

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 23, 2018

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

THE GATHERING

*#560 For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thy Church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given;
For that great, great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

TEXT: Foliott S. Pierpoint, altered; MUSIC: Conrad Kocher; arranged by William H. Monk

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 16

LEADER: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

ALL: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

LEADER: Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

**ALL: I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you."**

LEADER: The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

**ALL: I have set the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

LEADER: Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.

**ALL: You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

*Here is Love

Here is love, vast as the ocean, lovingkindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom, interposed His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten, throughout Heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion, fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above,
And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me, by Thy Spirit through Thy Word;
And Thy grace my need is meeting, as I trust in Thee, my Lord.
Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring, Thy great love and power on me,
Without measure, full and boundless, drawing out my heart to Thee.

Let me all Thy love accepting, love Thee, ever all my days;
Let me seek Thy kingdom only and my life be to Thy praise;
Thou alone shall be my glory, nothing in the world I see.
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me, Thou Thyself hast set me free.

Thou alone shall be my glory, nothing in the world I see.
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me, Thou Thyself hast set me free.

Words: William Rees (1802-1883) Original tune by Robert Lowry (c. 1895) CCLI#245668

THE READING OF EXODUS 20:1-17

THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

**ALL: Most holy and merciful Father,
We confess to you and to one another,
that we have sinned against you
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our
whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not always had in us the mind of Christ.
You alone know how often we have grieved you
by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways.
Forgive us, most merciful Father;
And free us from our sin.
Renew in us the grace and strength of your Holy Spirit,
for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen.**

PRIVATE (Silence is kept for private confession)

**LEADER: LEADER: The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
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.
Psalm 103: 8, 10-12**

**ALL: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Psalm 103:1**

***Before the Throne of God Above**

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great High Priest whose name is "Love," Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in Heav'n He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God.

One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Words by Charitie Lees Bancroft (1841-1923) Music by Vikki Cook. Lyrics Public Domain.
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***THE PROFESSION OF FAITH: Philippians 2:5-11**

ALL; Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

***O Praise the Name**

I cast my mind to Calvary, where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet, my Savior on that cursed tree
His body bound and drenched in tears, they laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone, Messiah still and all alone

(chorus)

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

And then on the third at break of dawn, the Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death, where is your sting, the angels roar for Christ the King

(repeat chorus)

He shall return in robes of white, the blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints, my gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

(repeat chorus 2x)

Oh Lord, oh Lord our God
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

Words and Music by Marty Sampson, Benjamin Hastings & Dean Ussher © 2015 Hillsong Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

***Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are

We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way
Keep Thy flock from sin, defend us, seek us when we go astray

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and pow'r to free

Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, we will early turn to Thee
Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, we will early turn to Thee

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care

Text: Dorothy Thrupp (1779-1847); Music: Brian Ortize, Katelyn Clampett.

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

Ephesians 5:15-18

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

Bill Vogler

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

Available for prayer after 10:45 worship: Dan Wethington & Michael Boulton

THE SENDING

*THE BENEDICTION

*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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*Congregation will stand.