



CENTER GROVE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Lord's Day, November 21, 2021

Welcome and Announcements

* **God Calls Us to Worship Him:** Responsive Reading of James 1:2-4

Pastor: Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds.

Congregation: For you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Pastor: And let steadfastness have its full effect.

All: That you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

* **We Sing in Response:** #523 Red Hymnal "*My Hope Is in the Lord*"

* **We Seek God's Presence in Prayer**

We Confess Our Sins Together:

Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy. We are spiritually poor, but you are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor. Strengthen our faith and trust in you. We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us. We are cold in love; warm us, and make our hearts fervent for you that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Pray Silent Prayers of Confession

God Assures Us We Are Forgiven: Lamentations 3:22-24

* **We Sing In Response to God's Forgiveness:** #154 Black Hymnal "*Oh, the Deep, Deep Love*"

* **We Confess Our Faith Together:** The Apostles Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

We Read From God's Word: John 15:12-27

We Pray For The Congregation and Community

We Memorize God's Word: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

We Present Our Tithes & Offerings In Worship

We Worship Through the Music of Offertory: *"This Little Light of Mine"* Offered by JOY Choir

* **We Sing the Doxology:** #731 Red Hymnal *"Doxology"*

* **We Give Thanks to the Lord**

* **We Sing In Preparation for the Word:** #689 Red Hymnal *"Be Still, My Soul"*

(Children age 4 through kindergarten may be dismissed to Children's Worship)

Pastor Reads the Sermon Text: Matthew 5:1-12

Pastor Preaches God's Word: *"The Strange Paradox of God's Blessing to His Persecuted People"* - Pastor Wes James

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

* **We Sing In Response to the Word:** #177 Black Hymnal *"In Christ Alone"*

* **The Lord Sends Us Out (Benediction)**

Sermon Outline
Matthew 5:10-12
“The Strange Paradox of God’s Blessing to His Persecuted People”
11-21-21

Proposition: *The strange juxtaposition of the Christian life is the promise of God’s greater blessing precisely in the face of suffering and persecution.*

Main Point One: The Reason

Main Point Two: The Reward

Main Point Three: The Rejoicing