



RiverOaks  
Baptist Church  
Morning Worship  
May 14, 2023

## Preparation for Worship

Kathleen Wilkins, organist

*Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies.  
She opens her mouth with wisdom and on her tongue is the law of kindness.  
She watches over the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.  
Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.  
~ Proverbs 31: 10, 26-28*

## Invitation to Worship

### ***Praise to the Lord, the Almighty***

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear; now to His temple draw near,  
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy works and defend thee;  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.  
Let the Amen sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him.

## The Church at Worship

*based on Psalm 150*

Praise the Lord!

***Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament!***

Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His surpassing greatness!

***Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!***

Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

***Praise Him with clanging cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!***

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

***Praise the Lord!***

## Words of Welcome

Greg Stahl, Associate Pastor

### *Children Are a Gift from Heaven*

Children are a gift from heaven, each soul trusting and unique -  
God's example of faith's journey for all people who will seek.

#### *Chorus:*

Children are a priceless treasure, sent from heaven like a dove;  
Poetry yet to be written, they bring laughter, joy, and love!

Children help us to discover how our lives should be each day;  
Joy unbounded, grace, forgiveness are the lights that mark the way.

#### *Chorus*

They surprise us as we listen to each question, thought, and plea;  
Unexpected pleasures find us through their innocence and glee.

#### *Chorus*

Children need our care and guidance, teaching with each word and deed;  
For they watch our actions closely, learning how to serve and lead.

#### *Chorus*

## Parent & Child Dedication

### **Eliana Aberdeen**

Elisa & Kevin Aberdeen, parents  
Elijah, big brother

### **Jett David Eddington**

Alex & Jeremy Eddington, parents  
Truett, big brother

### **William Howard "Buck" Oates**

Laura & Will Oates, parents  
Fred, Alice, Jane & Griffith, big brothers & sisters

### **Bennett Lynn Pittman**

Kelsey & Aaron Pittman, parents  
Madison, big sister

### **Henry Lee "Kiki" & August Uriah "Augie" Weinel**

Gabrielle Reed-Weinel & John Weinel, parents

## Spoken Words of Dedication

Leader: Today we have the privilege of celebrating the dedication of these families and their children to God.

People: **We thank you, Father, for these young lives and for the unique gifts they represent.  
May they feel welcomed on earth and, especially, in this place.**

**Parents:** *We acknowledge that training up our children in the way they should go means that we are to help them to become who God made them to be, not who we think they should be.*

Leader: God, grant us the grace to see our children through your eyes of love.

**People:** **We acknowledge that parenting is an awesome stewardship of God's gift.  
We pledge our support and love to these parents as they fulfill this grand task.**

Leader: In humility and great joy, we dedicate Eliana, Jett, Buck, Ben, Kiki and Augie to God.  
We re-affirm our own faith in the creative, life-giving power of God Almighty,  
and we ask for God's blessings on them and their parents.

### ***How Great Thou Art***

Oh Lord, my God! When I, in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power 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!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

#### ***Chorus***

And 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***

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

#### ***Chorus***

## **Choral Worship**

### ***Brethren, We Have Met to Worship***

*choral arrangement by Heather Sorenson*

**Dr. Sarah Spencer, pianist**

## **Sermon**

**Dr. Steve Laufer**, Senior Pastor

*Praise Him With the Harp and the Cymbal*

*Psalm 34:1-3*

## **Closing Song**

*I Love Thee*

I love Thee, I love Thee, I love Thee, my Lord;  
I love Thee, my Savior, I love Thee, my God:  
I love Thee, I love Thee, and that 'Thou dost know;  
But how much I love Thee my actions will show.

I'm happy, I'm happy, oh, wondrous account!  
My joys are immortal, I stand on the mount:  
I gaze on my treasure and long to be there,  
With Jesus and angels, and kindred so dear.

## **Parting Words**

**Christian Johns**, Youth Minister

## **Postlude**

**Kathleen Wilkins**