

*“Worship is the strategy by which we interrupt our preoccupation  
with ourselves and attend to the presence of God.”*  
Eugene Peterson

HEBREWS 4:16

# Grace

GREATER THAN WE CAN IMAGINE

**Fairview Reformed Presbyterian Church**

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November 29, 2020

# Worship Service to the God of Truth

Today we reflect on one means of grace: God uses his Word to change lives.

## CALL TO WORSHIP – 1 Peter 1:24-25a

*“For all flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.”*

\*SONGS OF WORSHIP ..... *“Lord Most High”*  
*A Mighty Fortress is Our God” (No. 333)*  
(words on next page)

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

OLIVER GRAEME HARDESTY

VOWS OF BAPTISM

THE BAPTISM

SONGS OF WELCOME ..... *“Covenant Child”*

PASTORAL PRAYER FOR OUR COVENANT CHILDREN

CONFESSION OF FAITH ... Shorter Catechism 89

Q: How is the word made effectual to salvation?

**A: “The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching, of the Word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith, unto salvation.”**

\***SCRIPTURE** ..... **Genesis 15:7-21 (p. 13)**

\*\*SONG OF PREPARATION ..... *“Speak, O Lord”*  
(words on next page)

**MESSAGE** ..... **Covenant of Blood and Fire**

\*HYMN OF WORSHIP ..... *“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” (No.225)*  
(words on next page)

BENEDICTION

\*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

\*\*CHILDREN AGES 4 THRU 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE – CHILDREN’S WORSHIP IS AVAILABLE

November 29, 2020

***“Jesus Christ for West Beaver County.”***

# Songs and Words for Worship

## Lord Most High

### **From the ends of the earth (Echo)**

From the depths of the sea (Echo)  
From the heights of the heavens (Echo)  
Your name be praised.

### **From the hearts of the weak (Echo)**

From the shouts of the strong (Echo)  
From the lips of all people (Echo)  
This song we raise, LORD.

### **Throughout the endless ages**

You will be crowned with praises  
Lord Most High  
Exalted in every nation,  
Sovereign of all creation,  
Lord Most High  
Be magnified.

### **From the ends of the earth (Echo)**

From the depths of the sea (Echo)  
From the heights of the heavens (Echo)  
Your name be praised.

### **From the hearts of the weak (Echo)**

From the shouts of the strong (Echo)  
From the lips of all people (Echo)  
This song we raise, LORD.

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You will be crowned with praises  
Lord Most High  
Exalted in every nation,  
Sovereign of all creation,  
Lord Most High  
Be magnified.  
Be magnified.

## A Mighty Fortress is Our God

### **1. A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;**

Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foes Doth seek to work us woe  
His craft and pow'r are great, And, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

### **2. Did we our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing,**

Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing,  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He  
Lord Sabbaoth His name, From age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

### **3. And tho this world with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us,**

We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph thru us.  
The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him  
His rage we can endure, For Lo! His doom is sure:  
One little word shall fail him.

### **4. That word above all earthly pow'rs No thanks to them abideth;**

The Spirit and the gifts are ours Thru Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also  
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still:  
His kingdom is forever.

## Speak O Lord

### **1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You**

To receive the food of Your holy word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes, for Your glory.

### **2. Teach us Lord full obedience,**

Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow'r that can never fail;  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

### **3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;**

Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

## Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

### **1. Alas! And did my Savior bleed?**

And did my Sov'reign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a worm as I?

### **2. Was it for crimes that I have done**

He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!  
And love beyond degree!

### **3. Well might the sun in darkness hide**

And shut his glories in  
When Christ, the mighty Maker, died  
For man the creature's sin.

### **4. But drops of grief can ne'er repay**

The debt of love I owe;  
Here, Lord, I give myself away  
'Tis all that I can do.

# Welcome and Announcements

## Welcome

Whether regular or recent, **welcome** to this time of worship. If you would simply like to say hello, or if you have any questions, contact Pastor Jeff, [pastorjeff@fairviewpca.org](mailto:pastorjeff@fairviewpca.org) or at 724-417-7012.

**Parents with children** – We're glad you are here

**Nursery is now available** (in the gym). Contact JoAnna with any questions. 724-601-7153.

- **Children's Worship**, by Naomi Shepler
- **Children's Activity Bags** – are available on the rack in the vestibule. Should you use them, please return to the bin below to avoid reuse.

## This Week

**Today – Worship (9:00am & 10:45am)** – The theme for our worship service is the great and powerful and life-changing **word of God**. What else has the power to soften a stony heart and redirect a rebellious soul than God's word? Our sermon is on the Covenant of Abraham. Ancient ways become symbolically meaningful today.

**Monday 10am Church Bowling** – All are welcome to join us at Calcutta Lanes.

**3pm Midland GNC at the Center in Midland** - lesson series of God's love: Hope for the Outcast.

**Wednesday 6:30pm Congregational Meeting** - All members and attenders are urged to attend this annual congregational meeting. 1 Elder and 3 deacons will be voted on to be retained. There will be 3 candidates brought forward for election: Ben Hardesty and Giles te Velde for Elder and Dave D'Angelo Sr. for Deacon. There will be other committees to vote on, and the 2021 budget to approve. Lastly, there will also be 2 Fairview by-law changes to vote on, too. One would allow more optional members on the missions committee. A second change would clarify our officer retention process. Committees will report on their activities for the past year and their vision for the coming year. Visitors are invited to attend, but they cannot vote. To vote you must be a "resident communing members." In 2020, session has adjusted that meaning. While "member" still applies, "communing" means (a) You've participated in at least 12 services, in person or online, and (b) you have taken Lord's Supper at least once in either 2019 or 2020. All are encouraged to attend.

Covenant Kids, the Rock and Prayer will not meet on this night. They will resume on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Thursday – 3pm Fairview GNC** at Fairview Church - lesson series of God's love: Hope for the Outcast.

## Congregational Announcements

### PROTECTION MEASURES

(While in the building)

- Masks, hand sanitizer & offering plate are at the door when you walk in.
- Love the fellowship, but keep distance. Every other pew available.
- Greet joyfully, but avoid hugs and handshakes.

### WEEKLY FORMAT

- **9am service** – Masks Needed. Safest. A freshly sanitized space.
- **10:45am service** – Masks Encouraged but Optional. Other precautions remain.

**Baptism** – Oliver Graeme Hardesty, son of Ben & Amy Hardesty is being baptized today. We welcome Oliver today as a Covenant Child.

**Sympathy** – The members and friends of Fairview Church send their deepest sympathy to Rick McComas and Dustin, Michael, Zachary & Nicholas in the passing of wife & mother Lynn McComas on Monday, November 23, 2020. Please keep the family in prayer.

Fairview also sends its deepest sympathy to Dave D'Angelo and family in the passing of Al D'Angelo, Dave's father. Please keep the family in prayer.

**Thank You** – We want to thank everyone who brought in groceries for the Harvest Home bags towards the Fairview Food Pantry or donated a monetary gift to be buy turkey breast and other refrigerated items for families for Thanksgiving.

**Christmas Decorating** - Anyone who would like help decorate the church for Christmas can meet on Dec. 5 at 9:30am at the church to lend a hand?

**Angel Tree December 6th–20th** – The Fairview Missions Committee invites you to bless others this Christmas season by participating in our Angel Tree Project. We help children and their caregivers who live in the Midland area whose loved one is incarcerated. Pick up an angel and you will see their need. Purchase a toy or clothing item listed on the card for the child, and a personal hygiene item for the caregiver. All gifts must be wrapped and placed under the tree by December 20th. If you'd like the joy of delivering the gifts, set aside December 20th. Please notify Edie Chaffee.

**Covenant Kids Christmas Party** – Wed., Dec. 16th, 6:30pm. The Covenant Kids 4yrs. old -5th grade – are invited to come and celebrate Jesus' Birthday! We will read the Christmas Story, sing Christmas songs, play games that teach the true meaning of Christmas and eat a snack that shares the Christmas story of God's love to us. Come on out and let's celebrate the birth of our Savior together.

## Congregational Announcements

**Growth Verse** – Each week our guide, *A Good Confession*, provides a short verse to commit to memory. Here is yours this week:

### growth verse

for week 49 | Nov.30 – Dec. 6

**“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.”**

Psalm 1:1-2

**Tithes and offerings** – There are three ways to give:

- (1) In person. A plate is in the foyer when you arrive.
- (2) Online – visit our website, click on the header labeled “Give.” A percentage is taken out for processing.
- (3) Mail. Checks only. Made to Fairview Church:  
Attn: Deacons  
6366 Tuscarawas Rd. Industry, PA 15052

**The Rock Christmas Party** – Wednesday, Dec. 16th at 6:30pm The youth will have a fun filled evening, bring a white elephant gift (no more than \$5), games, snacks and lots of fellowship.

**Caroling** – Wed., Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm The youth will go caroling to our church shut-ins. Anyone who would like to join them may enjoy the fun too. Please bring cookies or snacks to share for when your return to the church. Drinks will be provided.

**Snow Camp February 5-7, 2021!** - If you are interested in going, sign up now, due to Covid restrictions, **registrations will be limited to 78 campers.** COVID protocols will be identical to SSB. Our camp speaker is Rev. Derek Bates from RUF-Pittsburgh. Camp will be held at Seneca Hills Bible Camp and Retreat Center. The cost is as follows:

- \* \$110 for registrations during November
- \* \$115 for registrations during December
- \* \$130 for registrations from Jan 1 to 10, 2021

Register at

<https://ascension.breezechms.com/form/SnowCamp2021>

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** – Thursday, December 24th at 7pm. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is a simple but elegant reminder that in this dark world, a great light shines. Jesus is the Light of the world. We will, also light a remembrance candle in memory of family members whose light now shines in heaven. An offering will be received this evening to go to retired ministers, missionaries and widows. **Stay posted: We may do 2 services at 5pm and 7pm.**

### Small Groups “Starter Night” December 13

December 13 will be a single “Starter” Small Group, ahead of 2021. There are 2-3 options: te Velde House (Ohioville), Oosting house (Chippewa), and possibly one here in the church gym (Ohioville). We would need 1 host for the church small group for it to happen. And 2-3 leaders to guide discussion. Material is already chosen. If you can help, please sign up today in the vestibule.

Proceed at your own discretion. We will promote family distancing in these sites.

**YA-DULT Retreat 2021** – For those who have graduated high school up to their early 30s. Our speaker will be David O’Leary, Associate Pastor of Gospel Fellowship Presbyterian Church. There will be workshops with topics and discussions that include of the importance of staying in God’s Word, how to care for those in our lives and how to practically live out our faith. The retreat will be **March 5-7, 2021** at 941 Laurelville Lane Mt. Pleasant, PA 15066. Register at [ascension.breezechms.com/form/ya-dult2021](https://ascension.breezechms.com/form/ya-dult2021) Cost for Single: \$100, Single (Saturday only) \$75, Couple \$200, Couple (Saturday only) \$150.

**Table Talk Devotional** – The December issue is on the mission table in the vestibule.

**Our Daily Bread & Days of Praise Devotionals** – for December, January & February are available in the vestibule on the missions table.

**Fairview and Midland Good News Clubs** – There is a sign-up sheet for snacks for the Midland and Fairview Clubs. All info is on the list. Please sign-up today. If you have any questions contact Edie at [beavercountycef@gmail.com](mailto:beavercountycef@gmail.com) or 724-494-9448.

## Worship Helpers

Worship Leader..... **Scott Shepler**  
Audio-visual ..... **Gideon te Velde & Noah Oosting**  
Musicians..... **Linda D’Angelo & Hannah D’Egidio**  
Vocalist..... **Lindsey Hollabaugh**  
Children’s Worship..... **Naomi Shepler**  
Nursery (in gym)..... **Micah Oosting & Josiah te Velde**

## Next Week’s Helpers

Worship Leader ..... **Mark Oosting**  
Audio – Visual ..... **Noah Oosting & Jason Dudek**  
Musicians..... **Linda D’Angelo & Hannah D’Egidio**  
Vocalist..... **Rosh Raines**  
Nursery (in gym)..... **Hannah & Grace Forton**

Rev. Jeff K. Zehnder, Pastor  
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