

ORDER OF WORSHIP

FALL 2021 STATED MEETING

Call to Worship (adapted from *Unfolding Light* by Steve Garnaas-Holmes)

Ruth Elswood

One: Let our ears be opened,

All: to hear the song of God.

One: Let our eyes be opened,

All: to see with love.

One: Let our hearts be opened,

All: to trust the blessing.

One: Let our minds be opened,

All: to accept what we have not yet seen.

One: Let our lips be opened,

All: to utter grace.

One: Let the Heavens be opened,

All: that we may be close to God's Spirit

One: Let our Souls be opened,

All: to receive the Beloved who is here.

One: May we your people be opened

All: to the miracle among us.

* **Opening Hymn** – *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

Glory to God #35 (Lyrics on p. 3)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, We confess that in these days the word Halleluiah often gets caught in our throat as we choke down tears, or frustration, or worry. We cannot praise you with our whole selves because too much of who we are is bound up, exhausted, and fighting to survive. We need your grace as we have never needed it before. We need your example of care and compassion to remind us to be gentle with ourselves and with others. Forgive us for all the ways that we fall short of who you are calling us to be. Take the burdens we carry of guilt, and judgment, and shame. Renew our spirits and make us whole, we humbly pray. Amen

Words of Assurance

Beloved, the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. There is nothing we can do to make God love us more. And there is also nothing we can do that will make God love us less. Friends believe this good news: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven.

Prayer for Illumination

Melanie Marsh Baum

Scripture Reading – Psalm 146

Morning Message – *With My Whole Heart I will Praise*

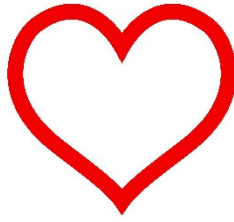
Special Music – *God of the Psalmists*

Rev. Charles Freeman

Offering – Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Hunter Camp

----- *After a short break, the meeting will continue.* -----



----- *Worship continues at the end of the business meeting.* -----

Affirmation of Faith

Andrea Mogg-Jacque

**Christ Jesus,
Child of Mary, God with us,
King and Suffering Servant,
High Priest and Lamb of God,
Teacher and Word,
living, suffering, dying and rising again,
you challenge, redeem and restore us.**

**Holy Spirit,
Breath of life,
Counsellor and Comforter,
Fire of God,
you inspire, sustain, and purify us.**

**Forming us in the nature of Christ,
transforming us with your gifts,
you bind us together in one body, your church.
God of all creation,
made known to us in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit,
your boundless love exposes our rebellion and greed.**

**A mother who will not abandon her child,
a father who welcomes the prodigal home,
you forgive, accept and embrace us
and call us into loving communion forever.
In life and death we belong to you,
everlasting God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

(Adopted by 1993 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand)

The Lord's Supper

Amy Camp

* **Closing Hymn** – *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

Glory to God #611 (Lyrics on p. 4)

Charge and Benediction

Joe Albright

Hymn Lyrics

Opening Hymn

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye hear; now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth;
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaining!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

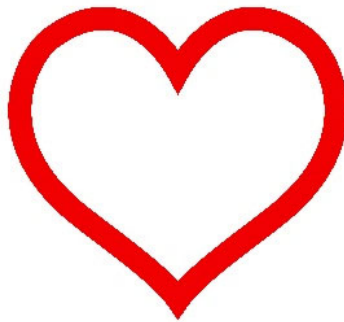
Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

Words by Joachim Neander (1680); Translator: Catherine Winkworth (1863)
Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN
Public Domain

Special Music

God of the Psalmists

TEXT: Charles Spence Freeman, June 2021.
MUSIC: Suggested tune SYMPHONY, Johannes Brahms, 1877; arr. Fred Bock, 1976.
Arrangement copyright 1976 Fred Bock Music Co. All rights reserved.



Closing Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee!

Mortals, join the happy chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee
Author: Henry Van Dyke (1907)
Tune: HYMN TO JOY
Public Domain

Worship Participants

Ruth Elswood, Covenant Presbyterian Church

Charles Freeman, Grace Presbyterian Church; accompanied by Julia Freeman (Vocals and Piano)
and Gabriel Johnston (Organist)

Melanie Marsh Baum, Community Presbyterian Church

Hunter Camp, Memorial Presbyterian Church

Andrea Mogg-Jacque, Ruling Elder, Presbyterian Church at Marion Oaks

Amy Camp, Memorial Presbyterian Church

Joe Albright, Pastor, Geneva Presbyterian Church / Moderator, Presbytery of St. Augustine