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# Wednesdays in Lent

First Presbyterian Church  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Order of Worship

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

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## The Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

Gymnopédie

Erik Satie

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Forgetting what lies behind  
and straining forward to what lies ahead,  
**we press on toward the goal**  
**for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.**

✠HYMN 610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

✠EVENING PRAYER (*unison*)

**God of the covenant, as the forty days of deluge swept away the world's corruption and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life, so in the saving flood of Baptism we are washed clean and born again. Throughout these forty days, unseal within us the wellspring of your grace, cleanse our hearts of all that is not holy, and cause your gift of new life to flourish once again. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

## God's People Hear the Word

FIRST READING

Psalms 131

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up;  
my eyes are not raised too high;  
I do not occupy myself with things  
too great and too marvelous for me.  
But I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
like a weaned child with its mother;  
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.  
O Israel, hope in the Lord  
from this time on and forevermore.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked

Geoffrey O'hara

*I walked today where Jesus walked, in days of long ago; I wandered down each path He knew, with rev'rent step and slow. Those little lanes, they have not changed a sweet peace fills the air. I walked today where Jesus walked, and felt His presence there. My pathway led through Bethlehem, Ah!*

*Mem'ries ever sweet; the little hills of Galilee, that knew those childish feet; the Mount of Olives: hallowed scenes that Jesus knew before; I saw the mighty Jordan roll as in the days of yore. I knelt today where Jesus knelt, where all alone He prayed; the Garden of Gethsemane my heart felt unafraid! I picked my heavy burden up and with Him by my side, I climbed the Hill of Calvary, I climbed the Hill of Calvary, I climbed the Hill of Calvary, where on the Cross He died! I walked today where Jesus walked and felt Him close to me!*

**SECOND READING**                      Romans 3:21-31

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of gentiles also? Yes, of gentiles also, since God is one, and he will justify the circumcised on the ground of faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. Do we then overthrow the law through this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

**EVENING HOMILY**                      Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

**The Response of God's People**

**PASTORAL PRAYER** – The Lord's Prayer

**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 335**                      The Foolish in Their Hearts Deny                      MAPLE AVENUE

✠**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**                      Fantasia in G Minor                      *Johann Pachelbel*  
✠ *Those who are able to stand comfortably may do so*

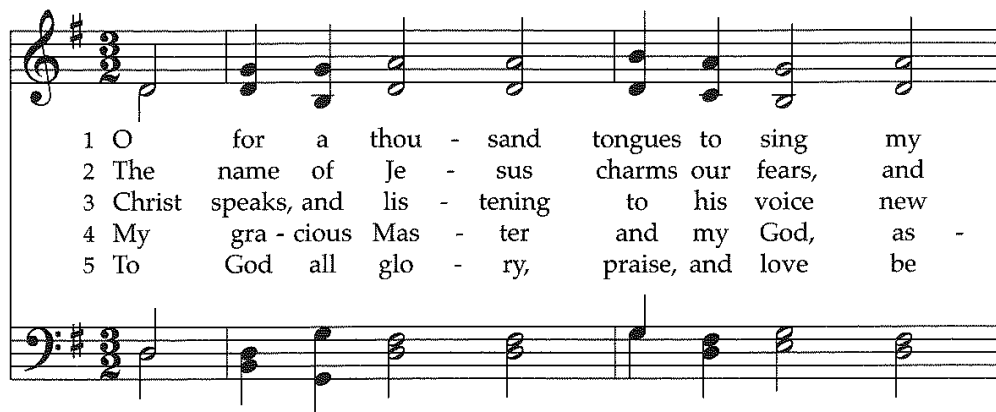
**TONIGHT'S PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor / Head of Staff; Dr. William Jeffrey Jones, Minister of Music / Organist; Dr. Edgar Highberger, Lector; Mr. Gregg Brandt, Soloist; Mr. Rick Terrill, Video Technician

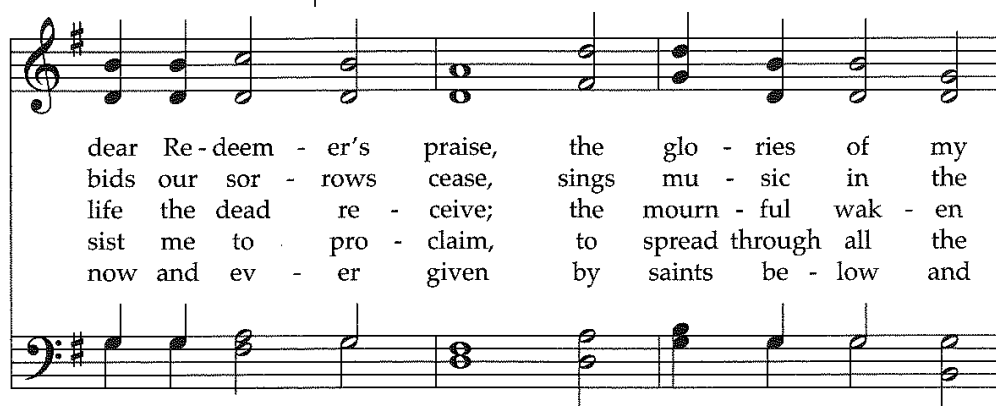
*Music for this evening's service has been made possible, in part, by Edgar and Joanne Highberger and by gifts to the Dr. Edgar S. Highberger Music Fund.*

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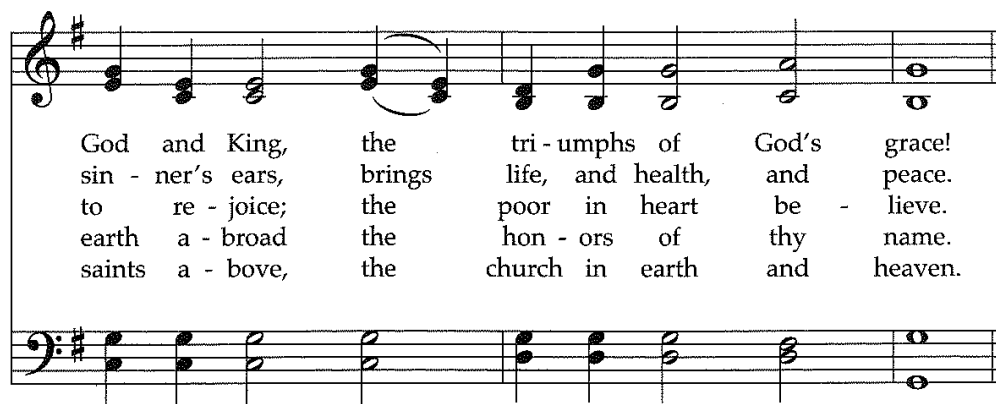
## O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing 610



1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my  
 2 The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and  
 3 Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new  
 4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -  
 5 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be



dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my  
 bids our sor - rows cease, sings mu - sic in the  
 life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful wak - en  
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the  
 now and ev - er given by saints be - low and



God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace!  
 sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.  
 to re - jice; the poor in heart be - lieve.  
 earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.  
 saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.

## SPANISH

1 *Mil voces para celebrar  
 a mi Libertador,  
 las glorias de su majestad,  
 los triunfos de su amor.*

## KOREAN

1 만 입이 내게 있으면  
 그 입 다 가지고  
 내 구주 주신 은총을  
 늘 찬송하겠네

This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura;  
 Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Spanish Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

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AZMON  
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# 335 The Foolish in Their Hearts Deny

(Psalm 14)

Capo 3: (Em) (Em7) (C) (G) (C)  
 Gm Gm7 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

1 The fool - ish in their hearts de - ny the ho - ly  
 2 The Lord finds all have turned a - side from do - ing  
 3 But they will all be ter - ri - fied, for God is

(Am7) (Bsus) (B) (Em) (Em7) (C) (Bm)  
 Cm7 Dsus D Gm Gm7 E<sup>b</sup> Dm

God who reigns: "There is no God! There is no God," this  
 what is right, that all have strayed, not one does good, not  
 on the throne. Though e - vil ones op - press the poor, you,

(C) (D) (Em) (Cmaj7)  
 E<sup>b</sup> F Gm E<sup>b</sup>maj7

gen - er - a - tion claims. Our God looks down on  
 one with - in God's sight. Have they no knowl - edge,  
 Lord, will help your own. O Lord, send us de -

(D) (Bm7) (C) (Am7) (Bsus) (B) (Em)  
 F Dm7 E<sup>b</sup> Cm7 Dsus D Gm

hu - man - kind with pen - e - trat - ing eye to see' if  
 who con - sume God's own as they eat bread, who do not  
 liv - er - ance; re - store us; hear our voice. When Zi - on's

(Em7) (C) (Bm) (C) (D) (Em)[E]  
 Gm7 E<sup>b</sup> Dm E<sup>b</sup> F Gm [G]

there are an - y wise who seek the Lord on high.  
 call up - on the Lord, who will not bow their head?  
 res - to - ra - tion comes, God's peo - ple will re - joice.

This text paraphrases Psalm 14 (later repeated as Psalm 53), an unusual psalm because it deals with a general social evil rather than recounting the psalmist's own slight or affliction. Yet it ends on a note of confidence that God will vindicate the People of the Covenant.