



DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda!



The church reformed, always reforming!

Celebration of Worship
Reformation Sunday, October 25, 2020
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Prelude Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart Arr. Phillip Keveren
Lee Wright and Juli Elliot, violin and piano

Words of Welcome Rev. Deb Swift

Chime
Introit Creator of Infinities Howard Hanson

*“Creator of infinities beyond our earth, beyond our skies,
Accept the reverence we owe to Power more than we may know.
Thou Maker of all time and space, grant us as maker this one grace;
Let our brief partiality complete itself in praising Thee.
May our wills, joined to honor Thee, find joy in such a harmony;
From sea to sea, from sun to sun, in gladness may Thy will be done. Amen.”*

Call to Worship (adapted from MinistryMatters.com) Doug Potter

One: God, we know you are with us.

Many: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

One: You have showered your love upon all generations,
since the beginning of time.

Many: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

One: Guide us now through this time of worship,
and into the week ahead.

Many: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

Hymn The Church’s One Foundation AURELIA
(Verses 1, 4, and 5, Music on the next page)

The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur - ch's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord.
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has un - ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more:
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride.
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

This hymn was one of twelve written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868, and the two have been inseparable ever since.

Centering Prayer (unison)

God, you are God forever. This alone is cause for celebration, but we also know that we are your people! As we feel your love washing over us now, may we love you with every part of our being: heart, mind, body, and soul. We celebrate your love in our lives, and we ask for your help as we try our best to boldly share the good news of your love with others. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who models the way for us. Amen.

Prayer of Assurance

One: One of the wonderful things about Jesus is that he knew what it was to be human. He saw and experienced first-hand that we are a fallible people – that we fall away from our best intentions sometimes – and he made it clear that we are loved anyway. Friends ... this is not only Good News ... it is GREAT news. Because of God's loving Grace, we are invited to try again and again to be all that God wishes us to be.

Many: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 90:1-3, 14-17

Lee Wright

Please join in singing the antiphon each time it occurs.

Antiphon: Increase the Light within us—O Beloved hear our prayer!

“Eternal and Immortal One, You have been our refuge in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, before You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, You are the Alpha and the Omega.

When our days on Earth are ended, You welcome us home to your Heart,
To the City of Light, where time is eternal and days are not numbered.

You gather those who love You as friends returning from a long journey,
giving rest to their souls.

You anoint them with the balm of understanding,
healing wounds of the past. **(Antiphon)**

Help us to wait in Silence listening for your gentle Voice;

Prayers of Healing and Transformation

Rev. Swift

Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit come! Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn 420

God of Grace and God of Glory
(Verses 1, 3, and 4, music on next page)

CWM RHONDA

Benediction

Rev. Swift

Congregational Response

One: And let the church cry out

Many: **AMEN! and AMEN!**

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress
Lee Wright, organ

Arr. Wayne L. Wold

Thank you to . . .

Participants: Rev. Deb Swift, ,
Hannah Stokes, Juli Elliot, Alan Jones, and Lee Wright

Choir Members: Susannah Stewart, Judy Boyd, Carol Kerner, Emmalouise St. Amand,
Jacob Hunter, Ben Magruder, Rob Kerner, and Alan Jones.

Sound Engineers: Donald Fairman, David McDowell, and Ben Magruder (Choral Music)

Website integration: Mark Anderson

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

The Downtown Church Staff

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Joan Mackey, Moderator of Deacons

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