

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 23, 2017

*To protect the Worship environment,  
please, no drinks in the Sanctuary, and remember to turn off cell phones.*

## THE GATHERING

### \*#1 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ, our Brother— all who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

TEXT: Henry van Dyke MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven; melody from Ninth Symphony; adapted by Edward Hodges

### \*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### \*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: You, O Lord, are enthroned forever; you are remembered throughout all generations. Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

**All: They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but you are the same, and your years have no end.**

Leader: The children of your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before you.

## \*Anchor of Hope

Marvelous, wonderful, infinite God  
Author of all that is good  
Faithful provider and giver of life  
Source of all power and love

(chorus)

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise  
Refuge of strength to the end  
Righteous redeemer and mighty to save  
He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls [of men]

Gracious, compassionate, merciful God  
Radiant, holy delight  
Beautiful Father, victorious Son  
Source of unchangeable light

(repeat chorus)

Powerful, constant, unwavering God  
Shepherd who comes for the lost  
Rock of salvation, remarkable love  
Savior who died on the Cross

(repeat chorus 2x)

He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls  
He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls of men

Words and Music by Ellie Holcomb and Brown Bannister © Ellie Holcomb and Brown Bannister  
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## THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

**ALL:** Eternal and Immortal God, all that you have made unmistakably shows us that you are powerful and divine, and worthy of our worship. Nevertheless, even though you have revealed yourself to us, we have immorally suppressed what we know to be true. We have not honored you as God, nor given thanks to you. We have become futile in our thinking, and our hearts have become dark. Claiming to be wise, we have been fools, and we have exchanged your glory for cheap copies. We have traded your truth for a lie, and we have sought in your creation what can only be found in you yourself. Forgive us for failing to give you glory and rescue us from our idolatrous hearts. Grant us faith to seek in your Son the satisfaction of our souls, and reveal your power in our salvation.

**PRIVATE** (Silence is kept for private confession)

**LEADER:** Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16

### **\*Beautiful, Scandalous Night**

Go on up to the mountain of mercy. to the crimson perpetual tide  
Kneel down on the shore , be thirsty no more  
Go under and be purified

Follow Christ to the holy mountain, sinner sorry and wrecked by the fall  
Cleanse your heart and your soul, in the fountain that flowed  
For you and for me and for all

(chorus)

At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree  
On that beautiful, scandalous night you and me  
Were atoned by His blood and forever washed white  
On that beautiful, scandalous night

On the hillside, you will be delivered, at the foot of the cross justified  
And your spirit restored by the river that poured  
From our blessed Savior's side

(repeat chorus 2x)

On that beautiful, scandalous night

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### **\*THE READING FROM HAGGAI 2**

#### **\*Crowns**

There is a hill I cherish  
Where stood a precious tree  
The emblem of salvation  
The gift of Calvary

How is it I should profit  
While He is crucified  
Yet as His life was taken  
So I was granted mine

(chorus)

My wealth is in the cross; There's nothing more I want  
Than just to know His love; My heart is set on Christ  
And I will count all else as loss  
The greatest of my crowns mean nothing to me now  
For I counted up the cost and all my wealth is in the cross

I will not boast in riches  
I have no pride in gold  
But I will boast in Jesus  
And in His Name alone

(repeat chorus)

And when I stand in glory  
My crowns before the Lord  
Let this be my confession  
My wealth is in the cross

(repeat chorus)

For I counted up the cost and all my wealth is in the cross

Words and Music by Michael Fatkin, Scott Groom, and Ben Hastings.CCLI#245668

### **\*How Can I Keep from Singing**

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation  
I hear the sweet though far-off hymn that hails a new creation:  
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing;  
It finds an echo in my soul—how can I keep from singing?

What thou my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth;  
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night He giveth:  
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that refuge clinging;  
Since Christ is Lord of Heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

I lift mine eyes; the tempest roars all help from God expecting  
Whose banner over us is love; until our souls' perfecting  
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing:  
All things are mine since I am His—how can I keep from singing?

Words by Robert Lowry, 3<sup>rd</sup> verse adapted from Robert Lowry

### **\*THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: Heidelberg Catechism #86**

LEADER: Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

ALL: Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits, so that he may be praised through us, so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.

### **\*THE DEDICATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Although giving is a significant part of worship, we do not collect the offering during our service. Two boxes are placed by the doors to receive your offering. Tithes and offerings for the General Fund are placed in the box without the "steeple." Offerings for the Building Fund are to be placed in the box with the "steeple," with check payable to Grace EPC Building Fund.

## **THE WELCOME**

At this time, please fill out the friendship register found at the side aisle. As the register is passed, please note those with whom you are worshipping so that you can greet one another after the service. If this is your first Sunday at Grace, please accept our invitation to worship with us again soon. If you would like information about Grace EPC, please take one of our brochures from the table in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home, please let us know and we will be happy to visit with you.

(CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED FOR THEIR CLASSES AT THIS TIME:  
K-4TH GRADE — LINE UP IN THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE SANCTUARY.  
CONNECT CLASS [5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE] HEAD DIRECTLY TO ROOM 7)

(10:45AM SERVICE: INTERNATIONALS WHO WISH TO ATTEND  
THE SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL TEACHING TIME MAY BE DISMISSED AT THIS TIME  
TO ROOM 17 —JUST TO THE RIGHT AS YOU LEAVE THE SANCTUARY.)

***(THOSE WHO ARRIVE AFTER THE SERVICE HAS BEGUN MAY BE SEATED AT THIS TIME)***

## THE WORD AND PRAYER

### THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

### THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 12:25-29

### RESPONSE TO THE READING OF THE WORD

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

### THE MESSAGE FROM SCRIPTURE

Rick Pratte

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

It is our sincere desire to pray effectively for the particular needs of those worshipping with us this morning. If you have a prayer concern that you want shared with the congregation during the prayers of the people, please call the church office or one of the elders prior to the service with your request. If you desire prayer on a personal matter, we invite you to meet with the elders in the front pews after the Benediction.

Available for prayer after 8:15 worship: Warran Wiebe & Michael Lemon  
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Scott Rask & Todd Koch

## THE SENDING

### \*THE BENEDICTION

#### \*We Will Feast in the House of Zion

(chorus)

We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things, we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire  
He is the LORD our God  
We are not consumed, by the flood  
Upheld, protected, gathered up

(repeat chorus)

In the dark of night, before the dawn  
My soul, be not afraid  
For the promised morning, oh how long?  
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

(repeat chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed  
You are the Faithful one  
And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together, bring shalom.

(repeat chorus 2x)

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\*Congregation will stand.