

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth
Sunday, July 27th, 2025
Rev. Gerry Gallant**

**His Sheep Know His Voice
Proper 12
John 10:30-42**

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship

Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

for he is our God
**and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.**

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

O gracious and holy God,
give us the diligence we need to seek you faithfully in our lives,
the wisdom to perceive your presence,
and the patience to wait for you to do your will in your time.

Grant us, Father,
a mind to that desires to meditate on you,
eyes that desire behold you,
ears to burn to listen for your Word,
a heart that yearns to love you as you love us,
and a life that proclaims you your glory through our words and deeds,
We pray this through the power of the Spirit
of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit as the
One True Living God.
Amen.

Children's Hymn: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white. They are precious in His sight.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus died for all the children, all the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white. They are precious in His sight.
Jesus died for all the children of the world.

We must help the little children, all the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white. They are precious in His sight.
We must help the little children of the world.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD,
and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!
Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
For your name's sake, O LORD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.
Relieve the troubles of my heart,
and bring me out of my distress.
Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news
Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins
is proclaimed to you.
In Christ we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace.

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 the evil one
For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.**

Hymn #78: “This is the Day”

This is the day, this is the day
 that the Lord has made,
 that the Lord has made.
 We will rejoice, we will rejoice
 and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
 This is the day that the Lord has made;
 we will rejoice and be glad in it.
 This is the day, this is the day
 that the Lord has made.

Open to us, open to us
 the gates of God,
 the gates of God;
 we will go in, we will go in
 and praise the Lord, and praise the Lord.
 Open to us the gates of God;
 we will go in and praise the Lord.
 Open to us, open to us
 the gates of God.

You are our God, you are our God;
 we will praise your name,
 we will praise your name;
 we will give thanks, we will give thanks
 for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.
 You are our God; we will praise your name;
 we will give thanks for your faithfulness.
 You are our God, you are our God;
 we will praise your name.

Responsive Reading**Psalm 119:129-136**

¹²⁹ Your testimonies are wonderful;
 therefore my soul keeps them.

¹³⁰ **The unfolding of your words gives light;
 it imparts understanding to the simple.**

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant,
 because I long for your commandments.

¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me,
 as is your way with those who love your name.**

¹³³ Keep steady my steps according to your promise,
 and let no iniquity get dominion over me.

**¹³⁴ Redeem me from man's oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.**

¹³⁵ Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.

**¹³⁶ My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your law.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

John 10:30-42

³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. ³² Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?”

³³ The Jews answered him, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God.” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’? ³⁵ If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— ³⁶ do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’? ³⁷ If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; ³⁸ but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”

³⁹ Again they sought to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands.

⁴⁰ He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained. ⁴¹ And many came to him. And they said, “John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.” ⁴² And many believed in him there.

Sermon

The Gospel of John is often called the Gospel of Belief. The whole intent of John's Gospel is to bring Christian to an understanding of what it means to believe, true and faithfully believe in Jesus Christ as God and as their Lord and Savior.

Last week we learned that Jesus himself defined what it meant to be a believer and how those of true faith receive eternal life.

He called the faithful his sheep.

And in his metaphor of the sheep, he said that His sheep know His voice and His sheep follow Him and obey Him.

He also clearly told the religious leaders of that day that even though they were leaders of the Jewish people, and even though they knew their scriptures, prayed and did all the things that faithful people were supposed to do, that they were not His sheep, because they did not know his voice and obey His word.

In this week's scripture we are continuing in that same conversation that Jesus is having with those religious leaders. Remember it all started with them surrounding him and confronting him to tell them plainly if He is the messiah.

Something which he has told them over and over, something he has proven in word and deed, and yet they refuse to see.

So, in verse 30 of today's scripture Jesus says it in perhaps the clearest way possible.

John 10:30

³⁰ I and the Father are one."

He is saying I and my father are one in our very essence. They are one in their purpose, one in their plans, one in every imaginable aspect of their beings, yet they are two separate beings and with a third being, the Holy Spirit they made up the Triune God.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Three persons in one.

Jesus is saying to those people listening that day, 'I am God' when he makes this statement.

Look back to how the Book of John started.

John 1:1

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Jesus, the word was there in the beginning making him eternal. He was with God, face to face with God, which shows that relational aspect of the trinity, and He was God, showing that they are one in essence, in their very core of being.

Then in John 1:14

John 1:14

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus became man.

And in today's scripture he is quite plainly telling all of those religious leaders gathered there around him in that confrontation, 'I am God'.

Jesus is God.

That is the truth. And you either believe that is true and become one of His sheep or you deny that truth and are not one of the flock of God.

Those men who had surround Jesus to confront him that day finally had a clear answer from him in their minds. One that they could respond to with either belief or disbelief. Jesus had just reminded

them of all of the miracles he had done, all of the words he had shared, the teachings he had given and how they all obeyed God and showed God's glory.

And those religious leaders still chose disbelief.

John 10:31

³¹The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. ³²Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?"

³³The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God."

The minute Jesus claimed, 'I and the Father are one', those holy men of God, pick up stones to kill Jesus.

They understood him perfectly. Jesus was claiming to be God, there was no doubt in their minds, and they immediately sought to stone him to death for blasphemy.

There are many people in the world today who will say Jesus never claimed to be God. Yet this verse proves not only did he claim to be God, the religious leaders of the day believed he claimed to be God and wanted to kill him for it right then and there, in violation of both their own law and Roman law at the time.

In their own words, '**It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God.**'

Notice that the religious leaders do not dispute the words and works of Jesus. They do not deny that he healed the sick, that he raised the dead, that he fed crowds of people with a little boy's lunch. They do not deny any of his miracles, even the healing of the man born blind which had never been done before.

Even Nicodemus, a religious leader of the time, way back in chapter three of the Book of John said this.

John 3:2

²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

They knew and believed in all of the miracles Jesus had done, they were not denying that truth. Instead, even with all of the evidence pointing to the truth that he is God, they still deny that truth, because he is not the God that they want him to be, the one who will give them what they want and fall in line with their desires.

They deny Jesus is God and chose to kill Him rather than accept Him.

And the world has not changed. Even with all the evidence in this world that shows Jesus is God, many in this world choose to deny God and, in their anger, and they attack Christians.

The world today will accept Jesus the man, Jesus the healer, Jesus the great healer, Jesus the moral teacher. However, Jesus as God, Jesus as Lord and Savior, Jesus as the voice that we need to listen to, follow and obey, to that they say 'No way! There is no way I am submitting MY LIFE to God, that would mean I need to change'

They world today would be just as quick to pick up stones and kill Jesus if they could.

John 10:34-36

³⁴ **Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'? ³⁵ If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—
³⁶ do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?"**

Notice when Jesus defends himself with these religious leaders he quotes the scripture.

Jesus is quoting Psalm 82.

Psalm 82:1-8

¹ **God has taken his place in the divine council;
in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:**
² **"How long will you judge unjustly
and show partiality to the wicked? *Selah***
³ **Give justice to the weak and the fatherless;
maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.**
⁴ **Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked."**
⁵ **They have neither knowledge nor understanding,
they walk about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.**
⁶ **I said, "You are gods,
sons of the Most High, all of you;**
⁷ **nevertheless, like men you shall die,
and fall like any prince."**
⁸ **Arise, O God, judge the earth;
for you shall inherit all the nations!**

Psalm 82 shows us how those men who were put into position of power over God's people, the ones who were expected to act as judges of people though the usage of God's word, were called gods, lower case g.

It is the word Elohim in Greek, that word means God, however it is not God, but instead means a representative of God. Those who spoke and taught the word of God, those who communicated out the judgements of God upon the people of God.

What Jesus is doing here is giving a rabbinical argument from the lessor to the greater. He is saying those who taught the word of God, judged by the word of God and lived by the word of God were called gods. Then why is it so bad that I call myself, 'the son of God'

Jesus then talks of how the father has consecrated him, set him apart from the world and its ways and sent him into the world to do the work of God in this world.

Jesus is using their own scripture, the word of God, to show them the inconsistency in their application of His word.

However, we need to focus on what Jesus says in verse 35, '**Scripture cannot be broken.**'

This is critical, because we are still in the lesson of the Sheep and how His Sheep listen to His Voice and follow and obey it.

Jesus Christ says that the scripture cannot be broken, in the Greek that word broken has a very definitive meaning,

It really should be a word more like nullified or invalidated. God's word cannot be subtracted from or added too, it cannot be diluted or changed.

The Word of God is the Word of God.

Jesus is referring to the entire Old Testament, and by default the entire New Testament in this statement.

All scripture, ALL SCRIPTURE, is given by the inspiration of God.

This means we cannot separate the Old Testament from the New. We cannot pick and choose which parts of the bible we want to live our lives according too. We either accept the truth of the Word of God from Genesis to Revelation, or we are making up our own god to follow.

This means that if we truly are His Sheep we should have the same attitude and view on the scripture and understanding of the scripture that Jesus had.

This is important, God's Word is God's word, beginning to end and it is infallible and inerrant, it has no mistakes, because it is the Word of God.

People in the world today will argue they will not follow God because the Bible has errors, the Bible has mistakes, the Bible was written by man, the Bible is just a collection of stories. They will lay out hundreds of reasons to not believe God's word.

There are lots of people who call themselves Christians today, both in the pews and in the pulpits who do not believe in the inerrancy and infallibility of God's word. People who chose to go through and edit the Bible so that it says what they want it to say so that they can live t6he life that they want to live.

In fact, I went to school with a young man who is a minister of a church today who shared with me that he has never read the Old Testament and never will because he does not believe in the God of the Old Testament. That man has a god of his choosing, not the God of the Bible.

So many so-called Christians and churchers have eliminated whole sections of Old Testament teachings and New Testament teachings, at times even the words of Jesus himself, so that they can continue to be who they want to be and call themselves Christians in an attempt to garner eternal life.

However, to be one of his Sheep, to follow and obey His Voice, we need to understand that Jesus had a very serious view on the scripture and its historical truth and spiritual truth. If we want to truly be one of His sheep, we need to see the Word of God the same way that Jesus saw the Word of God.

Jesus saw the scripture as a divine authority from God.

Matthew 4:4

**⁴ But he answered, “It is written,
“ ‘Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”**

Man needs to live according to the scripture which comes from the mouth of God. Scripture is God breathed.

He believed that it is imperishable.

Matthew 5:17-18

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Every bit of the Word of God is eternal, it will not end until the end that is described in the book of revelation, not one iota. That word iota, that is the small little dot that appears over the lower case ‘i’. Jesus is saying that not even one little insignificant part of God’s word changes, it was, is and always will be the same.

In today’s scripture Jesus says that the scriptures cannot be broken.

John 10:35

³⁵ If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—

God’s word cannot be broken. It will never break, it will never get old, it will never go bad. It was, is and always will be the same.

Think about that for a moment, so many people in this world talk about how they believe in science. How many times do science books need to be rewritten because they discover that something that they thought was an absolute and objective truth has changed. Science books are constantly being revised, theories being removed, modified and changed.

Yet the bible that you have before you has not changed. The Old Testament we have in our Bible today is the same scripture that the Jews had when Jesus walked on the earth. The New Testament

we have in the bible today is the same words that came of the fragments of scrolls that have been discovered 2000 years later. The scripture has not changed, it is unbroken.

Jesus said that the scripture is the ultimate supremacy in the life of man.

Matthew 15:3-9

³ He answered them, “And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? ⁴For God commanded, ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ⁵But you say, ‘If anyone tells his father or his mother, “What you would have gained from me is given to God,” ⁶he need not honor his father.’ So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God. ⁷You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said:

⁸ “ ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁹ in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ “

Oh, how the world needs to understand this. Worldly tradition and worldly belief do not override the word of God. We need to obey the word of God, listen to His voice, in our lives, not just in our words but in our thoughts, actions and deeds. God’s word should be the primary decision maker in the way that we live.

Jesus also spoke of its inerrancy.

John 17:17

¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Jesus also insisted on the historical reliability of the Bible. This is important, because this is what often shows the difference between a Bible believing church and a non-bible believing church. If you believe in the Bible in the same way that Jesus did, then you will believe what he believed.

Jesus believed that God created Adam and Eve,

Matthew 19:4-6

” ⁴ He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵ and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? ⁶ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.

God made man, male and female. That alone will upset most of the world today. Male and Female, only two choices, not the thousands upon thousands of genders that the world has created so that people can be whatever they want to be today. God created MALE AND FEMALE, that is it.

And that marriage is between a male and a female, an eternal unity between a man and a woman.

Jesus believed in Jonah.

Matthew 12:40

⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

He spoke of his own time in the tomb using the truth of Jonah's time in the belly of the fish as an example.

Jesus also believed in Noah's flood.

Matthew 24:37-39

³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

He believed that the people in Noah's day were living in defiance of God. Living lives filled with their own desires, until God flooded the world, and only Noah and his family were spared.

He believed in the story of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Luke 17:28-31

²⁸ Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, ²⁹ but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— ³⁰ so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

So many in the world today try to ignore the teachings of God around Sodom and Gomorrah, but Jesus Christ took it seriously.

Jesus believed in Abraham.

John 8:58

⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

Jesus believed in King David.

Mark 2:23-27

²³ One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴ And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" ²⁵ And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: ²⁶ how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?" ²⁷ And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

Jesus believed in the Word of God, beginning to end. He believed historically accurate, that it is spiritually relevant and that it is infallible, inerrant and that it should be the primary form of guidance in our lives.

The scriptures cannot be broken.

In verse 38 Jesus tells those gathered religious leaders if they do not believe his words that they should at least believe in his works.

John 10:37-38

³⁷ If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; ³⁸ but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”

You can take Jesus and the works he did in this world and there is no comparison. He did so many miracles and taught so incredibly that those who believed in him were willing to die because of their faith in the first century. So, Jesus is telling those gathered around him, even if you hate my words and believe them to be blasphemy, look at the things I did, they are things only God could do, believe at least in the things I did.

The religious leaders reject him because of his words, and their anger is so strong they refuse to see the works of God.

John 10:39-42

³⁹ Again they sought to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands.

⁴⁰ He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained. ⁴¹ And many came to him. And they said, “John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.” ⁴² And many believed in him there.

Once again, the religious leaders try to grab Jesus and arrest him. And once again he evades them.

This time however, Jesus leaves the region, to beyond the Jordan, to the place where his ministry started, the place where he was baptized by John the Baptist.

While he was there many people came to him, people who had been taught by the John the Baptist. They recognized him because of the teachings of John the Baptist and because they believed, they began to follow Christ, to believe in him.

They became His sheep, they listened to His voice, and they followed Him.

If you are one of Jesus's sheep, if you are a child of God, you will listen to His voice.

You will have the same view on the Word of God that Jesus Christ had. That it is the inerrant and infallible Word of God. It is the cornerstone of your life and even though you may fail in keeping it, over and over, you keep coming back to it and trying to live differently.

Being one of the sheep means that we walk in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd, the one who was set apart from the world. He will lead us to eternal life as we learn to humbly submit to His teachings, as the Holy Spirit does its work in us, showing us the sin our lives and helping us to come to the Lord in repentance, seeking his grace and mercy.

It means we will face trials, tribulations, temptations, challenges, persecution, exclusion and perhaps even death, because we do not do what the world wants us to do. However, no matter what the world throws at us, we can have peace and joy in this life because we know that we have been given eternal life as one of God's people.

And it is in the blessed assurance, that we can walk in the world as the Salt and Light of God's Word, sharing the glory and truth of his word with those who remain lost in this dark and broken world.

Let us Pray,

We Seek Our Comfort Only in Your Mercy

Lord God, heavenly Father,
 guide and direct us by your Holy Spirit,
 that we may not forget our sins and be filled with pride,
 but continue in daily repentance and renewal,
 seeking our comfort only
 in the blessed knowledge
 that you will be merciful to us,
 forgive us our sins
 and grant us eternal life;
 through your beloved Son,
 Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and forever.

Source: Veit Dietrich, d. 1549, Trinity 11

Hymn #500: "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Open my eyes, that I may see
 glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
 place in my hands the wonderful key,
 that shall unclasp and set me free.
 Silently now I wait for Thee,
 ready, my God, Thy will to see;
 open my eyes, illumine me,
 Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
 voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
 and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
 ev'rything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for Thee,
 ready, my God, Thy will to see;
 open my ears, illumine me,
 Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
 gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere;
 Open my heart, and let me prepare
 love with Thy children thus to share.
 Silently now I wait for Thee,
 ready, my God, Thy will to see;
 open my mouth, illumine me,
 Spirit divine!

Invitation to Offering

Offering Prayer

Closing Hymn #490: "God of Grace and God of Glory" (V 1,4,5)

God of grace and God of glory,
 on thy people pour thy power;
 crown the ancient church's story;
 bring its bud to glorious flower.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 for the facing of thls hour,
 for the facing of thls hour.

Set our feet on lofty places;
 gird our lives that they may be
 armoured with all Christlike graces,
 pledged to set all captives free.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 that we fail not them nor thee,
 that we fail not them nor thee!

Save us from weak resignation
 to the evils we deplore;
 let the search for thy salvation
 be our glory evermore.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 serving thee whom we adore,
 serving thee whom we adore.

Pastoral Prayer

O Lord, we praise you with all our soul.
 We praise you for the abundance of grace and mercy
 that we unconsciously receive from you in so many different ways.
 You overlook our iniquities.
 You bring us back to good health.
 You save us from evil and inundate us with your love and compassion.
 Lord, you provide nourishment and rejuvenation
 to our bodies, minds, and souls.
 We also know, Lord, that through you,
 there will be justice for the suffering of your people.
 Thank you for graciously revealing yourself
 to your children so long ago,
 that we might have the privilege of knowing your will.
 We are only deserving of eternal death as a result of our evil ways.
 However, rather than eternally condemning your children in anger,
 you bestow your unconditional and boundless love on us.
 Through your incomprehensible love for us,
 you free us completely from the price of our transgressions.
 We cherish your compassion
 just as a child cherishes the compassion of loving parents.
 We know that, without your compassion,
 we would be reduced to nothing but dust on this material planet,
 alive and growing one day,
 then dead and blown away with the wind the next,
 fading away even from human memories forever.
 Because of your compassion, Lord, we are allowed a life of eternity;
 a gift that you have promised even to future God-fearing generations.
 Help us and all future generations to hold tightly
 to your precious covenant through obedience to your will.
 Lord, from your mighty throne you rule over us all.
 We call the cherubim that surround you, the seraphim that serve you,
 and every believer in your domain to join our souls
 in praising your holy name! **Amen.**

Benediction

May our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the one who came with grace and truth,
 also fill your hearts with grace and truth,
 as you serve him in the days ahead.
 And may the joy of the Lord—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—
 be your strength. **Amen.**