

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024 11:15 A.M.
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

GATHERING SONG

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Rev. Jason Christ, Associate Pastor*

WELCOME *Rev. Dr. Charles E. Whited, Jr., Lead Pastor*

(Stand)

OPENING SONG *To God Alone*

Verse 1

Can You take me by the hand
Can You use me as I am
Break me into who You want me to be
When the time is fin'ly right
Will You open up my eyes
Show me ev'rything You want me to see
This life is not my own

Chorus

To God alone be the glory
To God alone be the praise
Ev'rything I say and do
Let it be all for You
The glory is Yours alone
(Yours alone)

Verse 2

Take the offering I bring
You want more than what I sing

Can I give You every part of me
Turn these pennies into gold
Take this life I call my own
Until I'm running after Your heart
I'm needing to let go

Bridge

We will rise and we will fall
But You remain after all
You're glorious and beautiful
You're beautiful

Ending

The glory is Yours alone
Yours alone Yours alone

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INVOCATION

Leader In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

CONFESSION

Leader If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. *1 John 1:8*

People **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:9 (silence for personal confession)*

Leader Let us then confess our sins.

People **O Lord, who has mercy upon all, take away from me my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of Your Holy Spirit. Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore You, a heart to delight in You, to follow and enjoy You, for Christ's sake. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

Leader God has had mercy upon us for Christ's sake. By His suffering and death our sin has been paid for. Because of His resurrection from the dead, we who believe will also be resurrected and live forever with Christ Jesus when He returns. Thanks be to God!

People **Amen.**

(Sit)

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

Reader God speaks to us through the Old Testament: Genesis 7:1, 11-18; Genesis 9:8-13

Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in. The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Reader God speaks to us through the New Testament: 1 Peter 3:18–21
For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Reader God speaks to us through the Gospel: John 3:1–5
Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Sue Steege, Director of Transformation Ministry*

MESSAGE *Honest Repentance: Chaos* *Rev. Jason Christ, Associate Pastor*

(Stand)

NICENE CREED

People I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Sit)

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Holy Forever

Verse 1

A thousand generations falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us
And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Pre-Chorus

(Jesus) Your name is the highest
Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions
All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

Chorus 1

And the angels cry Holy
All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy
Holy forever

Verse 2

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom and if you bear His name
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

Chorus 2

Hear Your people sing Holy
To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy
Holy forever

Tag

You will always be Holy
Holy forever

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Stand)

PREPARATION FOR LORD'S SUPPER

Leader The Lord be with you

People And also with you.

Leader Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

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

People It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader On the night when He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, He gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take; eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Leader As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People Amen. Come, Lord Jesus, Lamb of our salvation.

Leader We pray. Lord Jesus, only Son of the Father: In giving us Your body and blood to eat and drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your suffering on the cross, Your death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming return for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on Earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.

Leader The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People And also with you.

THE INVITATION

OUR PRACTICE

We welcome to the Lord's Table baptized believers who confess their sins, affirm their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and who accept that Christ's body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion, given for the forgiveness of sins.

(Sit)

SONGS DURING LORD'S SUPPER

Lead Me to the Cross

Verse 1

Saviour I come quiet my soul
Remember redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled
For my ransom

Pre-Chorus

Ev'rything I once held dear
I count it all as loss

Chorus

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh lead me lead me to the cross

The Heart of Worship

Verse 1

When the music fades all is stripped away
And I simply come
Longing just to bring something that's of worth
That will bless Your heart

Pre-Chorus

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

Chorus 1

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You all about You Jesus
I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You all about You Jesus

Verse 2

King of endless worth no one could express
How much You deserve
Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours
Ev'ry single breath

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Verse 2

You were as I tempted and tried human
The word became flesh
Bore my sin and death
Now You're risen

Bridge

To Your heart
To Your heart
Lead me to Your heart
Lead me to Your heart

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Give Me Jesus

Verse 1

In the morning when I rise
In the morning when I rise
In the morning when I rise
Give me Jesus

Chorus

Give me Jesus
Give me Jesus
You can have all this world
Just give me Jesus

Verse 2

When I am alone
When I am alone
Oh when I am alone
Give me Jesus

Verse 3

When I come to die
When I come to die
Oh when I come to die
Give me Jesus

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(Stand)

BLESSING

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