



ST. MARK

REFORMED CHURCH

Morning Worship

29 January 2023

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

GREETINGS TO OUR VISITORS!

If you are visiting St. Mark today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. We are delighted the Lord has brought you to worship with us and look forward to meeting you. If you are baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, you are welcome to partake of the Lord's Supper.

ABOUT US:

St. Mark Reformed Church is a member church of the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC). Our congregation is centered on classical Christian worship that is robust, reverent, and joyful. We offer solid biblical preaching and teaching from a Reformed perspective. We are a family-friendly, welcoming congregation, desiring unity with all fellow believers. We believe and seek to embody the good news of the gospel—that salvation from sin is found in Christ alone, to be received by faith alone. We long to be a community that practices love, service, and mercy toward our community and the world.

CHURCH OFFICERS:

TJ Draper, Deacon
Abe Goolsby, Elder
Jeff Kernodle, Elder
Randy Sadler, Deacon
Joe Thacker, Pastor

For more information you may contact:

Pastor Joe Thacker
pastor@stmarkreformed.com
(615) 438-3109

Or view our website: www.stmarkreformed.com

Meeting Address:
810 Del Rio Pike
Franklin, TN 37064

Mailing Address:
563 Brewer Dr.
Nashville, TN 37211

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

COLLECT OF THE DAY

God, which knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that for man's frailness we cannot always stand uprightly; Grant to us health of body and soul that all those things which we suffer for sin, by thy help we may well pass and overcome; through Christ our Lord. Amen. **(Stand at the conclusion of the Prelude)**

The Lord Calls Us

Pastor: Let us worship God! We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

Pastor: There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse;

People: And a Branch shall grow out of its roots.

Pastor: Arise; shine, for your light has come!

People: And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 95:1-3

Pastor: Amen!

People: Amen!

Hymn of Procession

O, 'Twas a Joyful Sound to Hear

from Psalm 122

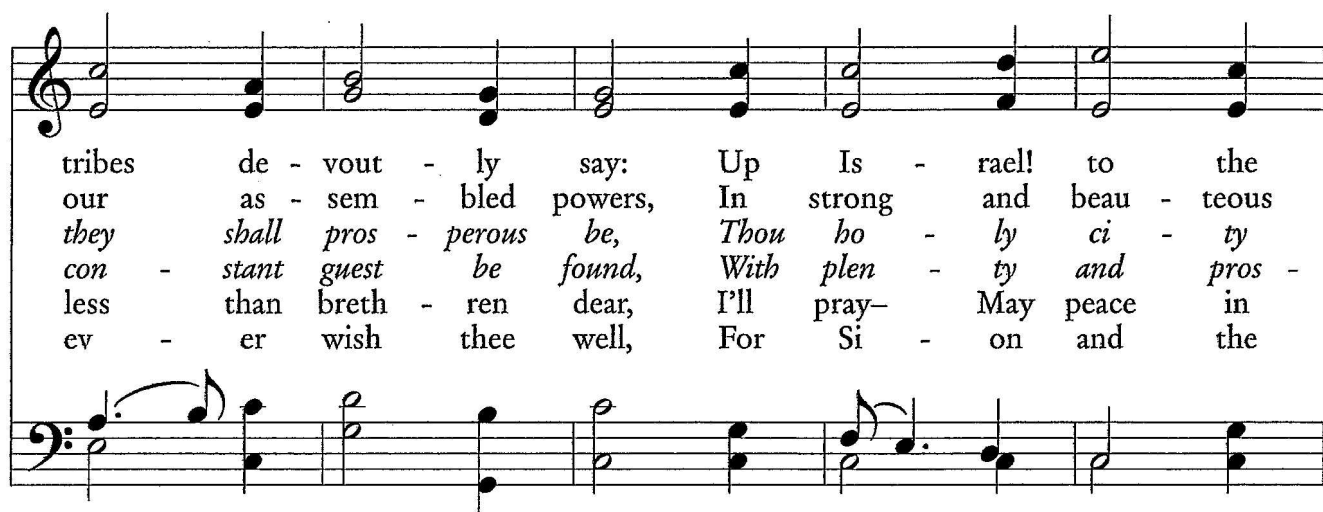
p. 4

(Verse 5 without accompaniment)

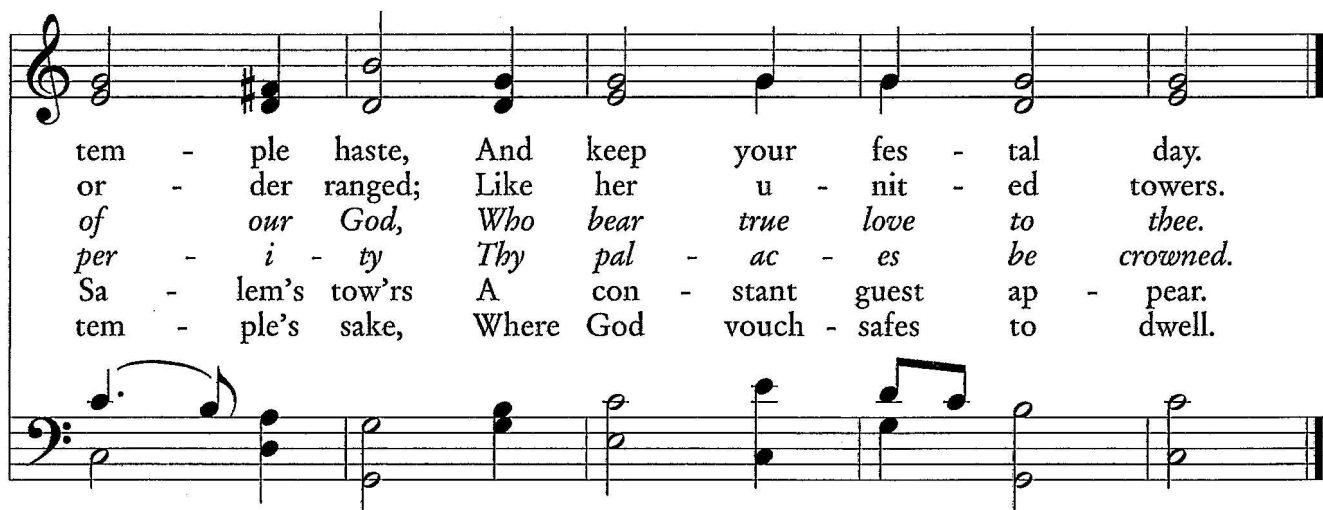


1. O, 'twas a joy - ful sound to hear, Our
2. At Sa - lem's courts we must ap - pear, With
3. O pray we then for Sa - lem's peace; For
4. May peace with - in thy sa - cred walls A
5. For my dear breth - ren's sake, and friends No
6. But most of all I'll seek thy good, And

Melody



tribes de - vout - ly say: Up Is - rael! to the
our as - sem - bled powers, In strong and beau - teous
they shall pros - perous be, Thou ho - ly ci - ty
con - stant guest be found, With plen - ty and pros -
less than breth - ren dear, I'll pray - May peace in
ev - er wish thee well, For Si - on and the



tem - ple haste, And keep your fes - tal day.
or - der ranged; Like her u - nit - ed towers.
of our God, Who bear true love to thee.
per - i - ty Thy pal - ac - es be crowned.
Sa - lem's tow'rs A con - stant guest ap - pear.
tem - ple's sake, Where God vouch - safes to dwell.

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: I rejoiced when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!"

People: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

(Psalm 122:1-2)

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord!

People: The Maker of heaven and earth!

(Psalm 124:8)

Pastor: Let us pray . . .

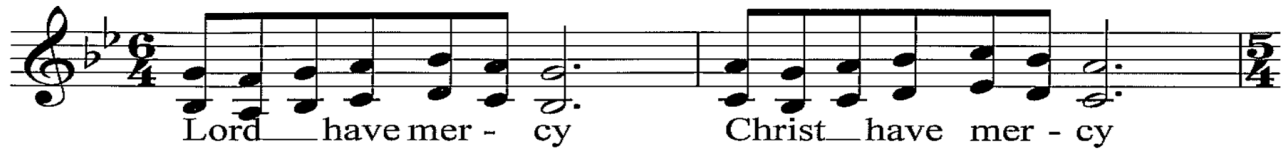
The Lord Cleanses Us

THE PURIFICATION OFFERING

Pastor: Let us call upon God's mercy.

Hymn of Confession

Kyrie Eleison



Pastor: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him. Let us humbly kneel and confess our sins together . . . (Kneeling if able)

Almighty and all Holy Father,

We confess ourselves unworthy of Your unspeakable Gift. We have not loved You as we ought; nor have we always been loving to one another; kindhearted, forgiving one another; even as You, for Christ's sake, have forgiven us. We have lived in selfishness and worldly pride; and the good gifts You have bestowed upon us; we have not used to relieve the burdens of others. Pardon and blot out our offenses, we beseech You.

O merciful Father, who in compassion for Your sinful children did send Your Son Jesus Christ to be the Savior of the world: Grant us grace to feel and lament our share in the evil which made it needful for Him to suffer and to die for our salvation. Help us by self-denial, prayer, and meditation to prepare our hearts for deeper penitence and a better life. And give us a true longing to be free from sin, through the deliverance wrought by Jesus Christ our only Redeemer. Amen.

Pastor: Arise and hear the good news of God's forgiveness!

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God says, "Comfort, yes, comfort my people! Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned." Your Heavenly Father sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem you from the curse of sin. Receive his promise of forgiveness by faith and rejoice in the assurance of God's favor. Amen!

People: Amen!

The Lord Consecrates Us

THE ASCENSION OFFERING

Hymn of Ascent

Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns

Chords: F C G⁷ C 7 G Am G

1. Shout, for the bless - ed Je - sus reigns; through dis - tant
 2. He calls his cho - sen from a - far, they all at
 3. Gen - tiles and Jews his laws o - bey; na - tions re -
 4. O may his ho - ly church in - crease, his Word and
 5. Loud hal - le - lu - jahs to the Lamb, from all be -

Chords: C Dm C G D G

lands his tri - umphs spread; and sin - ners, freed from
 Zi - on's gates ar - rive; those who were dead in
 • mote their of - f'ings bring, and un - con - strained their
 Spir - it still pre - vail, while an - gels cel - e -
 low, and all a - bove! In loft - y songs ex -

Chords: C D G 7 G⁷ C Dm Em⁷ C G⁷ C 7

end - less pains, own him, their Sav - ior and their Head.
 sin be - fore by sov - ereign grace are made a - live.
 • hom - age pay to their ex - alt - ed God and King.
 brate his praise, and saints his grow - ing glo - ries hail.
 alt his name, in songs as last - ing as his love.

Benjamin Beddome, 1769

TRURO L.M.
 Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

Congregation: AMEN!

THE SURSUM CORDA

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: O Lord, open our lips!

People: And our mouths will declare your praise!

The Doxology (with hands upraised - 1 Timothy 2:8)

OLD HUNDREDTH (L.M.)
Genevan Psalter, 1551
Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

Thomas Ken, 1709

Praise God from Whom all bless - ings flow;

Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;

Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

(The congregation may be seated)

Pastor: The law of the LORD is perfect,

People: reviving the soul;

Pastor: the testimony of the LORD is sure,

People: making wise the simple;

Pastor: the precepts of the LORD are right,

People: rejoicing the heart;

Pastor: the commandment of the LORD is pure,

People: enlightening the eyes.

(Psalm 19:7-8)

THE LESSON:

Lector: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Micah 6:1-8

THE PSALM:

Psalm 15



- [1] O LORD, who shall sojourn | in your tent?
Who shall dwell on your | holy hill?
- [2] He who walks blamelessly and does | what is right
and speaks truth | in his heart;
- [3] who does not slander with his tongue
and does no evil to his | neighbor,
nor takes up a reproach a- | gainst his friend;
- [4] in whose eyes a vile person is despised,
but who honors those who | fear the LORD;
who swears to his own hurt and | does not change;
- [5] who does not put out his money at interest
and does not take a bribe against the | innocent.
He who does these things shall nev- | er be moved.

Congregation: AMEN!

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Lector: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

(Please stand)

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

Pastor: The Gospel of Christ!

People: Praise be to Christ!

Gloria Patri (with hands upraised - 1 Timothy 2:8)

The musical score for the Gloria Patri is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The score consists of four systems of two staves each. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system the second line, the third system the third line, and the fourth system the fourth line. The final note of the fourth system is a double bar line.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in

the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

2nd cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)
Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith together. Christian, in whom do you believe?

Unison: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds;

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God;

begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered and was buried;

and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures;

and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father;

and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life;

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(The congregation may be seated)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 47:27-48:22

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

“Faith-full Vision”

Sermon Notes, p. 20

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The Lord Collects Our Gifts

THE TRIBUTE OFFERING

COLLECTION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

(Please stand.)

Offertory Hymn

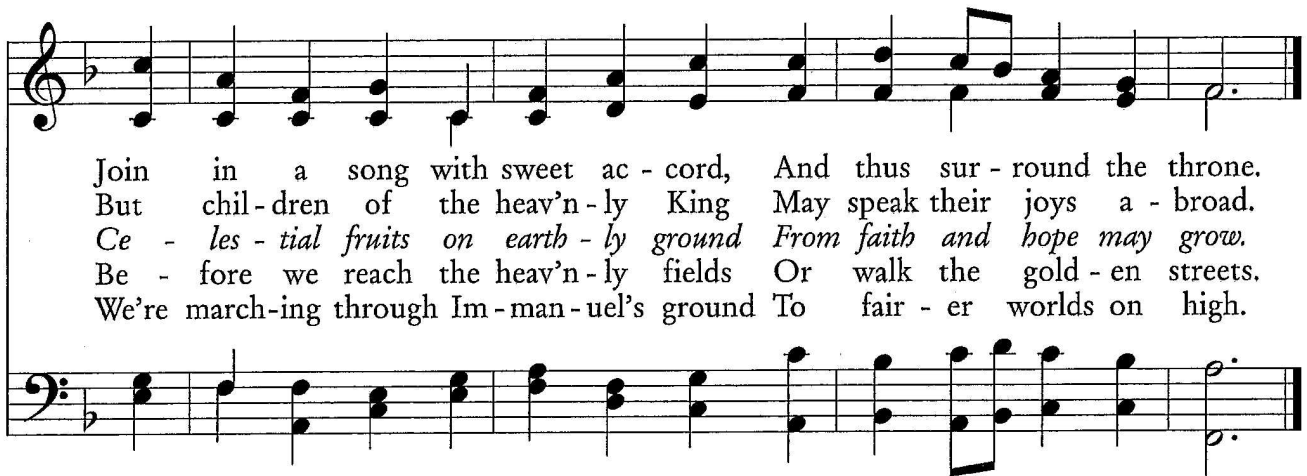
Come, Ye That Love the Lord

ST. THOMAS (S.M.)
Aaron Williams, 1763

Isaac Watts, 1707; alt.



1. Come, ye that love the Lord, And let your joys be known;
2. Let those re - fuse to sing That nev - er knew our God;
3. The men of grace have found Glo - ry be - gun be - low;
4. The hill of Zi - on yields A thou - sand sa - cred sweets,
5. Then let our songs a - bound, And ev - 'ry tear be dry;



Join in a song with sweet ac - cord, And thus sur - round the throne.
But chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King May speak their joys a - broad.
Ce - les - tial fruits on earth - ly ground From faith and hope may grow.
Be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields Or walk the gold - en streets.
We're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground To fair - er worlds on high.

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: What gifts have you brought for your Lord?

People: We give only what the Lord has first given to us. We offer ourselves in Christ through confession, praise and thanksgiving; we give our prayers and alms for the sake of the world; and we participate in the Lord's Supper as a memorial of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Father, receive now these gifts offered to you in and through the Lord Jesus Christ, as we return to you a portion of that which you have freely given us. Use these tithes and offerings to support the work of the church, to care for the poor and needy, to promote the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth, and to build up your kingdom. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

People: Amen.

The Lord Communes with Us

THE PEACE OFFERING

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God; that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

John Merbecke, 1549

Pastor: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You praise and thanks for all Your goodness and tender mercies. We bless You for the love that created us, and that sustains us day by day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, through whom You have made known Your will and favor. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, our Comforter; for the holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of the faithful and godly people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness by lives that are given wholly to Your service. Father, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: Save and defend Your Church universal, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Give to her pastors and ministers endowed with your Holy Spirit, and strengthen her through the Word and the holy sacraments. Make her perfect in love and in all good works, and establish her in the faith delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite Your people in all the world, that one holy, catholic, and apostolic church may bear witness to You, the God and Father of all. Father, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: We humbly entreat You for all sorts and conditions of men, that You would be pleased to make Your ways known to them, Your salvation to all nations. Send forth Your light and Your truth into all the earth. Raise up, we pray, faithful servants to labor in the gospel at home and in distant lands. Lord, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: Preserve our nation in righteousness and true honor, and grant Your blessings to us as a people, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, and cause them to acknowledge and obey Your holy will. King Jesus, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: God of all comfort and protection, we bring before You all who are in any wise afflicted, all persons oppressed with poverty, sickness, unemployment, or other trouble of body or mind, especially those whom we name now in our hearts before You. . . . Grant them the consolations of which they have need, and overrule their present sufferings to their eternal good. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy upon those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a measure of Your love, taking them into your tender care. O Holy Spirit, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: We rejoice with thanksgiving in all those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your people, and bring us at length to the joy of Your everlasting kingdom. O Holy Spirit, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: All these things, and whatever else You see that we need, grant us, O Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ Your Son, who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

And now we pray as Your Son has taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

p. 15

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be Thy Name, Thy King - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

and for - give us our debts, as we for - give our debt - ors,

and lead us not in-to temp-ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er and the glo-ry For - ev-er! A-men.

PREFACE AND SANCTUS

Pastor: The love of God the Father, the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Holy things for holy people!

People: The gifts of God for the people of God!

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is good and right to do so!

Pastor: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who has given us Your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon Him that we might become sons of God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

The first system of musical notation for 'The Sanctus' is in treble and bass clefs, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/8 time. It consists of two staves. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and harmony. It includes a measure rest at the beginning of the treble staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

JS Bach (BWV 325)

arr. Ralph Mullenax and TJ Draper

(The congregation may be seated).

[Note to Visitors: If you are baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit you are welcome to partake of the Lord's Supper.]

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE BREAD: Prayer of thanksgiving, breaking the bread, distribution, eating together.

THE WINE: Prayer of thanksgiving, distribution, drink after you have taken your cup.

Hymn of Distribution

The God of Abraham Praise
p. 18

* We will sing vv. 1-3 during the distribution of the bread, and vv. 4-6 during the distribution of the wine.

1. The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove,
 2. The God of A - braham praise, at whose su - preme com - mand,
 3. He by him - self hath sworn, I on his oath de - pend;
 4. The good - ly land I see, with peace and plen - ty blest,

An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days and God of love.
 from earth I rise, and seek the joys at his right hand.
 I shall, on ea - gles' wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and end - less rest.

Je - ho - vah! Great I AM! by earth and heav'n con - fessed;
 I all on earth for - sake, its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r,
 I shall be - hold his face, I shall his pow'r a - dore,
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,

I bow and bless the sa - cred name, for - ev - er blest.
 and him my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for - ev - er - more.
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow, with mer - cy crowned.

5. There dwells the Lord our King, the Lord our Righteousness,
 triumphant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace.
 On Zion's sacred height his kingdom he maintains,
 and glorious with his saints in light forever reigns.
6. The whole triumphant host gives thanks to God on high;
 "Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" they ever cry.
 Hail, Abraham's God and mine! I join the heav'nly lays;
 all might and majesty are thine, and endless praise.

Thomas Olivers, 1770

LEONI 6.6.8.4.D,
 Jewish melody
 Arr. by Meyer Lyon, 1770

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: The body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you all steadfast in the true faith and in unity unto life everlasting, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.

People: Amen! (Please stand)

The Lord Commissions Us

Hymn of Dismissal


Psalm 20

(Verses 3 and 5 without accompaniment)


LEIGHTON, L.M.



1. ¹The LORD in your dis - tress at - tend; Let Ja - cob's
 2. ³May He your sac - ri - fice re - gard, And all your
 3. ⁵In your sal - va - tion we'll re - joice, In our God's
 4. ⁶I know now that the LORD de - fends And saves His



God ex - alt you still; ² Help from the ho - ly
 of - frings bear in mind; May He your heart's de -
 name our ban - ners raise. ⁴ O may Je - ho - vah
 own a - noint - ed king. From ho - ly heav'n He



tem - ple send And strength-en you from Zi - on's hill.
 sire re - ward, Ful - fill - ing all you have de - signed.
 hear your voice, Grant all you ask through all your days.
 an - swer sends; His right hand sav - ing power will bring.

5. ⁷In chariots some boast confidence,
 And on their horses some rely;
 But we boast only one defense,
 The name of God, the LORD Most High.

6. ⁸While we are raised and upright stand,
 Our foes are made to bow and fall.
⁹O save the king, LORD, by Your hand,
 And answer us the day we call.

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” - Matthew 28:18-20

Pastor: And now look up to receive the Lord’s blessing ...

THE BENEDICTION

THREEFOLD AMEN



POSTLUDE

Sermon Notes

What might Israel be led to think? That _____ is their new _____.

A _____ has to die in order to bring life.

Verses 29-31: Notice the forward and futuristic perspective of Jacob’s _____.

Jacob declares that he’s officially going to _____ Joseph’s two sons (vv. 5-6).

Bethlehem means “_____ of _____.”

In vv. 10-11 there’s a concentration of language on _____ and _____.

The “_____ Blessing” that Israel imparts on his newly adopted sons (vv. 13-16).

Joseph receives _____ treatment through his _____.

Jacob is operating by _____ and not by _____.

God will be _____ to Joseph.

Faith looks _____ and makes preparations for the _____.

We, like Rachel, like Jacob, and like Joseph _____ on the _____.