

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 26, 2020

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

## THE GATHERING

### \*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ, our Brother— all who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

TEXT: Henry van Dyke MUSIC: Ludwig von Beethoven; melody from Ninth Symphony; adapted by Edward Hodges

### \*The Prayer of Invocation

### \*The Call to Worship: Psalm 100

### \*God is For Us

We won't fear the battle, we won't fear the night  
We will walk the valley, with you by our side  
You will go before us, You will lead the way  
We have found a refuge, only you can save

(chorus)

Sing with joy now: our God is for us  
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress  
Raise your voice now, no love is greater  
Who can stand against us if our God is for us

Even when I stumble, even when I fall  
Even when I turn back, still your love is sure  
You will not abandon, You will not forsake  
You will cheer me onward with never ending grace

(repeat chorus)

Neither height nor depth can separate us  
Hell and death will not defeat us,  
He who gave his son to free us, holds me in his love (2x)

(repeat chorus 2x)

Michael Farren, James Ferguson, Tiarne Tranter, Jesse Reeves, Jonny Robinson, James Tealy,  
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**\*The Profession of Faith: John 1:1-5, 9-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God.  
All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.  
In him was life, and the life was the light of men.  
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.  
The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.  
He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.  
He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.  
But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.  
And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**The Prayers of Confession**

Leader: God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for us.

**All: We confess that our sin and pride  
hide the brightness of your light.  
Too often we turn away from those in need;  
we ignore the spiritual complacency in our own lives;  
and we do not seek peace with those at odds with us.  
In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin;  
fill us with your Spirit,  
that we may show forth your glory, shining in the face of Jesus Christ.**

(Based on the Book of Common Worship)

**PRIVATE** (Silence is kept for private confession)

**The Assurance of Sins Forgiven**

Leader: For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (Romans 5:6-11)

**ALL: Christ Jesus is our righteousness, sanctification and redemption. Praise be to God!**

### **\*By Thy Mercy**

Jesus, Lord of life and glory, bend from heaven Thy gracious ear;  
While our waiting souls adore Thee, friend of helpless sinners, hear:

From the depth of nature's blindness, from the hardening power of sin,  
From all malice and unkindness, from the pride that lurks within,

(refrain)

By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord  
By Thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.

When temptation sorely presses, in the day of Satan's power,  
In our times of deep distresses, in each dark and trying hour.

When the world around is smiling, in the time of wealth and ease,  
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling, in the day of health and peace.

(repeat refrain)

In the weary hours of sickness, in the times of grief and pain,  
When we feel our mortal weakness, when all human help is vain.

In the solemn hour of dying, in the awful judgment day,  
May our souls, on Thee relying, find thee still our Rock and Stay.

(repeat refrain 2x)

Words: James J. Cummins Music: Greg Thompson © 2004 Greg Thompson Music. UBP.ARR.CCLI@#245668

### **\*The Reading of 1 Peter 2:4-10**

#### **\*The Goodness of Jesus**

Come you weary heart now to Jesus  
Come you anxious soul now and see  
There is perfect love and comfort for your tears  
Rest here in His wondrous peace

(chorus)

Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus  
Satisfied he is all that I need  
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days  
In the goodness of Jesus

Come find what this world cannot offer,  
Come and find your joy here complete  
Taste the living water, never thirst again,  
Rest here in His wondrous peace

(repeat chorus)

Come and find your hope now in Jesus,  
He is all he said he would be  
Grace is overflowing from the Savior's heart,  
Rest here in His wondrous peace

(repeat chorus 2x)

May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days  
In the goodness of Jesus

Fiona Aghajanian, Harrison Druery, Michael Farren, Jaywan Maxwell, Jonny Robinson,  
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### **\*Speak, O Lord**

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your holy word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail;  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

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### **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 [5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> 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:

Response to the Reading of Scripture: Luke 2:22-38

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

The Message from Scripture

Bill Vogler

# THE SENDING

## \*The Benediction

### \*How Great Is Your Faithfulness

Now unto the King who reigns over all, and never changes or turns.  
Unfailing justice, unfading grace, Whose promises remain,  
Yes, Your promises remain.

(chorus)

The heavens ring, the saints all sing, 'Great is Your faithfulness.'  
From age to age we will proclaim, 'Great is Your faithfulness,  
How great is Your faithfulness.'

Everything changes, but You stay the same; Your Word and kingdom endure.  
We lean on the promise of all that You are, and trust forevermore;  
We will trust forevermore.

(repeat chorus)

From generation to generation, You never fail us, O God.  
Yesterday and today and tomorrow, until the day You return. (repeat)

The heavens ring, the saints all sing, 'Great is Your faithfulness.'  
From age to age we will proclaim, 'Great is Your faithfulness'

(repeat chorus)

'How great is Your faithfulness.'

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## AFTER SERVICE PRAYER

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: Larry Swinson & Caleb Stegall

\*Congregation will stand.