

Call to Worship

Read Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Prayer of Adoration

Ordinary Time Call and Response

Leader

O magnify the Lord with me!

Congregation

Let us exalt his name together!

[from Psalm 34:3]

"Rejoice"

Verse 1

Come and stand before your Maker
Full of wonder, full of fear
Come behold his power and glory
Yet with confidence draw near
For the one who holds the heavens
And commands the stars above
Is the God who bends to bless us
With an unrelenting love

Chorus 1

Rejoice
Come and lift your hands and raise your voice
He is worthy of all praise
Rejoice
Sing of mercies of your King
And with trembling
Rejoice

Verse 2

We are children of the promise
The beloved of the Lord

Won with everlasting kindness
Bought with sacrificial blood
Bringing reconciliation
To a world that longs to know
The affections of a Father
Who will never let them go

Chorus

Verse 3

All our sickness, all our sorrows
Jesus carried up the hill
He has walked this path before us
He is walking with us still
Turning tragedy to triumph
Turning agony to praise
There is blessing in the battle
So take heart and stand amazed

Chorus 2

Rejoice
When you cry to him
He hears your voice
He will wipe away your tears
Rejoice
In the midst of suffering
He will help you sing

Chorus 1

Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Exhortation

From Acts 10:34–43

So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a

tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Confession

In prayer, confess your sin aloud together and personally in silence.

After a time of confession, in prayer praise Jesus who is reconciling all things to himself.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader

We have confessed our sins. Now, hear the good news! When we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, to all who humbly seek the mercy of God, your Father declares, in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven.

Together

Thanks be to God!

“His Mercy Is More”

Verse 1

What love could remember
No wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing
He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea
Without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

Verse 2

What patience would wait
As we constantly roam
What Father, so tender
Is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest
The vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

Verse 3

What riches of kindness
He lavished on us
His blood was the payment
His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt
We could never afford
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

Chorus (x2)

Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
New every morn
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

Consecration

Prayers of Praise and Petition

Spend time in prayer together.

- Praise God for his sovereignty and meticulous control over all things.
- Praise God for Jesus's power over death and sin, and the new and everlasting life we have received as his people.
- Praise God for the commissioning of Westview Church, the newest daughter church of Cities Church, who officially covenanted together as a church on July 8th.
- Ask God to heal our city of all injustice and prejudice, and to end the destruction of life in all forms.
- Ask God to stop the spread of the coronavirus. Pray that he would grant wisdom to those responsible for making decisions about how to protect human life, especially the most vulnerable among us.
- Ask God, by his Holy Spirit, to give us insight on how we can best love our neighbors and seek the good of our communities.
- Pray for our church and other local churches throughout the city and the world.
- Pray for our missionaries:
 - Samuel and Sarah Chestnutt who are serving in Ireland
 - Steve and Lindsey Discher who are ministering to students in the Philippines
 - Matthew & Kailie who are ministering to those in the Middle East
 - Dieudonné & Dominique Tamfu who are church planting and founding a seminary in Cameroon
 - Ryan & Kassie Cossette and their ministry in Costa Rica

- Sam Griffin and his ministry with Training Leaders International
- The Andres and their ministry to the local Somali community
- The Harmony Community Group and their outreach to the local Chinese community
- Together for Good and their ministry to protect children from abuse and dangerous situations
- John McCauley & Joelle Parfrey and their on-campus ministry “Students for Life”
- Caitlin Boon & Rachel Beise and their ministries with Athletes in Action
- Ellie Felber and her ministry to local youth with Timberbay

Teaching Text

Read Psalm 31

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
 let me never be put to shame;
 in your righteousness deliver me!
 Incline your ear to me;
 rescue me speedily!
 Be a rock of refuge for me,
 a strong fortress to save me!

For you are my rock and my fortress;
 and for your name’s sake you lead me and guide me;
 you take me out of the net they have hidden for me,
 for you are my refuge.
 Into your hand I commit my spirit;
 you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols,
 but I trust in the LORD.
 I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love,
 because you have seen my affliction;
 you have known the distress of my soul,
 and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;
 you have set my feet in a broad place.

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
 my eye is wasted from grief;
 my soul and my body also.
 For my life is spent with sorrow,
 and my years with sighing;
 my strength fails because of my iniquity,
 and my bones waste away.

Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach,
especially to my neighbors,
and an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.
I have been forgotten like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.
For I hear the whispering of many—
terror on every side!—
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, O LORD;
I say, “You are my God.”
My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!
Make your face shine on your servant;
save me in your steadfast love!
O LORD, let me not be put to shame,
for I call upon you;
let the wicked be put to shame;
let them go silently to Sheol.
Let the lying lips be mute,
which speak insolently against the righteous
in pride and contempt.

Oh, how abundant is your goodness,
which you have stored up for those who fear you
and worked for those who take refuge in you,
in the sight of the children of mankind!
In the cover of your presence you hide them
from the plots of men;
you store them in your shelter
from the strife of tongues.

Blessed be the LORD,
for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me
when I was in a besieged city.
I had said in my alarm,
“I am cut off from your sight.”
But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy
when I cried to you for help.

Love the LORD, all you his saints!

The LORD preserves the faithful
but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD!

Teaching

Psalm 31

Communion

[If not partaking in the Lord's Table, reflect and pray in response to Pastor Jonathan's exposition of Psalm 31.]

"You Never Change"

Verse 1

Oh may I run to no other refuge
No other rest for my soul
Oh may I drink from no other fountain
Where living waters will flow

Pre-Chorus

Jesus, you're all I need
Jesus, you're all I need

Chorus

You are my life
May you be lifted high
There is no other like Jesus Christ
You are my story
You're my everything
You are my glory, my God, and my King
You are my rock, and you never change

Verse 2

No other power can break the darkness
no other hand that can save
Forever faithful, your love is stronger
I trust in no other name

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge

My strength to stand
All of my days are in your hand
My light to see
Your glory goes before me
My strength to stand
All of my days are in your hand
My light to see
Your glory goes before me
My King, you reign
My rock, and you never change
No, you never change

Chorus (x2)

Commission

“Amazing Grace”

Refrain

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

Commissioning

Remember the mission that Jesus has given us, his church:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18–20).

Go in peace.