To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come; this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the risen Lord Jesus Christ.
The sounding of the bells is the call for meditation and prayer as we prepare to worship our holy God.

**INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION**

“GIVE THANKS”
Text & Music by Henry Smith

**WELCOME**
Please silence your phones and other electronic devices.

**ENTERING GOD’S PRESENCE**

**INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE**

“BLESSED IS THE MAN”
Text from Psalm 1:1
Music by Michael Baughen

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Psalm 32*

Minister: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

*People:* *Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

Minister: Let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found.

*People:* *You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me with shouts of deliverance.*

Minister: Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD, be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.
PRAYER OF ADORATION

Minister, Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.
33 Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright.

2 Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

3 Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

4 For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.

5 He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
and by the breath of his mouth all their host.

7 He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;
he puts the deeps in storehouses.

8 Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

9 For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.

10 The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the plans of his heart to all generations.

12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

13 The LORD looks down from heaven;
he sees all the children of man;
from where he sits enthroned he looks out
on all the inhabitants of the earth,
he who fashions the heart of them all
and observes all their deeds.

16 The king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

17 The war horse is a false hope for salvation,
and by its great might it cannot rescue.

18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
that he may deliver their soul from death
and keep them alive in famine.
Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.
For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.
Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Minister: The Word of the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
The congregation is invited to kneel through the Pronouncement of Forgiveness.

Minister Almighty God, our merciful Father in heaven, when we were dead in our trespasses and sins, You made us alive in union with Christ—by grace we have been saved. But we confess that we often rely on our own efforts to make us righteous. We compare ourselves to others. We judge and condemn our brothers and sisters for falling short of the righteousness we imagine we have attained. Instead of trusting Jesus Christ alone, we trust ourselves. Forgive us for our misplaced confidences. Forgive our sinful unbelief. Remind us of the gospel we so quickly forget. Remind us of your abundant mercy and steadfast love. Enable us to cling to Jesus alone as our righteousness and to depend on Him alone for our justification. Sustain us in faith, hope, love, and joy by the gracious work of your Spirit in our hearts.

Please take a moment to silently confess your sin.

PRONOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS
Minister: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. To all who repent and believe the gospel, your sins are forgiven in Jesus’s name.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

RENEWING OUR FAITH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Minister: How does baptism remind you and assure you that Christ’s one sacrifice on the cross is for you personally?
People: In this way: Christ instituted this outward washing, and with it gave the promise that, as surely as water washes away dirt from the body, so certainly his blood and his Spirit wash away my soul’s impurity, in other words, all my sins.
Minister: Should infants, too, be baptized?

People: Yes. Infants as well as adults are in God’s covenant and are his people. They, no less than adults, are promised the forgiveness of sin through Christ’s blood and the Holy Spirit who produces faith. Therefore, by baptism, the mark of the covenant, infants should be received into the Christian church and should be distinguished from the children of unbelievers. This was done in the Old Testament by circumcision, which was replaced in the New Testament by baptism.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

**Prayers of the People**

Minister: Dear Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for Fredo and Carolina Perez, who come with Ezra Alexander Perez; to declare publicly their allegiance to your Son our Savior. Daily open their hearts to your grace and truth. Fill them with your life-giving Spirit. Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church. Enable them to love others in the power of the Spirit. Send them into the world to be a witness to your grace and love. And preserve them until they arrive in their heavenly home to enjoy the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister: Father, we pray for this child, Ezra. Deliver him from the way of sin and death; open his heart to your grace and truth; fill him with your life-giving Spirit; keep him in the faith and communion of your Church; prepare him to witness to your love; and bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister: And we pray for ourselves, the congregation of St. Paul’s Church: Grant us grace to see Ezra as our own; to love him, pray for him, and assist these parents as duty done to You, the one true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

**Presentation of Candidate & Questions**

**Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

Minister: Renew and strengthen, O Lord, this child of the covenant. By your Holy Spirit, empower him for your service and sustain him all his days. Defend him by your grace and claim him as your adopted son in your mercy. May You keep him by your Holy Spirit until at last he comes to your everlasting kingdom and his heavenly home. We humbly yet boldly ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.
1. Children of the heav’n-ly Father safely
in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in
heaven such a refuge e’er was given.
spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.

2. God his own doth tend and nourish, in his
holy courts they flourish; from all evil things he
showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.
fends every foe man must surrender.

3. Neither life nor death shall ever from the
Lord his children sever; unto them his grace he
5. Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne’er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.

6. More secure is no one ever
than the loved ones of the Savior;
not you star on high abiding
nor the bird in home-nest hiding.
Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Minister: The Word of the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God!

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION*
Big Idea: Paul’s admonition to rejoice in the Lord leads to a wonderful clarification of the gospel in contrast to a distortion of the gospel threatening the Philippian church. To “gain Christ” and be “found in Him” means more than having a right legal standing with God, though justification by faith is central to Paul’s gospel message. He is describing the rich blessing of living all of life in union with Christ Jesus.

1. The danger of misplaced confidence

2. A righteousness that comes through faith in Christ

3. To be “found” in Christ in life and death
1. My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but changing grace; in every high and stormy gale, my
whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he him be found; dressed in his righteousness alone, fault-

2. When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his un

3. His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the

4. When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in

wholly lean on Jesus’ name.
anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all
less to stand before the throne.

other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.
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; Thine 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 for ever.

*DOXOLOGY*

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. All glory be to God above, who gave his Son in holy love, who sends his Comforter to be his seal for all eternity, his seal for all eternity.
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING FORTH HYMN #306  "JESUS, MY GREAT HIGH PRIEST"
Verses 1 & 3

Alt. Tune: DARWALL

Jesus, my great High Priest, offered his blood and died;
My guilty conscience seeks, no sacrifice beside.
His pow’rful blood did once atone, and now it pleads before the throne.

My Advocate appears, for my defense on high;
The Father bows his ears, and lays his thunder by.
Not all that hell or sin can say, shall turn his heart, his love, away.

Minister:  Go in peace to love and serve the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

People:  Thanks be to God!

Please wait to be dismissed by the ushers.

INSTRUMENTAL POSTLUDE  "REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING"

DIADEMATA

In our worship service this morning, Rev. Dan Thompson will be ministering in the pulpit and Rev. Justin Borger will be assisting. Leading us in musical praise is our organist, Maria Schlehr; pianist, Sarah Birx; trumpeter, Robert Krahn; and clarinetist, Tamia Dawkins, all under the direction of our Director of Music, Ronald Owen. Singing in our Men’s Quartet this morning is Peter Benyola, Jim Crandall, Chris Hurt, and David Romaine. Leading the congregational singing is Chris Hurt and David Romaine.

* Congregation standing

† Additional worshipers seated
Pastoral Staff

Justin Borgер
Senior Pastor
Frank Cavalli
Pastor Emeritus
Miles Hayes
Assistant Pastor of Prison Ministry
Dan Thompson
Assistant Pastor

Ruling Elders

Gordon Cloke
Mark Kistner
John Maynard
Charles Miller
Dan Pugh
Mark Robb
Jim Crandall
Bud Leonard
Ed McDougall
Larry Pike
Steve Ritchie
David Seligson

St. Paul’s Staff

Janet Chitty
Children’s Ministry Assistant
Mark Davis
Director of Youth Ministries
Donna Love
Director of Children’s Ministries
Phil Love
Facilities Manager
Rick Madsen
Director of Ministries
Trish Miceli
Bookkeeping
Ronald Owen
Director of Music
Hannah Pacchioli
Music & Youth Ministry Assistant
Lisa Rowley
Administrative Assistant
Rusty Taylor
Event Setup

Deacons

Andrew Auer
Matthew Gross
Rick Madsen
Matt Ragsdale
Andy West
Phil Elwood
David Jones
Jason Mages
David Sutton
Jim Walls

Women in the Church Board

Ann Christian
Carol Kistner
Mary Miller
Sherry Swindle
Debbie Yeko
Carolyn Jackson
Donna Love
Laura Ragsdale
Maktie Tucker
Simone Youmans

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