



*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 23, 2025

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

February 23, 2025
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Paul Goebel

The Prelude

8:00 "Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder" *ALL SAINTS OLD*
Stephen Nielson, *piano*

9:30/11:00 "My Savior's Love" *Gabriel/arr. Ijames*
Pam Adams, *flute* • J. Marty Cope, *piano*

*Call to Worship

Minister: You who fear the LORD, praise Him!

**People: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe
of Him, all you offspring of Israel!**

Minister: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,

People: and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

Minister: For kingship belongs to the LORD,

People: and He rules over the nations.

Psalm 22.23, 27-28

*Hymn of Praise "Lead On, O King Eternal" *LANCASHIRE*
Hymn No. 580 in the Trinity Hymnal



Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears;



hence - forth in fields of con - quest Thy tents shall be our home:
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing where - e'er Thy face ap - pears;



through days of prep - a - ra - tion Thy grace has made us strong, —
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums, —
Thy cross is lift - ed o'er — us; we jour - ney in its light: —



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy, the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might.

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn**

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

SAGINA

All singing:

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Refrain:

Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

All saying:

**God was pleased, in His eternal purpose,
to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus,
His only begotten Son,
to be the Mediator between God and man.
As the Mediator, He is the Prophet, Priest, and King,
the Head and Savior of the Church, the Heir of all things,
and the Judge of the world.
God gave to Him, from all eternity,
a people to be His seed and to be by Him, in time,
redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.**

Westminster Confession of Faith, 8.1

All singing:

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies: who can explore His strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more.

Refrain:

Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace!
Humbled Himself so great His love! and bled for all His chosen race!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for, O my God, it found out me! (*Refrain*)

Please be seated.

Public Confession of Sin

The Rev. Sam Leopold

**O most great, most just and gracious God;
You are of purer eyes than to behold iniquity,
but You have promised mercy through Jesus Christ
to all that repent and believe in Him.
We confess that we have all sinned
and come short of the glory of God.
You have revealed Your wonderful love to us in Christ
and offered us pardon and salvation in Him,
but we have turned away.
Have mercy on us, most merciful Father!
In Your Son is our salvation,
in Your promises our hope.
Take us for Your children
and give us the Spirit of Your Son.
May we love You and share Your love with others,
through Jesus Christ our only Savior.**

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

If able, please stand and sing:

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

Refrain:

Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
(Refrain)

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Leopold

In addition to giving via passed offering plates, you are also welcome to give online at pcpc.org/give or text "give" to 214-833-7724.

Musical Offering

8:00 "Cantique de Jean Racine" Gabriel Faure
Stephen Nielson, *piano*

9:30/11:00 "Day by Day" K. Lee Scott
Chancel Choir
Pam Adams, *flute* • Nathan Davy, *piano*
J. Marty Cope, *conducting*

*Day by day, dear Lord, of Thee three things I pray: to see Thee more clearly, love
Thee more dearly, follow Thee more nearly, day by day.*

*Thanks be to Thee, Lord Jesus, for all the benefits which Thou hast won for
us; for all the pains and insults which Thou hast borne for us, O merciful
Redeemer, Friend and Brother.*

*Day by day, dear Lord, of Thee three things I pray: to see Thee more clearly, love
Thee more dearly, follow Thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.*

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH



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.

*During the 9:30 service, 1st and 2nd graders may exit at this time using the doors at the front-right of the Sanctuary to meet their teachers for Worship Explorers. **Children must be checked-in and have a nametag.** A check-in kiosk is available in the hallway outside the Sanctuary doors.*

**THE COMMISSIONING OF LEAH AND WILL PETERS
AND BEN HAMNER FOR MISSIONARY SERVICE**

9:30/11:00

Explanation of Commissioning

The Rev. Sam Leopold
Pastor of Missions

Ministry Description

The Commissioning Questions

1. Have you been compelled, as far as you know your own heart, to seek missionary service from love to God and a sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son?
2. Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truth of the Gospel and the purity and peace of the Church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?
3. Do you engage to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your duties as a Christian and a missionary, whether personal or relative, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before those whom you serve?
4. Are you willing to accept commissioning as a missionary of Park Cities Presbyterian Church as your home church and, therefore, are you willing to submit to the counsel, direction, and authority of PCPC?
5. Do you, relying upon God for strength, promise to discharge the duties God shall set before you through your mission agency and through PCPC?

Question to the Congregation:

Do you, the people of this congregation, promise, as the Lord leads and enables you, to pray for Leah and Will Peters and Ben Hamner, and to encourage and support them in their labors, recognizing them as PCPC's ambassadors?

The Commissioning Prayer

Dr. Michael A. Skinner
Chair of Global Missions Committee

***The Scripture Reading: John 7.1-5, 14-31**

After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill Him.

² *Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand.*

³ *So His brothers said to Him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works You are doing.*

⁴ *For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."*

⁵ *For not even His brothers believed in Him.*

¹⁴ *About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching.*

¹⁵ *The Jews therefore marveled, saying, "How is it that this Man has learning, when He has never studied?"*

- ¹⁶ So Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine, but His who sent Me.
- ¹⁷ If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on My own authority.
- ¹⁸ The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of Him who sent Him is true, and in Him there is no falsehood.
- ¹⁹ Has not Moses given you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill Me?"
- ²⁰ The crowd answered, "You have a demon! Who is seeking to kill You?"
- ²¹ Jesus answered them, "I did one work, and you all marvel at it.
- ²² Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath.
- ²³ If on the Sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with Me because on the Sabbath I made a man's whole body well?
- ²⁴ Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment."
- ²⁵ Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the Man whom they seek to kill?"
- ²⁶ And here He is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to Him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ?
- ²⁷ But we know where this Man comes from, and when the Christ appears, no one will know where He comes from."
- ²⁸ So Jesus proclaimed, as He taught in the temple, "You know Me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of My own accord. He who sent Me is true, and Him you do not know.
- ²⁹ I know Him, for I come from Him, and He sent Me."
- ³⁰ So they were seeking to arrest Him, but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.
- ³¹ Yet many of the people believed in Him. They said, "When the Christ appears, will He do more signs than this Man has done?"

Sermon

"Can This Be the Christ?"

Mr. Goebel

Worshippers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue at the closing hymn.

***The Great Thanksgiving 8:00**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

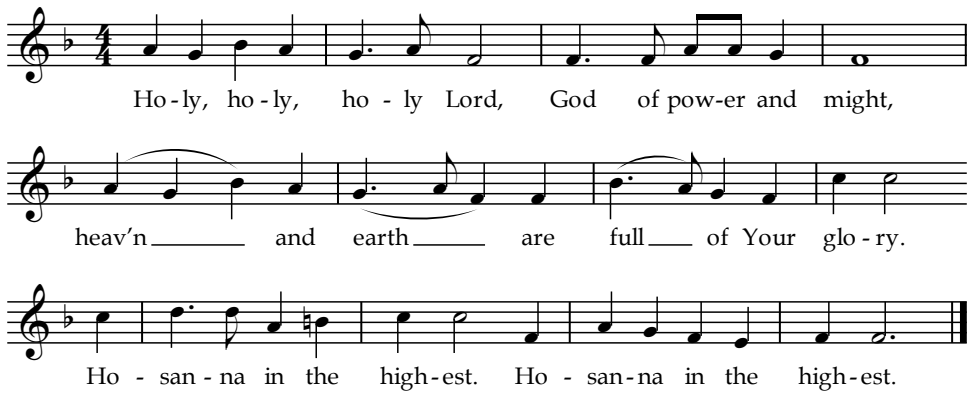
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

People: Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name; evermore praising You, and singing:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of Your glo-ry.
 Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

***The Words of Institution 8:00**

Communion 8:00

*Please remain seated.
 You will be served by your elders, and we will all partake
 together when so instructed by the pastor.
 (The bread being served is gluten free.)*

***Closing Hymn "Facing a Task Unfinished" Houghton/Wesley/Getty**



1. Fa-cing a task un-fin-ished, that drives us
 2. Where oth-er lords be-side Thee hold their un-
 3. We bear the torch that, flam-ing, fell from the
 4. O Fa-ther who sus-tained them, O Spi-rit

to our knees. A need that, un-di-min-ished, re-
 hin-dered sway; where for-ces that de-fied Thee, de-
 hands of those who gave their lives pro-claim-ing that
 who in-spired, Sav-ior, whose love con-strained them to

bukes our sloth-ful ease. We, who re-joice to
 fy Thee still to-day. With none to heed their
 Je-sus died and rose. Ours is the same com-
 toil with zeal un-tired. From cow-ar-dice de-

know Thee, re-new be-fore Thy throne the so-lemn
 cry-ing for life, and love, and light, un-num-bered
 mis-sion, the same glad mess-age ours; fired by the
 fend us, from leth-ar-gy a-wake! Forth on Thine

SERMON NOTES

John 7.1-5, 14-31

“Can This Be the Christ?”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.

1. Why does the Gospel of John give a detailed account of those who opposed Jesus? What does this teach us about genuine belief?
2. Read John 7.5 and Matthew 13.57. Why did Jesus' own brothers not believe in Him?
3. What is pride? What makes pride the enemy of belief?
4. What were some of the falsehoods that people believed about Jesus during His earthly ministry? (See John 7.12-24) What are some of the falsehoods that people believe about Jesus today?
5. What was the real motivation of the Jewish authorities to arrest Jesus? Were they truly concerned about blaspheming the name of God or did their primary concern have to do with themselves?
6. Are you more like Jesus' brothers, the crowds, or the Jewish authorities in John 7? Is any part of you living in opposition to Jesus?
7. Read John 7.31. Despite so much opposition to Jesus, John tells us that many believed in Him. How does this encourage your own faith and the call to tell others about Jesus?

Highlights

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

What's Next?

We have friendly faces waiting to help you connect to Christ and one another at PCPC just as you exit the front of the Sanctuary. Look for the Connect banner on your way to the Grand Hall. We would also love to help you abide in and extend Christ. You can find out more at the Information Center in the Grand Hall. Download the free PCPC mobile app to explore more.



Connection Card

Thanks for joining us today! If you are new or looking to connect at our church, please scan the QR code and fill out our Connection Card, so we can know you were here and help you connect.
pcpc.org/connect

Organ Concert

Tonight

7:00 P.M. | SANCTUARY

Dr. Nathan Davy presents masterworks for the organ for all ages, including pieces by J. S. Bach, Cesar Franck, Sergei Rachmaninoff, and Maurice Ravel. No tickets required. Dessert reception to follow.
pcpcconcerts.org

The Bridge Luncheon

Tuesday, February 25

12:00 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join us for The Bridge lunchtime event with women of all ages. We will hear from Caroline Hunt on how Christ moved in her life. Lunch is \$5.
pcpc.org/women

Young Adult Night of Worship

Thursday, February 27

7:00 P.M. | CHAPEL

Join us for a night of singing and prayer. Dress casually and bring friends!
pcpc.org/calendar

Men's Golf Scramble

Friday, March 28

7:00 A.M. | CEDAR CREST GOLF COURSE

Come and enjoy a time of fellowship with the men of PCPC as we play golf and share a meal. Whether you're an experienced golfer or just looking to connect, this will be a fun and relaxed time to build friendships and enjoy each other's company. Register today!
pcpc.org/men



Made for More

April 4-5

Women, join us for this multi-generational, PCA conference at PCPC. Come as we explore how God MADE US FOR MORE. Early registration closes Feb. 28.
pcpc.org/women



Special Events at PCPC

Commissioning & Mailings

TODAY | 12:30 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

The Gathering (High School)

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26 | 7:15 P.M.

Women's Lenten Prayer

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 5 | 12:00 P.M. | CHAPEL

Lunch & Learn: Will, Trusts, & Estates

FRIDAY, MAR. 7 | 11:30 A.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Global Missions Conference

NOV. 1-2 | SAVE THE DATE

pcpc.org/calendar



PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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GIVE ONLINE

You may scan the QR code to give online at pcpc.org/give/.



Download the PCPC

App with iOS or Android device where you can give online (including setting up recurring gifts).

GENERAL FUND

2024/2025 Operating Budget	\$17,200,000
Jul 1, 2024–Feb 16, 2025 Budget	\$12,100,078
Jul 1, 2024–Feb 16, 2025 Giving	\$11,703,008
Budget Variance	(\$397,070)