

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 10, 2017

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

## THE GATHERING

### \*#262 Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy - there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

TEXT: Reginald Heber MUSIC: John B. Dykes

### \*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: Lauren Erickson

10:45am: Jonathan & Kathryn DeMent and Family

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 103:1-5, 14-19; 22b**

**\*Here is Love**

Here is love, vast as the ocean, lovingkindness as the flood,  
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom, interposed His precious blood.  
Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise?  
He can never be forgotten, throughout Heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion, fountains opened deep and wide;  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above,  
And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me all Thy love accepting, love Thee, ever all my days;  
Let me seek Thy kingdom only and my life be to Thy praise;  
Thou alone shall be my glory, nothing in the world I see.  
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me, Thou Thyself hast set me free.

Thou alone shall be my glory, nothing in the world I see.  
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me, Thou Thyself hast set me free.

Words: William Rees (1802-1883) Original tune by Robert Lowry (c. 1895) 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, O 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, and 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:** 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:** 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 LUKE 1:67-80

#### \*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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## **\*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 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 [5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> 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

Isaiah 40

## RESPONSE TO THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

**All: The grass withers and the flower falls,  
but the word of the Lord remains forever.**

## 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.

## O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,  
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.

Underneath me, all around me, is the current of His love,  
Leading onward, leading homeward to Thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'tis a heaven of heavens to me;  
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread His praise from shore to shore!  
How He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore!

How He watches o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own.  
How for them He intercedeth, watches o'er them from the throne.

TEXT: S. Trevor Francis

## #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 Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710; translated by John M. Neale. MUSIC: Adapted from Plainsong by Thomas Helmore

## 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)

Is my Savior's love for me

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

## 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: Michael Lemon & Larry Swinson  
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Kim Grubbs & Warran Wiebe

\*Congregation will stand.