



Morning Worship

November 14, 2021

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He has redeemed from trouble.

~ Psalm 107:1-3

Instrumental Prelude

Kathleen Wilkins, organist

Hymns of Praise

Let All Things Now Living

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guideth us on to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

His law He enforces, the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit, obediently shine.
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him Divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. ***(Repeat)***
And now let the weak say 'I am strong', let the poor say 'I am rich',
Because of what the Lord has done for us; ***(Repeat)***
Give thanks.

Opening Sentences

based on Psalm 105:1-4, 7

Give thanks to the Lord; call on His name; make His deeds known to all the people!

For He is the Lord, our God, faithful to a thousand generations!

Sing His praises; tell of His wonderful works, and glory in His holy name!

Let those who seek the Lord rejoice!

For He is the Lord, our God, faithful to a thousand generations!

Search for God, and for His strength. Never stop looking for Him.

For He is the Lord, our God, faithful to a thousand generations!

Morning Prayer

Jeanie Arnold

Words of Welcome

Christian Johns, Youth Minister

Deacon Ordination

Charge to the Deacons

Dr. Steven Laufer, Interim Pastor

Covenant of Ordination

Greg Stahl, Associate Pastor

Church: *We have called you out of our fellowship to serve the Kingdom of God through River Oaks Baptist Church. Are you committed to ministering to those in need, to explaining salvation in Jesus, and to calling forth disciples of Christ?*

Deacons: I accept the calling that you have extended to me. I understand that I am to serve under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. I am willing and committed to do so.

Church: *To do so means that each must serve even as Christ serves, to minister rather than to be self-serving. What have you experienced personally in relation to Jesus Christ?*

Deacons: I have received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and seek to follow Him in profession and in deed.

Church: *Our church exists to impact people for Christ by developing devoted followers of Jesus through facilitating inward spiritual growth that demonstrates itself in outward, loving ministry to others.*

Deacons: I actively support the mission of this body, believing that we are many members but only one body under the Lordship of Christ.

Church: *We accept the Holy Scriptures as the objective authority for understanding the Lordship of Christ.*

Deacons: I affirm that to be true.

Church: *Thus, we set you apart through ordination, not to serve our personal interest, but God's interest through us. We do not ask from you more than we ourselves are willing to give, but ask you to lead us by serving, encouraging, speaking the truth of Christ in love, and being obedient to Christ and His Kingdom.*

Deacons: I accept your call to ordination, acknowledging that I am God's servant. Pray for me, so that our fellowship together may reflect the unconditional love of Christ.

Minister: *You have heard the declaration of these candidates and their readiness to serve in the office of deacon. Do you trust that they are, by the grace of God, worthy to be ordained as deacons?*

Church: *We believe they are worthy. We pray for the power of God's Spirit to indwell and flow through them. To God be the glory! Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

Patty Legler, Chair of the Diaconate

Season of Prayer

Choral Worship

Total Praise

Dr. Sarah Spencer, pianist; words and music by Richard Smallwood; arrangement by Carol Cymbala

Hymns of Assurance

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.

His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

Chorus

When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness, alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Chorus

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. ***(Repeat)***
And now let the weak say 'I am strong', let the poor say 'I am rich',
Because of what the Lord has done for us; ***(Repeat)***
Give thanks.

Lessons from Scripture

I Corinthians 12:1-19, 27-31

Tracy Livingston and Czarena Siebert, readers

Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. ¹²Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹If they were all one part, where would the body be?

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

Message in Song

As Pants the Wearied Hart

Kaci Timmons, soprano

Brittane Lewis Venson, mezzo soprano

Dr. Sarah Spencer, pianist

Sermon

Dr. Steven Laufer

The Sincerest Form of Flattery

Ephesians 4:17 - 6:9

Song of Response

Come, All Christians, Be Committed

Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord;
Make your lives for Him more fitted, tune your hearts with one accord.
Come into His courts with gladness, each His sacred vows renew,
Turn away from sin and sadness, be transformed with life anew.

Give your time and talents daily, they are gifts from God above;
To be used by Christians freely to proclaim His wondrous love.
Come again to serve the Savior, tithes and offerings with you bring.
In your work, with Him find favor, and with joy His praises sing.

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. **(Repeat)**
And now let the weak say 'I am strong', let the poor say 'I am rich',
Because of what the Lord has done for us; **(Repeat)**
Give thanks.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Parting Song

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. **(Repeat)**
And now let the weak say 'I am strong', let the poor say 'I am rich',
Because of what the Lord has done for us; **(Repeat)**
Give thanks.

Parting Words

Dr. Laufer

Postlude

Kathleen Wilkins