

ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

CALL TO WORSHIP

2 Corinthians 6:1-3

Leader: We appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says:

People: "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Leader: Behold, now is the favorable time.

People: Behold, now is the day of salvation.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

1. Father long before creation Thou hadst chosen us in love, And that love so deep, so moving, Draws us close to Christ above. Still it keeps us, still it keeps us Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

2. Though the world may change its fashion, Yet our God is e'er the same; His compassion and His covenant Through all ages will remain. God's own children, God's own children Must forever praise His name.

3. God's compassion is my story Is my boasting all the day; Mercy free and never failing Moves my will, directs my way. God so loved us, God so loved us, That His only Son He gave.

Father Long Before Creation

4. Loving Father now before Thee We will ever praise Thy love, And our songs will sound unceasing 'Til we reach our home above, Giving glory, giving glory, To our God and to the Lamb;

Giving glory, giving glory, To our God and to the Lamb.

Words from Chinese Hymn, Translated by Francis Jones Chorus and music by Andrew Osenga © 2005 The Velvet Eagle Sings (ASCAP) admin. by The Loving Company.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Gracious God, you have sent your Spirit to convict us of sin, to lead us into truth, to assure us of our salvation, to bear fruit in our lives, and to seal us for the day of redemption. Too often have we refused to heed your word, and instead have hardened our hearts. We have not walked according to your Spirit, but have grieved him and gratified the flesh. Forgive us, we pray! Take not your Holy Spirit from us! Restore to us the joy of our salvation, and uphold us in your boundless grace.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

SONG OF ASSURANCE Yet, Not I, But Through Christ in Me

1. What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer,
There is no more for heaven now to give;
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus,
For my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing all is mine!
Yet, not I, but through Christ in me.

2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken,
For by my side, the Savior he will stay;
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need his power is displayed.
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me,
Through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh, the night has been won and I shall overcome!
Yet, not I, but through Christ in me.

3. No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven; The future sure, the price- it has been paid; For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon And he was raised to overthrow the grave! To this I hold: my sin has been defeated; Jesus now and ever is my plea. Oh, the chains are released, I can sing I am free! Yet, not I, but through Christ in me.

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus,
For he has said that he will bring me home;
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus,
All the glory evermore to him!
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat:
"Yet, not I, but through Christ in me."

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat: "Yet, not I, but through Christ in me, Yet, not I, but through Christ in me."

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Authors: Jonny Robinson & Michael Farren & Rich Thompson \\ @ 2018 & CityAlight & Music \end{tabular}$

COMMUNITY GROUP MINUTE

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Children ages 4-5 are dismissed for Equip for Worship during the last stanza. Visitors' children are welcome. Today's volunteers: Kate Rigg, Micah Strong, & Nora Misiano

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 6

¹ Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!" ² And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.

³ When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" ⁴ And out came another horse, bright red. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.

⁵ When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a black horse! And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶ And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and wine!"

⁷When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" ⁸And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.

⁹ When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. ¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹ Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

¹² When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, ¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. ¹⁴ The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. ¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷ for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

SERMON "The Six Seals: Unfolding the Plan"

- Rev. Bryan Rigg

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY HYMN

Jesus, I Come

- 1. Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come; Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
 Out of my sickness into Thy health, Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth, Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.
- 2. Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come; Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
 Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, Out of life's storms and into Thy calm, Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

3. Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come; Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, Out of despair into raptures above, Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come; Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold, Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Authors: Words by William True Sleeper; Music by Greg Thompson © 2000 Greg Thompson

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Power of the Cross

- 1. Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary; Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then Nailed to a cross of wood.
- 2. Oh, to see the pain written on Your face, Bearing the awesome weight of sin; Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed, Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Chorus 1

This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us, Took the blame, bore the wrath; We stand forgiven at the cross.

- 3. Now the daylight flees, now the ground beneath Quakes as its maker bows His head; Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life, "Finished," the vict'ry cry! Chorus
- 4. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, For, through Your suff'ring, I am free; Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, Won through Your selfless love.

Chorus 2

This, the pow'r of the cross: Son of God slain for us; What a love, what a cost! We stand, forgiven, at the cross. REPEAT

Authors: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend ©2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)

1. What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus

O precious is the flow That makes me white as snow! No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

2. For my cleansing this I see: Nothing but the blood of Jesus. For my pardon this my plea: Nothing but the blood of Jesus. Chorus

Nothing But the Blood

- 3. Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. Chorus
- 4. This is all my hope and peace, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. This is all my righteousness, Nothing but the blood of Jesus. Chorus 2X

Author: Words and Music - Robert Lowry © Public Domain

1. My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Chorus

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand!

2. When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil. Chorus

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

3. His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. Chorus

4. When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found; Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne. Chorus (2x)

Authors: Words by Edward Mote; Music by William Bradbury © Public Domain

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!

POSTLUDE

MERCY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CCLI LICENSE #11042946

Bryan Rigg, Pastor • 434-907-0711 (m) • bryan@mercypres.org
101 D Northwynd Circle, Lynchburg, VA 24502 • Website: www.mercypres.org