

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 22, 2018

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

THE GATHERING

*O Worship the King

O worship the King, all glorious above
O gratefully sing His wonderful love
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace
Whose robe is the light and canopy space
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm

(chorus)

You alone are the matchless King
To You alone be all majesty
Your glories and wonders, what tongue can recite?
You breathe in the air, You shine in the light

O measureless might, ineffable love
While angels delight to worship above
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend

(repeat chorus)

You alone are the matchless King
To You alone be all majesty
Your glories and wonders, what tongue can recite?
You breathe in the air, You shine in the light
You shine in the light

(repeat verse 1)

Chris Tomlin, Johann Michael Haydn and Robert Grant©2004 worshiptogether.com
Songs/sixsteps music. Adm. by EMI Christian Music Publishing.ARR.UBP.CCLI#245668

***THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

***THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 96:1-10**

LEADER: Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!

**ALL: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.**

LEADER: Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

**ALL: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.**

LEADER: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.

**ALL: Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

LEADER: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

**ALL: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!
Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!**

***Faithfulness to Generations**

Loud may the ocean roar
Our God still calms her shores
No sorrow shakes, no sadness will sway
For He is good

Dark is the swelling tide
Our God is still her guide
Though pain surrounds, our Shepherd is near
For He is good

(chorus)
The Lord is gracious, He is slow to anger
He abounds in love; our God is rich in mercy
God holds goodness for His people,
Glory for His kingdom; faithfulness to generations.

Close may our sin pursue
Our God makes all things new
No promise He gives can Satan undo
Our God is good

(repeat chorus)

For neither height nor depth
Nor powers of hell nor sin
Can separate the love of God [from us] (2x)

(repeat chorus 2x)

Faithfulness to generations (2x)

***THE READING OF PSALM 119:65-80**

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Heavenly Father,
we humbly confess that we are an anxious and fearful people.
We do not trust You as we should,
as we often try to control our circumstances
to prevent hardships and pain.
We are slow to seek you in prayer, weak in our perseverance,
and quick to forget your faithfulness,
your power, and your all-sufficient grace.
Forgive us for the folly of our self-trust.
Forgive us for seeking our self-preservation rather than your glory.
Forgive us for doubting your goodness,
your strength, and your salvation.
Renew our minds and hearts
that we might walk by faith and not by sight.
By your mercy, keep us wholly devoted to Christ
and cause us to endure to the end,
that we might receive your great salvation.
Through Jesus Christ we pray.

PRIVATE (Silence is kept for private confession)

LEADER: LEADER: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

ALL: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places

***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 means 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

*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.

*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

*All Must Be Well

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well
Free and changeless is His favor, all is well
Precious is the blood that healed us
Perfect is the grace that sealed us
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us
All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well
Happy still in God confiding
Fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding
All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well
On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well

On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well

Words: Mary Bowley-Peters, alt. by Matthew S. Smith; Music: Matthew S. Smith
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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.

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)

(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

Ephesians 3:1-13

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 8:15 worship: Darby Ritter & Dan Wethington
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: 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.