



Church of the Hills
Presbyterian Church (USA)

“Forge Ahead”

Exodus 14:13-18; 21-31

Hebrews 11:1-3, 29-40

Pastor Richard Aylor

October 5, 2025

We are a vibrant family of faith rooted in God’s Word, gathering together to worship and equipped to share the love of Christ in the world.

Prelude

****Opening Chant**

“One Bread, One Body”

Purple Hymnal 530

“One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.”

Welcome

Pastor Richard Aylor

****Call to Worship**

Leader: Happy are those whose help is in the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord
their God.

People: The Lord God reigns forever, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

**** Please stand if you are able**

****Opening Hymn**

“We Gather Together”

Purple Hymnal 336

We gather together to ask the Lord’s blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

****Invitation to Confession**

Kelly Selva

Leader: God answers those who seek mercy; salvation comes to those who wait for the Lord.

People: Therefore, let us confess all we have done, and what we have not done, trusting in God’s grace.

****Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, you have called us to live in sincere faith and to suffer for the gospel. We confess that we do not come before you with a clear conscience. Our faith is clouded by sin and uncertainty. We shrink from your call to live sacrificially on behalf of others. Too quickly, we seek our own ease and comfort first. We confess that in our own lives, and in the church we rely on our power rather than yours. Forgive us, we pray, for we are fractured and fearful disciples. Take away from us a spirit of cowardice, and restore to us the spirit of power rightly used, of love unconditionally offered, and of self-discipline gracefully lived. In new mercy, forgive us and increase our faith, that we may be faithful servants at your table. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

**** Please stand if you are able**

**** Declaration of Forgiveness and the Peace of Christ**

Leader: The power of God, has saved us:

People: Grace is given to us in Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light.

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And, also with you.

Leader: Share the Peace of Christ with one another.

****Response to Forgiveness**

“We are Forgiven”

Purple Hymnal 447

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God.
Thanks be to God. We are forgiven.
We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Holy God, speak your word; let those who hear guard the good treasure entrusted to them with the help of the Holy Spirit, living in us all. Amen.

**** Please stand if you are able**

New Testament Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3; 29-40

11 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Ministry of Music

“People Need the Lord”

performed by Liane Rockley
and Phyllis Pieffer

¹³ But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today, for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.”

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. ¹⁶ But you lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷ Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them, and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. ¹⁸ Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.”

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.”

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

****Response to Sermon**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Purple Hymnal 65

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this
barren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me
with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing
stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me
all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious
fears subside. Death of death, and hell’s destruction, land me
safe on Canaan’s side. Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

****Doxology**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Purple Hymnal 606

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.

**** Please stand if you are able**

The Eucharist

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.....

Therefore, with creation we sing your praise (purple 552):

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith (purple 553):

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Amen. Amen. Amen. (purple 554):

And now let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

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.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements (Gluten-free elements are available)

Special Music during Communion performed by Liane Rockley and Phyllis Pieffer

For Reflection and Meditation:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

**All: Loving God, you have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup
and made us one with Christ. Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all
the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

****Closing Hymn**

“Great God of Every Blessing”

Purple Hymnal 694

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

Your Word is our salvation, the source of endless grace,
in death and life extending your covenant embrace.
In Christ we are one body; each member has a part:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

****Charge and Blessing**

Leader: And the people of God say

People: Alleluia. Amen.

Postlude

**** Please stand if you are able**

Please join us for Fellowship Time in the Narthex immediately following the Worship Service. To all of our visitors, you are welcome to join us, and we look forward to getting to know you during this time.

Thank you to Liane Rockley, (Flute) and Phyllis Pieffer, (Piano) for the sanctuary music today! The selections played are shown below for your reference:

Prelude: Great is the Lord (with Morning has Broken)

Michael and Deborah Smith/
arr by Marilyn Ham

As a second piece "You are My All in All" by Dennis Jernigan arr by Joel Raney. We will play "Come Thou Fount " as the third piece if needed.

Ministry of Music: People Need the Lord

Greg Nelson and Phill McHugh/
arr by Carol Foss

Liane Rockley, Flute

Communion Music:

Lamb of God

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Liane Rockley, Flute

Twila Paris arr by Joel Raney

John Wyeth arr by Brent Olstad

Postlude: He is Exalted

Twila Paris arr by Lloyd Larson

For Pastoral Care:

Please contact Pastor Richard at 303-828-8263

A General Note regarding Financial Solicitations:

Please remember that a church leader will never directly solicit you for funds or the transfer of funds. We will only ask for your support of the church through the traditional process of filling out pledge cards and fulfilling that pledge accordingly.

Office Hours:

The Church Office is open Tuesday – Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (aside from staff lunch hours). Friday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Deadlines:

The deadline for all Church Communication Publications and notifications is Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

Additionally, please provide advance notice for any special projects you may have, so that time can be accurately allocated, supplies ordered, and quality and fairness can be provided for all parties concerned.

Please be aware that any items received after the deadline will go into the following week's communication publications and job tasks.

Church Officers:

Pastor – Richard Aylor
Office Administrator – Peggy Farnham (and Toby)
Director of Music – Nancy Church
Finance Administrator – Tom Maxey
Treasurer/Trustee Permanent Endowment Fund – Jerry Bucholz
Clerk of Session – Judy Jensen

Elder – Worship – Shari Gulbrandsen
Elder – Stewardship – Alan Lebsock
Elder – Love in Action – Vicki Kyle
Elder – Christian Education – Heidi Smithson
Elder – Personnel – Michael Marks
Elder – Nominating – Margi Masquelier
Elder – Administration – Tom Scripps
Elder - Communications –
Elder – Building & Grounds – John O'Brien

Deacons:

Nancy Grant	Carla McFadden
Marilyn Sandifer	Cherie Braun
Dianne Lebsock	Kelly Selva
Marjorie Clinton	Cindy Sahli

A special thank you to Chase Allbritton for helping with the tech.

*Hymnals are indicated for those that may have them at home.

Blue - "The Presbyterian Hymnal"

Red - "Songs for Praise and Worship"

Purple - "Glory to God"

Yellow - "Hymns for the Family of God"

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Liturgy and reflections are provided by Lectionary Aids for 2021-2022, Year C, Volume 2,
PCUSA and Book of Common Worship, Westminster John Knox Press.