
(Parts of the service in **bold** are for everyone to speak in unison.)

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Video

Prayer of Invocation

**God of Elijah and the prophets, of Mary and Elizabeth, you are our help from age to age.
Accept our worship, our living sacrifice, and transform us by your Spirit, that, being many members of
one true body, we may dare to worship together in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Hymn 81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

(next page)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Sermon

(continued)

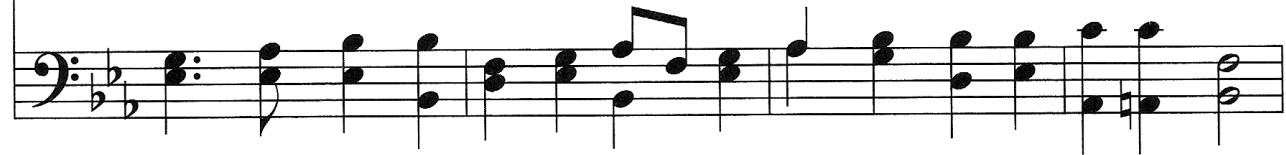
81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.



Affirmation of Faith

I believe in an innovative God,
who does not wait for us to find ourselves
but comes seeking us and calling us into a new way.

I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power
to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.

I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,
calling us to follow into an obedience which is true freedom
and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.

I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations
as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.

These things we believe, because God the innovator first believed.
Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn 726

The Summons

(next page)

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Good Shepherd Staff

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Bethany Benz-Whittington
Choir Director: Sara Tyburczy

Office Admin: Teddie McConnell
Accompanist: Dr. Jonathan Morris

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B \flat F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F \sharp m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
Gm7 B \flat Am7 B \flat Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B \flat F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.



Good Stuff @ Good Shepherd



Hi, friends,

Y'all have been so wonderfully patient as we navigate this virtual world of worship and fellowship and Bible study, and snags and inconveniences and technical difficulties. I learned long ago that when my lizard brain starts to react, I need to take a deep breath and ask myself "is this really that big of a deal?" Often the answer is no. So I've been doing that a lot lately. I hope you also have ways to calm your lizard brain.

As we move into yet another month of worshipping together online, I want to offer some wisdom from an executive presbyter in Cincinnati, who also happens to be an immunocytochemist. I honestly don't know what that is, but it sounds way more sciencey than anything I do, so I'm going to trust her.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency wrote an article, in which she shared some good advice. It's here:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/exploring-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-churches-and-worshiping-communities/>

She also shared with a small group of trusted friends these statistics about COVID-19:

"At about a 1% (10x that of the flu) death rate currently in the US, there are now long-term/possibly permanent sequelae (damages related to the virus after having recovered) reported: for every one death, there are an additional:

- ♦ 19 requiring hospitalization
- ♦ 18 with heart damage
- ♦ 10 with lung damage
- ♦ 3 with strokes
- ♦ 2 with neurological deterioration
- ♦ 2 with decreased cognitive function

[Meaning: for every 1 COVID-19 death, another 54 people will have COVID-19 related damage/sequelae.]

Lisa tells me that the source for this information comes "from ICD10 codes collected over 8 weeks on a CDC database [the public does] not have access to."

These are sobering statistics, ones we aren't generally privy to for whatever reason. I share all of this with you not to scare you or to demand that we all live in fear, but to remind us that our call is to love our neighbors. If we can prevent our neighbor from having lung damage or neurological deterioration, why not do so?

Your Session has been really wonderful in their deliberations about when to re-open. They very clearly love Good Shepherd and wish we could all see each other's faces and give hugs and high fives. But also, they very clearly love Good Shepherd and want everyone to come out alive and healthy. Balancing those two things is no easy task, and they have done it with such deep care and grace. So the next time you talk to one of your Session members, tell them thank you and that you love them, too. It's been an honor to serve alongside them, and I pray that God's guidance will be yours in the coming days and months.

Peace be with you all,
Bethany

(continued)

Happy Birthday!

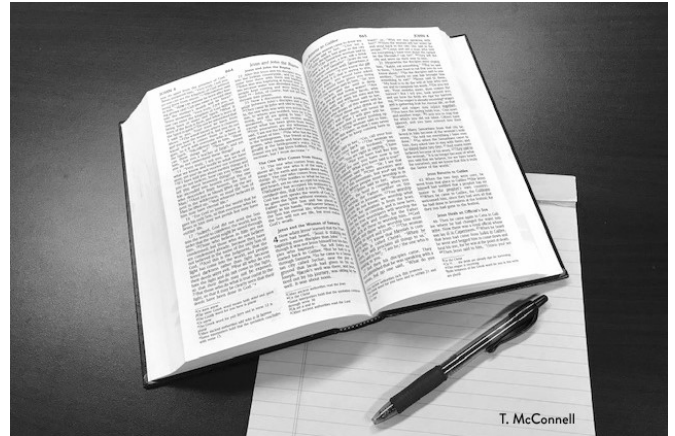
Erick Hartman 8/20

Carol Topp 8/23

Louise Schwartz 8/23

Pat McCune 8/23

Bill Keck 8/29



Our Zoom Bible Study is continuing the study of the book of Amos. This Tuesday at 11 am we'll be delving into Amos 5:7-6:14.

The link to join is the same each week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85967114684>

Joys and Concerns

"Thanks to all my church family who showed such care and concern following the death of my husband Duane. It was very much appreciated and warmed my heart. - Love, Barbara and family."

Please pray for Jerry Wetzel's grandson, Jay Wolcott, who had a kidney transplant; communities affected by COVID-19 here in the United States and throughout the world, and for our church, that it may thrive as it brings the good news to our area.

Let us know what's happening....

e-mail it to us at office@thegoodshepherd.org

Please honor the office hours (M-F 9am to 2pm) when contacting Teddie.