

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. | www.FPFO.org | 706.866.2521 | The Lord's Day | August 23, 2020

The Prelude

The Announcements

Please Note: *Masks are required for all persons over age ten. Please wear a mask covering your mouth **and** nose for the duration of the service and while in the building. The only exception to this is musicians and those actively teaching or leading some part of the worship service. Thank you for laying down your rights in order to protect the weak and vulnerable among us so we can move toward **united** corporate worship services on Lord's Day mornings and evenings.*

- + Close out the Lord's Day with evening worship tonight at 6:00 p.m.
- + On September 6 we will welcome **Rev. Joe Novenson** to the pulpit. Now retired, Rev. Novenson was formerly the senior pastor at Lookout Mountain PCA.
- + Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. via zoom
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75630735827?pwd=S1JnbEszdTNlSENXSU8xcXVhRWxhQT09>
- + Virtual Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78873686273?pwd=NFkyWGJzNjZxV0VVSUw1ZUGVhZmp6dz09>
Meeting ID: 788 7368 6273 | Meeting Password: 0bD2Ch
- + Midweek Youth Virtual Youth Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79795566011?pwd=WxzIRzg2NWZ5dHR0dIIdaGUzZkRTQT09>
- + Sign up for text message alerts and updates by texting *FPFO* to 84576
- + Online giving link available on the website: FPFO.org/give

ORDER OF SERVICE: MORNING WORSHIP

*The Call to Worship

*The Hymn of Praise.....“Holy, Holy, Holy!”

*The Prayer of Adoration

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

***The Confession of Faith.....The Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I 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 church; that is to say, the Church is more than FPFO or the PCA.
This does not refer to the Roman Catholic religion.*

***The Call to Confession.....Deuteronomy 5:1**

And Moses summoned all Israel and said to them, "Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the rules that I speak in your hearing today, and you shall learn them and be careful to do them.

***The Confession of Sin**

God our Father, we come to You humbly confessing our sins. Remember not the offenses of Your people; do not deal with us as our sins deserve, nor reward us according to our wickedness. For we confess to You our hardness of heart, our love of ease, our failure to do what is good, our worldly pride, our boasting in self, and our hypocrisies as a people. We confess too our covetousness, our love of money, our selfishness, our hatred, and the ruthless competition which defines many of our relationships. Forgive us for living to ourselves alone, and for putting our trust in our own strength, when our trust should rest in You alone. Be merciful to us, O Lord, for the sake of Your Son; and grant us a true and vibrant faith in Him, so that we may hallow Your name, and so that we may seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

***Silent Confession**

The Assurance of PardonIsaiah 40:1-5

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

The Encouragement to GiveIsaiah 40:10-11

Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

The Great Prayer

***The Psalm No. 97** "The Lord Reigns, Let Earth Rejoice" (Psalm 97:1-9)



1. ¹ The LORD reigns, let earth re - joice; Let the ma - ny
2. ⁴ When His light - nings lit the world, All earth saw and
3. ⁶ Heav'ns de - clare His righ - teous - ness, Peo - ples have His
4. ⁸ Zi - on, hear - ing this, was glad; Ju - dah's daugh - ters



isles be glad. 2 Clouds and dark - ness cov - er Him;
shook through - out. 5 Moun - tains melt - ed down like wax
glo - ry seen. 7 Let i - dol - a - ters be shamed,
have re - joiced. They ap - plaud Your judg - ments, LORD,



On true jus - tice rests His throne. ³Fire goes on a -
 At the pres - ence of the LORD, At the pres - ence
 Who serve grav - en im - ag - es. Give your wor - ship
⁹For You are the LORD Most High, High - est o - ver

head of Him, Burn - ing up His en - e - mies.
 of the Lord, Who is o - ver all the earth.
 un - to Him; All you gods of earth, bow down.
 all the earth, Far a - bove all oth - er gods.

The SermonRev. Ryan Biese
 "The God Who Stoops" | Exodus 19:16-25

I. Introduction

A. Immanence and Transcendence: how does the Bible hold those two truths about God in tension?

B. How has God limited Israel's access to Him?

C. What lessons is God teaching Israel by coming to Sinai in this way?

II. Main Argument

A. The King's Arrival (vv. 16-20)

1. The Transcendent Majesty of God (vv. 16-18)

a. What do the thunder and lightening, thick cloud, and trumpet blast teach Israel about God?

b. Where else is smoke described like this? How does this forebode judgment on sinners?

c. **Application**

(1) What is the significance of God *not* visibly appearing?

(2) What does this teach us about approaching God?

(3) How do the terrors of the Law benefit Israel here?

2. The Immanent Grace of God (vv. 19-20):

a. How does God's immanence also confront Israel with His transcendence?

b. How does the greatness of God displayed at Sinai aid us in worship and devotion to Him now?

B. Final Warning (vv. 21-25)

1. Holiness Required (vv. 21-22): what will happen if Israel draws near to God?

a. Why is this additional warning necessary?

(1) Who are the priests mentioned here? Are they coming up the mountain with Moses?

(2) What is this special reminder for the priests doing here?

b. In what sense is the worship of God deadly business?

c. What do the instances in Scripture in which people have died in worship teach us about worship now?

2. Holiness Not Understood (v. 23): what does the protest here suggest about Moses?

3. Access Denied (vv. 24-25)

a. Why is Moses unable to bring Israel near to God?

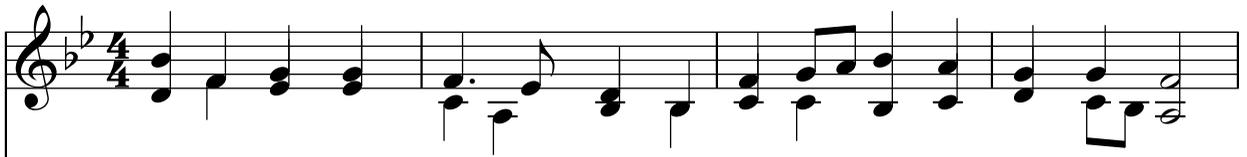
b. Why are people able to approach God on Mount Zion, but not on Mount Sinai?

c. Why is there better access to God under the New Covenant?

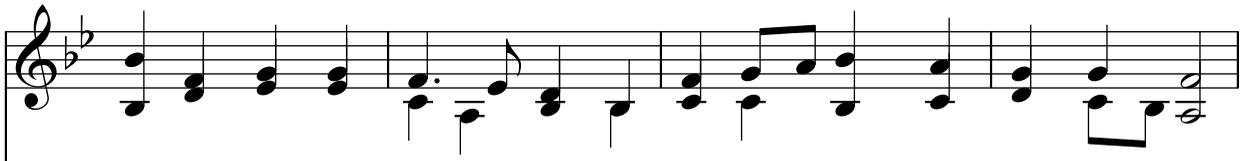
d. Application: Why should better access to God provoke more solemn worship of God?

e. Application: When God shakes the earth again, what will not be shaken?

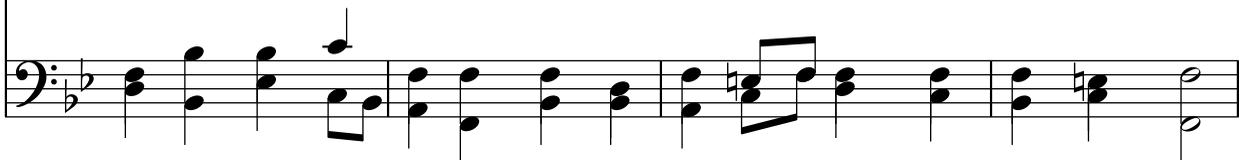
***The Hymn.....“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”**



1. Let us love and sing and won - der, let us praise the Sav - ior's name!
2. Let us love the Lord who bought us, pit - ied us when en - e - mies,
3. Let us sing, though fierce temp - ta - tion threat - en hard to bear us down!
4. Let us won - der; grace and jus - tice join and point to mer - cy's store;
5. Let us praise, and join the cho - rus of the saints en - throned on high;



He has hushed the law's loud thun - der, he has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame:
called us by his grace and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:
• For the Lord, our strong sal - va - tion, holds in view the con - qu'ror's crown:
when thro' grace in Christ our trust is, jus - tice smiles and asks no more:
here they trust - ed him be - fore us, now their prais - es fill the sky:



he has washed us with his blood, he has brought us nigh to God.
he has washed us with his blood, he pre - sents our souls to God.
• he who washed us with his blood soon will bring us home to God.
he who washed us with his blood has se - cured our way to God.
"You have washed us with your blood; you are wor - thy, Lamb of God!"

