



Redeemer Presbyterian Church
May 10, 2020

Call to Worship:

Psalm 118:1-3

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

for his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

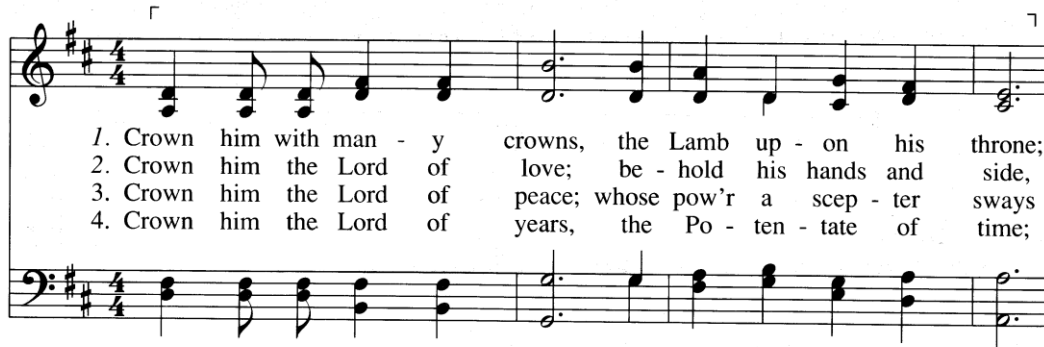
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Let the house of Aaron say,

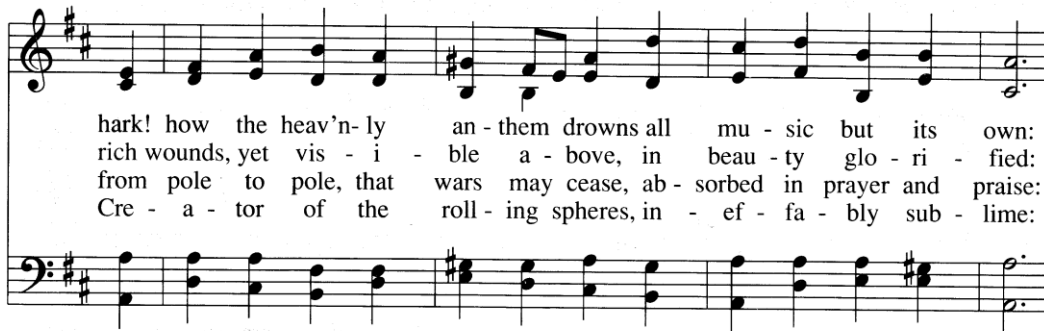
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

Opening Hymn:

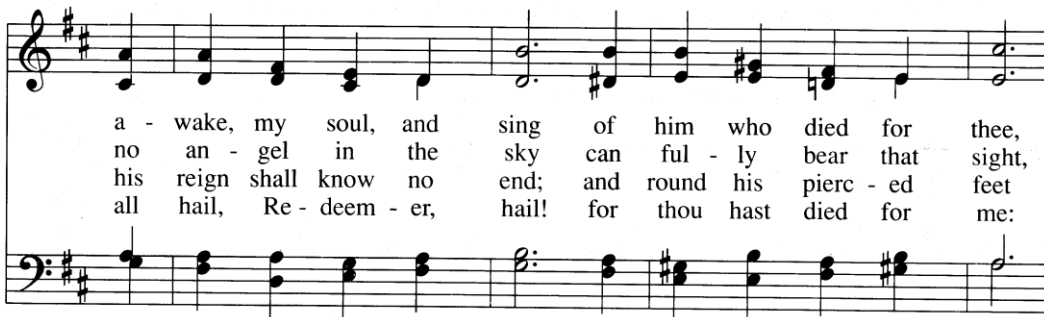
#295 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"



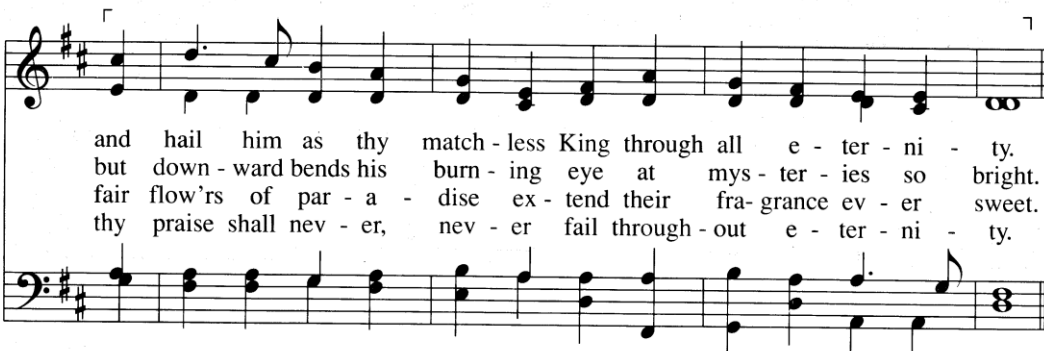
1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
3. Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scep - ter sways
4. Crown him the Lord of years, the Po - ten - tate of time;



hark! how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own:
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise:
Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime:



a - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
his reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
all hail, Re - deem - er, hail! for thou hast died for me:



and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
fair flow'rs of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Invocation: Psalm 124:8

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Confession of Sin: Philippians 1:27-30

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we confess our sin and failure to live as you have called us. We often seek the blessings that Jesus gives without a willingness to take up our cross and follow him or share in his sufferings. We are often more concerned about our reputation in the world than we are about your reputation and glory. We are fearful of people and doubt your power to preserve and protect us. And although Jesus promises that those who are insulted for his sake are blessed, we are often ashamed of the Gospel and hope to avoid the reproach of the cross. Forgive us and change us! Give us a Spirit not of fear, but of power, and love, and self control. Help us to trust your word and your power, and to live in this world in such a way that all people will know that we are your disciples. Amen.

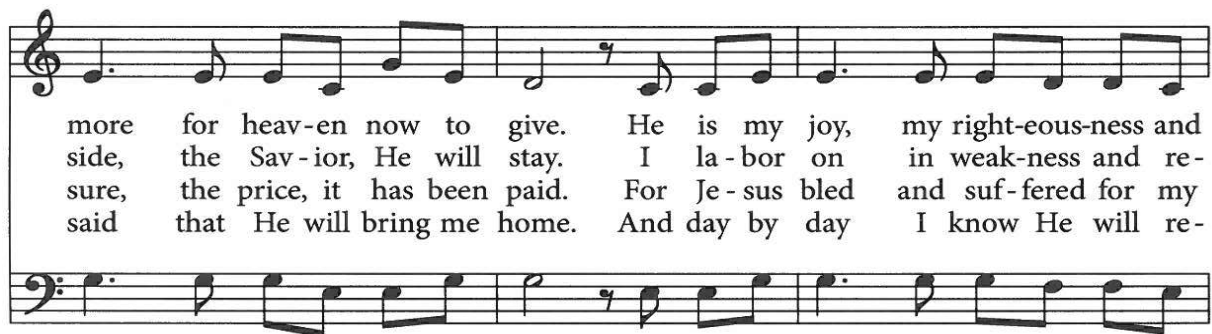
Declaration of Forgiveness: 1 Peter 2:22-24

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.

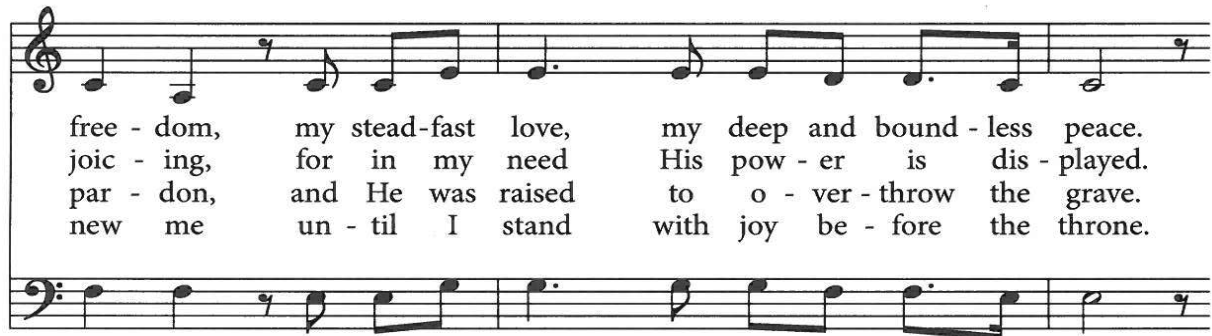
Hymn of Assurance: "Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me"



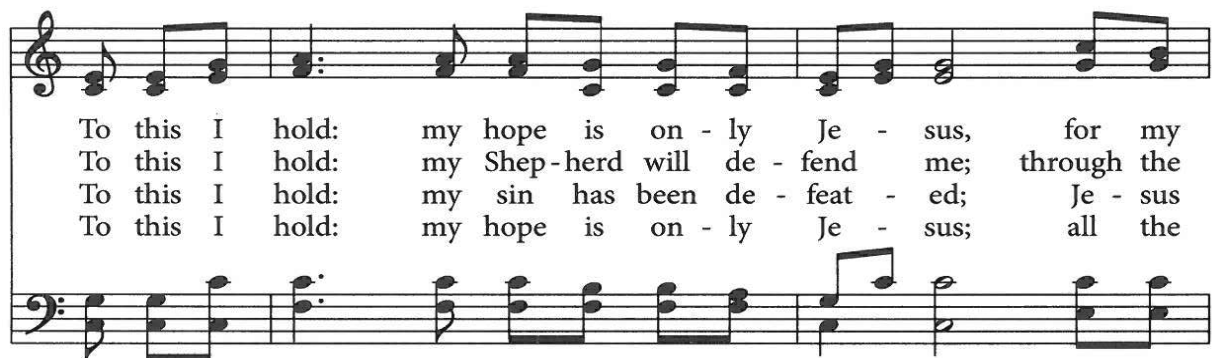
1. What gift of grace is Je - sus my Re - deem - er; there is no
 2. The night is dark, but I am not for - sak - en, for by my
 3. No fate I dread; I know I am for - giv - en; the fu - ture
 4. With eve - ry breath I long to fol - low Je - sus, for He has



more for heav - en now to give. He is my joy, my right - eous - ness and
 side, the Sav - ior, He will stay. I la - bor on in weak - ness and re -
 sure, the price, it has been paid. For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my
 said that He will bring me home. And day by day I know He will re -



free - dom, my stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less peace.
 joic - ing, for in my need His pow - er is dis - played.
 par - don, and He was raised to o - ver - throw the grave.
 new me un - til I stand with joy be - fore the throne.



To this I hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus, for my
 To this I hold: my Shep - herd will de - fend me; through the
 To this I hold: my sin has been de - feat - ed; Je - sus
 To this I hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus; all the

life is whol-ly bound to His. Oh how strange and di-vine,
 deep - est val - ley He will lead. Oh the night has been won,
 now and ev - er is my plea. Oh the chains are re - leased,
 glo - ry ev - er - more to Him. When the race is com - plete,

I can sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
 and I shall o - ver - come! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
 I can sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
 still my lips shall re - peat: yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Scripture Reading:

1 Peter 4:12-14

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

1 Peter 5:6-11

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Sermon Text Reading:

1 Thessalonians 2:13-3:12

¹³And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. ¹⁴For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews, ¹⁵who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all mankind ¹⁶by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved—so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last!

¹⁷But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face, ¹⁸because we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, again and again—but Satan hindered us. ¹⁹For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? ²⁰For you are our glory and joy.

Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we were willing to be left behind at Athens alone, ²and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith, ³that no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this. ⁴For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know. ⁵For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain.

⁶But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you— ⁷for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith. ⁸For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord. ⁹For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹²and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you.

Sermon Title:

“A Pastoral Word to Persecuted Christians”

Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Question and Answer #1

What is your only comfort in life and death?

**That I, with body and soul, both in life and death,
am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,
who with his precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins,
and delivered me from all the power of the devil,
and so preserves me
that without the will of my heavenly Father
not a hair can fall from my head;
indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation,
therefore by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life
and makes me heartily willing and ready, always,
to live for him.**

Prayer of Longing for the Lord's Supper

Lord Jesus, our hearts brim with longing today. We long for one another, for the day when we might gather again as your body, around your table of grace. We long for your table, spread out for us in this wilderness, where we feast on the abundance of your house and drink from your river of delights. We long for you, for your presence in the Supper. For your body broken and your blood poured out alone can strengthen our hearts and satisfy our thirst. But until the day of our joyous reunion, teach us to lament this absence in our lives. Teach us to long for you, for your church, for your kingdom, and for the day of your coming again. For on that day you have promised to lead us up the mountain of God where we will partake with you, a banquet of rich foods prepared for all peoples.

We pray this in the name of him who is the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. Amen.

Closing Hymn:

#691 "It Is Well With My Soul"

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like
2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as -
3. My sin— O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought!—my sin, not in
4. O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled

sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
sur - ance con - trol, that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate,
part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
back as a scroll, the trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de - scend.

REFRAIN
"It is well, it is well with my soul."
and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well
"E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.
with my soul;

Benediction