

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 30, 2017

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

THE GATHERING

*#8 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly forever adore Him.

Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly forever adore Him.

TEXT: Joachim Neander; translated by Catherine Winkworth. MUSIC: Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 99:1-5

LEADER: The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

ALL: He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

LEADER: The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.
Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!

ALL: The King in his might loves justice.

LEADER: You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

ALL: Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.

*Oh How Good It Is

Oh how good it is when the family of God
Dwells together in spirit in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence here among us.

(chorus)

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His word
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh how good it is on this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength the afflicted find grace
When we offer the blessing of belonging.

(repeat chorus)

Oh how good it is to embrace His command
To prefer one another forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one we all share in the love
Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

(repeat chorus 2x)

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, and Stuart Townend; © 2012 Gettymusic and Parakeet Boots Music (adm. by MusicServices.org) and Townend Music (adm. UK & Europe by Thankyou Music) ARR.ICS.UBP.CCLI#245668

*THE READING OF LEVITICUS 19:13-18

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Father, we come to you in need of your mercy. Far too often, our actions betray the grace that you have shown to us. We have failed in many ways to love other people without reservation. We confess that our tendency is to favor those who can benefit our lives. We have often been indifferent to the troubles of our neighbors and have failed to join compassion with action. And even in the moments when we have done the right things, we have often performed these actions from self-righteous motivations. Jesus, we thank you that you did not act in this way toward us. Instead, you loved us with an everlasting love and showed us rich mercy and lavish grace. Lord God, please forgive us. Enable us to abide in your love and to demonstrate genuine faith through the things we do.

PRIVATE (Silence is kept for private confession)

LEADER: In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

ALL: I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation. (Isaiah 61:10)

***By Thy Mercy**

Jesus, Lord of life and glory, bend from heaven Thy gracious ear;
While our waiting souls adore Thee, friend of helpless sinners, hear:

From the depth of nature's blindness, from the hardening power of sin,
From all malice and unkindness, from the pride that lurks within,

(refrain)

By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord
By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.

When the world around is smiling, in the time of wealth and ease,
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling, in the day of health and peace.

(repeat refrain)

In the weary hours of sickness, in the times of grief and pain,
When we feel our mortal weakness, when all human help is vain.

In the solemn hour of dying, in the awful judgment day,
May our souls, on thee relying, find thee still our Rock and Stay.

(repeat refrain 2x)

Words: James J. Cummins Music: Greg Thompson © 2004 Greg Thompson Music. UBP.ARR.CCLI#245668

***Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul**

Dear refuge of my weary soul, on Thee, when sorrows rise
On Thee, when waves of trouble roll, my fainting hope relies
To Thee I tell each rising grief, for Thou alone canst heal
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief, for every pain I feel

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face, and shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace, be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace, attends the mourner's prayer
Oh may I ever find access, to breathe my sorrows there

Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will, and wait beneath Thy feet,
Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will, and wait beneath Thy feet

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***THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: Philippians 2:5-11**

ALL: Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*Hymn

This heart has been changed by the King of kings
He's revealed to me glory unknown
And in reply to His love my heart sings
The place where the song first was grown

In day of darkness and trouble and fear
No thing or love satisfied
But with capturing grace, a voice in my ear
Told me "come, be My son, you are Mine"

(chorus)

Halle -- lu ----- jah

Halle -- lu ----- jah

(repeat)

Now moving through life is a toilsome task
But with every passing day
His light is my strength and He helps when I ask
To take all of my burdens away

(repeat chorus)

He gives me such joy, such blessing in life
What a God, to so freely give
And so I rejoice when I feebly try
To fathom the life I shall live

(repeat chorus 2x)

Rob Hockney ©2007.UBP

*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 [5th & 6th 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

James 2:1-13

RESPONSE TO THE READING OF THE WORD

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

THE MESSAGE FROM SCRIPTURE

Bill Vogler

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: Michael Boulton & Larry Swinson

Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Scott Rask & Joe Harvey

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*All the Way My Savior Leads Me

All the way my Savior leads me, what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy, who through life has been my Guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well;
For I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living Bread.
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me, Lo! A spring of joy I see;
Gushing from the Rock before me, Lo! A spring of joy I see.

All the way my Savior leads me, oh, the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised, in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages Jesus led me all the way;
This my song through endless ages, Jesus led me all the way.

Text: Fanny Crosby / Music: Robert Lowry; Arrangement: Redeemer Church of the Shoals Alabama.UBP.ICS.CCLI#245668

*Congregation will stand.