

NORTHRIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 10, 2021 10:00 A.M.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

GATHERING

Prelude

The Good Shepherd

Maria Loupe

Chiming of the Hour
Welcome

PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

✠ Call to Worship

✠ Gathering Hymn #687 Our God Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

✠ Prayer of Confession

“Fear is so fundamental to the human condition that all the great spiritual traditions originate in an effort to overcome its effects on our lives. With different words, they all proclaim the same core message: “Be not afraid.” Though the traditions vary widely in the ways they propose to take us beyond fear, all hold out the same hope: we can escape fear’s paralysis and enter a state of grace where encounters with otherness will not threaten us, but will enrich our work and our lives.”

-Parker Palmer

REFLECT

What fears do you have about our country?

What fears do you have about those who are on the other side of the aisle from you?

What fears do you have for yourself and your family?

In what ways have these fears paralyzed you?

When have you lived your fears instead of your hopes?

When have you resisted hearing the words “Be not afraid”?

✠ Assurance of Pardon

✠ Passing the Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

✠ Sung Response

Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Chosen and beloved, you are my own.

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you: by your name I called you for my own.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 46:1-5	(O.T.p.517)
Selected from Jeremiah 29:4-14	(O.T.p.731)
Psalm 98:7-9	(O.T.p.552)
John 3:17-21	(N.T.p.94)
Psalm 46:6-11	(O.T.p.517)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Affirmation of Faith

The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit.

As the church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely his property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance.

We reject the false doctrine as though the church were permitted to abandon the form of its message and order to its own pleasure or to changes in prevailing ideological and political convictions.

from The Theological Declaration of Barmen

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(Hymn #756)

**O God of every nation, of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.**

(silence)

**From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night,
from pride of race and station and blindness to your way,
deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.**

(silence)

**Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign
and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.**

(silence)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Call to Give

(To give via text, send a text message to [1-844-958-4345](https://www.8449584345.com) with the amount of the gift.
If you pledge, this offering will be applied to your pledge.)

Offertory

Meditation on AMERICA

Bryan Page

✠ **Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore—One holy God, whom we adore. Amen.**

✠ **Prayer of Dedication**

SENDING

✠ **Closing Hymn # 307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

✠ **Charge and Benediction**

**Go out into God's world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good;
return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;
support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons;
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Closing Voluntary

EIN' FESTE BURG (Rhythmic)

Luther, arr. Page

Leading worship today:

Rev. Elizabeth Lyles Swetenburg, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

Bryan Page, Director of Music Ministries

Julia Boudreaux, Organist

✠ Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Christ, all crea - tures

here be - low; Praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more - One

ho - ly God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

O God of Every Nation 756

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en those who la - bor that all may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand.
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

Where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

If we truly believe that God cares for all people, we cannot limit our prayers and songs for peace to the welfare of our own nation, no matter how much we may love it. This challenging text is set to a stirring Welsh tune, named for a hamlet with a prominent Baptist chapel.

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.