

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 3, 2016

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

THE GATHERING

*Come Thou Fount

Come Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my *Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above

Come Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above

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**an altar to remind of God's faithfulness in 1 Samuel 7"

David Crowder Band © Sixsteps Music;Worship Together Music.UBP.CCLI#245668

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 90

*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

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

All: Eternal and Immortal God, all that you have made unmistakably shows us that you are powerful and divine, and worthy of our worship. Nevertheless, even though you have revealed yourself to us, we have immorally suppressed what we know to be true. We have not honored you as God, nor given thanks to you. We have become futile in our thinking, and our hearts have become dark. Claiming to be wise, we have been fools, and we have exchanged your glory for cheap copies. We have traded your truth for a lie, and we have sought in your creation what can only be found in you yourself. Forgive us for failing to give you glory and rescue us from our idolatrous hearts. Grant us faith to seek in your Son the satisfaction of our souls, and reveal your power in our salvation.

PRIVATE (A time of silent and private confessions for personal sins)

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning: Great is your faithfulness.

***Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder**

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:
He has washed us with His blood,(3x)
He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord Who bought us, pitied us when enemies,
Called us by His grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:
He has washed us with His blood,(3x)
He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threatens hard to bear us down!
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqu'ror's crown:
He Who washed us with His blood(3x)
Soon will bring us home to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;
Here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky:
"Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,(3x)
Thou art worthy Lamb of God!"

Words by John Newton Music by Laura Taylor ©2001 Laura Taylor Music UBP.ARR. CCLI#245668

***Cling to the Crucified**

Cling to the crucified, cling to the Lamb
Cling to the buried One, the Great I Am
O Cling to the risen Son of Man
Alleluia, Amen

Cling to the Faithful One, cling in thy pain
Cling to the gracious One, who rids thy stain
O cling to the Holy Son of Man
Alleluia, Amen

Cling to the glorified, Cling to His side
Cling to the reigning One, in Him abide
O cling to the coming Son of Man
Alleluia, Amen

Cling to the crucified, cling to the Lamb
Cling to the buried One, the Great I Am
O Cling to the risen Son of Man
Alleluia, Amen
Alleluia, Amen

Words adapted from Horatius Bonar (Public Domain)

***THE LORD'S MERCY TO HIS PEOPLE: Hosea 2**

***Rising Sun**

Praise Him all you sinners, sing oh sing you weary
Oh praise Him all you children of God
We lift high His glory - shown throughout our stories
We praise Him as the children of God

(chorus)

Our great redeemer, Glorious Savior
Your name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning, You shine forever
Your name is higher than the rising sun
Your name is higher than the rising sun

Praise His name forever, speak it loud and clear now
Oh praise Him all you children of God

(repeat chorus)

Hallelujah name above all, we lift Your name in praise
Hallelujah now and always, we lift Your name in praise (repeat)

(repeat chorus)

Your name is higher than the rising sun

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***THE PROFESSION OF FAITH FROM EZEKIEL 36**

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

***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)

(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

Hebrews 11:4-6

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: Larry Swinson & Joe Harvey
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Kim Grubbs & Mike Bartlow

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*Unchanging

Great is Your faithfulness, great is Your faithfulness
You never change, You never fail, O God

True are Your promises, true are Your promises
You never change, You never fail, O God

(chorus)

So we raise up holy hands
To praise the Holy one
Who was and is and is to come

Wide is Your love and grace, wide is Your love and grace
You never change, You never fail, O God (repeat)

(repeat chorus 2x)

You were, You are, You will always be (4x)

(repeat chorus 2x)

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*Congregation will stand.