



**Covenant Church
Presbyterian Church in America
Fayetteville, Arkansas**

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY**

**March 5, 2023
10:30 a.m.**

Welcome & Announcements

Church officer nominations are now open. There are nomination forms in the back of the sanctuary for you to fill out if you would like to put someone forward for the position. Please confirm with your nomination that he is willing to serve in this capacity **before** submitting the form.

Please prayerfully consider your Faith Promise commitments for the 2023-24 year. You can make your commitment by filling out a Faith Promise card that can be found in the seat-back pocket in front of you. If you have any questions, please speak with Matt Lee.

Weekly events in the church:

Women's Bible Study at the church every Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

The Men's weekly Tuesday Noon Bible Study. Meeting in-person at the church or via zoom. Link sent out via email weekly.

The Men's weekly Breakfast and Larger Catechism Bible Study every Friday at 6 a.m. at the church.

Prelude

† Call to Worship Psalm 27:1, 4

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His temple.

† Invocation & Lord's Prayer

Unison

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 of Praise

#163 (TH #376)

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

Confession of Sin

Book of Common Prayer

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults.

Restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:8–9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

† Hymn of Assurance

#278 (TH #307)

“Nothing but the Blood”

† Confession of Faith

Belgic Confession, Article 20

We believe that God — who is perfectly merciful and also very just — sent His Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by His most bitter passion and death. So God made known His justice toward His Son, who was charged with our sin,

and He poured out His goodness and mercy on us, who are guilty and worthy of damnation, giving to us His Son to die, by a most perfect love, and raising Him to life for our justification, in order that by Him we might have immortality and eternal life.

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

1 John 1:5–7

⁵ This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Jay Bruce

“What Real Fellowship Requires”

Worship with Tithes & Offerings

† Doxology

#567 (TH #731)

“Doxology”

† Prayer of Dedication

† Hymn of Preparation

#431 (TH #455)

“And Can It Be that I Should Gain”

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

† Closing Hymn

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

#453 (TH #501)

† Benediction

SERMON OUTLINE
March 5, 2023
10:30 a.m.

1 John 1:5-7
“What Real Fellowship Requires”

Introduction

I. Light (v. 5)

II. Truth (v. 6)

III. Blood (v. 7)

Conclusion

Devotional Readings

March 6–11, 2023

Monday: Read Isaiah 2:1–5.
Why should believers walk in the light?

Tuesday: Read James 1:16–18.
How can gratitude help us follow the Father of lights?

Wednesday: Read John 12:27–36.
Here on earth, who is our light?

Thursday: Read 2 Corinthians 6:14–18.
How should living in the light shape our lives?

Friday: Read 1 Peter 1:13–21.
Why must we walk in the light?

Saturday: Read Revelation 21:22–27.
In heaven, who is the light?

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

163



1. O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2. Lord, my God, I come be - fore thee, come thou al - so un - to me;
3. Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4. Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine,
5. Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



- where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for him who an - swers prayer.
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
 • let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en; may thy Word still o'er me shine
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



- Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, O en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 • so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in my strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows, here is balm for all our woes.



Nothing but the Blood

1. What can wash a - way my sin? Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 2. For my cleans - ing this I see: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
 3. Noth - ing can for sin a - tone: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
 4. This is all my hope and peace: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
 5. Now by this I'll o - ver - come: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;

What can make me whole a - gain? Noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 for my par - don this my plea: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 • naught of good that I have done: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 this is all my righ - teous - ness: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 now by this I'll reach my home: noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Refrain

O pre - cious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
 no oth - er fount I know, noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Doxology

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.

Thomas Ken, 1674

OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.
Louis Bourgeois, 1551

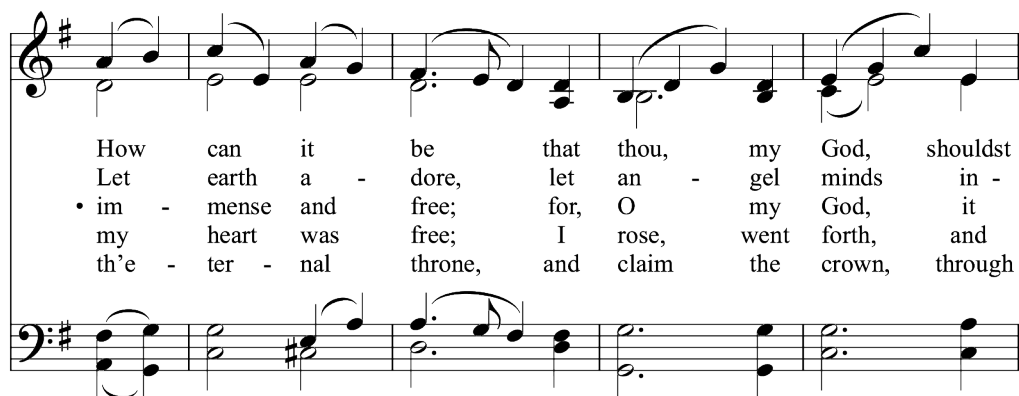
And Can It Be That I Should Gain

1. And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest
 2. 'Tis mys - t'ry all! Th'Im - mor - tal dies: who can ex -
 3. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove (so free, so
 4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay fast bound in
 5. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and

in the Sav - ior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his
 plore his strange de - sign? In vain the first - born ser - aph
 • in - fi - nite his grace!), hum - bled him - self (so great his
 sin and na - ture's night; thine eye dif - fused a quick - 'ning
 all in him, is mine! A - live in him, my liv - ing

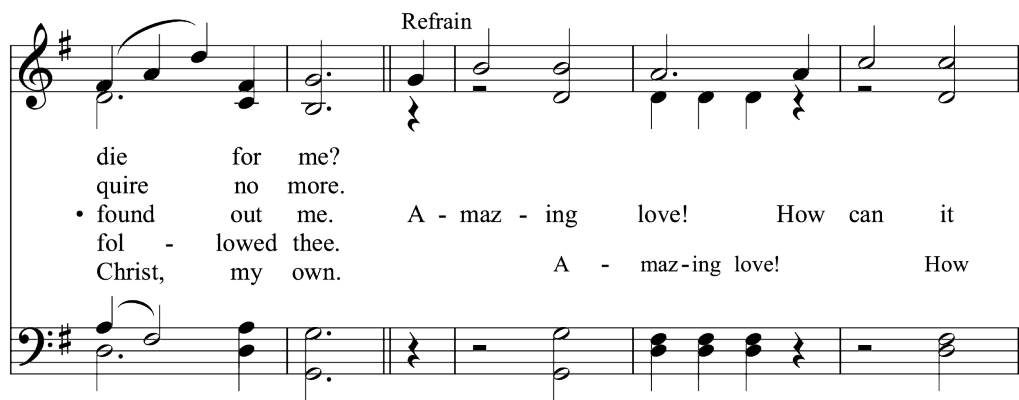
pain? For me, who him to death pur - sued? A - maz - ing love!
 tries to sound the depths of love di - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all!
 • love!), and bled for all his cho - sen race. 'Tis mer - cy all,
 ray; I woke, the dun - geon flamed with light; my chains fell off,
 Head, and clothed in righ - teous - ness di - vine, bold I ap - proach

SALVATION BY GRACE



How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst
 Let earth a - dore, let an - gel minds in -
 • im - mense and free; for, O my God, it
 my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and
 th'e - ter - nal throne, and claim the crown, through

Refrain



die for me?
 quire no more.
 • found out me. A - maz - ing love! How can it
 fol - lowed thee. A - maz-ing love! How
 Christ, my own.



be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 can it be that thou, my God,

Charles Wesley, 1738; alt. 1990

SAGINA 8.8.8.8.8.ref.
 Thomas Campbell, 1825

Just as I Am, without One Plea

453

1. Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy
 2. Just as I am, and wait - ing not to rid my
 3. Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
 4. Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,

blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me
 soul of one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with -
 heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in

come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
 wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
 because thy promise I believe,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6. Just as I am, thy love unknown
 has broken ev'ry barrier down;
 now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.