

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

February 26, 2017

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

THE GATHERING

*#25 Immortal, Invisible

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious— Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest— to both great and small,
In all life Thou livest— the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish— but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render— O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith; based on 1 Timothy 1:17 MUSIC: Traditional Welsh
Hymn melody from John Roberts' 'Canaidau y Cyssegr', 1839

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 95:1-7a

LEADER: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**ALL: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

LEADER: For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**ALL: In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.**

LEADER: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

**ALL: For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

***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 this 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 READING FROM MATTHEW 14:22-33**

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Merciful Father, forgive our lack of faith, for doubting your love that calls us, your wisdom that guides us, your power that sustains us. When life's trials come we confess that at times we struggle to count them as joy. Our vision for what you are doing for us is too often clouded by fear and anger. Relying upon our own limited, self-centered vision of what is true we sink rather than persevere, doubt rather than trust, complain rather than rejoice. Lord Jesus, we give thanks that for us you maintained faith in the love, wisdom and power of your Father, even to the cross, by which you atoned for our sins. Holy Spirit, strengthen our faith that we may persevere in joy.

PRIVATE (Silence is kept for private confession)

LEADER: The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. 1Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24

ALL: Thanks be to God who forgives all our sins through Jesus Christ our Lord, and preserves our faith through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*O Great God

O great God of highest heaven, occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel power.
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice,
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace.
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed.
O great God of highest heaven, glorify Your Name through me.

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O great God of highest heaven, glorify Your Name through me.

Words and music by Bob Kauffman as recorded on Valley of Vision© 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI) CCLI#245668

*THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: Heidelberg Catechism

Leader: What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

All: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ his Son. I trust him so much that I do not doubt that he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and he will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this sad world. He is able to do this because he is almighty God, he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.

*#493 It Is Well with My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea-billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

(refrain)

It is well

echo: It is well

With my soul

echo: With my soul

It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

(repeat refrain)

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
"Even so" it is well with my soul.

(repeat refrain)

It is well, it is well with my soul.

TEXT: Horatio G. Spafford MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss

***All to Us**

(chorus)

Let the glory of Your name be the passion of the Church
Let the righteousness of God be a holy flame that burns
Let the saving love of Christ be the measure of our lives
We believe You're all to us

Only Son of God sent from heaven. hope and mercy at the cross
You are everything, You're the promise. Jesus, You are all to us

(repeat chorus 2x)

When this passing world is over. we will see You face to face
And forever we will worship. Jesus, You are all to us

Jesus, You are all to us

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Matt Redman, and Matt Maher © 2010
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EMICMGPublishing.com) (ASCAP) / Thankyou Music (admin. worldwide at EMICMGPublishing.com,
excluding Europe, which is admin. by kingswaysongs.com) (PRS) / spiritandsong.com Publishing (BMI)

***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 PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

James 1:5-18

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 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: Kim Grubbs & Mike Bartlow

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand, all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

TEXT: Edward Mote MUSIC: William B. Bradbury

*Congregation will stand.