

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 7, 2018

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

THE GATHERING

*#234 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne:
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King thru all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love: behold His hands and side
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life: Who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n: One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit thru Him giv'n from yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise, for Thou for us hast died;
Be Thou, O Lord, thru endless days adored and magnified.

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, stanzas 1,2,4; Godfrey Thring, stanza 3 MUSIC: George J. Elvey

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

**ALL: For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
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!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

*The Lion and the Lamb

He's coming on the clouds,
And kings and kingdoms will bow down
Every chain will break as broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty?

(chorus)

Our God is the lion – the lion of Judah
He's roaring in power and fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is a lamb – the lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world; His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

Open up the gates, make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty?

(repeat chorus)

Who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord

(repeat chorus)

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THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Judge of all people. We acknowledge and confess the sins which we have too often committed against you by thought, word and deed. by what we have done and what we have left undone. We know our struggle to trust wholly in your Word and to live by your wisdom in joyful obedience to You. For we have been selfish and proud, jealous of others and interested in our own gain. We confess our unwillingness to change our wrong thoughts and ways when confronted by your word. We fear that our lives betray our profession of faith, for we see in ourselves a greater resemblance to the world, rather than Christ. We earnestly repent and are sincerely sorry for our sins and the way we have been corrupted by the world rather than transformed by your Holy Spirit. The burden of our sin is too great to bear so for the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus, forgive all our sins.

PRIVATE (Silence is kept for private confession)

THE ASSURANCE FROM PSALM 103

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.
For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

*Crowns

There is a hill I cherish, where stood a precious tree
The emblem of salvation, the gift of Calvary

How is it I should profit, while He is crucified
Yet as His life was taken, so I was granted mine

(chorus)

My wealth is in the cross; There's nothing more I want
Than just to know His love; My heart is set on Christ
And I will count all else as loss
The greatest of my crowns means nothing to me now
For I counted up the cost and all my wealth is in the cross

I will not boast in riches, I have no pride in gold
But I will boast in Jesus, and in His Name alone

(repeat chorus 2x)

And when I stand in glory, my crowns before the Lord
Let this be my confession, my wealth is in the cross

Words and Music by Michael Fatkin, Scott Groom, and Ben Hastings.CCLI#245668

THE READING FROM MATTHEW 7:12-27

*For All the Saints

For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...

Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Allelu...

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Allelu...

But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way,
Alleluia, Allelu...

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Words: William How; Music ©1997, Christopher Miner Music.UBP.ARR.CCLI#245668

***Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right**

Whate'er my God ordains is right: Holy His will abideth;
I will be still whate'er He does, and follow where He guideth.
He is my God; though dark my road He holds me that I shall not fall:
Wherefore to Him I leave it all.
Whate'er my God ordains is right.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: though now this cup, in drinking,
May bitter seem to my faint heart, I take it, all unshrinking
My God is true; each morn anew sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart,
And pain and sorrow shall depart.
Whate'er my God ordains is right.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: here shall my stand be taken;
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, yet I am not forsaken.
My Father's care is round me there; He holds me that I shall not fall:
And so to Him I leave it all.
Whate'er my God ordains is right.

©Words: Samuel Rodigast. Music: Tyler Clements and Ryan Mayo.UBP

***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)

(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

Psalm 1

RESPONSE TO THE READING OF THE WORD

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

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: Scott Rask & Warran Wiebe
Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Kim Grubbs & Michael Boulton

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*All the Way My Savior Leads Me

All the way my Savior leads me, what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy, who through life has been my Guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well;
For I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living Bread.
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me, Lo! A spring of joy I see;
Gushing from the Rock before me, Lo! A spring of joy I see.

All the way my Savior leads me, oh, the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised, in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song through endless ages Jesus led me all the way;
This my song through endless ages, Jesus led me all the way.

Text: Fanny Crosby / Music: Robert Lowry; Arrangement: Redeemer Church of the Shoals Alabama.UBP.ICS.CCLI#Z45668

*Congregation will stand.