



Cheerfulness

IN NEGATIVE WORLD



AUGUST 24, 2025

Worship at a Glance

A Brief Overview of our Worship Service and How to Participate

A Note to Parents

Children are encouraged to be in the sanctuary because we believe the Bible commands us to include children in the worship service. Parents have the privilege of training their children for worship every Lord's Day. We are happy to partner with you in that training. To assist in training, we encourage families with children to sit closer to the front with their kids and make use of the children's worship bags in the sanctuary. Childcare rooms are also available when additional training or discipline is necessary. For more information, feel free to contact Nadine Michalak or Pastor Nate.

What is a Bulletin?

The bulletin contains our order of worship and includes all the information you need to worship with us on Sundays. The bulletin is not something we simply "work through" but a guide that helps us in our worship of God. Our worship services are approximately 90 minutes.

Announcements

Announcements about the ministry are given before the worship service begins. In the summer, we include a time of musical instruction as part of the announcements.

Prelude

The prelude is a musical selection that is played at the beginning of the worship service. During that time, worshipers are encouraged to pray and prepare their hearts and minds for worship. The prelude ends with the "ringing of the hour," which includes the Westminster Chime, followed by a Trinitarian bell.

Congregational Responses

Worship at Beverly Heights is "dialogical," meaning it is a dialogue between God and His people. The Pastor calls and the congregation responds throughout the service. All responsive readings for the congregation are in **bold**. The congregation also responds by kneeling for confession, standing for the reading of God's word before the sermon, and declaring "Amen" after prayer and song.

Confessions of Sin and Faith

Each Sunday, the congregation is invited to confess their sins. We first confess corporately, followed by a time of silent and private confession. Everyone is invited to bow their heads and, for those who are able, to kneel for confession. Following the confession of sin, the pastor offers assurance of your forgiveness. The congregation then joins in a unison confession of faith through one of the ecumenical creeds (Apostles' Creed, Nicene Creed, Definition of Chalcedon).

Music

Our worship service includes weekly special music. Normally, the choir (which is the "first-fruit" of the voice) sings an anthem on behalf of the congregation. When the choir is in recess, special music is offered by soloists or ensembles. We refrain from clapping for these musical offerings but respond as a congregation by lifting up our hands and singing the Doxology *a cappella*. All congregational music for the service can be found in the bulletin, the Trinity Hymnbook, or the Summer Psalter. Our Director of Music cantors to assist the congregation in singing.

Scripture Readings

There are two scripture lessons during the worship service, normally one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. We always stand for the reading before the sermon in keeping with the model found in Nehemiah 8:5.

Sermon

The preaching of the word is understood as a direct address by God through the preacher to the congregation. Our sermons are predominantly exegetical (derived from the text) but sometimes topical. Most sermons will include an introduction, an explanation of the text, an application, and a takeaway (call to action).

Offering

Every Lord's Day includes the opportunity to present an offering to the Lord in the form of gifts, tithes, offerings, and prayers. (A "tithes" is defined by the scriptures as a tenth of our income.)

Pastoral Prayer

Following the offering, a pastoral prayer is made on behalf of the congregation. The subject of the prayer varies weekly, and worshipers are encouraged to join in the prayer by faith.

Communion

We practice weekly communion in worship. All baptized believers who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper (See additional note in bulletin). Worshipers come to the front of the sanctuary to receive the bread and wine, but all partake of the elements together in the pews. As you receive the elements, the congregation is invited to sing. After communion, there is a "Eucharistic" (thanksgiving) prayer, followed by the singing of the threefold "Amen."

Closing

After communion, the congregation sings a closing hymn or Psalm, followed by the benediction. The benediction is a blessing given by God to the congregation by the pastor. All worshipers are encouraged to stretch out their hands as a gesture of receptivity as they receive the benediction.

Postlude

The service ends with the playing of a postlude.

Beverly Heights Church

Welcome and Greeting

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Announcements

Amy Lucas, Church Administrator

Psalm Instruction: *'Tis by Thy Strength*

Elissa Winkler, Director of Music in Worship

THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Rise Up, Ye Saints of God
Jinna Park, *Accompanist and Organist*

Powell

*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**

3-Part Canon: Children, Women, and Men

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Psalm of Praise **No. 150**

vv. 1, 2

Sing Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

Responsive Reading

Psalm 9:1-8

Mr. Peter A. Chace

Leader: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will recount all of Your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

People: When my enemies turn back, they stumble and perish before Your presence. For You have maintained my just cause; You have sat on the throne, giving righteous judgment.

Leader: You have rebuked the nations; You have made the wicked perish; You have blotted out their name forever and ever. The enemy came to an end in everlasting ruins; their cities You rooted out; the very memory of them has perished.

People: But the LORD sits enthroned forever; He has established His throne for justice, and He judges the world with righteousness; He judges the peoples with uprightness.

Responsive Psalm **No. 150**

v. 3

Sing Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

THE LORD CLEANSSES OUR SIN

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.

Almighty God, You have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned Him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before Him or acknowledged His rule in our lives. We have followed the ways of the world and failed to give Him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin that we may be Your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the Church, His body. In His name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Hear the good news of the gospel: The Lord is faithful in all His words, and gracious in all His deeds.
The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.*

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

Daniel 2:25-45

Dr. Kyle David Bennett

Psalm of Praise **No. 119**

vv. 1-4

Your Word Sheds Light upon My Path

Special Music

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Teen Tone Chimes Ensemble

arr. Sherman

G G D Em Bm Em D G 7
 Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
 D Em C G D Em D G D G C D G
 crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
 G D G Em D Am G D G 7 C G
 praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

All children remain in worship with their families.

Scripture Reading

John 16:16-33

Sermon

Cheerfulness in Negative World
 Cheer Overcomes Negative World

Pastor Devlin

THE LORD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS AND HEARTS

Call for the Offering and Offertory

He Leadeth Me

Kirkland

Prayers for the People

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

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 Hymn

See Screen

Everlasting Arms

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

Trinity Hymnal

THE LORD SCATTERS US TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM

Closing Psalm **No. 84**

vv. 4, 6

Advancing Still

Benediction

Postlude

Praise the King!

Schram

****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

August 3, 2025	Cheerful Faith	Matthew 9:22
August 10, 2025	Cheer Over Fear	Matthew 14:27
August 17, 2025	Cheerful Calling	Mark 10:49
August 24, 2025	Cheer Overcomes Negative World	John 16:33
August 31, 2025	Dwelling in the Tents of Kedar	Psalms 120

THIS WEEK AT BEVERLY HEIGHTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Linger Longer Fellowship

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

Church Offices Closed

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

7:00 PM Children's Ministry
Volunteer Training

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

10:00 AM Staff Meeting
3:00 PM Prayer Team Meeting
7:00 PM Women's Chorale Rehearsal

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

7:00 PM Men's Chorale Rehearsal

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

5:00 PM Men's Event -
Wild Things game

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Linger Longer Fellowship

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

'Tis by Thy Strength

From Psalm 65:6-13

1. 'Tis by Thy strength the moun-tains stand, God of e-ter-nal pow'r;
melody

6 The sea grows calm at Thy com-mand, And tem-pests
The sea grows calm at Thy com-mand, The sea grows calm at

11 cease to roar,
And tem-pests cease to roar, Thy com-mand, And tem-pests cease to roar,
calm at Thy com-mand, And tem-pests cease to roar,

16 And tem-pests cease to roar, And tem-pests cease to roar.

2. Thy morning light and ev'ning shade
Successive comforts bring;
Thy plenteous fruits make harvest glad;
Thy flow'rs adorn the spring.

3. Seasons and times and moons and hours,
Heav'n, earth, and air are Thine;
When clouds distill their fruitful show'rs,
The Author is divine.

4. Those wand'ring cisterns in the sky,
Borne by the winds around,
With wat'ry treasures well supply
The furrows of the ground.

5. The thirsty ridges drink their fill,
And ranks of corn appear:
Thy ways abound with blessings still,
Thy goodness crowns the year.

Psalm 134

269

A Song of Ascents.

3-part canon

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

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

³ 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 ©

150C

Sing Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!

1. ¹Sing hal - le - lu - jah! Praise the LORD! Praise God with - in his
 2. Praise God whose maj - es - ty a - bounds! ³O praise him with the
 3. ⁵With 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! ⁶Let all that

in his heav'n - ly height! ²Praise, praise him for his deeds of might!
 lute and harp and strings, ⁴with 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.

119N Your Word Sheds Light upon My Path

1. ¹⁰⁵Your word sheds light up - on my path; a shin - ing
 2. ¹⁰⁷Se - vere af - flic - tion, LORD, is mine; send help ac -
 3. ¹⁰⁹In con - stant dan - ger is my life, your righ - teous
 4. ¹¹¹Your pre - cepts are my her - i - tage; they dai - ly

lamp, it guides my feet; ¹⁰⁶your righ - teous judg - ments
 cord - ing to your word. ¹⁰⁸Ac - cept my sac - ri -
 law I'll not for - get. ¹¹⁰I have not from your
 make my heart re - joice. ¹¹²To keep your stat - utes

to ob - serve, my sol - emn vow I now re - repeat.
 fice of praise and make me know your judg - ments, LORD.
 pre - cepts strayed, de - spite the snares the wick - ed set.
 faith - ful - ly shall ev - er be my will - ing choice.

Advancing Still

*You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.
—Hebrews 12:22*

84B

Psalm 84:7-12

4. ⁷ Ad - vanc - ing still from strength to strength They go where oth - er
5. ⁹ And look, O God, up - on our Shield; The face of Your A -
6. ¹¹ For God the LORD is shield and sun; The LORD will grace and

pil - grims trod, Till each to Zi - on comes at length And
noint - ed view; ¹⁰ One day with - in Your courts will yield More
glo - ry give. No good will He with - hold from one Who

stands be - fore the face of God. ⁸ LORD God of hosts, my
good than thou - sands with - out You. I'd rath - er stand near
does up - right - ly walk and live. ¹² O LORD of hosts, that

plead - ing hear; O Ja - cob's God, to me give ear.
my God's house Than dwell in tents of wick - ed - ness.
one is blessed, Who makes his trust up - on You rest.