

Sunday Service ~ May 11, 2025

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

Welcome & Prayer

Good morning and welcome to our Sunday gathering! It's a joy to come together as a community to seek God, to encourage one another, and to be reminded of His grace and truth. As we worship, pray, and hear from His word, may our hearts be open to what He is doing in our lives today.

Prayer.

Holy and Sovereign God,

We come before You in awe, for You are infinite in majesty, perfect in holiness, and righteous in all Your ways. You spoke the universe into being, and by the word of Your power, You uphold all things.

Yet we confess, O Lord, that we have fallen short of Your glory. We have loved lesser things more than You. We have trusted in our own wisdom, treasured the approval of man, and turned from Your commands in thought, word, and deed. We are a people of unclean lips and wandering hearts.

But we praise You for the riches of Your mercy poured out in Christ. Though we were dead in our trespasses, You made us alive together with Him. In Him, we see the radiance of Your glory and the wonder of Your grace. His blood cleanses us, His righteousness clothes us, and His resurrection secures our hope.

So we adore You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—one God, eternal and unchanging. Fix our eyes on Christ, stir our hearts to worship, and shape us by Your Word, that we might walk in joyful obedience to the praise of Your glorious grace.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

Song – Be Thou My Vision

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDGqYr2ZX2A>

Verse 1

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Verse 2

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one
Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise

Verse 3

Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art
High King of heaven, my victory won

Verse 4

May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's
sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all

Bible Reading – Exodus 8:20-32 (NIV)

²⁰ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Get up early in the morning and confront Pharaoh as he goes to the river and say to him, ‘This is what the Lord says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me. ²¹ If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you and your officials, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies; even the ground will be covered with them.

²² “‘But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the Lord, am in this land. ²³ I will make a distinction between my people and your people. This sign will occur tomorrow.’”

²⁴ And the Lord did this. Dense swarms of flies poured into Pharaoh’s palace and into the houses of his officials; throughout Egypt the land was ruined by the flies.

²⁵ Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Go, sacrifice to your God here in the land.”

²⁶ But Moses said, “That would not be right. The sacrifices we offer the Lord our God would be detestable to the Egyptians. And if we offer sacrifices that are detestable in their eyes, will they not stone us? ²⁷ We must take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the Lord our God, as he commands us.”

²⁸ Pharaoh said, “I will let you go to offer sacrifices to the Lord your God in the wilderness, but you must not go very far. Now pray for me.”

²⁹ Moses answered, “As soon as I leave you, I will pray to the Lord, and tomorrow the flies will leave Pharaoh and his officials and his people. Only let Pharaoh be sure that he does not act deceitfully again by not letting the people go to offer sacrifices to the Lord.”

³⁰ Then Moses left Pharaoh and prayed to the Lord, ³¹ and the Lord did what Moses asked. The flies left Pharaoh and his officials and his people; not a fly remained. ³² But this time also Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not let the people go.

Pastoral Prayer

Burkina Faso

- Violence in Burkina Faso has led to a massive displacement crisis. Pray for believers who are displaced by Islamist militants. Ask God to bring them hope and healing.
- Pray for believers who have endured violence. Ask God to bind up their wounds.
- Pray for church leaders who have been forced to flee their homes and villages – yet still hope to minister to their flocks. Pray that God will encourage and strengthen these shepherds.

Joshua Montzka - Missionary in the Digital and AI ministries

- Give thanks for Joshua’s decade of faithful service at Power To Change, for God’s steadfast presence through every season, and for the many lives trained, reached, and equipped through his work.
- Pray that Joshua would meet his support needs, enabling him to continue his vital ministry.
- Ask God to powerfully work through Joshua to share the Gospel in digital spaces, bringing the hope of Jesus to those online.

Mothers Day

- Gratitude for Mothers: Thank God for the love, sacrifices and godly influences of mothers and mother figures in our lives

- Comfort for Grieving: Pray for those that are mourning the loss of their mothers and that God's nearness and hope of eternity would comfort their hearts
- Healing for those Longing: Pray for women who have longed to be mothers but have faced infertility, loss or waiting, that they will find peace and contentment in God's faithfulness
- Mother Figures: Thank God for mentors, adoptive mothers and spiritual mothers who have filled gaps left by those with strained, lost or absent relationships with mothers
- Strength for Mothers: Prayer for mothers now, that God would renew their strength, patience and joy in the discipleship of their children

Bible Reading – Exodus 9:13-35 (NIV)

¹³ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning, confront Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me, ¹⁴ or this time I will send the full force of my plagues against you and against your officials and your people, so you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth. ¹⁵ For by now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with a plague that would have wiped you off the earth. ¹⁶ But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth. ¹⁷ You still set yourself against my people and will not let them go. ¹⁸ Therefore, at this time tomorrow I will send the worst hailstorm that has ever fallen on Egypt, from the day it was founded till now. ¹⁹ Give an order now to bring your livestock and everything you have in the field to a place of shelter, because the hail will fall on every person and animal that has not been brought in and is still out in the field, and they will die.'"

²⁰ Those officials of Pharaoh who feared the word of the Lord hurried to bring their slaves and their livestock inside. ²¹ But those who ignored the word of the Lord left their slaves and livestock in the field.

²² Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that hail will fall all over Egypt—on people and animals and on everything growing in the fields of Egypt." ²³ When Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky, the Lord sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground. So the Lord rained hail on the land of Egypt; ²⁴ hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth. It was the worst storm in all the land of Egypt since it had become a nation. ²⁵ Throughout Egypt hail struck everything in the fields—both people and animals; it beat down everything growing in the fields and stripped every tree. ²⁶ The only place it did not hail was the land of Goshen, where the Israelites were.

²⁷ Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron. "This time I have sinned," he said to them. "The Lord is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong. ²⁸ Pray to the Lord, for we have had enough thunder and hail. I will let you go; you don't have to stay any longer."

²⁹ Moses replied, "When I have gone out of the city, I will spread out my hands in prayer to the Lord. The thunder will stop and there will be no more hail, so you may know that the earth is the Lord's. ³⁰ But I know that you and your officials still do not fear the Lord God."

³¹ (The flax and barley were destroyed, since the barley had headed and the flax was in bloom. ³² The wheat and spelt, however, were not destroyed, because they ripen later.)

³³ Then Moses left Pharaoh and went out of the city. He spread out his hands toward the Lord; the thunder and hail stopped, and the rain no longer poured down on the land. ³⁴ When Pharaoh saw that the rain and hail and thunder had stopped, he sinned again: He and his officials hardened

their hearts. ³⁵ So Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not let the Israelites go, just as the Lord had said through Moses.

Song – May the Mind of Christ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LklxiZnBiCM>

Verse

Our Father everlasting
The all creating One
God Almighty
Through Your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son
Jesus our Saviour

Chorus

I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

Verse

Our Judge and our Defender
Suffered and crucified

Forgiveness is in You
Descended into darkness
You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high

Verse

I believe in life eternal
I believe in the virgin birth
I believe in the saints' communion
And in Your holy Church
I believe in the resurrection
When Jesus comes again
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

Bridge

I believe in You
I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord

Sermon – The Lord is... (Audric)

Refer to Youtube Link

Song – All Creatures of our God and King

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhyCL4h64_s

VERSE 1

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou, burning sun with golden beam
Thou, silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

VERSE 2

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

VERSE 3

All the redeemed washed by His blood
Come and rejoice in His great love
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Christ has defeated every sin
Cast all your burdens now on Him
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

VERSE 4

He shall return in pow'r to reign
Heaven and earth will join to say

O praise Him! Alleluia!
Then who shall fall on bended knee?
All creatures of our God and King
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Benediction

"Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.'

*"This is my name forever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation*

(Exodus 3:15)

It is in the great I am that we can go forth in confidence and surety that God will go before us this week.