

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

August 20, 2017

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

THE GATHERING

*Come Thou Fount

Come Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my *Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above

Come Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above

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*"an altar to remind of God's faithfulness in 1 Samuel 7"

David Crowder Band © Sixsteps Music;Worship Together Music.UBP.CCLI#245668

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 103:1-5, 20-22

LEADER: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**ALL: Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice of his word!**

**Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his ministers, who do his will!**

**Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

***Immortal, Invisible**

Immortal, You are not like a man
That You change Your mind, or change Your plan.
Invisible, our human eyes can't see
The depth of Your majesty

(chorus)

You're the God of forever and ever amen!
The Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End
We sing Hallelujah, we worship in awe
Immortal, Invisible God

Immortal, You are not bound by death
You're the living God, my very breath
Invisible, You are not bound by space
But Your glory is filling this place
Yes, Your glory is filling this place
(repeat chorus)

Immortal, yet You once died for me
To pay my debt, to set me free
Invisible, You will not always be
Cause You're coming to reign as our King
And the saints will fall down at Your feet

(repeat chorus 2x)

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***THE READING OF MATTHEW 18:21-34**

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty and most merciful Father, we confess that we are often reluctant to confess the sins that we have committed against you and one another. In our pride we think ourselves better than we are and better than others. Able to see the speck in another's eye we miss the log in our own. Work humility in us that we may admit our sin to you and to one another, that we may receive forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Lord, that we may know peace with you and each other. Amen.

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

LEADER: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. Psalm 103:8-13

ALL: But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. Psalm 103:17-18

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon the cross, my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

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*The Lion and the Lamb

He's coming on the clouds,
And kings and kingdoms will bow down
Every chain will break as broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty?

(chorus)

Our God is a lion – the lion of Judah
He's roaring in power and fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is a lamb – the lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world; His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

(repeat vs. 1 & chorus)

Open up the gates, make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty?

(repeat chorus 2x)

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***THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: Heidelberg Catechism #60**

LEADER: How are you right with God?

**ALL: Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.
Even though my conscience accuses me
of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments
and of never having kept any of them,
and even though I am still inclined toward all evil,
nevertheless,
without my deserving it at all,
out of sheer grace,
God grants and credits to me
the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ,
as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner,
as if I had been as perfectly obedient
as Christ was obedient for me.
All I need to do is to accept this gift of God with a believing heart.**

***Stronger**

There is love that came for us, humbled to a sinner's cross
You broke my shame and sinfulness, You rose again victorious
Faithfulness none can deny, through the storm and through the fire
There is truth that sets me free, Jesus Christ who lives in me

(chorus)

You are stronger, You are stronger
Sin is broken, You have saved me
It is written, Christ is risen
Jesus You are Lord of all

No beginning and no end, You're my hope and my defense
You came to seek and save the lost, You paid it all upon the cross

(repeat chorus)

So let Your Name be lifted higher
Be lifted higher, be lifted higher (2x)

(repeat chorus 2x)

Jesus You are Lord of all (2x)

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***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 flower falls,
but the word of the Lord remains 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: Kim Grubbs & Warran Wiebe
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Michael Boulton & Scott Rask

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*The Love of God

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled, and pardoned from his sin.

When years of time shall pass away, and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
When men, who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call,
God's love so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race the saints' and angels' song.

(chorus)

O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure
The saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above, would drain the ocean dry.
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.

(repeat chorus 2x)

WORDS: Frederick M. Lehman, 1917; v.3 by Meier Ben Isaac Nehoria, 1050; v.3. Tr. MUSIC: F.M. Lehman, 1917; arr. By Claudia L. Mays

*Congregation will stand.