



Morning Worship

October 24, 2021

*Therefore, strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet.
Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord. ~ Hebrews 12:12-14*

Instrumental Prelude

Kathleen Wilkins, organist

Hymn of Praise

Worthy of Worship

Worthy of worship, worthy of praise,
Worthy of honor and glory;
Worthy of all the glad songs we can sing,
Worthy of all of the offerings we bring.

Chorus:

You are worthy, Father, Creator.
You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.
You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;
Worthy of worship and praise.

Worthy of reverence, worthy of fear,
Worthy of love and devotion;
Worthy of bowing and bending of knees,
Worthy of all this and added to these.

Chorus

Almighty Father, Master and Lord,
King of all kings and Redeemer,
Wonderful Counselor, Comforter, Friend,
Savior and Source of our life without end.

Chorus

The Solid Rock

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.

When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

Worthy of Worship (*chorus only*)

You are worthy, Father, Creator.

You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.

You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;

Worthy of worship and praise.

Morning Prayer

Words of Welcome

Greg Stahl, Associate Pastor

Celebration of Baptism

Fred Oates

Will & Laura Oates, parents

Alice, Jane & Griffith, siblings

Jay & Jenny Oates, grandparents

Congregational Response

You have just witnessed the baptism of Fred Oates, who has professed Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. What do you want him to know?

That we thank God for his faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior, that we happily welcome him into God's family and into our church family, and that together we shall seek to grow toward maturity in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Choral Worship

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

text by Bernard of Clairvaux

anthem by Claude L. Bass

Dr. Sarah Spencer, pianist

Song of Assurance

He Hideth My Soul

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord,

A wonderful Savior to me.

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock,

Where rivers of pleasure I see.

Chorus:

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock

That shadows a dry, thirsty land.

He hideth my life in the depths of His love,

And covers me there with His hand,

And covers me there with His hand.

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord;

He taketh my burden away.

He holdeth me up, and I shall not be moved;

He giveth me strength as my day.

Chorus

With numberless blessings each moment He crowns,

And filled with His fullness divine,

I sing in my rapture, "Oh, glory to God
For such a Redeemer as mine!"

Chorus

When clothed in His brightness, transported I rise
To meet Him in clouds of the sky,
His perfect salvation, His wonderful love,
I'll shout with the millions on high.

Chorus

Lessons from Scripture

Acts 15:12-21

Stephanie Wilson, reader

¹²The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them. ¹³When they finished, James spoke up. "Brothers," he said, "listen to me. ¹⁴Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles. ¹⁵The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written: ¹⁶'After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it. ¹⁷that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who bear my name, says the Lord, who does these things' - ¹⁸things known from long ago.

¹⁹"It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. ²⁰Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. ²¹For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath."

Hymn of Affirmation

We Are Travelers on a Journey

We are travelers on a journey,
Fellow pilgrims on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.
I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.

Sister, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.
Brother, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.

I will weep when you are weeping,
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
Till we've seen this journey through.
When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together

Of Christ's love and agony.

Sermon

Dr. Steven Laufer

We're One, But We're Not the Same

Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)— ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Closing Song

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!

Chorus:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in his wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace.

Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
Over us sin no more hath dominion—
For more than conquerors we are!

Chorus

Parting Words

Christian Johns, Youth Minister

Postlude

Kathleen Wilkins