

# *Cheerfulness*

**IN NEGATIVE WORLD**



**JULY 6, 2025**

# Beverly Heights Church

Welcome and Greeting

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Announcements

Amy Lucas, Church Administrator

Psalm Instruction

*Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem*

Elissa Winkler

## THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

*Selections*

Chad Winkler, *Accompanist and Pianist*

*The first note of the prelude marks the beginning of worship. Please use this brief period of time for prayer and preparation while keeping conversation at a low volume and to a minimum. **Please refrain from clapping unless led to do so.***

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made!

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Congregational Introit **Psalm 126** (see next page) vv. 1, 2

*When Zion's Fortunes God Restored*

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Psalm of Praise **No. 150** vv. 1-3

*Sing Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!*

Responsive Reading from Psalm 34

Mr. Peter A. Chace

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!

**People: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no lack!**

Leader: Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

**People: The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.**

Responsive Psalm **No. 122**

vv. 1, 2

*I Was Filled with Joy and Gladness*

# When Zion's Fortunes God Restored

From Psalm 126

1. <sup>1</sup>When Zi - on's for - tunes GOD re - stored,  
2. The na - tions said, "The LORD has done

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2. The na - tions said, "The LORD has done

It was a dream come true. <sup>2</sup>Our mouths were then with  
Great things for Is - ra - el." <sup>3</sup>The LORD did might - y

<sup>2</sup>Our mouths were then with  
<sup>3</sup>The LORD did might - y

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laugh - ter filled, Our tongues with songs a - new.  
things for us, And joy our hearts knew well.

laugh - ter filled, Our tongues with songs a - new.  
things for us, And joy our hearts knew well.

3. <sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, gracious LORD,  
Like streams in desert soil.  
<sup>5</sup>A joyful harvest shall reward  
The weeping sower's toil.

4. <sup>6</sup>The man who, bearing seed to sow,  
Goes out with tears of grief,  
Will come again with songs of joy,  
Bearing his harvest sheaf.

**THE LORD CLEANSSES OUR SIN**

Unison Confession of Sin, Followed by Silent Confession

*Please bow your head. For those who are able, you are invited to kneel during the confession of sin.*

**This is the message we received from the Scriptures: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin. So we boldly come to confess our sin before You.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Hear the good news of the gospel: He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing clemency. He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot.*

Unison Confession of Faith

Definition of Chalcedon

**Therefore, following the holy fathers, we all with one accord teach men to acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards his Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards his manhood; like us in all respects, apart from sin; as regards his Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards his manhood begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the virgin, the God-bearer; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from earliest times spoke of him, and our Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us, and the creed of the fathers has handed down to us.**

**THE LORD SANCTIFIES OUR LIVES**

Old Testament Lesson

1 Samuel 21:1-6

Mr. Peter A. Chace

Psalm of Praise **No. 122**

vv. 3, 4

*I Was filled with Joy and Gladness*

Special Music

*Battle Hymn of the Republic*

arr. Steffe

Anne Davis, Hannah Devlin, Cindy Egeland, Karley Lucas and Selah Winkler, *flute choir*

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*Children ages kindergarten and younger are dismissed to Walkabouts Room, and Runabouts Room.  
All other children remain in worship with their families.*

Scripture Reading

Acts 24:10-21

Sermon

**Cheerfulness in Negative World**  
A Cheerful Defense

Dr. Kyle David Bennett

**THE LORD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS AND HEARTS**

Call for the Offering and Offertory

*Selections*

Prayers of the People

Prayer for the Success of the Gospel

Mr. Peter A. Chace

**THE LORD MEETS US AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution and Examination of Conscience (\*See below)

Invitation and Coming to the Table

***Please note: we will eat together in the pew.  
Those who are unable to come to the table will be served in the pew.  
The Elders are serving bread and wine.***

***To better serve those with restrictions, please see Pastor Devlin for gluten-free bread and/or grape juice.***

Communion Psalm No. 22

*All Ends of Earth Will Turn to Him*

Prayer of Thanksgiving followed by the Threefold Amen No. 740

*Trinity Hymnal*

**THE LORD SCATTERS US TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM**

Closing Psalm No. 134

*Summer Psalter*

*Behold, Bless the Lord*

Benediction

Postlude

*Selections*

***\*May I Come to the Lord's Table?***

*All baptized believers who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, including those from other congregations, are a part of the true Church and are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper. As we come to the table we rejoice as we remember our need to trust in Jesus Christ as Lord, to repent of sin, and to covenant once more to live as followers of Jesus. Those who are ignorant in their knowledge of Christ or who are living ungodly and unrepentant lives should refrain from the table. Baptized children may be admitted to the Lord's Supper provided their parents have appeared before the Pastor or Session to share their child's profession of faith, in a manner acceptable to the Session.*

# Sermon Materials

Within the story of American secularization, there have been three distinct stages:

- **Positive World (Pre-1994):** Society at large retains a mostly positive view of Christianity. To be known as a good, churchgoing man remains part of being an upstanding citizen. Publicly being a Christian is a status-enhancer. Christian moral norms are the basic moral norms of society and violating them can bring negative consequences.
- **Neutral World (1994–2014):** Society takes a neutral stance toward Christianity. Christianity no longer has privileged status but is not disfavored. Being publicly known as a Christian has neither a positive nor a negative impact on one's social status. Christianity is a valid option within a pluralistic public square. Christian moral norms retain some residual effect.
- **Negative World (2014–Present):** Society has come to have a negative view of Christianity. Being known as a Christian is a social negative, particularly in the elite domains of society. Christian morality is expressly repudiated and seen as a threat to the public good and the new public moral order. Subscribing to Christian moral views or violating the secular moral order brings negative consequences.

~Aaron Renn, "The Three Worlds of Evangelicalism," *First Things*, February 2022

# Sermon Notes

## Cheerfulness in Negative World

June 8	Wealth without Woe	Proverbs 10:22
June 15	A Cheerful Giver	2 Corinthians 9:7
June 22	Cheer and No Loss	Acts 27:13-26
June 29	Cheer Is Enough	Acts 27:33-38
July 6	A Cheerful Defense	Acts 24:10
July 13	A Cheerful Gift	Romans 12:8
July 20	Cheerful Song and Prayer	James 5:13
July 27	Cheerful Forgiveness	Matthew 9:2
August 3	Cheerful Faith	Matthew 9:22
August 10	Cheer Over Fear	Matthew 14:27
August 17	Cheerful Calling	Mark 10:49
August 24	Cheer Overcomes Negative World	John 16:33
August 31	Dwelling in the Tents of Kedar	Psalm 120

### THIS WEEK AT BEVERLY HEIGHTS

**SUNDAY, JULY 6**

9:00 AM    Worship Service

**MONDAY, JULY 7**

*Church Offices Closed*

**TUESDAY, JULY 8**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 9**

10:00 AM    Staff Meeting  
 3:00 PM    Prayer Team Meeting  
 7:00 PM    Women's Book Study

**THURSDAY, JULY 10**

**FRIDAY, JULY 11**

**SATURDAY, JULY 12**

**SUNDAY, JULY 13**

9:00 AM    Worship Service

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### Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church

1207 Washington Road ❖ Mt. Lebanon, PA ❖ 15228

www.beverlyheights.org ❖ 412-561-5100

**Gathered By His Love For Us ~ Scattered By Our Love For Him**

1. Ye choirs of new Je - ru - sa - lem, Your sweet-est notes em - ploy,  
 2. How Ju-dah's Li - on bursts His chains And crushed the ser - pent's head;

melody

The Pas - chal  
 And brought with

The Pas - chal vic - to - ry to  
 And brought with Him from death's do -

The Pas - chal vic - to - ry to hymn In strains of  
 And brought with Him from death's do - mains The long - im -

The Pas - chal vic - to - ry to hymn The Pas - chal vic - to - ry  
 And brought with Him from death's domains, And brought with Him from death's

vic - to - ry to hymn  
 Him from death's domains

End of st. 6

hymn  
 mains In strains of ho - ly joy.  
 ho - ly joy, The long - im - pri - soned dead.  
 pri - soned dead, run. Al - le - lu - ia!

to hymn  
 do - mains

3. From Hell's devouring jaws the prey  
 Alone our Leader bore;  
 His ransomed hosts pursue their way  
 Where He hath gone before.

4. Triumphant in His glory now  
 His scepter ruleth all,  
 Earth, Heav'n, and Hell before Him bow,  
 And at His footstool fall.

5. While joyful thus His praise we sing,  
 His mercy we implore,  
 Within His palace bright to bring  
 And keep us evermore.

6. All glory to the Father be,  
 All glory to the Son,  
 All glory, Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
 While endless ages run.

## 150C

## Sing Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!

1. <sup>1</sup>Sing hal - le - lu - jah! Praise the LORD! Praise God with - in his  
 2. Praise God whose maj - es - ty a - bounds! <sup>3</sup>O praise him with the  
 3. <sup>5</sup>With sound - ing cym - bals praise the LORD! With clash - ing cym - bals

sa - cred courts! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Praise, praise him  
 trum - pet sound! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Praise God with  
 praise a - loud! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! <sup>6</sup>Let all that

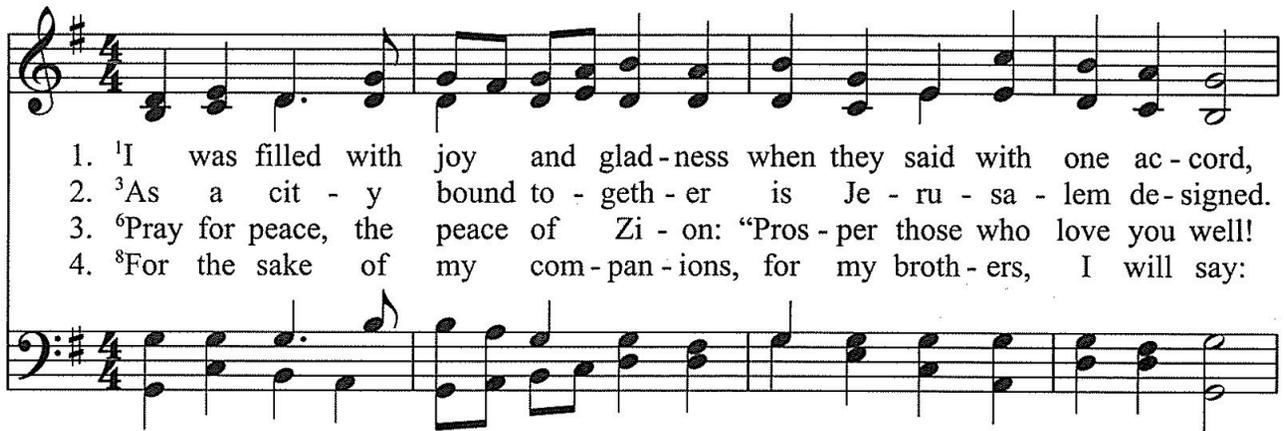
in his heav'n - ly height! <sup>2</sup>Praise, praise him for his deeds of might!  
 lute and harp and strings, <sup>4</sup>with dance and pipe and tam - bou - rine!  
 breathes now praise the LORD! O praise the LORD for - ev - er - more!

O praise him! O praise him! Hal - le - lu - jah!

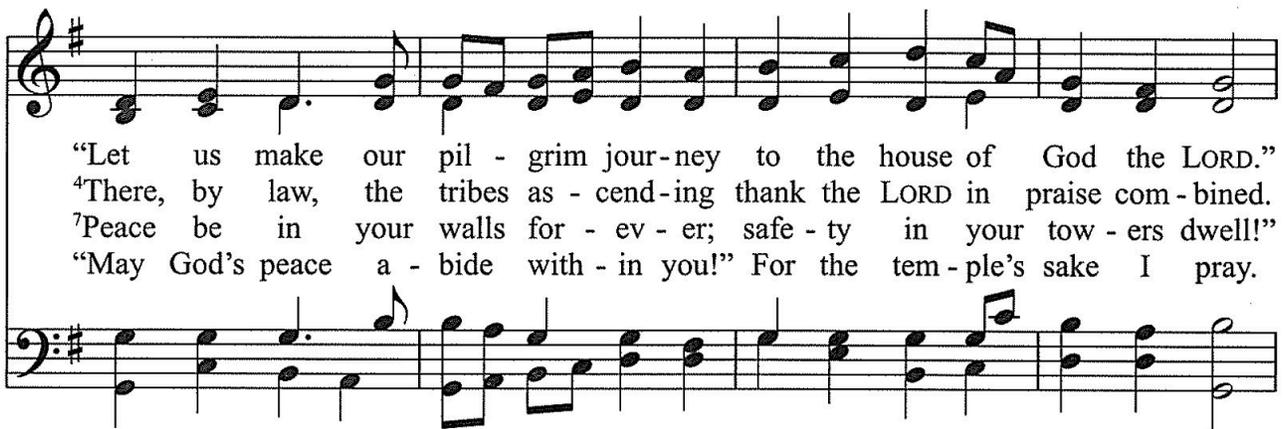
Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

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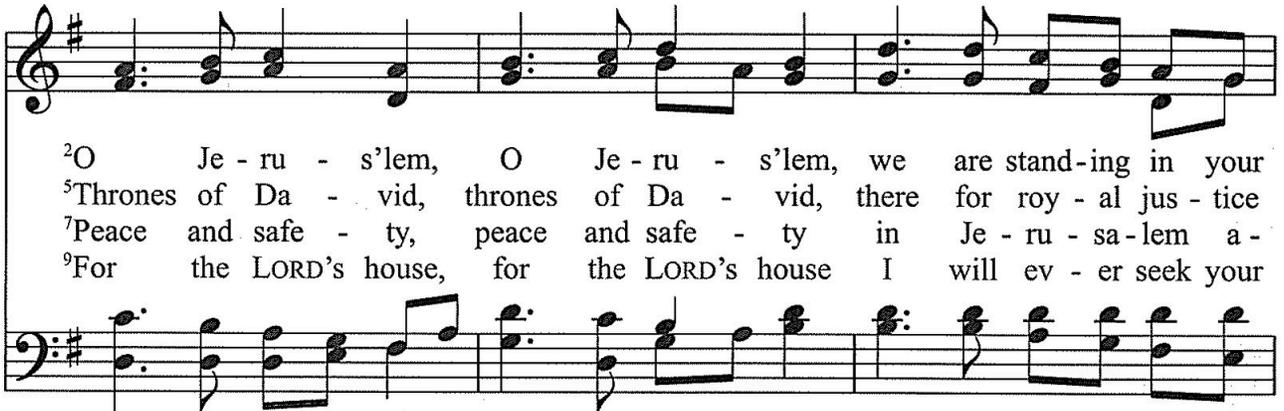
LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M.al.  
*Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623  
 Tune from the *English Hymnal*, used by permission of Oxford University Press.



1. <sup>1</sup>I was filled with joy and glad-ness when they said with one ac-cord,  
 2. <sup>3</sup>As a cit-y bound to-geth-er is Je-ru-sa-lem de-signed.  
 3. <sup>6</sup>Pray for peace, the peace of Zi-on: "Pros-per those who love you well!  
 4. <sup>8</sup>For the sake of my com-pan-ions, for my broth-ers, I will say:



"Let us make our pil-grim jour-ney to the house of God the LORD."  
<sup>4</sup>There, by law, the tribes as-cend-ing thank the LORD in praise com-bined.  
<sup>7</sup>Peace be in your walls for-ev-er; safe-ty in your tow-ers dwell!"  
 "May God's peace a-bide with-in you!" For the tem-ple's sake I pray.



<sup>2</sup>O Je-ru-s'lem, O Je-ru-s'lem, we are stand-ing in your  
<sup>5</sup>Thrones of Da-vid, thrones of Da-vid, there for roy-al jus-tice  
<sup>7</sup>Peace and safe-ty, peace and safe-ty in Je-ru-sa-lem a-  
<sup>9</sup>For the LORD's house, for the LORD's house I will ev-er seek your



gates; (*in your gates*) we are stand-ing in your gates.  
 stand; (*jus-tice stand*) there for roy-al jus-tice stand.  
 bound; (*a-bound*) in Je-ru-sa-lem a-bound.  
 good; (*seek your good*) I will ev-er seek your good.

# All Ends of Earth Will Turn to Him

# 22E

*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. — Matthew 28:19*

Psalm 22:27-31

12. <sup>27</sup> All ends of earth will turn to Him; The LORD they  
13. <sup>29</sup> All those who prosper in the earth Will eat and  
14. <sup>30</sup> A seed will rise to do His will, And of the

will a - gain re - call. The na-tions' fam - lies all will come,  
low be - fore Him bend; And in His pres - ence all will bow,  
Lord be made a - ware. <sup>31</sup> The gen - er - a - tion that will come

To wor - ship and be - fore Him fall, <sup>28</sup> Be - cause the  
Who help - less to the dust de - scend, Who e - ven  
Will then His righ - teous - ness de - clare To peo - ple

LORD the king - dom owns And rules a - bove all earth - ly thrones.  
though they vain - ly strive, Can nev - er keep their souls a - live.  
who are yet to be, That He has done this; it was He.

# Psalm 134

269

A Song of Ascents.

3-part canon

<sup>1</sup> Behold, bless the LORD, All you servants of the LORD, Who by night stand in the house of the LORD!

<sup>2</sup> Lift up your hands in the sanc-tu-ar - y, And bless the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> The LORD who made heav'n and earth Bless you from Zi - on!

G G D Em  $\frac{G}{D}$  C  $\frac{G}{D}$  D G

Music: David R. Erb, 2007 ©

Text: *Holy Bible, New King James Version*, 1982 ©