

FIRST REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Order of Worship*

April 14, 2024

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 72*

Minister: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

**All: In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more! May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth! May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!**

Minister: May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!

**All: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory!**

\*HYMNS

*Rejoice the Lord is King*, No. 310

(Charles Wesley) DARWALL

Stanzas 1, 2, 4, 5

Rejoice, the Lord is King: your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;  
When he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit,  
And bow to his command, and fall beneath his feet.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,  
And take his servants up to their eternal home.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

*Let the Nations Be Glad*

(Matt Papa, Matt Boswell)

Let the glory of the Lord forever be our joy. May redemption be the theme of our song.  
For by grace we have been saved and by grace we shall proclaim  
To the corners of the earth that Christ is come.

*Chorus:*

*Let the nations be glad! Let the people rejoice, for salvation belongs to our God.  
Let the whole earth be filled, with the praises of the Lord,  
For salvation belongs to our God. Let the nations be glad!*

Through the ages gone before, through the trial and the sword,  
Many saints and martyrs conquered though they died.  
Still we're holding out the cross, crossing oceans, suff'ring loss  
Shall endure all things to win the crown of life. *Chorus*

As Your holy church goes forth in the Holy Spirit's power with the glories of the gospel to exclaim;  
Now we pray "Your Kingdom come" and we pray "Your will be done"  
For the honor and the glory of Your name. *Chorus*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION

CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Isaiah 52:13-53:4, 10-12*

Minister: Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind— so shall he sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

**All: Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.**

Minister: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

**All: Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will apportion to him the many, and the strong he will apportion as spoil, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.**

HYMN

*God Be Merciful to Me*

(Richard Redhead, Christopher Miner)

God be merciful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea;  
Plentiful in compassion thou, blot out my transgressions now;  
Wash me, make me pure within, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

I am evil, born in sin; thou desirest truth within.  
Thou alone my Savior art, teach thy wisdom to my heart;  
Make me pure, thy grace bestow, wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust by thy wrath and judgement just,  
Let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear thy voice;  
From my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Sinners then shall learn from me, and return O God to thee,  
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing thy love;  
Touch my silent lips O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

*based on the Ten Commandments*

Minister: Let us confess our sins before our righteous and holy God.

**All: Our great heavenly Father, we have other gods before us. We desire many images more than you. We do not worship your name as we should. We do not keep the Sabbath day holy. We do not honor our father and our mother. We have murder on our tongues and in our hearts. We are not faithful. We take what is not ours. We do not always tell the truth. We sinfully want what other people have. God of grace, in your mercy, forgive us for the many ways we do not lovingly obey your commandments. We are so thankful for Christ who perfectly obeyed every commandment for us, and for the truth that before you we are robed in his impeccable righteousness. By your Spirit, sanctify us that we may respond to your love for us in Jesus with heart-filled obedience. In his precious Name we pray. Amen.**

PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

## INTERCESSORY AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

## OFFERTORY

## \*SCRIPTURE READING

John 12:34-43

<sup>34</sup> *So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?"* <sup>35</sup> *So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going."* <sup>36</sup> *While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."*

*When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.* <sup>37</sup> *Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him,* <sup>38</sup> *so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"*

<sup>39</sup> *Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,* <sup>40</sup> *"He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them."*

<sup>41</sup> *Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.* <sup>42</sup> *Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue;* <sup>43</sup> *for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.*

## SERMON

*Seeing and Loving His Glory*

Rev. Brent Horan

## \*HYMN OF RESPONSE

***And Can it Be***, No. 455

(Charles Wesley) SAGINA

Stanzas 1, 3-5

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),  
Humbled himself (so great his love!) and bled for all his chosen race!  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for, O my God, it found out me!  
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee.  
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.  
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*All those who trust in Christ alone for their salvation, are baptized, and are communicants in good standing of an evangelical church are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper together, feeding on the grace of God by faith. If you have not put your trust in Christ, please allow the elements to pass you by and take this opportunity to meditate on the meaning of the Gospel. Note that the outer ring is wine and the inner ring is grape juice.*

*A word to parents: Baptized children are invited to the table after they have made a profession of faith and been received as communing members by the Session of the church to which their parents belong.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

### ***Sovereign Grace O'er Sin Abounding***

(John Kent, Sandra McCracken)

Sovereign grace o'er sin abounding! Ransomed souls, the tidings swell;  
Tis a deep that knows no sounding; who its breadth or length can tell?  
On its glories, let my soul forever dwell.

What from Christ that soul can sever, bound by everlasting bands?  
Once in Him, in Him for ever; thus the eternal covenant stands.  
None shall take thee from the Strength of Israel's hands.

Heirs of God, joint-heirs with Jesus, long ere time its race begun;  
To His name eternal praises; O what wonders love has done!  
One with Jesus, by eternal union one.

On such love, my soul, still ponder, love so great, so rich, so free;  
Say, while lost in holy wonder, why, O Lord, such love to me?  
Hallelujah! Grace shall reign; Hallelujah! Grace shall reign;  
Hallelujah! Grace shall reign eternally!

### ***Doxology***

(Thomas Ken) OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### **\*CONCLUDING HYMN**

### ***May the Peoples Praise You***

(Keith & Kristyn Getty, David Zimmer, Ed Cash)

You have called us out of darkest night into your glorious light,  
That we may sing the wonders of the risen Christ.  
May our every breath retell the grace that broke into our strife;  
With boundless love and deepest joy, with endless life.

#### *Chorus:*

*May the peoples praise you; let the nations be glad;  
All your blessing comes that we may praise,  
May praise the name of Jesus.*

All the earth is yours and all within, each harvest is your own;  
And from your hand we give to you to make Christ known.  
May the seeds of mercy grow in us for those who have not heard,  
May songs of praise build lives of grace to spread your Word. *Chorus*

This our holy privilege to declare your praises and your name;  
To every nation, tribe, and tongue, your church proclaims. *Chorus*

*The Father has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.*

POSTLUDE

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**EVENING SERVICE**

Rev. Jim Weidenaar

1 Corinthians 1:18-22

5:30 pm

**PRAYER**

Jeff & Tab Stivason and family

Pray for the Lord's mercies for Tab, Jeff and their children as she has been battling cancer for some time, and has now ceased treatment. Jeff is the pastor of Grace RP and teaches at RPTS.

Engaged Couples:

Olivia Green and Dan Hoffman, Jenna Shore and Brandon Guerin, Eden Smith and Ryan McGuire, Stephanie Zgela and Doug Finley

Expectant Mothers:

Reagan Bigenho, Cara Lagerquist, Sarah Rodgers

Military Personnel:

Chaplain Stephen Scott

SERMON NOTES