

# **Morning Worship**

**Sunday, August 1, 2021**

We are unworthy of the cross. Yet, because of the cross, we are worthy. That is the paradox at the heart of the Christian faith: our worth is not in what we own, what we do, or how hard we try. It is found only in the death of Christ. The Worthy One, the Son of God, laid aside his glory to take our sin upon him. He was crucified for the unworthy, the undeserving. By his sacrifice, he crowns us with worth, showing that he loves us at the infinite cost of his own life.

John Piper

## *Let us Draw Near to God*

### **Call to Worship**

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

*Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

### **Be Thou My Vision**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r:  
Raise thou me heaven-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

### **Prayer of Invocation**

*We ask God's presence to enable us to worship him as we ought.*

## ***We Confess Our Sins***

### **Call to Confession**

### **1 John 4:7-12**

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

### **Prayer of Confession**

### ***The Valley of Vision***

**“O LORD OF GRACE,** The world is before me this day, and I am weak and fearful, but I look to Thee for strength; If I venture forth alone I stumble and fall, but on the Beloved’s arms I am firm as the eternal hills; If left to the treachery of my heart, I shall shame Thy Name, but if enlightened, guided, upheld by Thy Spirit, I shall bring Thee glory.

Be Thou my arm to support, my strength to stand, my light to see, my feet to run, my shield to protect, my sword to repel, my sun to warm.

To enrich me will not diminish Thy fullness;  
All Thy lovingkindness is in Thy Son,  
I bring Him to Thee in the arms of faith,  
I urge His saving Name as the One who died for me.  
I plead His blood to pay my debts of wrong.

Accept His worthiness for my unworthiness, His sinlessness for my transgressions,  
His purity for my uncleanness, His sincerity for my guile,  
His truth for my deceits, His meekness for my pride,  
His constancy for my backslidings, His love for my enmity,  
His fullness for my emptiness, His faithfulness for my treachery,  
His obedience for my lawlessness, His glory for my shame,  
His devotedness for my waywardness, His holy life for my unchaste ways,  
His righteousness for my dead works, His death for my life.”

### **Silent Prayers of Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

## **Psalm 103: 8ff**

- <sup>8</sup> The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- <sup>9</sup> He will not always chide,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- <sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- <sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- <sup>13</sup> As a father shows compassion to his children,  
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.
- <sup>14</sup> For he knows our frame;  
he remembers that we are dust.

## **Gospel Doxology**

Your perfect Law exposes me; I feel my sin and desperate need.  
My best good works are powerless to satisfy your righteousness.

But there is One who lived for me; his life, my only victory,  
His death forever sealed in time that I am his and he is mine.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below,  
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## **Prayer for the Church and Congregation**

# *God Reveals Himself to Us in the Reading of His Word*

## **Scripture Reading**

## **Revelation 2:8-11**

<sup>8</sup>“And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: ‘The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

<sup>9</sup>“‘I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. <sup>10</sup>Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. <sup>11</sup>He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.’

## **Sermon**

## ***“Do not Fear! Look and be Faithful”***

Shawn Spalti

## **Child of God, How does Christ’s return “to judge the living and the dead” comfort you?**

In all distress and persecution, with uplifted head, I confidently await the very judge who has already offered himself to the judgment of God in my place and removed the whole curse from me.

Christ will cast all his enemies and mine into everlasting condemnation, but will take me and all his chosen ones to himself into the joy and glory of heaven.

## ***Christ Was Given for Us and to Us***

### **The Lord's Supper**

*All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, who are communicant members of a Bible-believing church, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. The darker bread in the paper cup in the center of the plate is gluten-free. While communion is being served, please feel free to join in song or meditate quietly on Christ's sacrifice.*

### ***Song of Preparation:***

#### **I Come By the Blood**

You are the perfect and righteous God whose presence bears no sin  
You bid me come to your Holy place, how can I enter in  
When your presence bears no sin?  
Through him who poured out his life for me, the atoning Lamb of God  
Through him and his work alone, I boldly come.  
*I come by the blood, I come by the cross  
Where your mercy flows from hands pierced for me  
For I dare not stand on my righteousness  
My every hope rests on what Christ has done, and I come by the blood*

You are the high and exalted King the One the angels fear  
So far above me in every way Lord, how can I draw near  
To the One the angels fear?  
Through him who laid down his life for me and ascended to your side  
Through him, through Jesus alone I boldly come. *Refrain (twice)*

#### **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

Rev. R. Schmidtberger

***Song of Response:***  
**It is Well with My Soul**

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well, with my soul.  
*It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul),  
It is well, it is well, with my soul!*

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control:  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ now to live:  
If Jordan above me should roll  
No pain will be mine, for in death as in life,  
You will whisper your peace to my soul. *Refrain*

But, Jesus, for you, for your coming we wait,  
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;  
Oh trump of the angel! Oh voice of the Lord!  
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul! *Refrain*

And Lord, haste the day when this faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
Even so, it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

**Benediction**

*The lyrics of the songs are used by permission. CCLI License #3008560*

I Come by the Blood: by Steve & Vikki Cook © 1994 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP)/Word Music.  
Gospel Doxology: words by Zac Hicks & Julie Anne Vargas (verses 1-2) © 2014 Unbudding Fig Music/Julie Anne Vargas.