

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**May 16, 2021**

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL

THE WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

THE PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES -

*Time to prepare our hearts and minds for worship*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Happy are those who do not ridicule and scoff but who delight in God's teachings and meditate on them day and night.

**ALL: They are like trees planted by streams of water. They yield fruit in due season, and their leaves do not wither.**

Leader: Let us come before God in worship and praise and be nourished by His holy word.

\*HYMN 353 ***"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"*** (see attached music)

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In unison*) **God, though you call us to delight in your teachings, we can become cynical and full of doubt. Do not judge us, we pray, but heal us and restore us to you. Guard us and protect us from evil, and sanctify us in truth; in Jesus' name.** (silent prayer of confession)

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: In Christ Jesus, God has promised to forgive us and reconcile us to God and each other.

**All: Let us rejoice in the peace God offers. Praise be to God we are forgiven.**

\*GLORY TO THE TRIUNE GOD

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Traditional*)

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 1

THE GOSPEL READING: John 17:6-19

MESSAGE: Jesus Prayers for You

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

**WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

THE OFFERING

\*PRAISE GOD #592

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**WE DEPART TO SERVE GOD**

\*HYMN: 462 *I Love to Tell the Story* (see attached music)

*Taking the Light into the World*

\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*THE POSTLUDE

## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353

1 My hope is built on noth- ing less than Je- sus' blood and  
 2 When dark-ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un -  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the  
 4 When he shall come with trum- pet sound, O may I then in

right- ous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet- est frame, but  
 chang- ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
 whelm- ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 him be found, dressed in his right- teous - ness a - lone, fault -

*Refrain*

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all  
 then is all my hope and stay.  
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth- er ground is sink- ing sand; all oth- er ground is sink- ing sand.

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24–27 / Luke 6:47–49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

## I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.  
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and the composer was responsible for the creation of the refrain.