

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 10, 2016

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

THE GATHERING

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly forever adore Him.

Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly forever adore Him.

TEXT: Joachim Neander; translated by Catherine Winkworth. MUSIC: Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We have a strong city; he sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks. Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

All: You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

Leader: For he has humbled the inhabitants of the height, the lofty city. He lays it low, lays it low to the ground, casts it to the dust. The foot tramples it, the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy.

All: The path of the righteous is level; you make level the way of the righteous. In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul.

*Hallelujah to My King

O, how strong the power of Jesus' name
It is stronger than any other name
How sweet the victory that bore my shame
Took the burden of my sin away

(chorus)

Hallelujah, what a Savior, I owe everything to Him
Hallelujah, what a Savior, hallelujah to my King

O, how great the kindness our God has shown
We were strangers, now we're called His own
His grace has welcomed the sinner home
Tender mercies lead us to the throne

(repeat chorus)

O, what peace the Spirit of Jesus brings
Through the trials, He will carry me
One day in Heaven, our eyes will meet
Filled with wonder, all the saints will sing

(repeat chorus 2x)

Hallelujah to my King

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THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

God, Be Merciful to Me

God, be merciful to me, on Thy grace I rest my plea;
Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against Thy grace and provoked Thee to Thy face;
I confess Thy judgment just, speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

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

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;
Cast me not away from Thee, let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me and return, O God to Thee;
Savior all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love;
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.

Words by Richard Redhead Music by Chris Miner ©Chris Miner Music.UBP.ARR.CCLI#245668

*THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS FROM PSALM 51

*THE READING OF THE BELIEVER'S HOPE FROM ROMANS 8

*This is My Father's World

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings and 'round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas – His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world—the birds their carols raise.
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king—let the heavens ring. God reigns—let the earth be glad.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world; the battle is not done.
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and Heav'n be one.

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901; Music: Terra Beata, traditional English melody, arranged by Franklin L. Sheppard in his Alleluia, 1915

*We Will Feast in the House of Zion

(chorus)
We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up

(repeat chorus)

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

(repeat chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom.

(repeat chorus 2x)

Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore © 2015 Drink Your Tea (ASCAP) / Joshmooreownsthis Music (ASCAP) ARR.ICS.UBP.CCLI#245668

*THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: Heidelberg Catechism #1

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and death?

All: That I, with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, wherefore by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto Him.

*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

Hebrews 11:8-22

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: Michael Lemon & Darby Ritter
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Scott Rask & Warran Wiebe

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away.

(chorus)

I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for the promised land,
I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for the promised land.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.

When shall I reach that happy place, and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest?

(repeat chorus)

I am bound for the promised land.

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*Congregation will stand.