



# *Cheerfulness*

**IN NEGATIVE WORLD**



**JULY 20, 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

<p><b>THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP</b></p>
-----------------------------------------------

Prelude

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*  
Jinna Park, *Accompanist and Organist*

Limbaugh

*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 134**

vv. 1, 2

*Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem*

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Psalm of Praise **No. 46**

vv. 1, 2

*God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

Responsive Reading

from Psalm 147

Pastor Devlin

**Leader:** Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

**People:** He determines the number of the stars; He gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure. The LORD lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked to the ground.

**Leader:** Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre! He covers the heavens with clouds; He prepares rain for the earth; He makes grass grow on the hills.

**People:** He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry. His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor His pleasure in the legs of a man, but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His steadfast love.

<b>THE LORD CLEANSSES OUR SIN</b>
-----------------------------------

Unison Prayer of Confession, Followed by Silent Confession of Sin

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

**Lord, we cry to You to heal our wounds. We call to You in distress and plead for Your salvation. We have sinned against Your law and failed to do Your will; we confess that we've disobeyed Your holy Word. We pray, purge our lives of selfishness and our hearts of bitterness. Lead us back to righteousness; save us through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Hear the good news of the gospel: He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.*

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.**

<b>THE LORD SANCTIFIES OUR LIVES</b>
--------------------------------------

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 12:1-6

Mr. Peter A. Chace

Psalm of Praise No. 31

vv. 1, 2

*In You, O Lord, I Place My Trust*

Special Music

Biblical Songs, Op. 9, no. 10: *Sing Ye a Joyful Song - Psalm 98*  
Elissa Winkler, *mezzo - soprano*; Chad Winkler, *piano*

Dvořák

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
 crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:  
 praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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

Scripture Reading

James 5:7-18

Sermon

**Cheerfulness in Negative World**  
 A Cheerful Song and Prayer

Dr. Kyle David Bennett

**THE LORD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS AND HEARTS**

Call for the Offering and Offertory

*Abide with Me*

Powell

Prayers of the People

Prayers for the Sick and Suffering

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. 119**

*O How I Love Your Holy Law*

Prayer of Thanksgiving followed by the Threefold Amen **No. 740**

*Trinity Hymnal*

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

Closing Psalm **No. 31**

vv. 3, 4

*In You, O Lord, I Place My Trust*

Benediction

Postlude

*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

Gaspard

---

***\*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

## 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 20**  
9:00 AM    Worship Service

**THURSDAY, JULY 24**

**MONDAY, JULY 21**  
*Church Offices Closed*

**FRIDAY, JULY 25**

**TUESDAY, JULY 22**

**SATURDAY, JULY 26**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**  
10:00 AM    Staff Meeting  
3:00 PM    Prayer Team Meeting  
7:00 PM    Women's Book Study

**SUNDAY, JULY 27**  
9:00 AM    Worship Service

---

### 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.

## 46C

Psalm 46

## God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

*The angel showed me the river of the water of life...flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. — Revelation 22:1*

1. <sup>1</sup> God is our ref - uge and our strength,  
 2. <sup>4</sup> A riv - er brings re - fresh - ing streams  
 3. <sup>8</sup> O come, see what the LORD has done:

A pres - ent help in our dis - tress.  
 To cheer the cit - y of our God,  
 He des - o - la - tions brought on earth;

<sup>2</sup> We will not there - fore be a - fraid  
 The Most High's ho - ly dwell - ing place.  
<sup>9</sup> On earth He puts an end to wars,

Though all the earth should be re - moved,  
<sup>5</sup> God is in her; she won't be moved;  
 Breaks bow and spear, and char - iots burns.

Though moun - tains great be hurled In -  
 At dawn will God help her. <sup>6</sup>The  
<sup>10</sup>Be still! Know I am God. Ex -

to the o - cean's depths, <sup>3</sup>Though seas may  
 na - tions rage; realms quake; He lifts His  
 alt - ed o'er all men, Ex - alt - ed

roar and foam And bil - lows shake the shore,  
 voice; earth melts. <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts with us!  
 o'er all earth. <sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts with us!

Though moun - tains trem - ble at their pow'r.  
 Our for - tress strong is Ja - cob's God.  
 Our for - tress strong is Ja - cob's God.

# In You, O Lord, I Place My Trust

17

Based on Psalm 31:1-8

C G Am Em F G C

1. <sup>1</sup>In You, O Lord, I place my trust; Let me nev - er be a - shamed.  
2. You are my cit - a - del of stone Up - on the moun - tain - side.  
3. <sup>5</sup>As Je - sus cried, "In - to Your hand My spir - it I com - mit,"  
4. <sup>7</sup>I will be glad, re - joice and praise Je - ho - vah's stead - fast love.

G Am Em F G C

Save, res - cue and de - liv - er me, In Your great right - eous - ness.  
For Your name's sake, Al - might - y God, Lead, guide and gov - ern me.  
I, too, con - fess, O God of truth, Re - demp - tion is in You.  
For You have seen my trou - bled soul And known all my dis - tress.

G Em F C Em Am

<sup>2</sup>Bow down Your ear and hear my plea, With speed de - liv - er me;  
<sup>4</sup>Al - though my foes plot to en - snare, Re - move me from their net  
<sup>6</sup>I hate all those who ren - der praise To i - dols false and vain.  
<sup>8</sup>Though death and Sa - tan held me fast, You freed me from their hands.

C G Em7 F C <sup>st. 4 only</sup> Am G C

<sup>3</sup>And be my rock both sound and strong, My for - tress and a - bode.  
Be - cause You, Lord, are my strong - hold, My har - bor and my home.  
Though fool - ish men chase fee - ble dreams, I trust in God a - lone.  
My feet now march through all the earth, Christ's King - dom to pro - claim.

CITADEL

## O How I Love Your Holy Law

119M

1. <sup>97</sup>O how I love your ho - ly law, O LORD!  
 2. <sup>99</sup>I have more wis - dom than my teach - ers, LORD,  
 3. <sup>101</sup>I keep my feet from ev - 'ry e - vil path,  
 4. <sup>103</sup>How sweet your words are, LORD, un - to my taste—

All day I med - i - tate up - on your word;  
 for on your laws I med - i - tate each day.  
 for I de - sire to fol - low all your word;  
 sweet - er than hon - ey is up - on my tongue.

<sup>98</sup>It makes me wis - er than my en - e - mies,  
<sup>100</sup>I have more in - sight than the a - ged ones,  
<sup>102</sup>since you have taught me all your wise de - crees,  
<sup>104</sup>Through your com - mand - ments I will un - der - stand,

for your com - mands are ev - er with me, LORD.  
 for all your tes - ti - mon - ies I o - bey.  
 from them I do not turn a - side, O LORD.  
 there - fore, O LORD, I hate each path that's wrong.