

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

August 13, 2017

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

THE GATHERING

*O Father, You Are Sovereign

O Father, You are sovereign in all the worlds You made;
Your mighty word was spoken and light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
Sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, You are sovereign in all affairs of man;
No pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart Your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
You hold Your trusting children secure in Your embrace.

O Father, You are sovereign, the Lord of human pain,
Transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.
All evil overruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,
Your love pursues its purpose— our souls' eternal good.

O Father, You are sovereign! We see You dimly now,
But soon before Your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:
Our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship You!

TEXT: Margaret Clarkson, 1982 MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, ca. 1615

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Thy Mercy, My God, Is the Theme of My Song

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone from the first to the last
Hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But through Thy free goodness my spirits revive
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness I fall to the ground
And weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies Thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.

All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the deceits and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

PRIVATE (A time of silent and private confessions for personal sins)

LEADER: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:4-6

ALL: Thanks be to God who forgives all my sin. Amen,

*Nothing But the Blood

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my cleansing, this my plea, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace, Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

***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?

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation
I hear the sweet though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Words by Robert Lowry, 3rd verse adapted from Robert Lowry

***THE GOSPEL READING: MARK 6:1-12**

***Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are

We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way
Keep Thy flock from sin, defend us, seek us when we go astray

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and pow'r to free

Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, we will early turn to Thee
Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, we will early turn to Thee
Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care

Text: Dorothy Thrupp (1779-1847); Music: Brian Ortize, Katelyn Clampett.

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.

(CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED FOR THEIR CLASSES AT THIS TIME:
K-4TH GRADE — LINE UP IN THE HALLWAY OUTSIDE SANCTUARY.)

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

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.

THE WORD OF GOD AND PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

James 5:13-18

RESPONSE TO THE READING OF THE WORD

All: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.

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 8:45 worship: Larry Swinson & Todd Koch
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Warran Wiebe & Michael Lemon

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand

TEXT: Edward Mote MUSIC: William B. Bradbury

*Congregation will stand.