

# **Lord's Day Worship**

## **Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022**

“The wise learn to manage life, not by frantically trying to glue together the knocked-over vase, but by gathering all of the shattered jagged pieces and powdered dust from the floor and bringing them then to God.”

- Recovering Eden: The Gospel According to Ecclesiastes - Zack Eswine

### **Presiding Over Worship**

Elder Lewis Waha

***Praise the Lord our God!***

#### **Call to Worship**

**Psalm 136: 1-3, 23-26**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>Give thanks to the God of gods,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>3</sup>Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;

<sup>23</sup>It is he who remembered us in our low estate,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;

<sup>24</sup>and rescued us from our foes,  
for his steadfast love endures forever;

<sup>25</sup>he who gives food to all flesh,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>26</sup> Give thanks to the God of heaven,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

### **Praise My Soul the King of Heaven**

Praise my soul the King of Heaven, to his feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like me his praise should sing?  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to our fathers in distress;  
Praise him still the same forever, slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Alleluia, alleluia, glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us, well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia, widely as his mercy goes.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise the High Eternal One

Angels, help us to adore him, you behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia, praise with us the God of grace

### **Prayer of Invocation**

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

### ***Delight in our Father's Faithful Mercy***

#### **Call to Confession: Psalm 37:4-8, 39**

Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth  
your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Be still before the  
LORD and wait patiently for him.....refrain from anger and forsake wrath! Fret not  
yourself; it tends only to evil. The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he  
is their stronghold in the time of trouble. The LORD helps and delivers  
them...because they take refuge in him.

## **Prayer of Confession**

**(from *Prone to Wander*)**

Almighty Lord,

We find great delight in your creation and the good things you've given us to enjoy, but we rarely spend time delighting in you. We tend to enjoy you when you give us what we want, but we become anxious, fretful, and angry when life is hard and you seem unwilling to rescue us from uncomfortable or painful circumstances. We spend many days haunted by guilty fears over the sins that we have committed, forgetting the wounds which will forever scar the hands of your Son, and which plead forgiveness for us every moment of every day. We fail to bear grief and shame patiently because we forget that you alone are our stronghold in times of trouble, and you are working all things together for our good. Father, forgive us.

We thank you for your radiant and beautiful Son, who delighted in you above all else and perfectly committed all of his ways to your sovereign will. We praise you that his flawless obedience is ours through faith, and we are forever reconciled to you as your beloved children. Instead of trying to escape discomfort, Jesus chose the pathway of excruciating pain in order to purchase us. In the tomb he waited patiently for you, trusting in you for his salvation. You delivered him from death, making a showcase of his righteousness and your justice, investing him with great honor and glory. He took refuge in you, and you exalted his name above every other name. Thank you for uniting us to Christ and for loving us in the very same way that you love him.

Father, cause us to find overwhelming delight in the salvation you have given us through Christ. Stir our weak souls to arise and shake off the fearful guilt we cling to with stubborn pride. Open our eyes more and more to see our great High Priest, crushed for us, and now pleading for us before your throne. May we treasure his love and believe with all our hearts that nothing can separate us from it, not even the sin with which we continue to struggle. Give us such great confidence in the gospel, that we run joyfully to you in the midst of our weakness, to hear your pardoning voice and feel the ardent and passionate embrace of our true Father. Amen.

## **Silent Prayers of Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon: Hebrews 10:19-23**

Therefore brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a high priest over the house of God, let us

draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

### **Arise, My Soul, Arise**

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;  
The bleeding sacrifice, in my behalf appears;  
Before the throne my Surety stands, before the throne my Surety stands,  
My name is written on his hands.  
*Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise,*  
*Arise, my soul, arise.*  
*Shake off your guilty fears and rise!*

He ever lives above, for me to intercede;  
His all redeeming love, his precious blood, to plead;  
His blood atoned for every race, his blood atoned for every race,  
And sprinkles now the throne of grace. *Chorus*

Five bleeding wounds he bears; received on Calvary;  
They pour effectual prayers; they strongly plead for me:  
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry, “Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,  
“Nor let that ransomed sinner die!” *Chorus*

The Father hears him pray, his dear anointed One;  
He cannot turn away the presence of his Son;  
The Spirit answers to the blood, the Spirit answers to the blood  
And tells me I am born of God. *Chorus*

My God is reconciled; his pardoning voice I hear;  
He owns me for his child; I can no longer fear  
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,  
And “Father, Abba, Father,” cry. *Chorus*

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

#### ***Give Ear to His Wise Instruction***

#### **Scripture Reading   Ecclesiastes 3: 1-15**

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
2 a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
3 a time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
5 a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
6 a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;  
7 a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
8 a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

9 What gain has the worker from his toil? 10 I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. 12 I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live; 13 also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man.

14 I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him. 15 That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already has been; and God seeks what has been driven away.

## **Sermon**

Everything There Is a Season: Discerning the Right Things at the Right Times

Dr. David Ayers, Ph. D. Sociology

## **God Moves in a Mysterious Way**

God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform;  
He plants his footsteps in the sea and rides upon the storm.  
Deep in unfathomable mines of never failing skill  
He treasures up his bright designs and works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread  
Are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head.  
Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust him for his grace;  
Behind a frowning providence he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding every hour;  
The bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flower.  
Blind unbelief is sure to err and scan his work in vain;  
God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain.

## ***Receive the Gifts of His Grace***

### **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 cups with lighter liquid contain grape juice, the darker liquid is wine. 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:***

#### **Be Still, My Soul**

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to your God to order and provide;  
In every change He faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul; your best, your heavenly, Friend;  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; your God does undertake  
To guide the future as He has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul, when dearest friends depart  
And all is darkened in the vale of tears;  
Then shall you better know His love, His heart,  
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.

Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay  
From His own fullness all He takes away.

Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord,  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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

### ***Song of Response:***

#### **Sovereign Grace O'er Sin Abounding**

Sovereign grace o'er sin abounding! Ransomed souls, the tidings swell;  
'Tis a deep that knows no sounding; Who its breadth or length can tell?  
On its glories, on its glories, let my soul for ever dwell.

What from Christ that soul can sever, bound by everlasting bands?  
Once in him, in him for ever; thus the eternal covenant stands.  
None shall take thee, none shall take thee from the Strength of Israel's hands.

Heirs of God, joint-heirs with Jesus, long ere time its race begun;  
To his name eternal praises; O what wonders love has done!  
One with Jesus, one with Jesus, by eternal union one.

On such love, my soul, still ponder, love so great, so rich, so free;  
Say, while lost in holy wonder, "why, O Lord, such love to me?"  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Grace shall reign eternally!

## **Benediction**

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