

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 4, 2016

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

THE GATHERING

*#131 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

(chorus)

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:

(repeat chorus)

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:

(repeat chorus)

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear:

(repeat chorus)

TEXT: James Montgomery MUSIC: Henry T. Smart

*THE ANNOUNCEMENT

LEADER: And the word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE LIGHTING OF THE LOVE CANDLE

8:15am: Evan & Jenn Riordan and Family

10:45am: Lucy Crabtree

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Romans 5:6-11

*Anchor of Hope

Marvelous, wonderful, infinite God
Author of all that is good
Faithful provider and giver of life
Source of all power and love

(chorus)

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise
Refuge of strength to the end
Righteous redeemer and mighty to save
He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls of men

Gracious, compassionate, merciful God
Radiant, holy delight
Beautiful Father, victorious Son
Source of unchangeable light

(repeat chorus)

Powerful, constant, unwavering God
Shepherd who comes for the lost
Rock of salvation, remarkable love
Savior who died on the Cross

(repeat chorus 2x)

He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls of
He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls of men

Words and Music by Ellie Holcomb and Brown Bannister © Ellie Holcomb and Brown Bannister ASCAP, Banistuci Music. Admin by The Loving Company.ccli#245668

*THE NICENE CREED

ALL: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scripture,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicaea {325}, and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon {451}. It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ.)

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: O most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who pardons all who truly repent and turn to you: We humbly confess our sins and implore your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart; neither have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justly, nor loved mercy, nor walked humbly with you, our God, as we ought. According to your loving-kindness have mercy upon us, O Lord; according to the multitude of your tender mercies, blot out our iniquity. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, but fill us with your Holy Spirit. Restore unto us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen.

PRIVATE (A time of silence is kept for confession of personal sins)

LEADER: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

ALL: The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

***THE READING FROM ROMANS 6:1-23**

***#123 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

(chorus)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

(repeat chorus)

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go.

(repeat chorus)

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease, fill all the world with heaven's peace.

(repeat chorus 2x)

TEXT: Latin Hymn, Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710; translated by John M. Neale MUSIC: Adapted from Plainsong by Thomas Helmore

***#275 How Firm a Foundation**

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with thee thy trouble to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!"

TEXT: Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787 MUSIC: Traditional American melody; Caldwell's Union Harmony, 1837

***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 SACRAMENT

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Titus 2:11-3:8

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 LORD'S SUPPER

The Table of the Lord is open to each person who acknowledges himself/herself to be a sinner in the sight of God and without hope for salvation except in His sovereign mercy; who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners; who receives and depends upon Christ alone for salvation as He is offered in the gospel; and who promises and resolves in humble reliance upon the Holy Spirit, to endeavor to live as becomes a follower of Christ.

If this is your profession of faith, you are welcome at the Lord's Table. As you come, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and eat. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small!
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me, thine all in all."

(chorus)

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain-
He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find, Thy power, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

(repeat chorus)

And when before the throne I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save,"
My lips shall still repeat.

(repeat chorus 2x)

Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Text: Elvina M. Hall Music: John T. Grape Additional chorus by Alex Nifong © 2006
worshiptogether.com Songs/sixsteps Music (ASCAP)/Admin. by EMI CMG Publishing. CCLI#245668

Awake, My Soul, to Sing

Awake, my soul, to sing of Jesus' mercy
For neither death nor sin will conquer thee
Christ did my ransom pay while I preferred my stains
When Jesus died for me

Awake, my soul, to sing of Jesus' merit
When God His judgment brings, hide me in Thee
While robed in righteousness, I will not fear it
Since Jesus died for me

Awake, my soul, to sing of Jesus' blessing
Whose love lays hold of me and bids me see
He guides and guards my loves, and I am yielded
Since Jesus died for me

Awake, my soul, to sing of Jesus' promise
Whose Word and victory will changeless be
For Christ's I am today and Christ's I will be
Since Jesus died for me
Since Jesus died for me
Since Jesus died for me

Words and Music by Ryan Mayo ©2011

Song of Moses

Oh the Lord, our strength and song, highest praise to Him belongs
Christ the Lord, the Conquering King, Your Name we raise, Your triumphs sing

(chorus)

Praise the Lord, our Mighty Warrior
Praise the Lord, the Glorious One
By His hand we stand in victory,
By His Name we overcome

Though the storms of hell pursue, in darkest night we worship You
You divide the raging sea, from death to life You safely lead

(repeat chorus)

All the saints and angels bow, hosts of heaven crying out
Glory, glory to the King, You reign for all eternity

(repeat chorus)

The Lord shall reign forever and ever
The Lord shall reign forever and ever (4x)

(repeat chorus 2x)

Words & Music by Chris Moerman, Ben Smith, Pat Barrett, Aaron Keyes, and Graham Kendrick. ©2007 Thankyou Music (admin. worldwide by worshiptogether.com songs)

THE PRAYER ON THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

***ALL:** Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

THE SENDING

***THE BENEDICTION**

***THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

ALL: Christ has come. Christ is coming again. Hallelujah!

***#625 Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

AFTER SERVICE PRAYER

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: Kim Grubbs & Michael Boulton

*Congregation will stand.