



May 24, 2026



And I am sure of this,  
that he who began  
a good work in you  
will bring it to completion  
at the day of Jesus Christ.

\* \* \*

Philippians 1:6



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**“Preaching God’s Sovereign Grace to a World of Need”**

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# Understanding Why We Baptize Covenant Children

By Dr. David G. Barker

Water Baptism is a sign and seal of the claim of God upon the person. It is not something a person merely 'elects' to have done, nor should it be repeated for merely emotional reasons. It is a command of God the Son (rf. Mt. 28:19-20) and is done in obedience to his will. When water baptism is given to the converted adult, it signifies spiritual transformation – Christ has cleansed that believer from his sins. Making a profession of faith he takes on the sign of the covenant and enters into the Church. In the Old Testament, the sign of entering the Church was circumcision; today it is baptism.

This has been the case from the beginning, the sign was not only given to adults; it was also given to the children of those believing adults. Abraham, a man of faith, was instructed by the Lord to receive the sign in Gen. 17. He was also instructed to give the sign to the children of his house – from the newborn child only 8 days old as well as his thirteen year old son, Ishmael. The reason for this was the principal of headship that continues in the church community today. God gave his promise to Abraham saying: *"I will establish my covenant between me and you and your seed after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant to be a God unto you and to your seed after you."*

That pattern of headship has remained the same and has never been negated or changed. On the day of Pentecost, Peter taught this principle specifically, repeating God's words to Abraham in his very first sermon saying *[The] promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.*" (Acts 2:38-39, ESV) Paul also stressed this unity when he tells the Christian Church today in Gal. 3:29: *"[I]f you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."* And Jesus said of the Jewish children brought to him: *"Of such is the kingdom of God."* (Mk. 10:14, ESV) Therefore, the spiritual children of Abraham today are to continue to receive the mark of God's claim upon them just as their parents are to continue to call upon Yahweh to be faithful to the next generation.

Now, obviously, these young children cannot yet understand these things – let alone make their own profession of faith so soon. Isaac, as a newborn, did not comprehend this; neither do our young ones. But it is not yet the child's faith we are focusing on; rather it is the faith of the parents who God has entrusted with the raising of the child the Lord has providentially given them.

Finally, because water baptism itself is meant to depict the Holy Spirit being poured out from above upon his people, the sign of water baptism is best depicted by sprinkling or pouring. Baptism is not a matter of applying the person to water but applying water to the person.

# The Lord's Day

May 24, 2026

## God's Call to Us to Worship Him

**"Be still and know that I Am God"**

Psalm 69:30-36

### **\*His Call to Us to Worship Him**

Psalm 67:3-7

**Elder:** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

**People:** **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the nations with equity and guide the nations upon the earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!**

**Elder:** The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.

**People:** **God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!**

**Elder:** Let us worship our God.

### **\*Hymns of Our Procession Into the Presence of God**

How Firm a Foundation

Bulletin, page 9

### **\*Prayer of Invocation**

## The Father Reaffirms His Covenant with Us

**Reading of the Law**

Matthew 5:1-2; 7:15-29

### **Call to Confession**

When we come into the holy presence of God, our own humanity is laid bare. When we stand in the living presence of truth, our own falsehood is revealed. People of God, let us acknowledge who we are and ask our ever-present God to forgive us.

**Prayer of Confession**

Elder led prayer and silent prayer

**Assurance of His Pardon**

Micah 7:18-20

**\*Hymn of Thanksgiving**

Ps.138: With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring

Bulletin, page 10

**His Sign and Seal is Upon Us**

The Lord’s Baptism: Panagiota Ann Dermatis,  
covenant daughter of Gus & Camille Dermatis

**Intercessory Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

**Christ is Made Known to Us**

**Hymn of Prayer**

Be Exalted, O God

Bulletin, page 11

**His Word is Opened to Us**

Dr. David G. Barker

**Scripture: Exodus 3:11-22**

*“The grass withers, the flower fades ...*

*But the Word of our God will stand forever.”*

**Message: The Name, Promise, and Sign**

**Prayer for Response and Obedience**

**We Depart with His Blessing**

**And Sending of His Spirit**

**Presenting His Tithes and Our Offerings**

Offertory

\*Doxology

**\*Hymn of Our Procession Into the World**

O Church, Arise

Bulletin, pages 12-13

**\*Charge and Benediction**

(Trinity Hymn Book #383, vs. 4)

Oft as the precious seed is sown, your quick’ning grace bestow,  
That all whose souls the truth receive, its saving pow’r may know.

**Postlude**

\*Congregation Standing

*The Life and Times of Moses,  
the Servant of YHWH*

*The Name, the Promise, and the Sign  
Exodus 3:11-22*

*(see also: Gen. 4:1; Ex. 3:6-7; 20:7; Ps. 139:8; Jn. 14:2-4;  
1 Cor. 1:26-31; Phil. 1:6; Heb. 11:6; WSC #20)*

“Seeing is believing”

- a) is still true today.
- b) has never been true.
- c) is no longer the final test of reality.

**I. *Come, I will send you to Pharaoh (Ex. 3:10, ESV)***

Why did the Lord wait so long?

“I am who I am.” - tetragrammaton

God’s \_\_\_\_\_ nature

God’s \_\_\_\_\_

God’s \_\_\_\_\_

God’s \_\_\_\_\_

**II. *“I will be with you.” (Ex. 3:12, ESV)***

**III. *This shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.” (Ex. 3:12, ESV)***

How important is worship now?

How important is the Lord’s Day now?

# *My Own Thoughts*

# **New Covenant Presbyterian Church**

## **Lord's Day Evening Service**

**May 24, 2026**

Welcome, Announcements

Call to Re-Gather at the close of the Lord's Day                      Psalm 70:4

Prayer of Adoration

Hymns to the glory and praise of our Covenant God

Scriptural Warning

of the Human Condition    Psalm 70:1-3

and the Way of Salvation    Psalm 70:5

Unison Prayer: The Nicene Creed                                      Bulletin, page 14

Assurance of Pardon and Encouragement

to Hope and Obedience    Psalm 70:4

Psalm 70    Bulletin, pages 15-16

Prayers of Supplication and Thanksgiving

Scripture Reading: Titus 1:10-16

Message: Sharp Rebuke

Closing Hymn

Christian, Dost Thou See Them                                      Bulletin, page 17

Prayer of Benediction

# Sound Truth for a Smart Church

## *Sharp Rebuke* *the Rev. Nick Hathaway*

*Titus 1:10-16*

Sermon Theme: **Sin, in Christ's church, is so despicable that it deserves sharp rebuke.**

Who is the circumcision party?

What are Jewish myths?

How could a teacher be silenced?

When should God's sheep be sharply rebuked?

Where is social critique appropriate?

Why are some things pure for the pure but defiling for others?

Is sharp rebuke enough to curb the power of sin?

## How Firm a Foundation

*Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Is. 41:10*

G C G D G C

1. How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your  
2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your  
3. "When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of  
4. "When through fiery trials your path-way shall lie, my grace, all-suf-

G D7 G F D/F# Em Am7 C

faith in his ex-cel-lent Word! What more can he say than to  
God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength-en you, help you, and  
sor-row shall not o-ver-flow; for I will be with you, your  
fi-cient, shall be your sup-ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I

G D G C G D7 G 7

you he has said, to you who for ref-uge to Je-sus have fled?  
cause you to stand, up-held by my right-eous, om-nip-o-tent hand.  
trou-bles to bless, and sanc-ti-fy to you your deep-est dis-tress.  
on-ly de-sign your dross to con-sume and your gold to re-fine.

5. "E'en down to old age all my people shall prove  
my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

6. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

## With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring

*I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise.*  
Ps. 138:1

Capo 1: ♯ (A) (D) (A) (E) (A) (E<sup>7</sup>) (A) 7 (D) (A)

1. With grate - ful heart my thanks I bring, be - fore the great thy  
 2. I cried to thee and thou didst save, thy word of grace new  
 3. O Lord, en - throned in glo - ry bright, thou reign - est in the  
 4. Thou wilt stretch forth thy might - y arm to save me when my

(E<sup>7</sup>) (A) (E) (A) (D) (A) (E) (A) (E<sup>7</sup>) (A)

praise I sing; I wor - ship in thy ho - ly place and  
 cour - age gave; the kings of earth shall thank thee, Lord, for  
 heav'n - ly height; the proud in vain thy fa - vor seek, but  
 foes a - larm; the work thou hast for me be - gun shall

(D) (A) (E<sup>7</sup>) (A) (E) (E<sup>7</sup>) (A)

praise thee for thy truth and grace; for truth and grace to -  
 they have heard thy won - drous word; yea, they shall come with  
 thou hast mer - cy for the meek; through trou - ble though my  
 by thy grace be ful - ly done; for - ev - er mer - cy

(E<sup>7</sup>) (A) (E) ♯ (E<sup>7</sup>) (F♯m) (A) (D) (A<sup>7</sup>) (Bm) (F♯m<sup>7</sup>) (E<sup>7</sup>) (A) 7

geth - er shine in thy most ho - ly word di - vine.  
 songs of praise, for great and glo - rious are thy ways.  
 path - way be, thou wilt re - vive and strength - en me.  
 dwells with thee; O Lord, my Mak - er, think on me.

# Be Exalted, O God

Words and Music by Brent Chambers, 1977  
Based on Psalm 57:9-11

CCLI Song #21112

The musical score is written in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of ten systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are as follows:

I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, a-mong the peo-ple.

I will sing praises to Thee a-mong the na-tions.

For Thy steadfast love is great, is great to the hea-vens;

And Thy faith-ful-ness, Thy faith-ful-ness to the clouds.

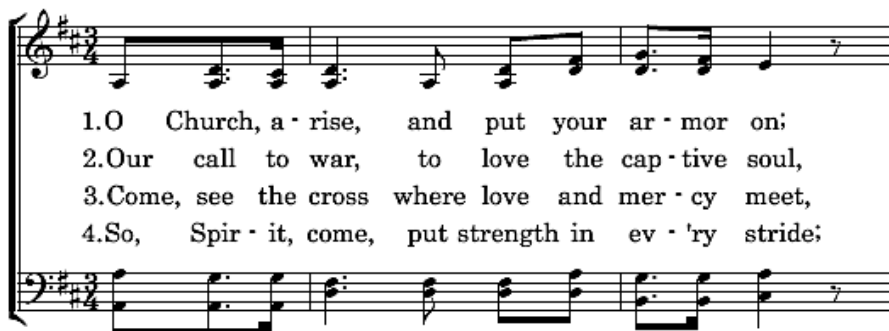
Be ex-alt-ed, O God, a-bove the hea-vens;

Let Thy glo-ry be o-ver all the earth.

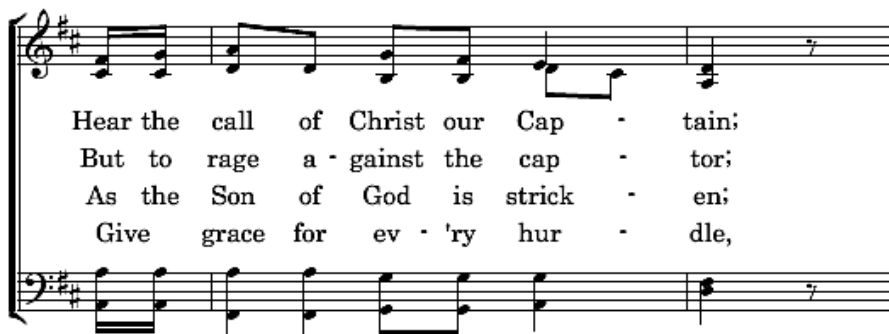
Be ex-alt-ed, O God, a-bove the hea-vens;

Let Thy glo-ry be o-ver all the earth.

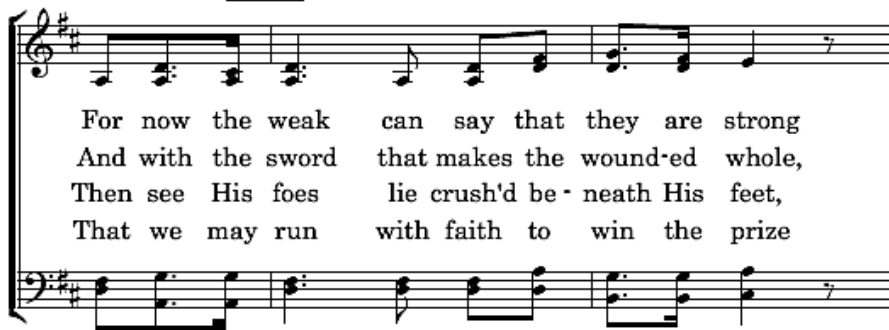
# O Church, Arise



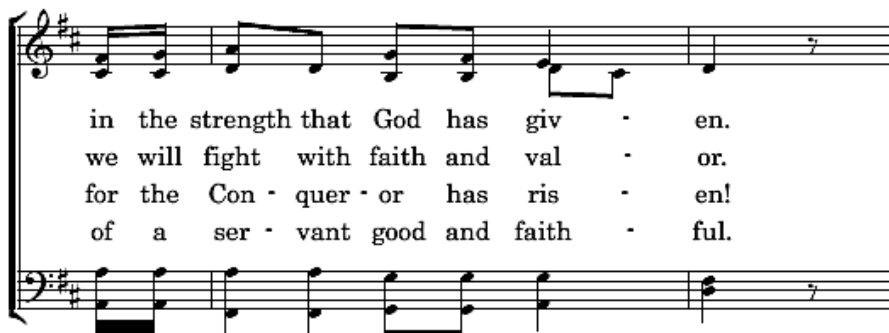
1. O Church, a - rise, and put your ar - mor on;  
2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul,  
3. Come, see the cross where love and mer - cy meet,  
4. So, Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride;



Hear the call of Christ our Cap - tain;  
But to rage a - gainst the cap - tor;  
As the Son of God is strick - en;  
Give grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle,



For now the weak can say that they are strong  
And with the sword that makes the wound - ed whole,  
Then see His foes lie crush'd be - neath His feet,  
That we may run with faith to win the prize



in the strength that God has giv - en.  
we will fight with faith and val - or.  
for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!  
of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.

With shield of faith and belt of truth,  
 When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side,  
 And as the stone is rolled a - way,  
 As saints of old still line the way,

we'll stand a - gainst the Dev - il's lies:  
 we know the out - come is se - cure;  
 and Christ e - mer - ges from the grave,  
 re - tell - ing tri - umphs of His grace,

An ar - my bold, whose bat - tle - cry is love,  
 And Christ will have the prize for which He died:  
 This vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues till the day  
 We hear their calls and hun - ger for the day

reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.  
 an in - her - i - tance of na - tions.  
 ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see Him.  
 when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.

# THE NICENE CREED



We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# Psalm 70

## Verses 1 - 2

Capo 3: F (D) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) 7 (G) (D) (A)

O God, de-liv-er me. Lord, speed Your help to me;

(A<sup>7</sup>) (D) (A) (D) F (G) (D) (G) (D/A) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) 7

And let all those who seek my soul a-shamed and hum-bled be.

TUNE: DENNIS S.M.  
(new *Trinity Hymnal*, p. 359)  
("Blest Be the Tie That Binds")

*Verses 3 – 5*

Turned back be they, disgraced,  
That in my hurt delight;  
Appalled by their own shame be they  
Who say, “Aha,” in spite.

Let all who seek Thee joy  
And glad in Thee abide.  
Let those who Thy salvation love  
Say, “God be magnified.”

In need am I and poor;  
O God, make haste I pray;  
My help and my Deliverer,  
O Lord, do not delay.

## Christian, Dost Thou See Them

*Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Eph. 6:11*

1. Chris - tian, dost thou see them on the ho - ly ground,  
 2. Chris - tian, dost thou feel them, how they work with - in,  
 3. Chris - tian, dost thou hear them, how they speak thee fair?  
 4. Hear the words of Je - sus: "O my ser - vant true;

how the pow'rs of dark - ness rage thy steps a - round?  
 striv - ing, tempt - ing, lur - ing, goad - ing in - to sin?  
 "Al - ways fast and vig - il? Al - ways watch and prayer?"  
 thou art ver - y wea - ry— I was wea - ry too;

*Faster*  
 Chris - tian, up and smite them, count - ing gain but loss,  
 Chris - tian, nev - er trem - ble; nev - er be down - cast;  
 Chris - tian, an - swer bold - ly, "While I breathe I pray!"  
 but that toil shall make thee some day all mine own,

7  
 in the strength that com - eth by the ho - ly cross.  
 gird thee for the bat - tle, watch and pray and fast.  
 Peace shall fol - low bat - tle, night shall end in day.  
 and the end of sor - row shall be near my throne."