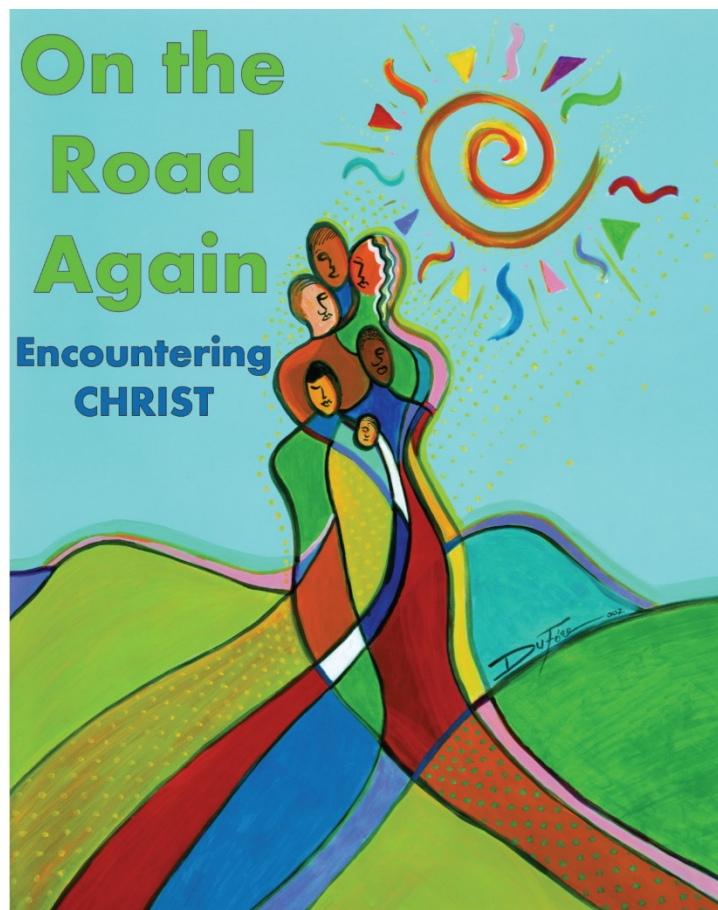


**Pennsylvania Southeast  
Conference  
of the United Church of Christ**



**Large Print Bulletin**

**Friday Evening Worship  
2019 Annual Meeting**

- Praise Music offered by musicians from Grace Christian Fellowship, UCC

## Praise and Worship Music

### **Lord You're Mighty (Praise and Worship Song)**

Say, Lord, You're mighty (Lord, You're mighty)

Lord, You're mighty (Lord, You're mighty)

Oh Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth  
You set Your glory above the heavens and the earth  
When I think of all You've made, the sun, the moon and the stars  
No praise is high enough to express how great You are

What a mighty God we serve  
Mighty God we serve  
Angels would bow before the mighty God we serve  
What a mighty God we serve  
Mighty God we serve  
Let heaven and the earth adore the mighty God we serve

Say, Lord, You're mighty (Lord, You're mighty)  
Lord, You're mighty (Lord, You're mighty)

Oh Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth  
You set Your glory above the heavens and the earth  
When I think of all You've made, the sun, the moon and the stars  
No praise is high enough to express how great You are

What a mighty God we serve  
Mighty God we serve  
Angels would bow before the mighty God we serve  
What a mighty God we serve  
Mighty God we serve  
Let heaven and the earth adore the mighty God we serve

Hallelujah (Hallelujah)  
All glory (all glory)

All honor (all honor)  
All praise (all praise)  
All praise (all praise)  
Hallelujah (Hallelujah)  
All glory (all glory)  
All honor (all honor)  
All praise (all praise)  
All praise (all praise)

To the mighty God we serve  
Mighty God we serve  
Angels would bow before the mighty God we serve  
Lord, You're mighty (Lord, You're mighty)

What a mighty God we serve  
What mighty God we serve  
Angels would bow before Him  
What a mighty God we serve

### Call to Worship

L: Saul, Saul, Why do you persecute me?

**P: Who are you Lord?**

L: I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. Get up and go to Damascus – more information will be given to you.

**P: Okay – where should I go?**

L: Follow me.

*Please Stand as you are able*

### Opening Hymn

We've come this far by faith, Leaning on the Lord  
Trusting in His holy word, He's never failed me yet  
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, Can't turn around , We've come this far by faith  
(Repeat Verse 1)

I will trust in the Lord (x3) Till I die

I will trust in the Lord (x3) Till I die

I'm gonna stay on bended knee (x3) Till I die

I'm gonna stay on bended knee (x3) Till I die  
I'm gonna treat everybody right (x3) Till I die  
I'm gonna treat everybody right (x3) Till I die  
(Repeat Verse 1)

*Please be seated*

Confession (based on Acts 9)

L: Just as Jesus called Saul, He also calls each one of us - and all of our churches.

**P: Sometimes we hear God's call, but we refuse to listen. Sometimes we say no.**

L: Let us confess our sins together.

**All: Holy God, it is hard to admit that our vision is often myopic. If we looked, we would see the needs around us. If we asked, we would hear Your words giving us direction. If we asked, we would find new ways to offer Your story. We have buried our heads, choosing what we have been over what we might become. Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence*

L: Let us continue.

**All: Holy God, like Saul, we are all instruments of grace, yet we too often find ourselves stuck. We are stuck in the past, or in our traditions, or in faith practices that may not serve our communities anymore. Forgive us if we have ignored Your call to this new century. Forgive us if we have refused the new things You are doing all around us. Forgive us if we have spent so much time looking backward that we cannot see where we are going. Christ, have mercy.**

*Silence*

L: Let us continue.

**All: Holy God, lift the scales from our eyes. Open our ears to hear. Speak to us Your words of hope and new life, so that Your Spirit might continue to move through us and around us, bringing Your message of peace, justice, equality, and radical inclusion to our neighborhoods, our country, and to the world. Forgive us for thinking too small. Forgive us for doubting Your transformative power that is in us and around us. Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence*

L: Hear the Good News – God is still speaking and moving and transforming our lives. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

L: As forgiven and reconciled people, I invite you to stand and greet each other with signs of peace and love and joy.

Meditation Selection

**For Your Glory**

Lord if I Find favor in Your sight  
Lord please, Hear my hearts cry  
I'm desperately waiting  
To be where You are  
I'll cross the hottest desert  
I'll travel near or far

For Your glory  
I will do anything  
Just to see You  
To behold You as my King  
(Repeat)

Lord if I Find favor in Your sight  
Lord please, Hear my hearts cry  
I'm desperately waiting  
To be where You are  
I'll cross the hottest desert  
I'll travel near or far

For Your glory  
I will do anything  
Just to see You  
To behold You as my King  
(Repeat)

I wanna be where You are I gotta be where You are  
I wanna be where You are

I gotta be where You are  
I wanna be where You are  
Gotta be where You are  
I wanna be where You are  
Gotta be where You are

For Your glory  
I will do anything  
Just to see You  
To behold You as my King

I wanna be where You are  
Peace is where You are  
Joy is where You are  
And Love is who You are

Sermon     The Rev. Cean James, Pastor of Grace Christian Fellowship, UCC, and  
Associate Conference Minister, PSEC

### **Holy Communion**

Invitation to the Table including Luke 24:28-32 (CEB)

At this table we meet the Risen Christ. Somehow in the midst of a community gathered in his name, in the signs of bread and cup, in retelling a sacred story, Jesus comes alive in our midst. Long ago on Easter day, Jesus was recognized only when He broke the bread with his friends, an event we hear in Luke 24:28-32:

When they came to Emmaus, [Jesus] acted as if He was going on ahead. But they urged Him, saying, “Stay with us. It’s nearly evening, and the day is almost over.” So, He went in to stay with them. After He took His seat at the table with them, He took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him, but He disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, “Weren’t our hearts on fire when He spoke to us along the road, and when He explained the scriptures for us?”

In the breaking of our bread, the sharing of our cup, in our gathering together, Christ is with us and all are invited to share at His table.

## Communion Prayer (responsively)

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Holy God, we praise You and thank You that You have always been with us. From the beginning You have been our God and formed us to be Your people. While You made us in Your image and gave us Your breath of life, we turned from You. Through prophets and leaders, in word and wonders You called us back to You.

When Your repeated attempts to heal the relationship between us, You became one of us. Taking the name Jesus of Nazareth, you lived as we do. You experienced the full depths of humanity: our hungers and desires; our failures and fears; our joys and laughter; our pain and fragility. By Your willingness, immortal God, to embrace of the chaos of being human and follow where it would lead, You reconciled us. Your path to the cross forced the worst of humanity to meet the best of divinity, and creation was forever changed. Through Your Spirit, You continue to meet us with Your goodness, O God. You bring us into community that shapes and changes us. You rework our lives with Your creative power. Your courage is with us always.

All glory and honor, blessing and power, is Yours, Almighty God, as we praise You with the words You gave us:

Prayer of our Savior (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.**

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Prayer of Consecration

Gracious and holy God, send your Spirit upon this bread, this cup, and this community, as we remember your Son's sacrifice and victory. Bless all we offer here, and by your power, transform it. May this bread and cup be for us a sharing in Your life, Your resurrection as a foretaste of the glory that awaits us. By sharing in this meal, transform us in witnesses of Your hope and grace. We pray this in Your name. Amen.

## Sharing the Meal

We will serve the elements around our tables. All the communion cups have grape juice, and all of the bread is gluten free.

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

**Holy God, we give thanks that this has been no ordinary meal. In the breaking of the bread, Christ has shown up in our midst and blessed us with His resurrected life. We thank You, that at this table we have been opened just a bit more to Your living presence among us, nourishing us and making us more whole. May we go from here, refreshed and eager, to share with others the new life Christ gives. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able*

Closing Hymn

"Blessed Assurance"

### **Blessed Assurance (Closing Hymn)**

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long*



Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Benediction

L: People of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ – can we see, hear, and understand how Jesus is calling us?

**P: The call of Christ comes to us in so many different ways – we have been challenged to find You in every nook and cranny, on every street, land, and highway.**

L: As we leave this place, we are invigorated with the knowledge that You go with us. We are Your presence in a world hungry for transformation.

**P: We are sent in the name of God: Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

### **Liturgists:**

The Rev. William P. Worley, Conference Minister

The Rev. Sharon Morris, ACM Search and Call

The Rev. Cean James, ACM Congregational Development

### **Musicians:**

Fatima Burke (Asst. Minister of Music), Reese Barbour (Vocalist),

Mykia Bridgett (Vocalist), Manny Archoa (Bass), Akeem Jones (Keys/Organ),

James Rouse, Jr (Drums), Henry Zhang (Guitar)

### **Blessed Assurance**

#### **We've Come This Far By Faith**

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