



1 & 2 Samuel

THE HOPE OF A BETTER KING

PRELIMINARIES: WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay connected with Autumn Ridge Community Church! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Download the Autumn Ridge Community Church app! Use the QR Code at the back of the Order of Worship to request to receive email updates.

WE GIVE GLORY TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP: "PSALM 40:1-3"

I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. 2 He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

HYMN OF ACCLAMATION: "REASON I SING"

You pulled me from darkness, and clothed me in garments of praise
Jesus, forever, my song will be You

I'm living in freedom, You've taken my burdens away
Jesus, forever, my song will be You, only for You

Chorus

For the cross that You bore, and the debt that You paid
For the victory You won over death and the grave
This is the reason I sing
For the hope that You give, and the joy that You bring
For the promise that heaven is waiting for me
This is the reason I sing

I will not be silent, I'll testify of Your grace
Jesus, forever, my song will be you, Only for You - **Chorus**

So good, so good, You're so good to me
Forever I'll sing, You're so good to me - **Chorus**

WE MOURN THE REALITY OF SIN

HYMN OF CONFESSION: "COME THOU FOUNT"

Come, thou fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace.
Streams of mercy, never-ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I've come.
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God.
He to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O, to grace, how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it! Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, Lord: Take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Father, We come before You as people who are loved deeply, and yet we confess how easily our hearts wander. You have been faithful—steady, unchanging, and kind — but we give our attention to what cannot satisfy, and our affections grow cold toward You.

We confess that we are prone to wander, prone to leave the God we love. Left to ourselves, we drift — in our thoughts, in our desires, in our actions.

Forgive us, Lord. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation. Tune our hearts to sing Your grace again.

Take our hearts — so restless and divided — and bind them to Yourself. Let Your goodness lead us back, and let Your mercy hold us fast.

In Christ we pray, amen.

WE CELEBRATE CHRIST AS OUR REDEEMER

HYMN OF REDEMPTION: "YOUR WILL BE DONE"

Your will be done, my God and Father
As in heaven, so on earth
My heart is drawn to self-exalting
Help me seek Your kingdom first
As Jesus walked, so I shall walk
Held by Your same unchanging love
Be still my soul, O lift your voice and pray:
'Father, not my will but Yours be done.'

How in that Garden he persisted
I may never fully know
The fearful weight of true obedience
It was held by him alone
What wondrous faith, to bear that cross!
To bear my sin, what wondrous love!
My hope was sure, when there my Saviour prayed:
'Father, not my will but Yours be done.'

When I am lost, when I am broken
In the night of fear and doubt
Still I will trust in my good Father
Yes, to one great King I bow!
As Jesus rose, so I shall rise
In ransomed glory at the throne
My heart restored, With all your saints I sing:
'Father, not my will but Yours be done!'

As we go forth, our God and Father
Lead us daily in the fight
That all the world might see Your glory
And Your Name be lifted high
And in this Name we overcome
For You shall see us safely home
Now as your church, we lift our voice and pray:
'Father, not my will but Yours be done!'

5-MINUTE BREAK

In addition to taking children to Ridge Kids and using the restroom, take time to meet/greet one another. “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SCRIPTURE READING: “1 SAMUEL 12:19-25”

19 And all the people said to Samuel, “Pray for your servants to the Lord your God, that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil, to ask for ourselves a king.” **20** And Samuel said to the people, “Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart. **21** And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. **22** For the Lord will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself. **23** Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way. **24** Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. **25** But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king.”

SERMON: "DON'T FORSAKE THE FULNESS OF THE LORD"

DAVIS LACEY - 1 SAMUEL 11-12 (PGS. 50-58 OF THE ILLUMINATED SCRIPTURE JOURNAL)

Main Point: Do not forsake the Lord, for he alone is faithful and full.

Deuteronomy 30:1-3: *And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the Lord your God has driven you, ² and return to the Lord your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, ³ then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you.*

Questions for Further Reflection, Discussion and Prayer

In 1 Samuel 11, we see that the Holy Spirit empowers spiritual leaders to unify God's people.

- In your spheres of leadership, are you making God's will known and uniting people to follow it?
- Are you biblically submitting your life to the authority of a local church?

In 1 Samuel 12:7, Samuel pleased WITH the people, BEFORE the Lord. Where are you more concerned with being "liked" or "accepted" by the people around you, rather than honoring and following the Lord?

Where do you "turn aside" after empty things (aka "Counterfeit Gods") that over-promise and under-deliver?

- POWER?
- PLEASURE?
- PROVISION?

Where can you remember the goodness of God and fight your tendency to "turn aside?"

- His FAITHFULNESS (see 1 Samuel 12:22)
- His FULNESS (see 1 Samuel 12:23-25)

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "JESUS STRONG AND KIND"

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to Him
No one else can satisfy, I should come to Him

Jesus said if I am weak, I should come to Him
No one else can be my strength, I should come to Him

Chorus

For the Lord is good and faithful, He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus, Jesus, strong and kind

Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to Him
No one else can be my shield, I should come to Him - **Chorus**

For the Lord is good and faithful, He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus, Jesus, strong and kind

Jesus said if I am lost, He will come to me
And he showed me on that cross, He will come to me - **Chorus**

HYMN OF NEW CREATION: "ALL THINGS"

When my heart was cold and lifeless
And I wandered in my blindness, You pursued me
And before the world was breathing
You had chosen to redeem me
For You loved me, Lord You love me

Chorus

I know You are working, You are working all things
All things for Your glory and my good
Lord, You will accomplish, Everything You promised
All things for Your glory and my good

Though the enemy is mighty
And a thousand fall beside me, You defend me
When the wilderness seems endless
And I feel the weight of darkness
You are with me, You are with me - **Chorus**

Til the day You come in power
Or I reach my final hour, You will keep me
You're the Author of my story
You are faithful, You are for me
I will praise You, I will praise You - **Chorus**

WAYS TO GIVE

- **Cash:** place cash securely into one of the offering boxes at the back of the room. If you would like a record of your contribution, please be sure to place the cash into one of our offering envelopes and fill out the appropriate contact information.
- **Check:** place checks securely into one of the offering boxes at the back of the room. Alternatively, you may mail a check to Autumn Ridge Community Church, 208 Victory Cir. Ste. 300, Ellijay, GA 30540. End of year giving statements will be issued based on the contact information provided by the check.
- **Online Giving:** facilitates offerings made by bank account, credit/debit card, and stock. Simply scan the "GIVING" QR code below, or click the "GIVE" tab at the top of our church's website (autumnridgecommunitychurch.com).
- **Stock:** arrangements for donation of stock can also be made by contacting Jill Connor with Charles Schwab at jconner@jamisonwealth.com or (678) 273-7320.

QR CODES FOR DIGITAL ACCESS

IT'S EASY AS 1,2,3!

To access the following items:

1. Open the camera on your digital device
2. Hover over the QR squares below
3. A yellow link will appear on the screen. Tap the yellow link and you will be taken to an online site where you can access the following.



GIVING



CONNECT

Roster of Missional Communities

Reach out to one of the leaders listed below to learn the specific rhythms of our different Missional Communities!

Sunday Mornings (8:45a)

Scott and Jeannie Miller (jeanniem165@gmail.com | 678.320.8310)

Doug and Leigh Colburn (770.364.5325) and Janice and Randy Durden (706.273.9147)

Bryan and Shannon Thomas (StPatrick1330@yahoo.com | Bryan: 808-342-4288 | Shannon: 808-342-4287)

Sunday Afternoons (1-2:30p at the Kiscunas')

Pete & Maria Kiscunas (Pete: 678-480-6096 | mkiscunas5@gmail.com - Maria: 678-524-0424) and Pete Westrick (731-607-6962 | pjw629@icloud.com)

Wednesday Evenings (5:30p)

Damon and Samantha Gabriel (404-408-0673 | samantha@artfulellijay.com)

NEW WITH US? GET CONNECTED!

If you are new or visiting with us, make sure to fill out a connection card. There is a digital version available via the QR code above.

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Grab a Missions Memo to keep up with other dates/opportunities to be involved

May 10 - Family / Child Dedication / Mother's Day

May 13 - Generations of Grace Women's Event

Family / Child Dedication / Mother's Day

During Worship on Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day), Autumn Ridge Community Church will celebrate family and child dedications. This is a special opportunity to:

- Celebrate God's good gift of children
- Equip and encourage parents and guardians for the unique role to which God has called you
- Pray for parents, guardians, and children together as a church family

If you'd like to participate, please respond no later than **Monday, May 4**, and include the following:

- Parent(s)/guardian(s) common names
- Child's/children's full name(s) and age(s)
- The significance of each child's name, or a Bible verse you feel is significant to each child's life
- A photo of the child/children (*photos will not be published online, but will be printed in the order of worship*)

Please reach out to Davis Lacey at davis@autumnridgecommunitychurch.com with any questions.

