



Church of the Hills
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Psalm 46

Romans 8:31-39

Pastor Richard Aylor

September 14, 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**

“There is a Redeemer”

Purple Hymnal 443

“There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.”

Welcome

Pastor Richard Aylor

Moment for Mission

Love in Action – EChO Shelter

****Call to Worship**

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

People: They shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

****Opening Hymn**

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” Purple Hymnal 687 (1-4, 6)

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

****Invitation to Confession**

Marilyn Sandifer

Leader: Friends in Christ, God knows our needs before we ask, and in our asking prepares us to receive the gift of grace. Let us open our lives to God's healing presence, seeking peace with God and reconciliation with our neighbors. Let us confess our sin together.

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

****Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

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

Leader: Hear the good news! The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you eternal life.

People: Amen

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

****Response to Forgiveness “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” Purple Hymnal 394 (v. 1)**

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and
cornerstone, chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one; holy Zion's
help forever, and our confidence alone.

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

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Mighty God, you spoke the world into being; speak now to our hearts. By the power of your Spirit, make these ancient words live, that we might be shaped into your people, eager to bear your claim in the world and to give flesh to your future. For we pray in the name of Jesus, who leads us into life. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 46

- 1 GOD is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
 though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
- 3 though its waters roar and foam,
 though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
 the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
 God will help it when the morning dawns.
- 6 The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
 he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- 7 The LORD of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 Come, behold the works of the LORD;
 see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
- 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
 he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
 he burns the shields with fire.
- 10 “Be still, and know that I am God!
 I am exalted among the nations,
 I am exalted in the earth.”
- 11 The LORD of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our refuge.

New Testament Reading

Romans 8:31-39

31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33 Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Sermon

****Response to Sermon**

“Amazing Grace”

Purple Hymnal 649

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun, we've no less days
to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

****Doxology**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Purple Hymnal 14 (v. 1)

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

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

Prayers of the People and 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.

****Closing Hymn**

“ Be Thou My Vision”

Purple Hymnal 450

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

****Charge and Blessing**

Leader: And the people of God say

People: Alleluia. Amen.

Postlude

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

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. (Peg and Toby normally go to lunch between 12:30 and 1:00 and are back by 2:00). 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 – Shari Gulbrandsen
Elder – Building & Grounds – Bob McFadden

Deacons:

Nancy Grant
Marilyn Sandifer
Dianne Lebsock
Marjorie Clinton

Carla McFadden
Cherie Braun
Kelly Selva
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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