



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

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY
July 16, 2023
10:30 a.m.**

Welcome & Announcements

We will be hosting our VBS for grades Pre-K through 6th. 9AM-Noon this week. Please contact Kathryn Bruce if you have any questions.

Please join us next Sunday morning at 9 a.m. for our study of J. Gresham Machen's "Christianity and Liberalism." Next week, Jay Bruce will lead us again as we continue our study through Chapter Four: "The Bible." We have PDF chapters of the book available for free download on the church website.

The Women's Book club will have its next meeting on July 27th at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the book "Gentle and Lowly" by Dane Ortlund. Contact Judy Smith for more details.

Please join us on July 30th for our fellowship meal.

† Call to Worship

Psalms 48:1-3

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain, ² beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King. ³ Within her citadels God has made Himself known as a fortress.

† 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

#403 (TH#345)

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

Prayer of Confession of Sin

Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.

In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

† Hymn of Assurance

#429 (TH #457)

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

† Confession of Faith

The Apostle’s Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

2 John 1:1-3

Page 1025 in your pew Bible

¹The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, ²because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: ³Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Paul Sagan

“Truth For the Elect”

Worship with Tithes & Offerings

† **Doxology**

#567 (TH #731)

“Doxology”

† Prayer of Dedication

† **Hymn of Preparation**

#425 (TH #469)

“How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place”

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

† **Closing Hymn**

#404 (TH #347)

“The Church’s One Foundation”

† Benediction

SERMON OUTLINE
July 16, 2023
10:30 a.m.

2 John 1:1-3
“Truth For the Elect”

Introduction

- I. From the Elder to the Elect Lady (v. 1)
- II. The Truth that Abides in Us (v. 2)
- III. Grace, Mercy, and Peace Produces Truth and Love (v. 3)

Conclusion

Devotional Readings

July 17-22, 2023

Monday: Read 1 John 1:1a; 1 Peter 5:1; 3 John 1

What does this introduction say about the importance of elders?

Tuesday: Read 2 John 1:1b; 2 John 1:5, 13; Ephesians 1:4;

1 Thessalonians 1:3-4, 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

Who is the elect lady? What does it mean to be “elect”?

Wednesday: Read 2 John 2; 1 Peter 1:23-25

How long will the truth of the Gospel remain?

Thursday: Read 2 John 3; Romans 1:7; 1 Timothy 1:2

How are grace, mercy, and peace from the Father and Jesus related?

Friday: Read 2 John 4; Philippians 4:10; 1 Thessalonians 2:19


What is John’s cause for rejoicing because of the elect lady’s children?

Saturday: Read Psalm 12


What is the consequence of a people who reject the word of God

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;



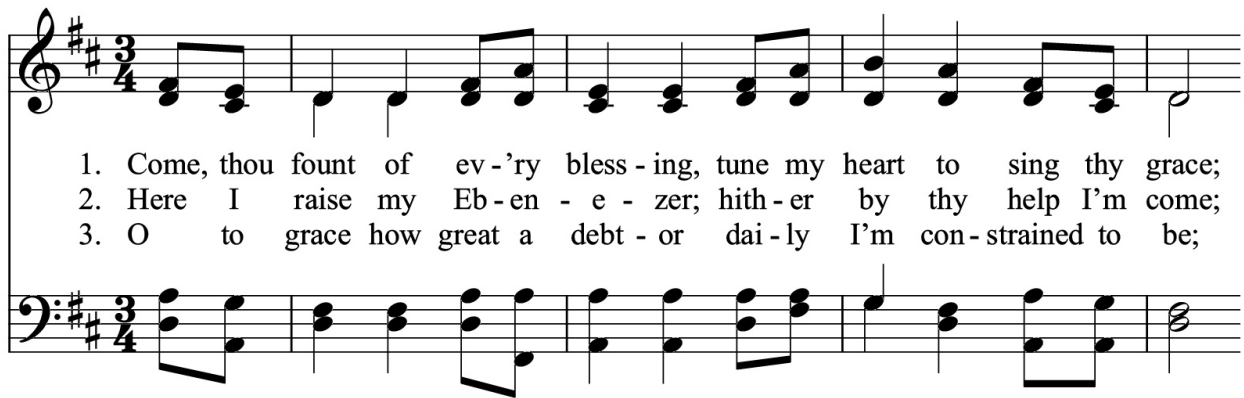
on the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
 who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows their thirst t'as - suage?
 thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 fad - ing is the world - ling's plea - sure, all his boast - ed pomp and show;



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.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

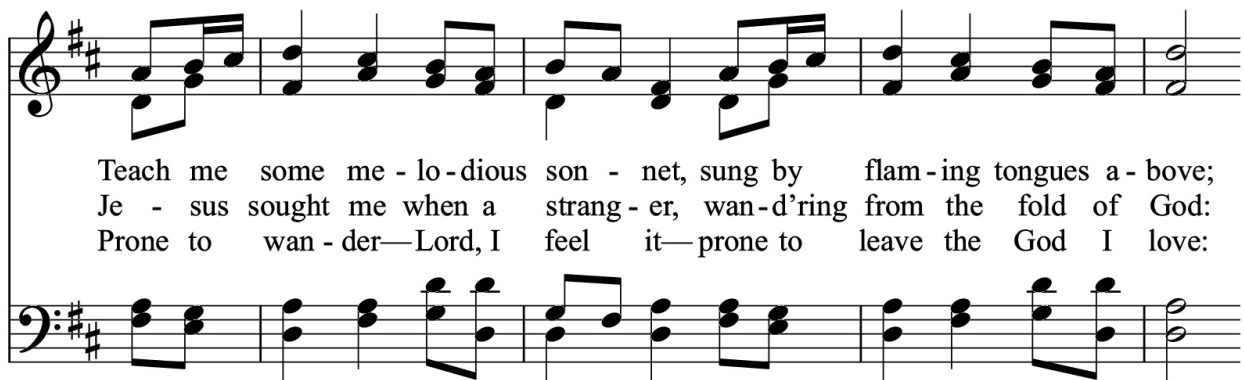
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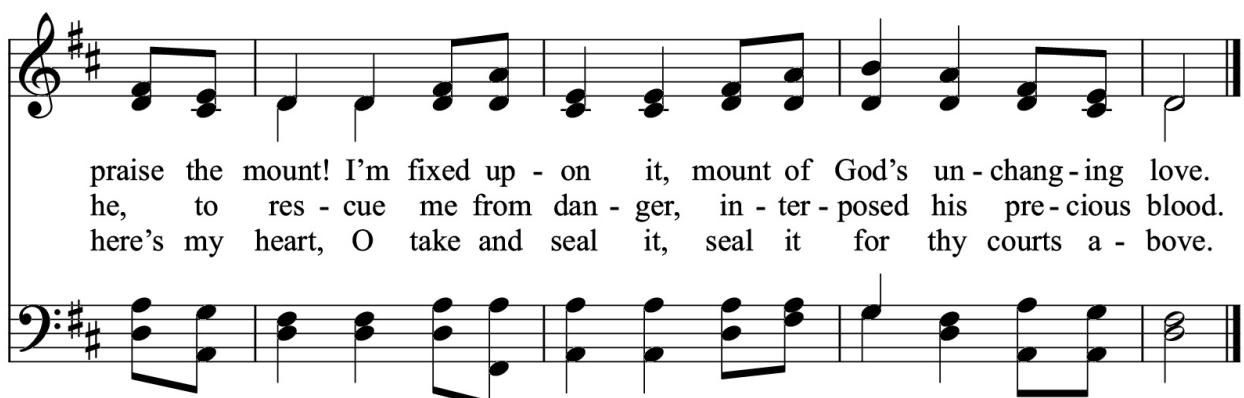
1. Come, thou fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2. Here I raise my Eb-en - e - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God:
 Prone to wan - der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang-ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

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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

How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place

1. How sweet and awe - some is the place
 2. While all our hearts and all our songs
 3. "Why was I made to hear your voice,
 4. 'Twas the same love that spread the feast

with Christ with - in the doors, while ev - er - last - ing
 join to ad - mire the feast, each of us cries, with
 and en - ter while there's room, when thou - sands make a
 that sweet - ly drew us in; else we had still re -

love dis - plays the choic - est of her stores.
 thank - ful tongue, "Lord, why was I a guest?
 wretch - ed choice, and rath - er starve than come?"
 fused to taste, and per - ished in our sin.


5. Pity the nations, O our God,
 constrain the earth to come;
 send your victorious Word abroad,
 and bring the strangers home.

6. We long to see your churches full,
 that all the chosen race
 may, with one voice and heart and soul,
 sing your redeeming grace.



The Church's One Foundation




1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4. The church shall nev - er per - ish! Her dear Lord to de - fend,


she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word:
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end;

from heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 a - gainst both foe and trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.



5. 'Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

6. Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

Samuel J. Stone, 1866

AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

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1. I love thy king - dom, Lord, the house of thine a - bode,
2. I love thy church, O God: her walls be - fore thee stand,
3. For her my tears shall fall, for her my prayers as - cend;
4. Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heav'n - ly ways,

the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
dear as the ap - ple of thine eye and grav - en on thy hand.
to her my cares and toils be giv'n, 'til toils and cares shall end.
her sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

5. Jesus, thou Friend divine,
our Savior and our King,
thy hand from ev'ry snare and foe
shall great deliv'rance bring.

6. Sure as thy truth shall last,
to Zion shall be giv'n
the brightest glories earth can yield,
and brighter bliss of heav'n.

Timothy Dwight, 1800

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