



Morning Worship

March 12, 2023

Preparation for Worship

Kathleen Wilkins, organist

Praise the Lord, O my soul! While I live, I will praise the Lord;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help,

Whose hope is in the Lord his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

Who keeps truth forever. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord raises those who are bowed down. The Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord shall reign forever—your God, O Zion, to all generations.

~ Psalm 146: 1-2, 5-6, 8

Invitation to Worship

We're Marching to Zion

Come, we that love the Lord,

And let our joys be known;

Join in a song with sweet accord,

Join in a song with sweet accord,

And thus surround the throne,

And thus surround the throne.

Chorus:

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful, Zion:

We're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing

Who never knew our God:

But children of the heav'nly King,

But children of the heav'nly King

May speak their joys abroad,

May speak their joys abroad.

Chorus

The hill of Zion yields

A thousand sacred sweets;

Before we reach the heav'nly fields,

Before we reach the heav'nly fields,

Or walk the golden streets,

Or walk the golden streets.

Chorus

Then let our songs abound,

And ev'ry tear be dry;

We're marching through Immanuel's ground,

We're marching through Immanuel's ground

To fairer worlds on high,

To fairer worlds on high.

Chorus

Opening Sentences

based on Psalm 146

Praise the Lord.

Let all who draw breath praise the Lord.

Happy are those whose help is from God—
the One who made heaven and earth,
the One who created the seas and all that is in them.

***Happy are those whose hope is in God—
the One who keeps faith forever,
the One who feeds the hungry
and defends the oppressed.***

God will reign forever, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!

Let all who draw breath praise the Lord.

Morning Prayer

Words of Welcome

Greg Stahl, Associate Pastor

Hymn No. 545

In the Bulb (Hymn Tune: NETTLETON)

In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

Choral Worship

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

anthem by Claude L. Bass

Dr. Sarah Spencer, pianist

Lessons from Scripture

Carol DuBose, reader

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Hymn No. 587

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright, shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

Sermon

Dr. Garett Robinson

Losing My Religion

Acts 9:32—11:18

Closing Song

Lord, Here Am I

Master, Thou callest, I gladly obey;
Only direct me, and I'll find Thy way.

Teach me the mission appointed for me,
What is my labor, and where it shall be.

Chorus:

Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

Willing, my Savior, to take up the cross;
Willing to suffer reproaches and loss.
Willing to follow, if Thou wilt but lead;
Only support me with grace in my need.

Chorus

Parting Words

Christian Johns, Youth Minister

Postlude

Kathleen Wilkins