

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 11, 2016

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

THE GATHERING

*#132 Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

(chorus)

Glo- - -ria in excelsis Deo,

Glo- - -ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?

(repeat chorus)

Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

(repeat chorus)

See within a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, with us sing our Savior's birth.

(repeat chorus)

TEXT: Traditional French carol MUSIC: Traditional French melody

*THE ANNOUNCEMENT

LEADER: Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.
1Timothy 1:17

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE LIGHTING OF THE JOY CANDLE

8:15am: David & Stacy Rogers and Family

10:45am: Gabe & Missy Hunninghake and Family

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*God is Able

God is able, He will never fail, He is almighty God
Greater than all we seek, greater than all we ask
He has done great things

(chorus)

Lifted up He defeated the grave
Raised to life, our God is able
In His name we overcome
For the Lord our God is able

God is with us, God is on our side, He will make a way
Far above all we know, far above all we hope
He has done great things

(repeat chorus)

God is with us, He will go before,
He will never leave us, He will never leave us
God is for us, He has open arms,
He will never fail us, He will never fail us

(repeat chorus 2x)

For the Lord our God is able
For the Lord our God is able

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*THE READING OF 1 JOHN 2:28-3:3

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Our Father in Heaven, who gave your son for us, we are unworthy of your inexpressible gift. Through Him you have loved us, yet we have neither loved You nor one another as we ought. You placed the guilt of sinners upon Him, yet we are hesitant to confess. He humbled Himself, taking the form of a servant, yet we remain proud and reluctant to serve. In Him is all wisdom and knowledge, yet we think ourselves wise. He is the way, the truth and the life, yet we struggle to repent and believe. He has been made in every way like us and so sympathizes with our weaknesses, yet we neglect to pray. He has given us new life by His Spirit, yet we often live as we once lived. Forgive and blot out our sins through the incarnate life and willing sacrifice of your holy Son, our Lord Jesus. And through His Spirit enable us to live as those who have the hope of eternal life.

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

LEADER: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:8-12

ALL: Blessed be the name of the Lord. Amen.

*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.)

*Jesus, I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health, out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come;
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Jesus, I come to Thee.

TEXT: William T. Sleeper MUSIC: ©2000 Greg Thompson

***God With Us**

You've come to bring peace, to be love
To be nearer to us
You've come to bring life, to be light
To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel, God with us

(chorus)

Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our Redemption, God with us
You are God with us

You've come to be hope, to this world
For Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin, to bear shame
And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel, God with us

(repeat chorus)

You are here, you are holy, we are here to give you glory (Lord) (4x)

Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our Redemption, God with us

(repeat chorus)

You are God with us

All Sons and Daughters; Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan / © 2012 Open Hands Music (Admin. by Sony/ATV Sounds LLC)UBP.CCLI#245668

***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

10:45am: Scott James Weinhold

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 SCRIPTURE

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.

Come to Me

Weary, burdened wanderer, there is rest for thee
At the feet of Jesus in His love, so free.

Listen to His message, words of life, forever blest.
Oh, thou heavy-laden, come to me, come and rest

(chorus)

There is freedom, taste and see.
Hear the call, come to me.
Run into His arms of grace.
Your burden carried, He will take

Bring Him all thy burdens, all thy guilt and sin.
Mercy's door is open, rise up and enter in

Jesus, there is waiting patiently for thee.
Hear Him gently calling, come, oh, come to me.

(repeat chorus 2x)

Weary, burdened wanderer, there is rest for thee
At the feet of Jesus in His love, so free.

#177 What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I Am,"
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And thro' eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And thro' eternity I'll sing on.

TEXT: American Folk Hymn MUSIC: William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835

How Marvelous

I stand amazed in the presence, of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how He could love me
A sinner condemned unclean

(chorus)

How marvelous, how wonderful, and my song shall ever be
How marvelous, how wonderful is my Savior's love for me

He took my sins and my sorrows, He made them His very own
He bore the burden to Calvary
And suffered and died alone

(repeat chorus)

When with the ransomed in glory, His face I at last shall see
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of his love for me

(repeat chorus 2x)

Text & Music: Charles Hutchinson Gabriel (1905) Arrangement: Chris Tomlin.ARR.UBP.CCLI#245668

THE PRAYER ON THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*LEADER: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; as we await our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

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

*Congregation will stand.