

Pilgrim Hill

REFORMED FELLOWSHIP



SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

14 SEPTEMBER 2025

Love (III)

by George Herbert

Love bade me welcome. Yet my soul drew back
 Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
 From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,
 If I lacked any thing.

A guest, I answered, worthy to be here:
 Love said, You shall be he.
I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah my dear,
 I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
 Who made the eyes but I?

Truth Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame
 Go where it doth deserve.
And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?
 My dear, then I will serve.
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:
 So I did sit and eat.

QUOTES FOR MEDITATION

"The tyrant dies and his rule is over; the martyr dies and his rule begins"
 (Soren Kierkegaard)

"The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church."
 (Tertullian)

"Lord, have mercy. Church, have courage."
 (George Grant)

PRELUDE, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & PREPARATION

For Preparation

“The motion of our souls heavenward
should be as natural as the flame’s motion upward.
To worship God is not drudgery, but delight;
not penance, but privilege.” (Thomas Watson)

The Gloria Patri –*with uplifted hands*–

Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

THE LORD CALLS US

The Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

From Psalm 46:1-7

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Hymn – “Crown Him With Many Crowns” (818)

WE CONFESS AND ARE CLEANSED

Corporate Prayer of Confession (based on Psalm 36)

Holy God and Fountain of Life, in your light we see light.

And, against your holiness we see the horror of sin.

**Yet, we have been allured by sin this week,
and at times have given in, thinking it no serious thing.
Sin is a deadly thing, and we agree with you now.**

You have said that the wicked have no fear of God before them,
and they flatter themselves by thinking God cannot see their secret sins.

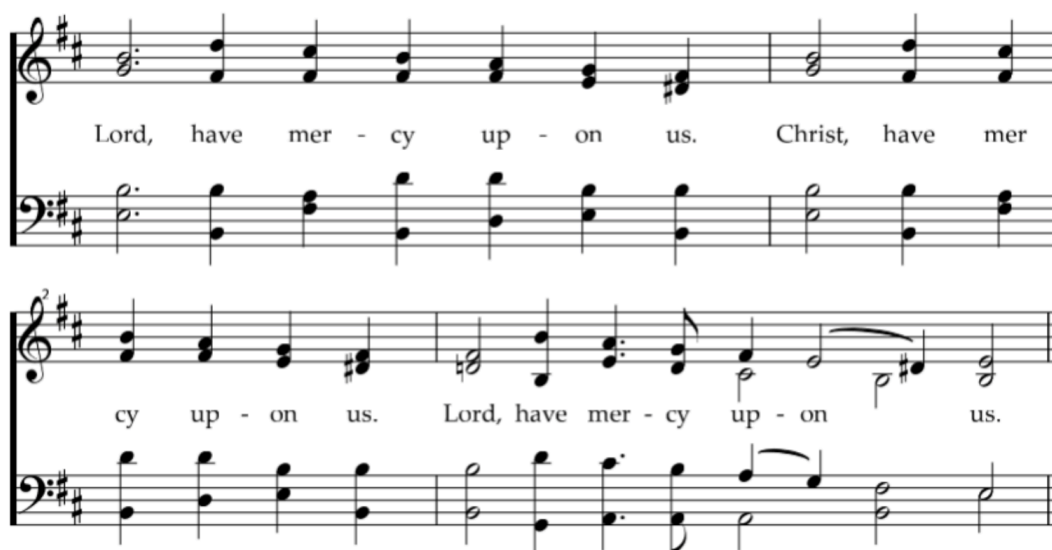
**We hide nothing from you, O God,
and ask for your convicting light to wash over us.**

The wicked plan sins ahead of time,
and do not reject evil but relish in it.

May it never be of us, O Lord.

**Forgive us our sins and purify our hearts,
that we may hate what is evil and love all that is good.**

Kyrie Eleison



Silent Prayers of Confession –*kneeling, if able*–

Assurance of Pardon – 1 John 4:10

“In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

Sursum Corda

So, lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

THE LORD CONSECRATES US

Sanctus

with vigor
fff Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord, God of Hosts! Hea-ven and earth are
full of Your glo - ry! Ho - san - na in the High - est! Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

Profession of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hades. On the third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from whence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**catholic refers to the universal collection of God’s people throughout all time and from all places.*

The Westminster Shorter Catechism: #73-75

Q. 73. Which is the eighth commandment?

**A. The eighth commandment is,
Thou shalt not steal.**

Q. 74. What is required in the eighth commandment?

**A. The eighth commandment requireth
the lawful procuring and furthering the wealth
and outward estate of ourselves and others.**

Q. 75. What is forbidden in the eighth commandment?

**A. The eighth commandment forbiddeth
whatsoever doth, or may, unjustly hinder our own,
or our neighbor’s, wealth, or outward estate.**

Hymn of the Month – “Be Still, My Soul” (648)

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11–24

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!***

New Testament Reading: Luke 15:1-10

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!***

Psalm – “Why Do the Heathen Nations Vainly Rage?” (005)

Prayer of Adoration and Intercession

*When you hear, “Lord, in your mercy,” please respond with: **“Hear our prayer.”***

Sermon – “The Miracle of Forgiveness”

Luke 5:12-26
Pastor Brian McLain

The Lord’s Prayer (see next page)

1107

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

Cantor **Congregation**

8 9 Our Father who art in Heav-en, Hal-low - ed be Thy name. 10 Thy king-dom come.

5 8 Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heav-en. 11 Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

8 12 And for-give us our tres-pass-es as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us.

10 8 13 And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil; For Thine is the

12 8 king-dom and the pow'r and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

Music: Tradional, very ancient

Text: Holy Bible, King James Version, 1611

TITHES AND TRIBUTE OFFERINGS

Generous and loving God,
We bring you our tithes and offerings
With glad and grateful hearts.
Guide us as stewards of your abundance,

**For the glory of Christ and the good of our neighbor.
Amen.**

Psalm – “Let Israel Now Say in Thankfulness” (396)

Hymn – “Fairest Lord Jesus” (555)

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Words of Institution and the Lord’s Table

The Lord’s Supper is a sacramental family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians, who are in good standing at a church that proclaims the gospel, to the table. By coming, you acknowledge that you have trusted in Christ alone for your justification before God, that you are currently at peace with God and neighbor, and that you are seeking to grow daily in holiness. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Brooks.

THE BREAD – “Amazing Grace” (see next page)

To display our unity, please wait to eat the bread until instructed.

Amazing Grace!

Guitar chords do not match vocals.

Capo 2: F F/C Dm F F/A

1. A - maz - ing grace!—how sweet the sound—That saved a wretch like me;
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re-lieved;
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils and snares, I have al - read - y come;
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my hope se - cures;
 5. Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail, And mor - tal life shall cease,
 6. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright shin - ing as the sun,

I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
 How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be-lieved!
 'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
 He will my shield and por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
 I shall pos - sess with - in the veil A life of joy and peace.
 We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first be - gun.

Music: Scottish melody; arr. Columbian Harmony, 1829

Text: st. 1-5, John Newton, 1779; st. 6, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790

NEW BRITAIN

8 6. 8 6.

THE WINE

We pass the wine with "the peace of Christ." You are welcome to drink the wine immediately and to fellowship freely during this time. If juice is desired, it will be the lighter liquid in the tray.

THE LORD COMMISSIONS US

Commissioning Hymn – "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" (679)

Charge

Benediction

"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."

(Hebrews 13:20-21)

Closing Doxology –with uplifted hands–

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.

Music: *Genevan Psalter*, 1551
Text: Thomas Ken, 1709

OLD 100th
8 8. 8 8.

Pastor: Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

For Family Worship

Daily Catechesis

- **Weekly Westminster Shorter Catechism:** #73-75 (see liturgy, pg. 4)
- **Hymn of the Week:** “Amazing Grace” (see liturgy, pg. 8)
- **Verse of the Week:** “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
- **Poem:** Love III (see liturgy, pg. 1)

Prayer Requests

Current

- Praise for the safe arrival of Liberty and Lawson Logan.
- For the church in America, as she grieves the murder of Charlie Kirk. That the Lord would use this wickedness to bring about a true Great Awakening in our time.
- Continued prayer for Seth Miller and his medical journey to deal with his brain tumor. Prayers for healing, peace, and good care.
- For Hank Anderson, who has had some heart issues as of late. Clarity of diagnosis, comfort, and healing.
- Praise for the safe arrival of the Philips’ new son. And, for a new job for Coleman.
- For Caleb Haymes, that the kidney transplant would take remarkably well.

- For favor over Charlton's and Gabe Rensch's "Business Makers" endeavor, especially as they pursue investors.
- For those who are waiting to hear back about job promotions, and the opening of other vocational doors. May the Lord bless us with productive plows and fruitful fields.
- For the mothers who are with child. Safety for all the mommas and babies.
- For the folks who are newer to our community. That they would get established quickly.
- For our own place in God's timing.

Ongoing

- For a teaching elder for the new CREC plant in Columbia, King's Cross Reformed Church.
- For the CREC church plant in DC launched in July.
- Favor and wisdom for those who have businesses, or are dreaming of starting one.
- Provision, peace, wisdom, and diligence for those feeling the financial pinch.
- Great wisdom for Pete in his role as SecDef and continued protection - both spiritual and physical - for the Hegseths.
- For salvation for extended family members who have not turned to Christ.
- For healing for all who are suffering from physical ailments.
- For the ministries we financially support:
 - Cumberland Crisis Pregnancy: Provision, protection, and wisdom
 - The Joint Eastern European Project (J.E.E.P.): See their website for current prayer requests
 - Recovery Refuge House in Ridgely

Upcoming Events

FESTAL SHOUT - September 25th

- Thursday, from 6-8pm
- Pizza fellowship followed by our musical training

MEN'S WEEKLY BOOK STUDY - *Out of the Ashes*, by Anthony Esolen

- Fridays at 6:15 am on Pastor Brooks's back porch

MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP MEALS

- First Sunday of every month
- Immediately following the service at the church
- No Sunday School on these days
- **If you would like to serve on the fellowship team, email Sharon Haney at daylily1980@comcast.net**

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY VIRTUAL PRAYER MEETING

- Beginning August 13th
- From 7-7:30pm

Officers:

The Session:

- Pastor Brooks Potteiger – brooks@pilgrimhill.church
- Josh Boyd (Ruling Elder)

The Diaconate:

- Chris Boyd
- Shelvy Huffman
- Scotty Rowlett

**Submit a question for Pastor Brooks
for an upcoming Q&A:**



**Church-wide Signal Thread
for Announcements:**



Meal sign-up for Recovery Refuge:

**Sermon Notes**

WE AT PILGRIM HILL are striving to cultivate sturdy, maturing Christians across generations for the glory of the Lord and the gladdening expansion of His Kingdom.