

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 1, 2017

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

THE GATHERING

*#51 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy pow'ful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.

TEXT: William Williams; translated by Peter Williams and William Williams MUSIC: John Hughes

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 90

**All: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

Leader: You return man to dust
and say, "Return, O children of man!"
For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.
For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

**All: So teach us to number our days
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
and for as many years as we have seen evil.
Let your work be shown to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!**

* You Crown the Year

(verse 1)

You crown the year with Your goodness
You answer us with awesome deeds
Your hope resounds, God our Savior
To distant lands and farthest seas

You still the waves with Your presence
You bless Your harvest with Your rain
Your river filled with living water
That flows to all as You ordain

(chorus)

Praise the name of the Lord
O my soul sing His worth
All of life join the song
Come and lift up our King

Now let the earth join His praises
Who dwells between the sea and sky?
The dusk and dawn forever answer
The call to worship God on high

(repeat chorus 2x)

(repeat vs. 1)

Adapted from Hillsong; Brooke Ligertwood, Reuben Morgan ©2013 Hillsong Music

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 (Silence is kept for private confession)

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS: Romans 8

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

***Beautiful, Scandalous Night**

Go on up to the mountain of mercy, to the crimson perpetual tide
Kneel down on the shore, be thirsty no more
Go under and be purified

Follow Christ to the holy mountain, sinner sorry and wrecked by the fall
Cleanse your heart and your soul, in the fountain that flowed
For you and for me and for all

(chorus)

At the wonderful, tragic, mysterious tree
On that beautiful, scandalous night you and me
Were atoned by His blood and forever washed white
On that beautiful, scandalous night

On the hillside, you will be delivered, at the foot of the cross justified
And your spirit restored by the river that poured
From our blessed Savior's side

(repeat chorus 2x)

On that beautiful, scandalous night

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***THE READING FROM EXODUS 19**

***Rock of Ages**

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress, helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly, wash me, Savior, or I die!

While I draw this fleeting breath, when my eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

TEXT: Augustus M. Toplady MUSIC: Richard Redhead

***To God Be the Glory**

To God be the glory, great things He has done,
He so loved this world, that He gave us His only Son,
Who yielded His life, atoned for our sin,
And opened wide the gate, so all may enter in.

(chorus)

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice;
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him all the glory; great things He has done.

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God

(repeat chorus)

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done
And great is our rejoicing, in Jesus Christ the Son

(repeat chorus 2x)

Fanny Crosby & William Doane; Arrangement: Brothers in Moab

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

All: Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

***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

Nicodemus John Ney

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] WILL NOT MEET TODAY)

(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 12:18-24

RESPONSE TO THE READING OF THE WORD

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

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 worship: Warran Wiebe & Joe Harvey

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*Anchor of Hope

Marvelous, wonderful, infinite God
Author of all that is good
Faithful provider and giver of life
Source of all power and love

(chorus)

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise
Refuge of strength to the end
Righteous redeemer and mighty to save
He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls [of men]

Gracious, compassionate, merciful God
Radiant, holy delight
Beautiful Father, victorious Son
Source of unchangeable light

(repeat chorus)

Powerful, constant, unwavering God
Shepherd who comes for the lost
Rock of salvation, remarkable love
Savior who died on the Cross

(repeat chorus 2x)

He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls
He's the Anchor of Hope for the souls of men

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*Congregation will stand.