



1 & 2 Samuel

THE HOPE OF A BETTER KING

PRELIMINARIES: WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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WE GIVE GLORY TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP: "PSALM 63:1-4"

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. 2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. 3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. 4 So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

HYMN OF ACCLAMATION: "JESUS!"

The King of all Creation, set aside His crown
A Servant to the Fathers love, descended from His throne above
Author of Salvation, giver of new life
Crucified to pay for sin, our righteousness is in the name of -

Chorus

Jesus, every heart and tongue confess
Your name above all names
All things of this earth belong to you
Forever You will reign

God of Resurrection, conquerer of death
Ruler over everything, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings is - **Chorus**

Highly exalted is the name, of Jesus Christ
Heaven and earth declare all praise, to Jesus Christ
Highly exalted is the name, of Jesus Christ
Heaven and earth declare all praise to - **Chorus**

WE MOURN THE REALITY OF SIN

HYMN OF CONFESSION: "HE WILL HOLD ME FAST"

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold, Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold, He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost, His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast - **Chorus**

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last - **Chorus**

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Father, We come before You aware of how easily our hearts wander. You have called us to trust You, love You, and walk in Your ways, yet we confess that our grip on faith is often weak. We chase after lesser things. We rely on our own strength. We grow anxious, fearful, and forgetful of Your promises.

Lord, we confess the sins we know and the ones we fail to see—the harsh words, the hidden pride, the quiet doubts that pull us away from You.

If our salvation depended on our faithfulness alone, we would be in trouble. But we thank You that our hope does not rest in our grip on You, but in Your steadfast grip on us.

Because of Jesus—His cross, His mercy, and His resurrection—forgive us, cleanse us, and renew us.

Teach our hearts to rest in Your grace. Strengthen our faith, and remind us that when we cannot hold on, Christ holds us fast. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

WE CELEBRATE CHRIST AS OUR REDEEMER

HYMN OF REDEMPTION: "BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE"

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God - **Chorus**

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 6:20”

20 Then the men of Beth-shemesh said, “Who is able to stand before the Lord, this holy God? And to whom shall he go up away from us?”

SERMON: “THE LORD IS WORTHY OF OUR DEVOTION”

DAVIS LACEY - 1 SAMUEL 4:1B - 7:2 (PGS. 22-32 IN THE ILLUMINATED SCRIPTURE JOURNAL)

Main Point: The Lord is worthy of our devotion!

- Because he is SUPREME (4:1b – 11a)
- Because he is FAITHFUL (4:11b – 22)
- Because he is HOLY (5:1 – 7:2)

Exodus 25:22: “There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel.”

Deuteronomy 1:42: Deut. 1:42, “And the Lord said to me, ‘Say to them, Do not go up or fight, for I am not in your midst, lest you be defeated before your enemies.’”

- **Superstition:** seeks to USE and CONTROL the Lord for OUR purposes
- **Faith:** seeks to SURRENDER to the Lord and to SUBMIT to HIS purposes

Romans 8:28: “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”

Numbers 4:20: “but they shall not go in to look on the holy things even for a moment, lest they die.”

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US"

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

HYMN OF NEW CREATION: "WE WILL FEAST"

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up - **Chorus**

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength - **Chorus**

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful One
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom. - **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

April 5 - Easter Sunday