

WORSHIP SERVICE FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 100:1-3

P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
 Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!
 Know that the LORD, he is God!
 It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

INVOCATION

P Blessed be the Kingdom of the Father and T of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever unto the ages
of ages.
C **Amen.**

OFFERING

1. **Over the skies of Bethlehem**
 Appeared a star
 While angels sang to lowly shepherds
 Three wise men seeking truth
 Travelled from afar
 Hoping to find the Child from heaven
 Falling on their knees they bowed
 Before the humble Prince of Peace

Chorus

I bring an offering
Of worship to my King
No one on earth deserves
The praises that I sing
Jesus may You receive
The honor that You're due
O Lord I bring an offering to You
I bring an offering to You

2. **The sun cannot compare**
 To the glory of Your love
 There is no shadow in Your presence
 No mortal man would dare
 To stand before Your throne
 Before the Holy One of heaven
 It's only by Your blood
 And it's only through Your mercy
 Lord I come

Chorus

I bring an offering
Of worship to my King
No one on earth deserves
The praises that I sing
Jesus may You receive
The honor that You're due
O Lord I bring an offering to You
I bring an offering to You

Chorus

**I bring an offering
Of worship to my King
No one on earth deserves
The praises that I sing
Jesus may You receive
The honor that You're due
O Lord I bring an offering to You
I bring an offering to You**

**O Lord I bring an offering to You
O Lord I bring an offering to You
I bring an offering to You**

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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
C **And with your spirit.**

PRAYER

L Let us pray.
O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

READING

1 Samuel 16:1–13

L A reading from 1 Samuel, chapter 16.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before him." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these."

¹¹Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here." ¹²And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.
C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

Luke 18:31–43

L A reading from Luke, chapter 18.

³¹Taking the twelve, [Jesus] said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. ³²For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. ³³And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise.” ³⁴But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. ³⁵As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. ³⁷They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” ³⁸And he cried out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ³⁹And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁰And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, ⁴¹“What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me recover my sight.” ⁴²And Jesus said to him, “Recover your sight; your faith has made you well.” ⁴³And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

APOSTLES' CREED

C **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 Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

**I will not boast in anything
No gifts no power no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom**

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SERMON

SERMON TEXT

1 Corinthians 13

¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.
⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.
¹³So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Loving God,
C **we confess our alienation from You both by nature and by choice. Help us to know and believe how much You love us. Let us abide in Your love even as You abide in us always. Heal us with forgiveness for Jesus' sake.**

P Our dear Holy Trinity in mercy has given the Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

GRAVES INTO GARDENS (DURING OFFERING)

1. I searched the world but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade
Are never enough
Then You came along and put me back together
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love

Chorus

**Oh there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing
Nothing is better than You**

2. I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws
Lord You've seen them all
And You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain
Is the God of the valley
And there's not a place
Your mercy and grace won't find me again

Bridge

You turn mourning to dancing
You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory
You're the only one who can

Bridge

You turn graves into gardens
You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways
You're the only one who can

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PRAYER

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P To Him who opens the eyes of the blind to see and the ears of the deaf to hear, that as we prepare to enter the season of Lent, He would open our eyes and ears anew through the preaching of His Law and Gospel to see and hear Christ, our Savior, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church and her ministers; to give all pastors courage to embrace gladly the crosses of their office; and to aid all Christians in bearing the reproach of the world, the attacks of Satan and the temptations of the flesh in the confidence of Christ's redemption, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the family and all godly Christian homes, that God would give parents diligence and persistence in their duties to teach the faith in word and example; that He would keep all children in His promise made to them in their Baptism; and that the patience, kindness and endurance of Christian love would have no end among us, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the state and its servants, that to those God has given authority, He would bestow also the wisdom needed to use it dutifully for the benefit of those under authority; to turn us from every evil in judgment, law or action; and that God would renew in us and our fellow citizens discernment and selflessness, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For ourselves and all who call to God in any need, [*especially* _____,] let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who commune today, that God would give us contrition and faith, unite us in our confession of His truth, and so bring us worthily to eat and to drink Christ's body and blood for our forgiveness and life, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, what You foretold through the holy prophets has been fulfilled and accomplished in the suffering, death and resurrection of Your Son. You have set forth His Passion and resurrection as the firm foundation and content for our faith. Have mercy on us, and open our eyes to be fixed on the Son of David at all times. Give us courage to follow Him through all adversity and every assault of the devil to view His Passion with repentant hearts and with delight, for by it You have redeemed us from all sin and evil. Comfort us with the certainty of Christ's resurrection, by which we, too, have the confidence of eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 241

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **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 trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING SENTENCES

Psalms 77:14–15

P You are the God who works | wonders;*
you have made known your might among the | peoples.
You with your arm redeemed your | people,*
the children of Jacob and | Joseph.

BENEDICTION

P The blessings of God Almighty—the Father,
C **who delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins,**

P the T Son,
C **through whom the Father reconciled to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross,**

P and the Holy Spirit,
C **who has called us to faith in the Son, the Head of the Body, the Church,**

P be upon you, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

HOW GREAT THOU ART

**O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

Chorus

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!**

**But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;**

Chorus

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
How great Thou art!**

Final Chorus

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

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