The singing of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs is a vital and ancient form of prayer. Singing engages the whole person, and helps to unite the body of Christ in common worship. The congregation itself is the church’s primary choir; the purpose of rehearsed choirs and other musicians is to lead and support the congregation in the singing of prayer. Special songs, anthems, and instrumental music may also serve to interpret the Word and enhance the congregation’s prayer. Furthermore, many of the elements of the service of worship may be sung. Music in worship is always to be an offering to God, not merely an artistic display, source of entertainment, or cover for silence.

— Book of Order of the PC(USA)

Congregational responses are in bold print.
*Denotes the congregation is invited to stand.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY Fanfare on “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Timothy Hoekman

*CALL TO WORSHIP—Psalm 100
Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
South side: Worship the Lord with gladness;
North side: come into his presence with singing.
Leader: Know that the Lord is God.
South: It is he that made us, and we are his;
North: we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
South: and his courts with praise.
North: Give thanks to him, bless his name.
Leader: For the Lord is good;
South: his steadfast love endures forever,
North: and his faithfulness to all generations.
*HYMN 506 “Look Who Gathers at Christ’s Table!”

v. 1 all; harmony
v. 2–4 all; unison

Hymn composed by Michael Corzine,
additional accompaniments by Eric Wall in honor of Michael Corzine.

INTRODUCTION AND APPRECIATION

MUSIC AND SINGING ECHO THE MUSIC OF CREATION

FIRST READING—Job 38:4–7

God’s answers Job’s complaint.

*HYMN (bulletin, pp. 8-9) “For the Music of Creation”

v. 1 all; unison
v. 2 choir
v. 3 all; harmony

MUSIC AND SINGING ARE ORDAINED BY GOD

REFLECTION ON MUSIC AND SINGING—Martin Luther, from the Foreword to Georg Rhau’s Symphoniae, 1538.

I truly desire that all Christians would love and regard as worthy the lovely gift of music, which is a precious, worthy, and costly treasure given to mankind by God . . . Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world. . . . This precious gift has been given to man alone that he might thereby remind himself that God has created man for the express purpose of praising and extolling God. However, when man’s natural musical ability is whetted and polished to the extent that it becomes an art, then do we note with great surprise the great and perfect wisdom of God in music, which is, after all, His product and His gift; we marvel when we hear music in which one voice sings a simple melody, while three, four, or five other voices play and trip lustily around the voice that sings its simple melody and adorn this simple melody wonderfully with artistic musical effects, thus reminding us of a heavenly dance, where all meet in a spirit of friendliness, caress, and embrace. A person who gives this some thought and yet does not regard music as a marvelous creation of God, must be a clodhopper indeed and does not deserve to be called a human being; he should be permitted to hear nothing but the braying of asses and the grunting of hogs.

PSALM—Psalm 81:1–4

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob. Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp. Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day. For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
ANTHEM—Psalm 81:1–4  

Adrian Batten

O sing joyfully unto God our strength; make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.  
Take the harp, bring hither the tabret, the merry harp with the lute.  
Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, ev’n in the time appointed; and upon our solemn feast day.  
For this was made a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

MUSIC AND SINGING ARE FOR ALL GOD’S PEOPLE

REFLECTION ON MUSIC AND SINGING—John Calvin, written from Geneva, 10 June 1543.

What is there now to do? It is to have songs not only honest, but also holy, which will be like spurs to incite us to pray to and praise God, and to meditate upon his works in order to love, fear, honor and glorify him. Moreover, that which St. Augustine has said is true, that no one is able to sing things worthy of God except that which he has received from him. Therefore, when we have looked thoroughly, and searched here and there, we shall not find better songs nor more fitting for the purpose, than the Psalms of David, which the Holy Spirit spoke and made through him. And moreover, when we sing them, we are certain that God puts in our mouths these, as if he himself were singing in us to exalt his glory. Wherefore Chrysostom exhorts, as well as the men, the women and the little children to accustom themselves to singing them, in order that this may be a sort of meditation to associate themselves with the company of the angels.

ANTHEM—Psalm 96:1  

CANTAI AO SENHOR

O Sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song/  
Cantad al Señor un cántico nuevo

*PSALM—Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.  
The Lord has made known his victory;  
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.  
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.  
Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.  
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.  
Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy  
at the presence of the Lord,  
for he is coming to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.
MUSIC AND SINGING ECHO THE SONGS OF HEAVEN

SECOND READING—Revelation 4:6b–11

The visionary John describes worship in Heaven.

REFLECTION ON MUSIC AND SINGING—Gioseffo Zarlino, from Harmonic Institutions (1558).

. . . the angelic spirits in the heaven gaze perpetually on the Divine Majesty and ceaselessly sing “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts,” as it is written in Isaiah. And not only these, but also the four beasts described by Saint John in his book of Revelations stand before the throne of God and sing the same song. There are also then the twenty-four ancients before the immaculate Lamb, who sing a new song to the highest God with the sound of harps and raised voices. This song is also sung by the harpists playing their harps before the four beasts and twenty-four elders. . . . The Bible places music in Paradise, where it is most nobly practiced. And just as happens in the heavenly court, called the Church Triumphant, so in our earthly one, the Church Militant, the Creator is praised and thanked with nothing so much as with music.

*MUS 1 “Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty”

REFLECTION ON MUSIC AND SINGING—Hildegard of Bingen, from Epistle 47: To the Prelates of Mainz (12th century).

. . . the song of praise [was] born in the Church according to celestial harmony through the Holy Spirit; for the body is in truth the clothing of the soul, which has a living voice, and thus it is fitting that the body, together with the soul, sing praises to God through its own voice. [Therefore] the Prophetic Spirit proclaims . . . that God is to be praised on cymbals of jubilation and on other musical instruments . . . . Thus it is just that God be praised in everything. . . . the prophet David, considering with understanding the nature of what is spiritual, exhorts us in the Psalm, “Let us confess the Lord on the cithara, let us play to him on the psaltery of ten strings.” . . . Thus they who without the weight of sure reason impose silence upon a church in the matter of song in praise of God, and thereby unjustly deprive God of the honor of his praise on earth, will be deprived themselves of the participation in the angelic praises heard in Heaven, unless they make amends by true regret and humble penitence.

*HYMN 641 “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

THIRD READING—1 Chronicles 15:16, 22, 28; 2 Chronicles 5:2, 12–14

Old Testament history recounts the bringing of the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem and to the temple.
*PSALM—Psalm 150

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty firmament!  
Praise him for his mighty deeds;  
praise him according to his surpassing greatness!  
Praise him with trumpet sound;  
praise him with lute and harp!  
Praise him with tambourine and dance;  
praise him with strings and pipe!  
Praise him with clanging cymbals;  
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!  
Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!  
Praise the Lord!

*HYMN 657 “Sing to God with Joy and Gladness”  
GLEN DON

Refrain sung each time by all
v. 1 all  
v. 2 men  
v. 3 trebles  
v. 4 all

MUSIC IN THE LIFE OF FAITH

FOURTH READING—Colossians 3:14–17  
Paul writes to the Colossians with guidance for the new life in Christ.

ANTHEM

“Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated”  
Timothy Hoekman/Roy Hopp

Text: Glory to God 697

ACT OF THANKSGIVING

People of God, has your faith been nurtured by the musical gifts of Michael Corzine? Amen!

Has Michael served the Lord faithfully by proclaiming the power and comfort of God’s Word through music? Amen!

Will you give thanks to God for Michael’s ministry? Alleluia!

Thanks be to God for Michael, and thanks be to Michael for helping us to worship God. Amen.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, by your death and resurrection you have transformed our lives. In the waters of baptism you have gifted us for ministry in your church and in the world. We give you thanks for the ministry of music and faithful service of your child Michael. To all whom he has inspired in the arts, bring your blessing. Strengthen him in every future endeavor. Empower us to sing your praise with fervor and to regard music as a lively expression of your gospel and a gift of your making. To you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is due, both now and forever. Amen.
God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be with all your servants who make art and music for your people, that with joy, we on earth may glimpse your beauty, and bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection, which will be ours as we stand before your unveiled glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN (bulletin, p. 10) “All My Hope on God Is Founded”

  v. 1  choir
  v. 2  men
  v. 3  trebles
  v. 4, 5  all

*BENEDICTION—Psalm 104:33, 35

  I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
  I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
  May my meditation be pleasing to him,
  for I rejoice in the Lord.
  Bless the Lord, O my soul.
  Praise the Lord!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fugue in D major (BWV 532)

Johann Sebastian Bach

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SOLI DEO GLORIA
Serving in the Liturgy
Margaret Fox, Pastor
Douglass Seaton, Liturgist

The Choir
Directed by Timothy Hoekman, Douglass Seaton

Readers
Carla Connors
Walter Moore
Chris Corzine
Abigail Cleveland
Aide Whitaker
Rachel Hillman
Charles Freeman
Gayle Seaton
Emily Bruno
Chris Witmer
Andrew Corzine

Organists
Timothy Hoekman
Kimberly King
Marissa Hall
Elizabeth Lajeunesse

Brass
Kenneth Kronholz, trumpet
Carl Morse, trombone

Children's Choir
Directed by Emily Bruno, Aide Whitaker
Guitar accompaniment by Rachel Hillman

Planning Committee
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Eleanor Cleveland
Margaret Fox
Debbie Gibson
Miriam Gurniak
Marian Moore
Walter Moore
Douglass Seaton
Christy Williams

Special thanks to
Lori Touchton, Office Administrator
Carl Morse and Christopher Corzine, for additional assistance
For the Music of Creation

1 For the music of creation, for the
2 Psalms and symphonies exalt you, drum and
3 All the voices of the ages in tran-

song your Spirit sings, for your sound's divine ex
trumpet, string and reed, simple melodies ac
scendent chorus meet, worship lifting up the

presession, burst of joy in living things:
claim you, tunes that rise from deepest need,
senses, hands that praise, and dancing feet;
God, our God, the world’s composer, hear us,
your hymns of longing and belonging, carols
over discord and division music

Ech-oes of your voice; music is your art, your
from a cheerful throat, lilt of lullaby and
speaks your joy and peace, harmony of earth and

 Glory, let the human heart rejoice!
love song catching heaven in a note.
heaven, song of God that cannot cease!

Text: Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931).
All my hope on God is founded

1 All my hope on God is founded; he doth still my trust renew, me through change and chance he guideth, only good and only true. God unknown, he alone calls my heart to be his own.

2 Mortal pride and earthly glory, sword and crown be - tray our trust; though with care and toil we build them, tower and temple fall to dust. But God’s power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.

3 God’s great goodness e’er endures, deep his wisdom pass ing thought: splendor, light, and life at tend him, beauty springeth out of nought. Eventhough ligh - teth, pleasure leads us where we go. Love doth

* 4 Daily doth the al - might - y Giver bounteous gifts on us be stow; his desire our soul with praise be done, high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ, his Son. Christ doth

5 Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of