

**6th Sunday After Pentecost
July 9, 2023 Worship Bulletin**

Gathering for God's Word

Opening Songs of Praise

"Trading My Sorrows"

I'm trading my sorrows, I'm trading my shame,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.
I'm trading my sickness, I'm trading my pain,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.

Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord;
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord;
Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord; Amen.

I am pressed but not crushed, persecuted, not abandoned,
Struck down, but not destroyed;
I am blessed, beyond the curse, for His promise will endure,
That His joy's gonna be my strength,
Though my sorrow may last for the night,
His joy comes with the morning.

Text and Music: Darrell Evans

Copyright: 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Incorporated

"We Fall Down"

We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus.
The greatness of mercy and love at the feet of Jesus.
And we cry "Holy, holy, holy."
And we cry "Holy, holy, holy."
And we cry "Holy, holy, holy is the Lamb."

Text and Music: Chris Tomlin

Copyright: 1988 worshiptogether.com songs. Admin. By EMI Christian Music Publishing.

"I Believe in Jesus"

I believe in Jesus; I believe He is the Son of God.
I believe He died and rose again; I believe He paid for us all.
And I believe that He's here now standing in our midst,
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to believe.

And I believe that He's here now standing in our midst,
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.

I believe in You, Lord; I believe You are the Son of God.
I believe You died and rose again; I believe You paid for us all.

And I believe that You're here now standing in our midst,
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to believe.

And I believe that You're here now standing in our midst,
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.

Text and Music: Marc Nelson

Copyright: 1987 Mercy/ Vineyard Publishing (ASCAP)

*Welcome & Passing the Peace of Christ

Announcements

Time of Silence & Ringing the Bell

Preparing for God's Word

*Call to Worship

[based on Psalm 108, 1-4]

Leader: Our hearts are ready, O Lord, our hearts are ready!

People: We will sing and make melody! We will awaken the dawn!

Leader: We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples, we will sing praises to you among the nations.

People: For your steadfast love is great above the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

Leader: Come and let us worship our great and faithful God!

*Hymn of Adoration

#39, "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father

There is no shadow of turning with Thee

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not

As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness

Morning by morning new mercies I see

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest

Sun, moon and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923

Music: William Marion Runyan, 1923

Copyright: 1923 Hope Publishing Company

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Prayer of Confession

[time of silent personal confession]

All: Eternal and merciful God, you love us with a love beyond our understanding, and you set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Yet too often we stray from your way; we sin against you in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone. As we remember the lavish gift of your grace through Christ, we praise you for forgiving us over and over again. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with you, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

[based on Hebrews 10:10; Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 66]

Leader: Hear the Good News. We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

People: This is God's gospel promise: to forgive our sins and give us eternal life by grace alone because of Christ's one sacrifice finished on the cross.

Leader: In Christ we are forgiven. Praise God!

Hearing God's Word

Children's Message

Ages 12 and under gather up front as congregation sings, #188, "Jesus Loves Me."
After the Children's Message, the children may return to sit with their families.

Special Music

"He Knows My Name," Rochester Family

*Affirmation of Faith

[The Apostle's Creed]

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,

**the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayer of Illumination

New Testament Reading: Luke 15: 11-32

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' 20 So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Sermon

"The Trickier Bits... Father Almighty"

Responding to God's Word

Celebration of Lord's Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

[Time of Prayer]

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Elements

Prayer of Response

All: Heavenly Father, in this meal you fill us with the Word and the Bread of Life. We are truly spiritual nourished by this bread and juice. Lord, make us hunger now for Christ's return. Allow Christ to fill our hearts and make his home in each of us. Fill us with Jesus' servant heart and deep love, so that through us, Christ will be experienced by those who encounter us. We ask all this in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Hymn of Thanksgiving

#463, "How Firm a Foundation," vs. 1, 2, 3

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress."

Text: "K" in John Rippons's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

Music: American Folk Melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1822, alt.

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*Response

#606, The Doxology, "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Prayer of Dedication

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

#2023, "How Majestic Is Your Name," Sing the Faith Hymnal

O Lord, our Lord

How majestic is Your name in all the earth

O Lord, our Lord

How majestic is Your name in all the earth

O Lord, we praise Your name

O Lord, we magnify Your name

Prince of peace, mighty God

O Lord, God Almighty

Words & Music: Michael W. Smith

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*Postlude

*Please Stand if Able