



GOOD SHEPHERD

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

OCTOBER 1, 2023

Welcome to Good Shepherd

Thank you for joining us for worship today. If this is your first time with us, we are especially glad you are here. Please don't hesitate to ask one of our greeters regarding the location of the nursery, restrooms, or just a cup of coffee!

We realize that the flow and order of our worship may be unfamiliar, so there are notes in the margins that will offer some explanations and hopefully help you participate. Our service is designed to be both biblical and Christ centered as we cycle through the wonderful truths of the Gospel each week. We gather not for a lecture, conference, or concert, but for an encounter and covenant renewal with God. Therefore, our service follows the pattern God gave his people thousands of years ago: God speaks and we respond.

We also hope that you will join us after the service. Downstairs in the fellowship hall you will find plenty of refreshments and snacks as well as a warm welcome from our church family. If you have any questions from the sermon you can return to the sanctuary about 15 minutes after the service for our *Ask the Pastor* time. This is a great place to process the wonderful truths of the Gospel that we proclaim.

Lastly, we would love to know that you were here this morning. In the backs of the pews there is an info sheet that you can fill out and put in the offering basket during the service. Don't worry, we won't bombard you with endless emails. We just want an opportunity to say hello. If there is any way that we can pray for you, or if you have questions about the church, you can write those on the back as well.

Wherever you are this morning, our hope is that God would attend to the ministry of His Word, and that you would know the love of your blessed Savior.



A Word to Parents with Young Children

First, we want you to know that we are delighted to have your children in worship with us this morning. There is nothing better that we can give our children than the opportunity to know and worship their Heavenly Father. Any noises that they may make are not an embarrassing distraction, but a beautiful reminder that they are participating in God's means of grace.

We do understand, however, that it is sometimes helpful to have other means of serving our children and families. Through the back doors of the sanctuary you will find a **cry room** if you have little ones that are getting fussy or who need to nurse. We also have an **overflow room** with a live-stream of the service in the downstairs fellowship hall. Lastly, we have a **nursery** downstairs for children ages 0-3. Staff in the nursery are background checked and trained.

Order of Worship

Preparation

Preparatory Thought.....

We invite you to take a few moments this morning to prayerfully prepare to meet with and worship the living God.

"The distance between God and the creature is so great that, even though rational creatures are responsible to obey him as their Creator, yet they could never experience any enjoyment of him as their blessing and reward except by way of some voluntary condescension on his part, which he has been pleased to express by way of covenant." - Westminster Confession of Faith XII:1

Prelude.....

Welcome and Announcements.....

Praise

Call to Worship*.....1 Chronicles 29:10-13

God's people come because he first calls them. We open our services this way as a reminder that it is God himself who is calling us into his presence this morning.

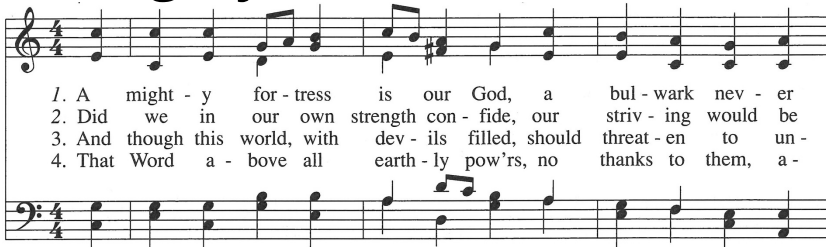
Leader: Therefore David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: "Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

Prayer of Adoration*.....

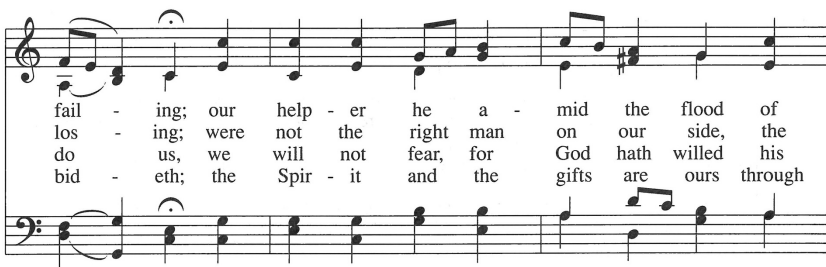
Hymn #92*.....*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

*Please stand if able

A Mighty Fortress is Our God



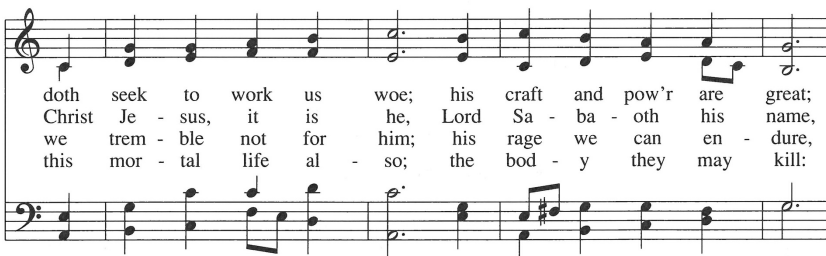
1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a -



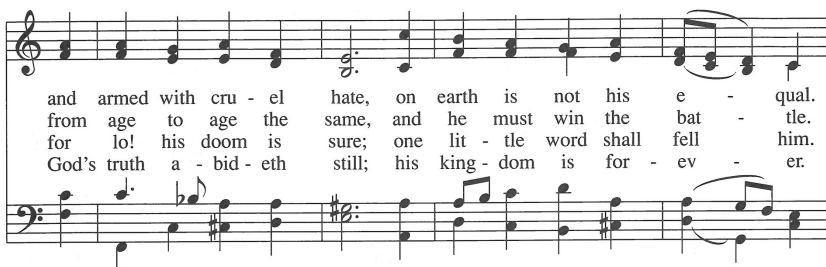
fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood of
los - ing; were not the right man on our side, the
do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be?
truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,



doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great;
Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:



and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
for lo! his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - er.

Renewal

The Word of God is always sufficient to do the work of God. Therefore, each week we continue the practice of God's people listening to the public reading of scripture.

Corporate Reading of Scripture.....Mark 1:21-34 (p. 836)

Corporate Prayer of Confession.....

While it is right for us to confess our sins in light of God's holiness, our forgiveness is not merited through this act or the absolution of a priest. Rather, it is Christ who saves and speaks through His Word to assure us that our sin has been pardoned.

Assurance of Pardon.....John 5:24

Leader: Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

If you are visiting with us there is no expectation for you to contribute to this morning's offering. For those who are giving we remember that we are called to joyful worship of the God who continues to give us all that we need in Christ.

Offering/Hymn #535.....*O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!*

Congregational Prayer.....

Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

1. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Vast, un - mea - sured,
 2. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Spread his praise from
 3. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Love of ev - 'ry

bound - less, free; roll - ing as a might - y o - cean
 shore to shore; how he lov - eth, ev - er lov - eth,
 love the best: 'tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing,

in its full - ness o - ver me. Un - der - neath me, all a - round me,
 chang - eth nev - er, nev - er - more; how he watch - es o'er his loved ones,
 'tis a ha - ven sweet of rest. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus!

is the cur - rent of thy love; lead - ing on - ward,
 died to call them all his own; how for them he
 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me; and it lifts me

lead - ing home - ward, to thy glo - rious rest a - bove.
 in - ter - ced - eth, watch - eth o'er them from the throne.
 up to glo - ry, for it lifts me up to thee.

Before the Throne of God Above



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me
3. Be - hold Him there! the ri - sen Lamb, my per - fect
4. I bow be - fore the cross of Christ and mar - vel



strong and per - fect plea, A great High Priest whose name is
of the guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see Him
spot - less Right - eous - ness, the great un - chang - a - ble "I
at this love di - vine, God's per - fect Son was sac - ri -



"Love," Who e - ver lives and pleads for me. My name is
there Who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the
AM," the King of glo - ry and of grace! One with Him -
ficed to make me right - eous in God's eyes. This riv - er's



gra - ven on His hands, My name is writ - ten on His
sin - less Sa - vior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
self I can - not die, My soul is pur - chased by His
depths I can - not know, but I can glo - ry in its



heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands no tongue can
free; For God, the Just, is sa - tis - fied to look on
blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my
flood. The Lord Most High has bowed down low and poured on



bid me thence de - part, No tongue can bid me thence de - part.
Him and par - don me, to look on Him and par - don me.
Sa - vior and my God, with Christ my Sa - vior and my God.
me His glor - ious love, and poured on me His glor - ious love.

*Each week, we preach, verse
by verse through books of the
Bible so that we are
instructed by the full counsel
of God, rather than whatever
the preacher deems most
important.*

*We celebrate the Lord's
Supper every week trusting
that our Lord is truly,
spiritually present nourishing
His people. If you are a
member of a local church,
have been baptized, and
believe that you are saved by
grace through faith, then we
welcome you to participate
with us.*

Proclamation

Song* *Before the Throne of God Above*

Prayer for Illumination.....

Sermon.....Rev. Ryan Potter

*"Walking in Christian Maturity"
Philippians 3:15-21 (p. 981)*

Response

Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

Hymn #19* *Thee We Adore, Eternal Lord!*

Benediction*

Postlude.....

**To allow full participation for all members, the Lord's Supper is served with gluten free bread.

Sermon Outline

“Walking in Christian Maturity”

Philippians 3:15-21 (p. 981)

Big Idea— *Living in meaningful Christian community will eventually lead to substantial disagreements about faith and life, and the mark of Christian maturity is knowing how to walk with others through those disagreements in a way that honors Christ.*

Basis for Maturity

- Begins with Humility

- Grows with Grace

Two Types of Disagreement

- Patient Forbearing

- Strong Warnings

Hope for Sinners

Sermon Notes

Thee We Adore, Eternal Lord

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Gm F C F

1. Thee we a - dore, e - ter - nal Lord! We praise thy name with
 2. To thee a - loud all an - gels cry, the heav'ns and all the
 3. A - pos - tles join the glo - rious throng, and proph - ets swell th'im -
 4. From day to day, O Lord, do we ex - alt and high - ly

one ac - cord. Thy saints, who here thy good - ness see, through all the
 pow'rs on high: thee, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly King, Lord God of
 mor - tal song; thy mar - tyrs' no - ble ar - my raise e - ter - nal
 hon - or thee! Thy name we wor - ship and a - dore, world with - out

world do wor - ship thee, through all the world do wor - ship thee.
 Hosts, they ev - er sing, Lord God of Hosts, they ev - er sing.
 an - thems to thy praise, e - ter - nal an - thems to thy praise.
 end, for - ev - er - more, world with - out end, for - ev - er - more.

Contact Us

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Associate Pastor: Ryan Potter
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Admin Assistant: Courtney Webb
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Nursery: Stephanie Webb

Fellowship Hour: Laura
Van Hofwegen

Custodial Needs: Jacob Webb

Women's Ministry: Leandra Quinn

Men's Ministry: Ryan Potter

Campus Outreach: Chase Smith

Choir: Luann LaRoy

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Elders:
Greg Vanden Heuvel
Nathan Van Hofwegen
Steve DeVries

Deacons:
Jacob Webb
Rex Webb
Sean O'Brien

Deacons@gskalamazoo.org

Announcements

- Please join us after our service this morning for a presentation from the **Elijah and Jessie Brook**, who will be co-planting a church in Leven, Scotland.
- The fall women's retreat will take place on **Oct 27-28** at **Maranatha Bible Conference**. Registration is open online through ChurchTrac, and **closes 10/9**. Contact Leandra Quinn with questions.

Financials

- Total Giving through Aug 2023 (\$206,453)
- Total Expenses through Aug 2023 (\$199,343)
- Welcome Home Fund (\$40,130)

Get Involved

- Join us after the service for our **Ask the Pastor** time where you can follow up on the sermon or ask other Bible and faith questions you may have.
- **Fellowship groups** meet regularly. Contact Pastor Ryan if you are interested in joining a group.
- **Seniors** meet on the first Friday of each month at 10am at various locations. Contact Larry Warner if interested.
- **Young Adults** meet every Wednesday for fellowship and a sermon discussion.
- **Men's Bible Study** groups meet weekly in the morning and evening.
- **Women's Bible Study** meets on alternating Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 pm and on alternating Friday mornings from 9-11 in the church Fellowship Hall.
- **The choir** meets every Tuesday evening at 7pm.