

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Princeton, NJ 08542-3224

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E-mail: witherspoon@verizon.net

Website: www.witherspoonchurch.org

Rev. Dr. Barbara Booth-Jarmon, Guest Preacher
Debra Jones-Peart, Lector
Edin Orellana, Sexton

Fumi Nakamae Korodan, Director of Music
Steven Russell, Guest Organist
Cynthia Parker, Office Manager

October 29, 2023

10:00 a.m.

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Organ Instrumental

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 1)

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked.

Or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

But their delight is in the law of the Lord,

And on his law they meditate day and night.

Let us worship the Lord of all.

GATHERING HYMN

How Great is Our God

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash,
Jesse Reeves

Verse 1

The splendor of the King

Clothed in majesty

Let all the earth rejoice

All the earth rejoice

He wraps Himself in light

And darkness tries to hide

And trembles at His voice

And trembles at His voice

Chorus

How great is our God

Sing with me

**How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God**

Verse 2

**And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb**

Chorus

**How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God**

Bridge

**Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God**

Bridge

**Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God**

Chorus

**How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God**

Chorus
How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God

Chorus
How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The deepest longing of our hearts is to be forgiven and embraced by our God. As we confess our sins, God speaks peace to us and makes us whole. Join me, as we pray together, saying,

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Almighty and Loving God of the land and the seas, we are more adept at making judgements about others instead of looking at our own faults. We find it easier to push people away rather than make room for those who are different from us. Our lives and the world are in such a whirlwind of hurtful behaviors. We do not stop and notice your presence or hear your sheer silence singing your shalom to us. We do not look at our neighbor with hope and love. We restrain from reaching too far to help others.

Have mercy on us, God of patience. Grab hold of us to keep us from drowning in our temptation to avoid engaging in peaceful help. Give us the words to speak of your hope to others. Fill our hearts with the love of Jesus Christ, which is nearer to us than we can imagine.

(Silence is kept as we pray our individual confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News of the Bible. Your sins are forgiven, your life is restored, and grace becomes your guide through this life.

Thanks be to God! We are not left alone but take heart in the forgiving love of our God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

(PH #579)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

WELCOME OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

CHOIR ANTHEMS

Holy, Holy, Holy

(Nicaea) John Bacchus
Dykes, Reginald Heber

Power of Your Love

Hillsong

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bless us, O God, with ears to hear your truth, vision to discern your path, and feet ready to move into action. Open our minds and our hearts to the reading of your Word, and the honest proclamation of your truth. Ready us to respond to the Spirit's call. Amen.

FIRST READING

Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18

¹The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ²Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

¹⁵You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord. ¹⁷You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

SECOND READING

Matthew 22:34-40

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

SERMON

Loving Our Neighbors

Barbara Booth-Jarmon

PROFESSION OF FAITH

(from the Belhar Confession)

We believe

- **that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;**
- **that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God’s Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;**
- **that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted;**
- **that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the**

stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God loves us and blesses us with abundance. God also calls us to love others and be generous with all we have been given. In gratitude to God, let us present our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Organ Instrumental

DOXOLOGY

(PH #592)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Not only with our lips, but with our lives and with our treasure we will proclaim that you are in our midst, Loving God. Take these gifts and use them so all might know that your love, your life, your hope, your healing is near to them. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP

PRAYER OF THE DAY and THE LORD'S PRAYER

God our provider, we have discovered that every moment spent in your holy presence lasts beyond all space and time. You watch over us in the night, holding us in your loving arms and care for us as your children. You care for our neighbors and love them equally to us.

In Wisdom, you created the world, then humbled yourself to come to us in Christ, that we might learn to love others. As a witness to God's grace, you call us to treat others in the ways of love and peace.

In the coolness of the autumn breeze, as nature changes with bright colors leading us to rest in your glory, the Spirit proclaims God's grace to us. As the sun warms the cool mornings, we feel Spirit's gentle caress allowing a glimpse of the warmth of your love.

We ask that you hold this hurting and angry world in your arms, comforting the grieving, giving hope to those who are captive, give nourishment, protection and hope to those who are seeking food, and shelter and safety. Put your healing touch on those who are suffering with illness and heal them, according to your will, in body, mind, soul, and spirit.

Use the fires that rage in our hearts to speak against injustice and as we reach out to our neighbors throughout the world, especially the vulnerable, those who go unnoticed, and those who cannot speak out for their own justice.

As you stay with us, may we notice you, as God of community, Holy in One, as we pray with the confidence as the children of God, as our Lord Jesus taught us to pray ...

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.

SENDING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (PH #464)

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

AMEN

(PH #587)

POSTLUDE

Organ Instrumental

Today's liturgy was created by Barbara Booth-Jarmon and Carol Holbrook Prickett (The Presbyterian Outlook).

**OFFICE HOURS 112 WITHERSPOON ST.
MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

The CDC's most recent COVID Community Levels for Mercer County remain Low. Witherspoon's COVID protocols for in-church worship service going forward are that **masks are optional for in church worship for low risk parishioners and are highly recommended for people at high risk for severe illness in consultation with their health care providers.** Hand sanitizing before entering the sanctuary and social distancing within each pew such as sitting on the ends or in the middle of a pew are in effect. Self health screening at home is encouraged prior to worship. If you are not well, please stay at home and contact your healthcare provider. Witherspoon will continue to monitor our COVID Community Levels weekly and update our protocols when the levels change.



WELCOME
to Our Church

WELCOME – The Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon warmly welcome all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office if you are interested in church membership or if you want to be added to the church e-mail distribution list. (witherspoon@verizon.net or 609-924-1666)

WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE! “Like” our Facebook page



(<http://www.facebook.com/WitherspoonStreetChurch>)

to get the latest updates on your wall. Share your WSPC comments, photos and videos. If you want pictures added or notices posted please send an email to the church office (witherspoon@verizon.net).

GIVING TO WITHERSPOON STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Support our mission using your credit or debit card. On our church website, click on the *Give Now* button. **WWW.WITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG** <http://bit.ly/WSPCGive>

For those who prefer to give through the mail, please send your donations to: 112 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08542

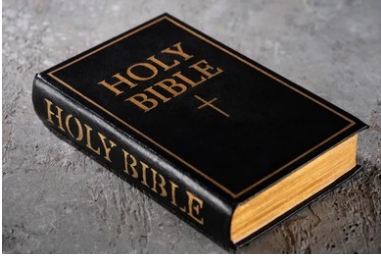
IN APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SERVICE

Our Ushers and Tech Media Team



GUEST PREACHER
REV. DR. BARBARA BOOTH-JARMON

Rev. Dr. Barbara Booth was born and raised in Monmouth County NJ. She was a teacher of the deaf for ten years in NJ and Wisconsin. After becoming an author and speaker, she attended Princeton Theological Seminary where she earned her MDiv and attended Drew University Theological School where she earned her DMin. She has served as a pulpit supply, a solo Pastor, an Interim Pastor, and a Hospice Chaplain and was the Pastor at Florida Presbyterian Homes in Lakeland, Florida. She married her high school boyfriend, Jack Jarmon, 21 years ago. They have two children, two grandchildren, and two Australian Shepherds. Barbara and Jack recently moved back to NJ from Florida in May and are glad to be home with their family and longtime friends.



SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We invite you to connect with us each Saturday morning at 10 a.m. to study and discuss scripture. All are welcome to be with us as we learn together.

November 4 Philippians 3 & 4

November 11 Philippians 3 & 4



FELLOWSHIP HOUR BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS will be held **this Sunday October 29** immediately following the Worship Service. If you are celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary in October, the Deacons invite you, your family, and friends to join us in celebrating you and your important event on this the last Sunday of your special event month.



VOLUNTEER MUSICIAN

Do you have a gift that God gave you? Do you feel led to share it with us at Church? Volunteer Musicians for all instruments are needed to add to our Music Ministry for Sunday and Special Worship Services. Volunteer guitar player(s) (amplified, non-amplified or electric) are also needed for select Sunday Worship Music. We encourage you to come, rehearse and play with us!



CHOIRS CONTINUE WITH A NEW SCHEDULE!!

We are continuing all Choirs rehearsing and singing at Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church during Worship Service with a new schedule!!

Both **CHOIR MEMBERS** and **NEW SINGING AND VERSE SPEAKING VOICES** are invited to join in fellowship in our **MUSIC MINISTRY** to meet, greet and work with Fumi Korodan our Music Director and Cecelia Hodges our Verse Speaking Choir Director to sing, speak in verse and review planned rehearsals, repertoire, scripts and upcoming music and verse speaking events. All are welcome to audition.

All are welcome to join us in rehearsal to prepare to perform at any time that you are inspired to begin membership in our Music Ministry! Please look forward to upcoming announcements about the new choir rehearsal schedule.

All Choir rehearsals will begin promptly at their designated rehearsal times.

Our **MENS CHORUS** will rehearse on **Sundays** following Chancel Choir Rehearsal. The estimated starting time for Men's Choir rehearsal is 12:30 p.m. **Everyone is invited to sing.**

VERSE SPEAKING CHOIR

If you've been thinking about joining the Verse Speaking Choir, but haven't gotten around to it, now is the time! We'll be performing every third Sunday in church. The Choir meets at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesdays, in the sanctuary. Come and raise your voice in biblical, secular, and sometimes even fun selections. **EVERYONE** is invited.

Our **CHANCEL CHOIR** will rehearse on **Sundays at 11:30 a.m.** and will perform Anthems and Hymns on Sundays to be determined. Everyone is invited to sing.

For additional information and inspiration please contact WSPC.

This Week at Witherspoon


Today	Worship - Guest Preacher Barbara Booth-Jarmon	10:00 AM
	Fellowship to Celebrate October Birthdays/ Anniversaries (Fellowship Hall)	11:00 AM
Monday		
Tuesday	Verse Speaking Choir (Sanctuary)	6:30 PM
Wednesday	Sunday Worship Planning Group (via Zoom)	5:30 PM
Thursday	Deacon Board Meeting (via Zoom)	7:30 PM
Friday		
Saturday	Saturday Morning Bible Study (via Zoom)	10:00 AM
Next Sunday	Communion Service - Guest Preacher Donald Pitches	10:00 AM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	11:30 AM

How Great Is Our God

Words and Music by
Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves
and Ed Cash


VERSE

$\text{♩} = 76$ C Am7



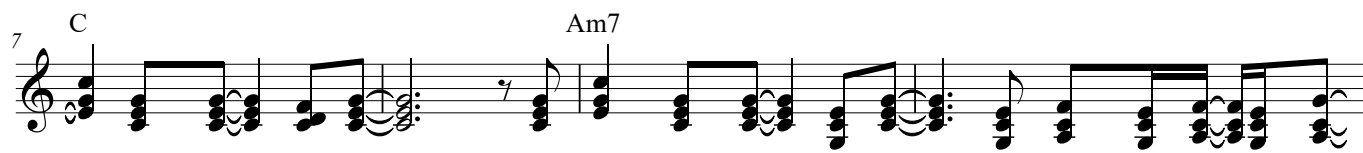
1. The splen - dor of the King, clothed in maj - es - ty;
(2. And) age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;

4 F2



Let all the earth re - joice, all the earth re - joice. He wraps
Be - gin - ning and the End, Be - gin - ning and the End. The God -

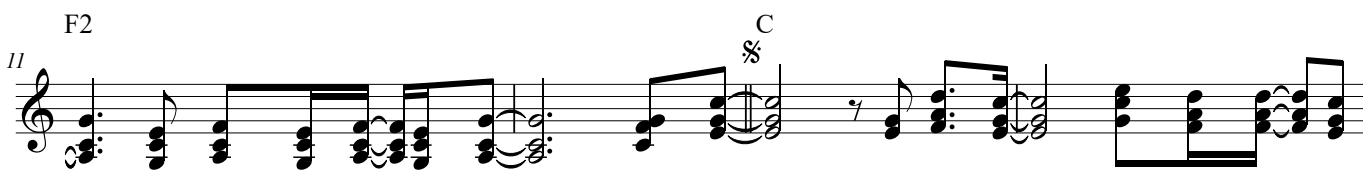
7 C Am7



Him - self in light, and dark - ness tries to hide, and trem - bles at His voice,
head, three in one, Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, the Li - on and the Lamb,

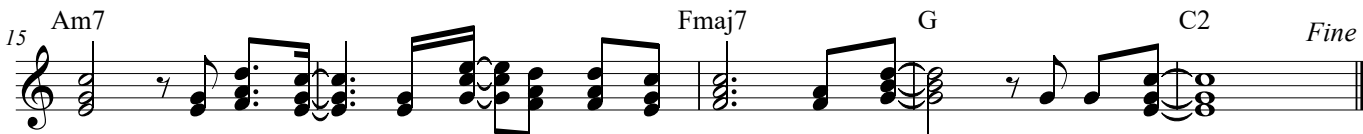
CHORUS

11 F2 C



and trem - bles at His voice. How great is our God! Sing with me: How
the Li - on and the Lamb.

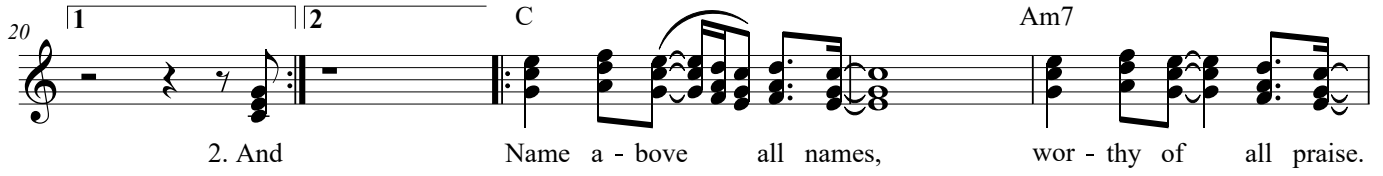
15 Am7 Fmaj7 G C2 Fine



great is our God! And all will see how great, how great is our God!

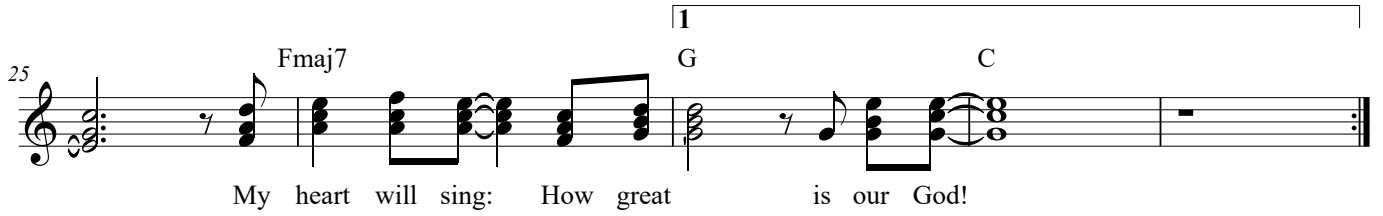
BRIDGE

20 **1** **2** C Am7



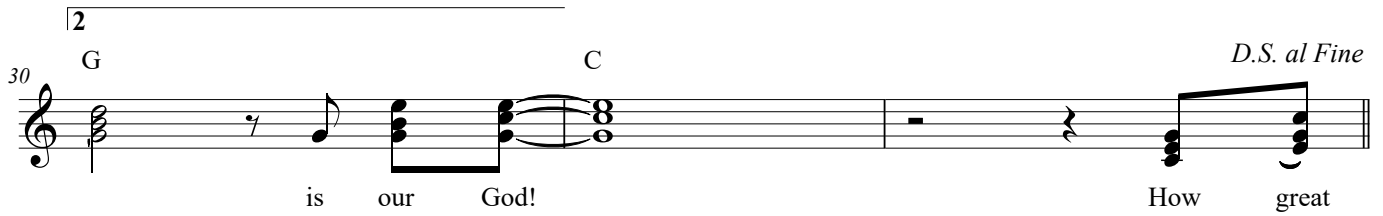
2. And Name a - bove all names, wor - thy of all praise.

25 Fmaj7 G C



My heart will sing: How great is our God!

30 **2** G C *D.S. al Fine*



is our God! How great