

Covenant Church Presbyterian Church in America Fayetteville, Arkansas

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP THE LORD'S DAY

December 25, 2022 5:00 p.m.

- † Call to Worship
- † Invocation

† Hymn TH#224

"Go, Tell it on the Mountain"

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 35:1-36:15

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ² "Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir, and prophesy against it, 3 and say to it, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, Mount Seir, and I will stretch out my hand against you, and I will make you a desolation and a waste. 4 I will lay your cities waste, and you shall become a desolation, and you shall know that I am the Lord. 5 Because you cherished perpetual enmity and gave over the people of Israel to the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, at the time of their final punishment,6 therefore, as I live, declares the Lord God, I will prepare you for blood, and blood shall pursue you; because you did not hate bloodshed, therefore blood shall pursue you. 7 I will make Mount Seir a waste and a desolation, and I will cut off from it all who come and go.8 And I will fill its mountains with the slain. On your hills and in your valleys and in all your ravines those slain with the sword shall fall. 9 I will make you a perpetual desolation, and your cities shall not be inhabited. Then you will know that I am the Lord. 10 "Because you said, 'These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will take possession of them'—although the Lord was there— 11 therefore, as I live, declares the Lord God, I will deal with you according to the anger and envy that you showed because of your hatred against them. And I will make myself known among them, when I judge you.¹² And you shall know that I am the Lord. "I have heard all the revilings that you uttered against the mountains of Israel, saying, 'They are laid desolate; they are given us to devour.'¹³ And you magnified yourselves against me with your mouth, and multiplied your words against me; I heard it. ¹⁴ Thus says the Lord God: While the whole earth rejoices, I will make you desolate. ¹⁵ As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so I will deal with you; you shall be desolate, Mount Seir, and all Edom, all of it. Then they will know that I am the Lord.

¹"And you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord. 2 Thus says the Lord God: Because the enemy said of you, 'Aha!' and, 'The ancient heights have become our possession,' 3 therefore prophesy, and say, Thus says the Lord God: Precisely because they made you desolate and crushed you from all sides, so that you became the possession of the rest of the nations, and you became the talk and evil gossip of the people, 4 therefore, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord God: Thus says the Lord God to the mountains and the hills, the ravines and the valleys, the desolate wastes and the deserted cities, which have become a prey and derision to the rest of the nations all around, 5 therefore thus says the Lord God: Surely I have spoken in my hot jealousy against the rest of the nations and against all Edom, who gave my land to themselves as a possession with wholehearted joy and utter contempt, that they might make its pasturelands a prey. ⁶ Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel, and say to the mountains and hills, to the ravines and valleys, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I have spoken in my jealous wrath, because you have suffered the reproach of the nations. ⁷Therefore thus says the Lord God: I swear that the nations that are all around you shall themselves suffer reproach. 8 "But you, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to my people Israel, for they will soon come home.9 For behold, I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown. 10 And I will multiply people on you, the whole house of Israel, all of it. The cities shall be inhabited and the waste places rebuilt. ¹¹ And I will multiply on you man and beast, and they shall multiply and be fruitful. And I will cause you to be inhabited as in your former times, and will do more good to you than ever before. Then you will know that I am the Lord. ¹² I will let people walk on you, even my people Israel. And they shall possess you, and you shall be their inheritance, and you shall no longer bereave them of children. 13 Thus says the Lord God: Because they

say to you, 'You devour people, and you bereave your nation of children,' ¹⁴ therefore you shall no longer devour people and no longer bereave your nation of children, declares the Lord God. ¹⁵ And I will not let you hear anymore the reproach of the nations, and you shall no longer bear the disgrace of the peoples and no longer cause your nation to stumble, declares the Lord God."

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Paul Sagan

"Go Tell it on the Mountain"

† Prayer

† Hymn of Preparation

#324 (TH #230)

"Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

† Closing Hymn

TH #227

"On Christmas Night All Christians Sing"

† Benediction

SERMON OUTLINE Dec. 25, 2022 5:00 p.m.

Ezekiel 35:1-36:15
"Go Tell it on the Mountain"

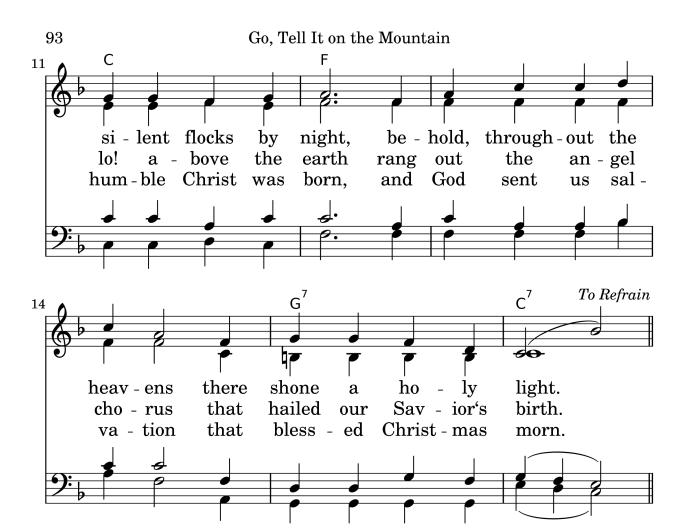
Introduction

- I. The Judgement of God (v. 35:1-15)
- II. The Promise of Restoration (v. 36:1-15)

Conclusion







324 Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor



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On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10

