



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 65:1-4"

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.
2 O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come. 3 When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions. 4 Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

HYMN OF ACCLAMATION: "IS HE WORTHY"

Do you feel the world is broken (we do),
Do you feel the shadows deepen (we do)
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting
through (we do)
Do you wish that you could see it all made new (we do)

Is all creation groaning (it is), is a new creation coming (it is)
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst (it is)
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this (it is)

Is anyone worthy, is anyone whole
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
The Lion of Judah, who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy, is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy of this, He is

Does the Father truly love us (He does),
Does the Spirit move among us (He does)
And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves (He does)
Does our God intend to dwell again with us (He does)

Is anyone worthy, is anyone whole
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
The Lion of Judah, who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb, who died to ransom the slave

From ev'ry people and tribe, ev'ry nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God, to reign with the Son
Is He worthy, is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy, is He worthy is He worthy of this

He is, is He worthy, is He worthy, He is

WE MOURN THE REALITY OF SIN

HYMN OF CONFESSION: "LORD I NEED YOU"

Lord, I come, I confess, Bowing here I find my rest
Without You I fall apart, You're the One that guides my heart

Chorus

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness, Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
Where You are, Lord, I am free, Holiness is Christ in me - **Chorus**

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay - **Chorus**

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Father, we are far more needy than we often admit. We have looked for life in ourselves, trusted in our own strength, and sought comfort in things that cannot save.

We are prone to wander and often forget how deeply we need Christ. Forgive us for our pride, our self-sufficiency, and for the many ways we resist depending fully on You.

Teach us to come empty-handed, to hunger for righteousness, and to cling to Jesus alone— our wisdom, our righteousness, our peace, and our salvation.

Renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us to rest not in ourselves, but in the finished work of Christ.

In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

WE CELEBRATE CHRIST AS OUR REDEEMER

HYMN OF REDEMPTION: "IN CHRIST ALONE"

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all—
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—

Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine—
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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 SAM. 8:7-8, ZECHARIAH 9:9, JOHN 12:14-15”

7 And the Lord said to Samuel, “Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. 8 According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you.

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

14 And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, 15 “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!”

SERMON: “PALM SUNDAY: THE LORD HIMSELF IS OUR KING ”

DAVIS LACEY - 1 SAMUEL 8 (PGS. 36-38 IN THE ILLUMINATED SCRIPTURE JOURNAL), ZECHARIAH 9:9-17, AND JOHN 12:12-19

The Message of Palm Sunday: The Lord Himself is Our King

- The PROBLEM (1 Samuel 8)
- The PROPHECY (Zechariah 9:9-17)
- The PERSON (John 12:12-19)

How are you prone to reject the Lord as your true King?

- Through GAIN?
- Through CONFORMITY?
- Through something/someone else?

Just like Israel's rejection of the Lord as their King, our rejection of the Lord's authority always results in EXILE (from the Lord), ENSLAVEMENT (to sin), and TURMOIL (in our lives).

John 8:34: “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.”

Zech. 9:9-17: ⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. ¹³ For I have bent Judah as my bow; I have made Ephraim its arrow. I will stir up your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and wield you like a warrior's sword.

¹⁴ Then the Lord will appear over them, and his arrow will go forth like lightning; the Lord God will sound the trumpet and will march forth in the whirlwinds of the south. ¹⁵ The Lord of hosts will protect them, and they shall devour, and tread down the sling stones, and they shall drink and roar as if drunk with wine, and be full like a bowl, drenched like the corners of the altar. ¹⁶ On that day the Lord their God will save them, as the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. ¹⁷ For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.

John 12:12-19: ¹² The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴ And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵ "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷ The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸ The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

Jesus is the King who restores God's People to God's Rule and God's Blessings.

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "COME YE SINNERS"

Come ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore
Jesus ready, stands to save you, full of pity, love and pow'r

Chorus

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior, oh there are ten thousand charms

Come ye thirsty, come and welcome, God's free bounty, glorify
True belief, and true repentance, ev'ry grace that brings you nigh

Come ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall
If you tarry til you're better, you will never come at all - **Chorus**

Feel Him prostrate in the garden, On the ground your Maker lies
On the bloody tree behold Him, Sinner will this not suffice

Lo incarnate God ascended pleads the merit of His blood
Venture on Him, venture wholly, let no other trust intrude - **Chorus**

HYMN OF NEW CREATION: "TASTE AND SEE (THE LOVE OF CHRIST)"

Son of God and Son of man, Word enveloped in our skin
Known in all ways but our sin, Savior we remember

Walked the way of suffering, a cross that cost Him everything
What could match His offering, praise His name forever

Chorus

Oh, come to the altar, feast without price
Drink from the blessing cup, break the bread of life
In Him we live and never die
Taste and see the love of Christ

Buried in a darkened grave, resurrected in three days
Reigning on the throne of grace, Savior we remember

He will come upon the clouds, soon with mighty trumpet sounds
Every knee on Earth will bow, praise His name forever - **Chorus**

How marvelous, how wonderful, and my song shall ever be
How marvelous, how wonderful, is my Savior's love for me - **2x**

Final Chorus

Won't you come to the altar, feast without price
Drink from the blessing cup, break the bread of life
In Him we live and never die
Taste and see the love of Christ
Taste and see the love of Christ
Taste and see the love of Christ

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

April 12 - Baptism Sunday

April 18 - Seeing Jesus Together Training

April 25 - Ridgelines Class Intensive from 9a - 1p, with lunch served.

Baptism Sunday

Autumn Ridge Community Church will celebrate baptisms during worship on Sunday, April 12. If you have questions about baptism, or if you are interested in pursuing baptism on April 12, please contact Davis Lacey at davis@autumnridgecommunitychurch.com.

Seeing Jesus Together Training

Ted Sinn, the Founder of Seeing Jesus Together, will be in-house with Autumn Ridge Community Church on **Saturday, April 18 | 2pm - 5pm**. You are invited to join us for an interactive workshop that will explain the use and benefits of the Seeing Jesus Together Journal. This training is ideal for people who want to develop more meaningful devotional rhythms, as well as for those who intend to participate in a Transformation Group now or in the future.

In order to prepare our childcare and facility logistics, please RSVP below by **Sunday, April 12**.

Ridgelines Class Intensive

On Saturday, April 25, Autumn Ridge Community Church will host an "intensive" version of its Ridgelines Class between 9a - 1p at The Victory Christian Center. Childcare will be provided, and lunch will be served. To learn more, please email Peter Reale (membership@autumnridgecommunitychurch.com).