THE WORSHIP OF GOD April 28, 2019

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

THE GATHERING

*#59 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I sing the mighty pow'r of God, that made the mountains rise; That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; The moon shines full at His command, and all the stars obey.

There's not a plant or flow'r below, but makes Thy glories known; And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne; While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care, And ev'rywhere that man can be, Thou, God, are present there.

His hand is my perpetual guard; He keeps me in His eye How should I then forget the Lord, who is forever nigh? O glorious is Thy Cov'nant grace, revealed in Christ, Thy son In whom we see the Father's face and worship at His throne!

TEXT: Isaac Watts, altered MUSIC: From Gesangbuch der Herzogl, Wurttemberg, 1784

***THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 36:5-10

LEADER: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O Lord.

ALL: How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

LEADER: Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your righteousness to the upright of heart!

*You Alone Can Rescue

Who, oh Lord, could save themselves, their own soul could heal? Our shame was deeper than the sea, Your grace is deeper still

(repeat)

(chorus) You alone can rescue, You alone can save You alone can lift us from the grave You came down to find us, led us out of death To You alone belongs the highest praise

You, oh Lord, have made a way, the great divide You healed For when our hearts were far away Your love went further still Yes, Your love goes further still

(repeat chorus 2x)

To You alone belongs the highest praise (2x)

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THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let your word abide with us until it has shaped in us your holy will. Amen.

PRIVATE (Silence is kept for private confession)

*THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: Heidelberg Catechism #1

LEADER: What is your only comfort in life and death?

ALL: That I, with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, wherefore by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto Him.

*Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea. A great High Priest whose name is "Love," Who ever lives and pleads for me. My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart; I know that while in Heav'n He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart, No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free; For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me, To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness, The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace! One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God.

One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God, With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft (1841-1923) Music by Vikki Cook. Lyrics Public Domain. Music ©1997 PDI Worship, a division of PDI Music 7881 Beechcraft Ave., Suite B, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. ARR.UBP.CCLI#245668

***THE READING FROM EXODUS 14**

*This is My Father's World

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears All nature sings and 'round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas – His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world—the birds their carols raise. The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad? The Lord is king—let the heavens ring. God reigns—let the earth be glad.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world; the battle is not done. Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and Heav'n be one.

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901; Music: Terra Beata, traditional English melody, arranged by Franklin L. Sheppard in his Alleluia, 1915

*Christ is Mine Forevermore

Mine are days that God has numbered, I was made to walk with Him Yet I look for worldly treasure, and forsake the King of kings But mine is hope in my Redeemer, though I fall, His love is sure For Christ has paid for every failing, I am His forevermore

Mine are tears in times of sorrow, darkness not yet understood Through the valley I must travel, where I see no earthly good But mine is peace that flows from heaven, and the strength in times of need I know my pain will not be wasted, Christ completes His work in me

Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way One with Christ I will encounter, harm and hatred for His name But mine is armor for this battle, strong enough to last the war And He has said He will deliver, safely to the golden shore

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk For there my heart has found its treasure Christ is mine forevermore

Come rejoice now, O my soul, for His love is my reward Fear is gone and hope is sure, Christ is mine forevermore (3x)

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk For there my heart has found its treasure Christ is mine forevermore Christ is mine forevermore, Christ is mine forevermore

Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson © 2015 CityAlight

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 SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

10:45 am Niella I'man New

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)

(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

John 8:12-20

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

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: Todd Koch Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Joe Harvey & Darby Ritter

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.