

WORSHIP WITH CAPITOL HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
April 26, 2026
In Easter Season

On contemplating the lilies of the field and conquering the world . . .



*Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me.
I have said this to you so that in me you may have peace.
In the world you face persecution.
But take courage; I have conquered the world!
John 16:32b-33*

*We gather in the light of our lamp lit blue in prayer for those struggling with aids and HIV infection,
of our candle lit amid barbed wire in concern for all bearing the load of oppression;
a red flower is placed on our table with prayer for those living with cancer,
and we light a candle to center in our Maker's peace . . .*

*Jesus sent the twelve with the message - The governance of heaven has come near . . .
Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons.
Freely you have received, freely give . . .*

SIMPLE GIFTS

Tis a gift to be simple, tis a gift to be free, tis a gift to come round where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
we shall be in the valley of love and delight.

Chorus - When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend we will not be ashamed, to
turn, turn will be our delight,
til by turning, turning we come round right.

Tis a gift to be gentle, tis a gift to be fair, tis a gift to wake and breathe the morning air,
to walk every day in the path that we choose,
tis a gift we pray, we may never, never lose. Chorus

Tis a gift to be knowing, tis a gift to be kind, tis a gift to wait to hear someone else's
mind, that when we speak our feelings we might come out true,
tis a gift for me and a gift for you. Chorus

Tis a gift to to be loving, tis the best gift of all, like a warm spring rain bringing beauty
when it falls, and as we use this gift we might come to believe
it is better to give than it is to receive. Chorus

Further instruction from Jesus -

How blest are those who are poor in spirit: the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

How blest are the sorrowful: they shall find consolation.

How blest are those of a gentle spirit: they shall have the earth for their possession.

How blest are those who hunger and thirst to see right prevail: they shall be satisfied.

How blest are those who show mercy: mercy shall be shown to them.

How blest are those whose hearts are pure: they shall see God.

How blest are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

How blest are those who have suffered persecution for the cause of right:
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

How blest are those who follow Jesus and our Lord's command to love.

Let us pray - Dear God, our loving Parent, You are our beginning and you will be our end;
we are made in your image and likeness. We praise you and thank you for this day.

This is the day on which you created light and saw it was good.

This is the day in whose early light we discovered the tomb was empty,
and encountered Christ, the world's true light.

This is the day you have made, and we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Lord, we pray, make us instruments of your peace;

where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

Grant to us this day and each day readiness and delight in following Christ, amen.

SEEK YE FIRST

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Let us share a meditation -

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.
But I have calmed and quieted by soul, like a weaned child with its mother;
my soul is like that child that is with me . . . O Israel, hope in the Lord
from this time on and forevermore.

The World Jesus Has Conquered, *a reflection*

In response, an affirmation of faith - THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS
(from Psalm 23, rendered by Henry Williams Baker, 1868, an ancient Irish melody)

The King of love my Shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never,
I nothing lack if I am His And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow My ransomed soul He leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me,
And on His shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise Within Thy house forever.

Prayerfully, our celebrations, concerns, opportunities, and reflections . . .
Again, let us pray - Dear God of all the earth, of every human, all made in Your
image, hold us all, we pray, in the embrace of love, with healing grace to enable
more of wellbeing and thriving. Help us in our lives to convey such an embrace.

Hold us in our joys and concerns so that our hearts stay centered in You,
and our lives remain faithful to service for good. In this world You so love
may the violence be transformed into peace, may harm be healed
and justice prevail and may the world Jesus sought for Your governance
come, here, now among us and for all, amen.

JOYFUL, JOYFUL

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround You, Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You, Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain Praising You eternally!

Always giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Loving Father, Christ our Brother, Let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus, Which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us, Joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

*As we go forth from worship, guide us, we pray
with eyes open to see Your world with all You love,
hearts open to receive the many gifts on our way,
compassion active to care as we can for the needs we encounter,
and with minds set on Your governance for a world made new
even as we encounter our varied challenges.
May we go to live Your peace, amen.*

