



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

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY
May 21, 2023
10:30 a.m.**

Welcome & Announcements

All women in the church are invited to a bridal shower lunch for Esther Atkinson at the church on Thursday, May 25th at 12 noon. Esther and William are registered at Target and Amazon.

Women's Book study will have their first meeting on May 25th at 9:30AM. The first book being discussed is "Seven Churches, Four Horsemen, One Lord" by James Montgomery Boice. For more information contact Judy Smith.

Covenant church has scheduled our VBS for the week of July 17, in the mornings. More details to follow. If you want to volunteer, please contact Kathryn Bruce.

Introduce Gideon's International: Thomas Aldridge. (5 min. presentation)

† Call to Worship

Psalm 104:1-2, & 33-34

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent. May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works. I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

† 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

233 (TH#75)

"O Father You are Sovereign"

Confession of Sin

Adapted from Isaiah 59:9b & 1 John 2:1-2, 5-6

Almighty God, we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom. For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities: transgressing, and denying the LORD, and turning back from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words.

But we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, who is our mediator and the propitiation for our sins. Forgive us and cleanse us for his sake, and make us walk in the same way in which he walked, perfecting us in your love. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 12:2

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

† Hymn of Assurance

#463 (TH #535)

"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"

Q. 37. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. Christ the Son of God became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance, and born of her, yet without sin.

Q. 38. Why was it requisite that the mediator should be God?

A. It was requisite that the mediator should be God, that he might sustain and keep the human nature from sinking under the infinite wrath of God, and the power of death; give worth and efficacy to his sufferings, obedience, and intercession; and to satisfy God's justice, procure his favor, purchase a peculiar people, give his Spirit to them, conquer all their enemies, and bring them to everlasting salvation.

Q. 39. Why was it requisite that the mediator should be man?

A. It was requisite that the mediator should be man, that he might advance our nature, perform obedience to the law, suffer and make intercession for us in our nature, have a fellow-feeling of our infirmities; that we might receive the adoption of sons, and have comfort and access with boldness unto the throne of grace.

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

1 John 4:1-6

Page 1023 in the pew Bible

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Jay Bruce

“The Spirit of Truth in a World of Lies”

Worship with Tithes & Offerings

† **Doxology**

#567 (TH #731)

“Doxology”

† Prayer of Dedication

† **Hymn of Preparation**

#336 (TH #247)

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

† **Closing Hymn**

#403 (TH #345)

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

† Benediction

SERMON OUTLINE

May 21, 2023

10:30 a.m.

1 John 4:1-6

“The Spirit of Truth in a World of Lies”

Introduction

I. Reject the lies (vv. 1–3)

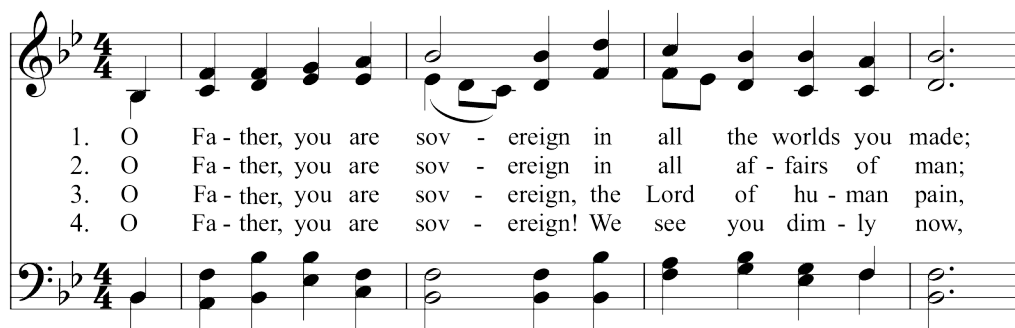
II. Remember the victory (v. 4)

III. Receive the truth (v. 5–6)

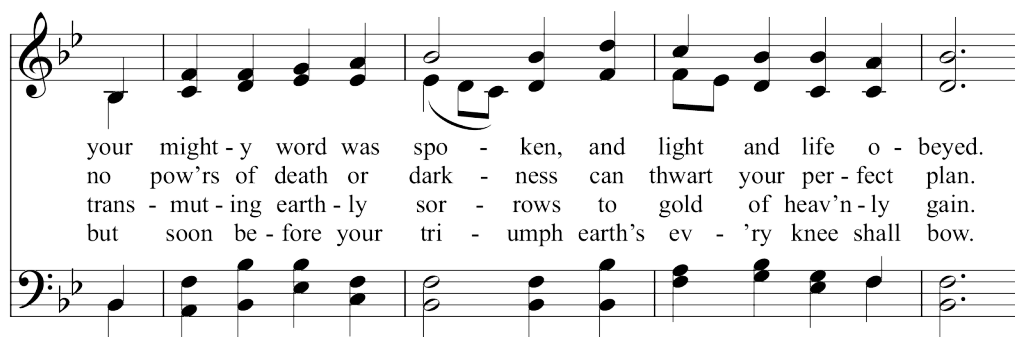
Conclusion

O Father, You Are Sovereign


233




1. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all the worlds you made;
 2. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all af - fairs of man;
 3. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign, the Lord of hu - man pain,
 4. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign! We see you dim - ly now,



your might - y word was spo - ken, and light and life o - beyed.
 no pow'rs of death or dark - ness can thwart your per - fect plan.
 trans - mut - ing earth - ly sor - rows to gold of heav'n - ly gain.
 but soon be - fore your tri - umph earth's ev - 'ry knee shall bow.



Your voice com - mands the sea - sons and bounds the o - cean's shore,
 All chance and change tran - scend - ing, su - preme in time and space,
 All e - vil o - ver - rul - ing, as none but Con - qu'ror could,
 With this glad hope be - fore us, our faith springs up a - new:



sets stars with - in their cours - es and stills the tem - pest's roar.
 you hold your trust - ing chil - dren se - cure in your em - brace.
 your love pur - sues its pur - pose—our souls' e - ter - nal good.
 our sov - ereign Lord and Sav - ior, we trust and wor - ship you!

ADOPTION

462 Behold the Amazing Gift of Love

1. Be - hold th'a-maz-ing gift of love the Fa - ther hath be - stowed
 2. Con - cealed as yet this hon - or lies, by this dark world un - known,
 3. High is the rank we now pos - sess, but high - er we shall rise,
 4. Our souls, we know, when he ap - pears, shall bear his im - age bright,
 5. A hope so great and so di - vine may tri - als well en - dure,

on us, the sin - ful sons of men, to call us sons of God!
 a world that knew not when he came, e'en God's e - ter - nal Son.
 • though what we shall here - af - ter be is hid from mor - tal eyes.
 for all his glo - ry, full dis - closed, shall o - pen to our sight.
 and pu - ri - fy our souls from sin, as Christ him - self is pure.

Isaac Watts, 1709; alt.

ST. STEPHEN C.M.
William Jones, 1789

463 O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

1. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Vast, un - mea - sured,
 2. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Spread his praise from
 3. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Love of ev - 'ry

SANCTIFICATION

bound - less, free, roll - ing as a might - y o - cean in its
 shore to shore; how he lov - eth, ev - er lov - eth, chang - eth
 love the best: 'tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing, 'tis a

full - ness o - ver me. Un - der - neath me, all a - round me,
 nev - er, nev - er - more; how he watch - es o'er his loved ones,
 ha - ven sweet of rest. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus!

is the cur - rent of thy love; lead - ing on - ward,
 died to call them all his own; how for them he
 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me; and it lifts me

lead - ing home - ward, to thy glo - rious rest a - bove.
 in - ter - ced - eth, watch - eth o'er them from the throne.
 up to glo - ry, for it lifts me up to thee.

DOXOLOGIES

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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

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

1. O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down;
 2. What thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain;
 3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est Friend,

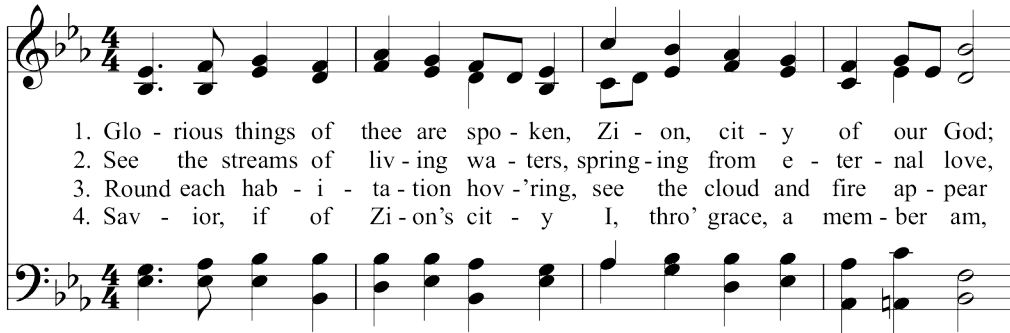
now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 for this, thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?

O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, what bliss 'til now was thine!
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve thy place;
 O make me thine for - ev - er; and should I faint - ing be,

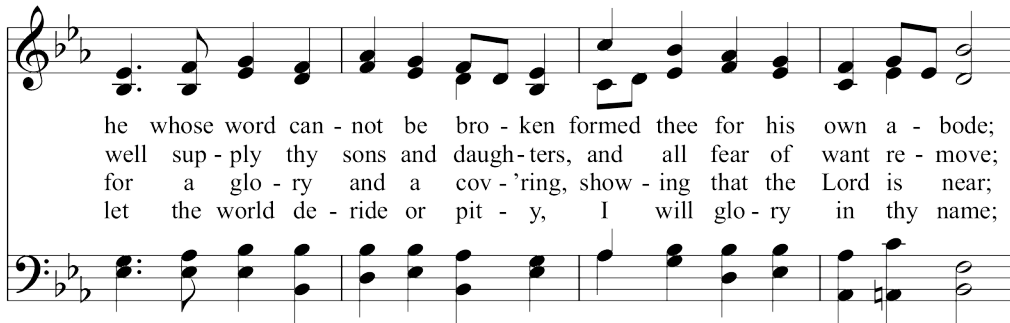
Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 look on me with thy fa - vor, vouch - safe to me thy grace.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

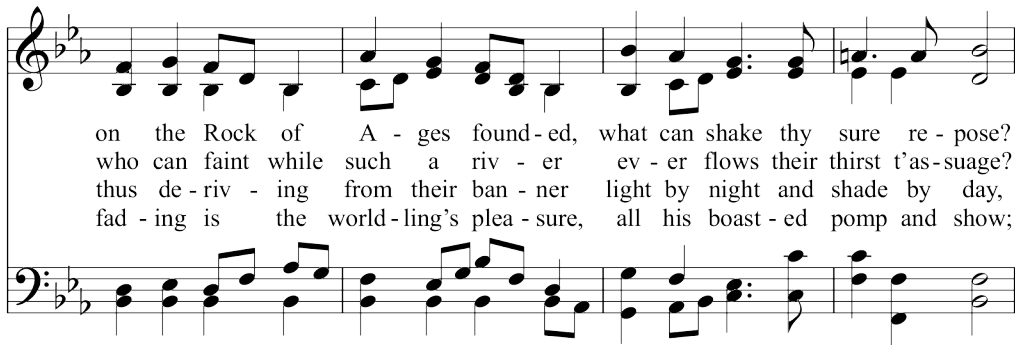
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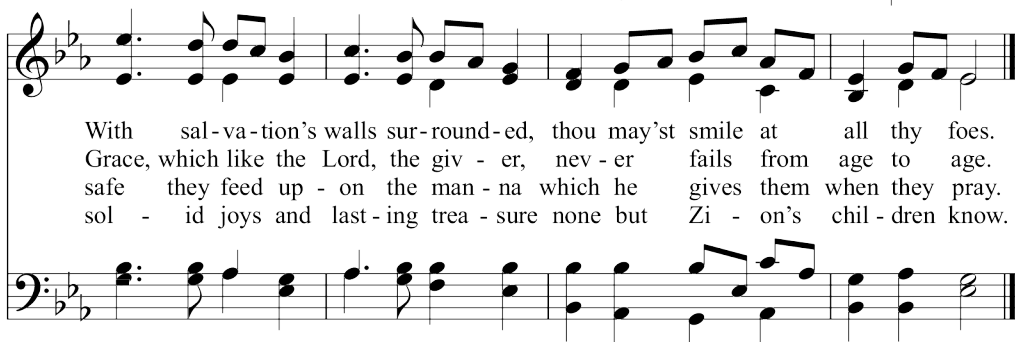
1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
 2. See the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,
 3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
 4. Sav - ior, if of Zi - on's cit - y I, thro' grace, a mem - ber am,



he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed thee for his own a - bode;
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move;
 for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near;
 let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in thy name;



on the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
 who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows their thirst t'as - suage?
 thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 fad - ing is the world - ling's plea - sure, all his boast - ed pomp and show;



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 Grace, which like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which he gives them when they pray.
 sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sure none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.