WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Orange Park Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 8, 2026 • Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude *"God of Grace"* arr. Langston

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Leader: Give ear, O my people, and listen to the words of my mouth.
People: We will tell the coming generations of the Lord's glorious deeds and the wonders God has done.
Leader: Let us set our hope in God and not forget the works of the Lord.
People: As we wait, we will tell the story and keep the commandments.
All: We come together to worship the living God.

Opening Prayer

* **Hymn** (#19) *"God of Great and God of Small"* Howard

CELEBRATING GOD'S GRACE

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin (Unison)

God of grace, we have sinned against you by not honoring you or loving one another. We sleep when you ask us to be awake. We fall short in our preparations for the delays that inevitably come. We fail to share what you have provided. We have lost our hope. Forgive our sinful ways, tame our wayward wills and make us more like Christ. Inspire us by your Spirit so that we will be prepared to welcome the Lord when he appears. May our lives here and now be a glimpse of what we hope all may one day enjoy. (Moment of silent confession.) **Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

The Peace of Christ

* *Stand if able*

* **Hymn** (#400) *"I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say"* Farrell

I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to the house of God." And now our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem!
Shalom, shalom, the peace of God be here. Shalom, shalom, God's justice be ever near.
For the love of my friends and kin I will bless you with signs of peace. For the love of God's own people I will labor and pray for you.
Shalom, shalom, the peace of God be here. Shalom, shalom, God's justice be ever near.

THE PROCLAIMING OF GOD'S WORD

Faith Sharing With Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25

* **Hymn** (#63) *"The Lord Is God"* Mason

Second Reading Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon Rev. James Kendrick

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* **Affirmation of Faith** (Unison)

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.

With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. (from the Confession of 1967)

* **Gloria Patri** (#581) *"Glory Be to the Father"*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom 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 kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *"Rock of Ages"* arr. Larson

* **Doxology** (#606) *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise *him, all creatures here below;
Praise *him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
[or "God"]*

Prayer of Dedication

SENT TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

* **Hymn** (#295) *"Go to the World!"* Williams

* **Charge & Benediction**

* **Postlude** *"Thine Is the Glory"* Handel

Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors--Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor--lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.

Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. "Now, therefore, revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods,

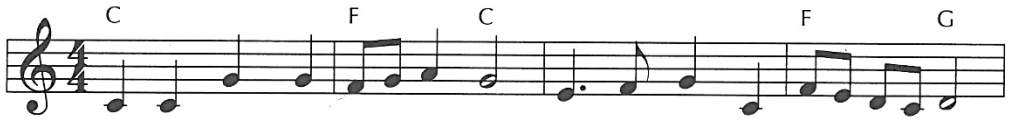
for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed,

and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins.
If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good."
And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!"
Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses."
He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel."
The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey."
So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Matthew 25:1-13
"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Orange Park Presbyterian Church
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God of Great and God of Small 19



1 God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
2 God of land and sky and sea, God of life and des - ti - ny,
3 God of si - lence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
4 God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,



God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things be - long,
God of nev - er - end - ing power, yet be - side me ev - ery hour,
God of day and dark-est night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
God of now and days be - fore, God who reigns for - ev - er - more,

Refrain



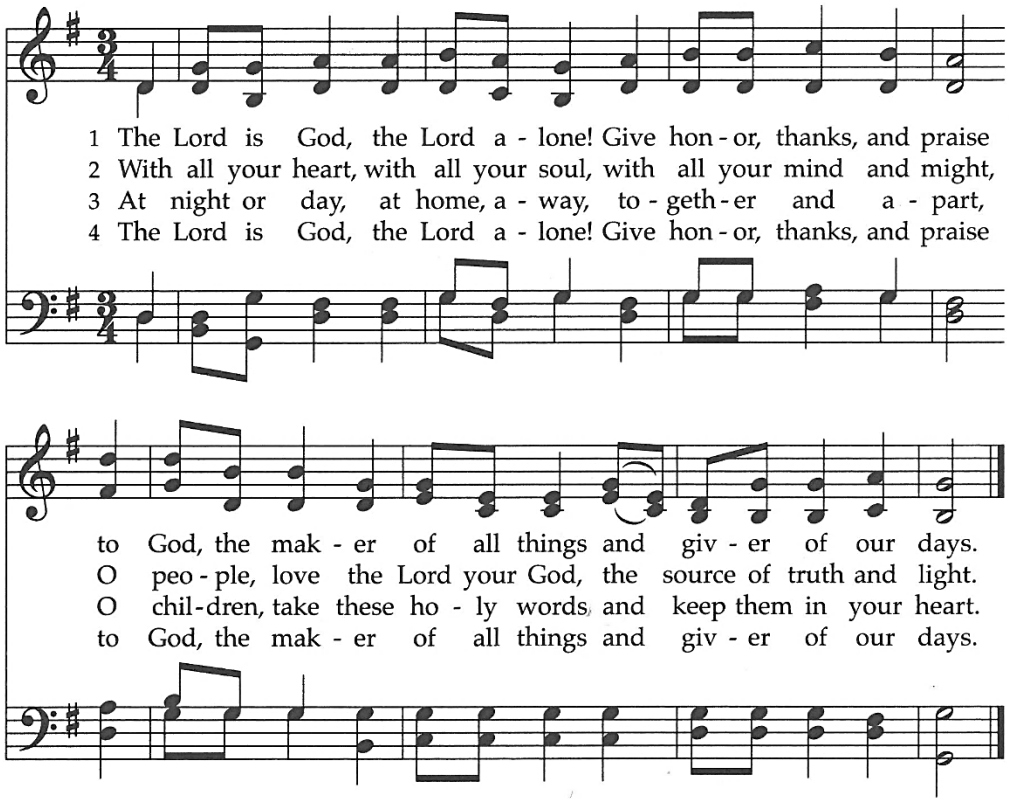
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, praise be to your name.

Although it uses remarkably simple language, this text affirms a great mystery: beyond all our powers of explanation, God holds together all the opposites that seem to pull us in one direction or another. Yet God is present to them all and also to us; for that we give praise.

TEXT: Natalie Sleeth, 1973
MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1973; arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012
Text and Music © 1973 Carl Fischer, Inc.

GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL
7.7.7.7 with refrain

The Lord Is God 63



This hymn paraphrases the *Shema* (Deuteronomy 6:4–9), an ancient and central affirmation of Jewish monotheistic faith that observant Jews still recite twice a day. Jesus knew it well and called it the first and great commandment (Matthew 22:38/Mark 12:28–29/Luke 10:26–28).

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2011 AZMON
MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839 CM
Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

Go to the World! 295



Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19–20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1985
MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

SINE NOMINE
10.10.10 with alleluias

Worship Assistant: Sallie Gipson

Ushers: Wayne and Cindy Ezell, Dave and Kathy Morrison, John and Joanne Rose
Deacon Greeter: Betty Wengert

ONLINE GIVING



Last Sunday's Attendance:

Rev. James Kendrick, Pastor
james@oppresby.com

Vernon Humbert, Choir Director/Cellist
Sonja Lewis, Organist
Jo Plunkett, Pianist

Orange Park Presbyterian Church
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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY CORNER

WELCOME AND MEMBERSHIP: Welcome to worship at Orange Park Presbyterian Church! There are Connect Cards in the pews for visitor information, communications, and prayer requests (once completed, place in the offering plate). If you would like to talk with Pastor James about becoming a follower of Jesus Christ or becoming a church member, please note that on the card, and he will reach out to answer your questions.

GET CONNECTED: If you would like to receive our weekly newsletter, please provide us with your e-mail address on a blue connect card or send an e-mail to pam@oppresby.com. We would love to keep you current on what's happening at OPPC.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH AND NURSERY: Children's Church on Sunday mornings is for ages 4 through 13 and takes place right after the children's message. Our nursery is open upon request for the younger ones.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: The next rehearsal will take place on November 11 at 6:30 p.m.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH: Come and take part in "Greening of the Church" on Thursday, November 19, at 5:30 p.m. We will adorn our Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas, when we will welcome the Christ Child! Another opportunity to participate is "Prep Day" where we will repair and prepare the decorations. This will be held in the Gathering Place on Tuesday, November 17, at 1:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m., the Adult Forum meets in The Gathering Place, Room 3, using The Present Word "Soul of a Nation" (Laura Wilson). Travelers' Class meets in The Gathering Place, Room 4, and using a video series "Who is This Man?" by John Ortberg. (Cathy Sanders). The Seekers meet in the church office library, using "New Wine; A Study of Transition in the Book of Acts" by J. Dwight Pentecost (Ricky Kirby).