

A SERVICE OF PRAYER, SCRIPTURE & SONG

September 9, 2017

AS WE GATHER

Today we gather before our God to seek His protection, power and peace. We also offer the Lord our worship and praise knowing that "His mercy endures forever...and...His faith endures forever! Therefore, we come to remember and to be reassured in His presence. In an uncertain world, broken by sin and filled with tragedy, God's power and peace uphold us and assure us that God is with us and will reign eternally.

WELCOME

INVOCATION

Pastor: God loves us as His dear children. He's even given us His own name through faith and Baptism. So we remember and celebrate this by beginning in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray.

RESPONSIVE READING

P: Unless the Lord had given me help,

C: I would soon have dwelt in the silence of death.

P: When I said, "My foot is slipping," Your love, O Lord, supported me.

C: When anxiety was great within me, Your consolation brought joy to my soul. Ps. 94:16-19

P: My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him.

C: My salvation and my honor depend on God; He is my mighty rock, my refuge.

P: My flesh and heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart & my portion forever. Ps. 73:26

C: It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. Ps. 18:32

P: We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.

C: In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name.

P: May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord,

P: even as we put our hope in You. Ps. 33:20-22

SONG *Good, Good, Father*

I've heard a thousand stories Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper Of love in the dead of night
You tell me that You're pleased And that I'm never alone

Chorus

You're a Good Good Father It's who You are It's who You are It's who You are
And I'm loved by You It's who I am It's who I am It's who I am

I've seen many searching for answers Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers Only You provide
Because You know just what we need Before we say a word

You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still Into love love love

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TIME OF SILENT PRAYER

PSALM Psalm 62

- P: My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.
- C: How long will you assault a man? Would all of you throw him down this leaning wall, this tottering fence? They fully intend to topple him from his lofty place; they take delight in lies. With their mouths they bless, but in their hearts they curse.**
- P: Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him.
- C: He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge.**
- P: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.
- C: Lowborn men are but a breath, the highborn are but a lie; if weighed on a balance, they are nothing; together they are only a breath.**
- P: Do not trust in extortion or take pride in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.
- C: One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, O God, are strong, and that you, O Lord, are loving. Surely you will reward each person according to what he has done. Glory and praise be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

HYMN *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

Our God, our help in ages past,	Under the shadow of your throne	Before the hills in order stood
Our hope for years to come,	Your saints have dwelt secure;	Or earth received its frame,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,	Sufficient is your arm alone,	From everlasting you are God,
And our eternal home.	And our defense is sure.	To endless years the same.

LITANY OF PRAYER

- P: O Lord, have mercy.
- C: O Christ, have mercy.**
- P: Be gracious to us.
- C: Spare us, good Lord.**
- P: Be gracious to us.
- C: Help us, good Lord.**
- P: Lord God,
- C: we confess our sins to You...Lord, it is easier to say, "God is my refuge and help in times of trouble" than it is to trust in You when troubles come. It is easier for us to say, "God is my fortress and my deliverer" than it is to peacefully rest in Your shelter and not be afraid. We confess that we have been afraid of many things. We have feared those who can kill the body but not the soul. We have feared losing the things we love more than the One who loves us. Our fear, love and trust in the One who has power over both the body and soul has been weak. Forgive us and renew us in Jesus' name.**

(Pause for personal meditation)

- P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C: hear us.**
- P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C: have mercy and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

SONG *All in All*

(Vs 1) You are my Strength when I am weak, You are the Treasure that I seek You are my all in all. Seeking You as a precious jewel Lord to give up I'd be a fool You are my all in all.	(Vs 2) Taking my sin, my cross, my shame Rising again I bless Your name You are my all in all. When I fall down, You pick me up When I am dry You fill my cup You are my all in all.
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(Chorus) Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your name.

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. ⁵God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. ⁶Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. ⁷The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

⁸Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. ¹⁰He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth." ¹¹The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

EPISTLE

Romans 8 (selected verses)

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time... ²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose... ³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[k] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SILENT REFLECTION

GOSPEL

Matthew 8: 23-27

²³Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. ²⁴Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"

²⁶He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

²⁷The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

SILENT PRAYER

SONG

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live, I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home Here in the power of Christ I'll stand Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Since our Father in heaven has promised to hear whatever we ask in the name of His Son, our living Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let us, therefore, pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: (Additional Prayers are offered)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Praise Team Anthem: *Great are You Lord*

Dismissal & Prayer

SONG #549, *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, v. 1, 3, 5, 7*

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown him Lord of all.

O seed of Israel's chosen race, Now ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace And crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace And crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can never forget The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread you trophies at his feet And crown him Lord of all.
Go, spread you trophies at his feet And crown him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song And crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song And crown him Lord of all.

THE BLESSING

P: Now may the God who is Lord forever, strong and faithful, deep in love and wide in mercy,

C: Keep us in care.

P: May the LORD walk beside you to comfort you, walk above you to watch over you, walk behind you to keep you safe, and walk before you to show you the way. Go knowing that the One who is the Prince of Peace goes with you.

C: Amen. We go in confidence and joy, filled with and overflowing with the love of Christ!

SONG *White Flag*

The battle rages on As storm and tempest roar We cannot win this fight
Inside our rebel hearts We're laying down our weapons now

Chorus We raise our white flag We surrender all to You All for You
We raise our white flag The war is over Love has come Your love has won

Here on this holy ground You made a way for peace Laying Your body down
You took our rightful place This freedom song is marching on

We lift the cross Lift it high lift it high We lift the cross Lift it high lift it high
We lift the cross Lift it high lift it high We lift the cross Lift it high lift it high
(REPEAT)

CCLI Song # 6223508

THE OFFERING – Will be received at the Door.