North is a community of disciples  
making disciples of Jesus.*



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

*October 29, 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.

## OFFERINGS

Giving is an act of worship. We return a portion of what we have to our Heavenly Father to demonstrate we are not our own, but belong, body and soul, to Him. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

Please deposit your offerings in the designated boxes in the Narthex or online through the PCA Foundation using this QR code:



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## REFLECTION

*"We will continue to say what the world, by and large, will not believe, namely, that it is possible to describe homosexual behavior as sinful, perverse, abnormal, and destructive to persons and culture while at the same time being willing to lay down our lives in love for homosexual persons. In fact, we say something even more radical and unbelievable to the world, namely, that you must believe homosexual behavior is sin and harmful in order to love homosexual persons. Because God tells us in 1 Corinthians 13:6, "[Love] does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth." If you deny the truth that homosexual behavior is sin, but instead approve of it or rejoice in it, what you bring to the homosexual person will not be love – no matter how affirming, kind, or tolerant. Our aim is the biblical combination of conviction in God's truth and compassion for God's creation."*

-John Piper, *Discerning the Will of God Concerning Homosexuality and Marriage*, August 8, 2004, [www.DesiringGod.org](http://www.DesiringGod.org).

## PRELUDE

*Lynna Harbison*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*David Rogers, Pastor*

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 90:1-3, 7-8, 12-16*

LEADER: Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations.

PEOPLE: **Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

LEADER: You return man to dust  
and say, "Return, O children of man!"

PEOPLE: **For we are brought to an end by your anger;  
by your wrath we are dismayed.**

*(Continued...)*

LEADER: You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your presence.

PEOPLE: **So teach us to number our days  
that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

LEADER: Return, O LORD! How long?  
Have pity on your servants!

PEOPLE: **Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

LEADER: Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,  
and for as many years as we have seen evil.

PEOPLE: **Let your work be shown to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.**

\* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\* SONG OF PRAISE

*Ancient of Days*

1. Though the na - tions rage, king - doms rise and fall,  
2. Though the dread of night ov - er - whelms my soul,  
3. Though I may not see what the fu - ture brings,

there is still one King reign - ing o - ver all.  
he is here with me, I am not a - lone.  
I will watch and wait for the Sa - vior King.

So I will not fear for this truth re - mains:  
Oh his love is sure, and he knows my name,  
Then my joy com - plete, stand - ing face to face

that my God is the An - cient of Days.  
for my God is the An - cient of Days.  
in the pre - sence of the An - cient of Days.

CHORUS

None a - bove him, none be - fore him, all of time in his hands.  
For his throne, it shall re - main and ev - er stand.  
All the pow - er, all the glo - ry, I will trust in his name.  
For my God is the An - cient of Days.

Words & Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren, Jesse Reeves.  
© 2018 City Alight Music.

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

*James 1:13-15*

LEADER: Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ALL: **O Most Holy God,  
we confess that we are sinners.  
Corruption still remains in our hearts,  
producing evil desires and wrongful passions.  
We cannot purify ourselves  
no matter how hard we try.  
So we cast ourselves upon the Lord Jesus,  
the only Savior,  
to cleanse us from within by his precious blood.  
And grant us a new heart so that we would  
truly hate sin and love righteousness. 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 PARDON AND PEACE WITH GOD**

**John 7:37-38**

**LEADER:** On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

**\* SONG OF RESPONSE**

***Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder***



1. Let us love and sing and won - der,  
 2. Let us love the Lord who bought us,  
 3. Let us sing though fierce temp - ta - tion  
 5. Let us praise and join the cho - rus



let us praise the Sa - vior's name,  
 pit - ied us when en - e - mies,  
 threat - en hard to bear us down  
 of the saints en - throned on high,



he has hushed the law's loud thun - der,  
 called us by his grace and taught us  
 for the Lord, our strong sal - va - tion,  
 here they trust - ed him be - fore us,



he has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame.  
 gave us ears and us eyes.  
 holds in view the con - qu'ror's crown.  
 now their prais - es fill the sky.



He has washed us with his blood,  
 He has washed us with his blood,  
 He who washed us with his blood,  
 Thou hast washed us with thy blood,



he has washed us with his blood,  
 he has washed us with his blood,  
 he who washed us with his blood,  
 thou hast washed us with thy blood,



he has washed us with his blood,  
 he has washed us with his blood,  
 he who washed us with his blood,  
 thou hast washed us with thy blood,



he has brought us nigh to God.  
 he pre - sents our souls to God.  
 soon will bring us home to God.  
 thou art worth - y, Lamb of God.

Words: John Newton, 1774; Mod. Music: Laura Taylor, 2001.  
 Tune © 2001 Laura Taylor Music.

\* CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Westminster Confession of Faith*

*Chapter 6: The Fall of Man, Sin, and the Punishment for Sin  
Sections 4 & 5 (Modern English Version)*

**ALL:** **This original corruption completely disinclines, incapacitates, and turns us away from every good, while it completely inclines us to every evil. From it proceed all actualized sins.**

**During life on earth, this corrupt nature remains in those who are regenerated, and, although it is pardoned and deadened in Christ, yet it and all its impulses are truly and properly sinful.**

PRAYING TOGETHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*David Rogers, Pastor*

\* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

*Hymn 338—Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (vv. 1, 3-5)*

1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 3. *Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King?*  
 4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;  
 5. *Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,*

wear it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
*All, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength and mind,*  
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,  
*one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;*

stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,  
*I see thy cross— there teach my heart to cling:*  
 to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;  
*the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed Dove,*

and make me love thee as I ought to love.  
*O let me seek thee, and O let me find.*  
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.  
*my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.*

Words: George Croly, 1854. Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870.  
Public Domain.

\* SCRIPTURE READING

*Joel Aguilar, Elder*

***Romans 1:26-27***

For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

LEADER: This is the Word of the LORD.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

*David Rogers, Pastor*

***“Dangerous Desires”***

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\* RESPONDING IN SONG

*Hymn 500—Rock of Ages (vv. 1-4)*

1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me,  
 2. Not the la - bores of my hands  
 3. Noth - ing in my hand bring,  
 4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath,

let me hide my - self in thee;  
 can ful - fil thy law's de - mands;  
 sim - ply to thy cross I cling;  
 when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood,  
 could my zeal no res - pite know,  
 na - ked, come to thee for dress;  
 when I soar to worlds un - known,

from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
 could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
 help - less, look to thee for grace;  
 see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure,  
 all for sin could not a - tone;  
 foul, I to the Foun - tain fly;  
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me,

cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r  
 thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
 wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
 let me hide my - self in thee.

Words: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776; Alt.: Thomas Cotterill, 1815.  
 Music: NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP, James Ward, 1984.  
 Tune © 1985, Music Anno Domini.

\* BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24-26*

PASTOR: The Lord bless you and keep you;  
 the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to  
 you;  
 the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.  
 Amen.

POSTLUDE

*Lynna Harbison*

A few resources for the biblical view of homosexuality:

1. *Presbyterian Church in America Ad Interim Committee on Human Sexuality* – <https://pcaga.org/aicreport/>
2. *The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Texts and Hermeneutics* – Book by Robert A. J. Gagnon with detailed exegesis on texts of the bible
3. *What does the Bible Really Teach about Homosexuality?* – Book by Kevin DeYoung written on a practical level while also having short chapters discussing specific texts