

Regular Worship Service (March 29th, 2020)

Theme: Godward Hope

- ❖ Prelude
- ❖ Welcome to our service via FB live!
 - Be sure to use the comments section to let us know that you're a part of our worshipping community today. If you're a guest, we offer you a special welcome.
- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Call to worship
- ❖ Song of praise: "Be Thou My Vision"

1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

4. High King of Heaven, my victory won
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whate'er befall
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

- ❖ Confession of sin and assurance of pardon through the gospel
 - *"Lord, in the face of a world that's clearly beyond our control, we confess to you our temptation to be unsettled by it all. We confess that we want control and we want things to return to normal. Though these aren't bad desires, they unmask that dark part of our hearts that longs to be the god of our own comfortable world. Please forgive us. Help us trust you. We've never needed your grace more than now. Amen."*
- ❖ Song of confession: "I need Thee every hour"

1. I need Thee every hour,
Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine,
Can peace afford.

*Refrain: I need Thee, O I need Thee,
Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, Savior,
I come to Thee.*

2. I need Thee every hour,
In joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide,
Or life is vain.

3. I need thee every hour
Most holy one,
Oh make me thine indeed
Thou blessed son.

❖ Assurance of pardon through the gospel

- *“We are so grateful, Heavenly Father, that our good standing with you isn’t gained and isn’t retained by our perfect trust. You love us just as much when we’re worried as when we’re calm. You accept us and call us sons and daughters just as tenderly when we’re focused on the storm rather than the God who controls the storm. In the midst of our fears, you are faithful. We owe your constant care to the blood of Jesus through whom we find grace and mercy in our time of need. We praise you for your Son and your constant care. Amen.”*

❖ Song of assurance: “Day by day”

1. Day by day, and with each passing moment,
Strength I find to meet my trials here;
Trusting in my Father’s wise bestowment,
I’ve no cause for worry or for fear.
He, whose heart is kind beyond all measure,
Gives unto each day what He deems best,
Lovingly its part of pain and pleasure,
Mingling toil with peace and rest.

2. *Every day the Lord Himself is near me,
With a special mercy for each hour;
All my cares He fain would bear and cheer me,
He whose name is Counsellor and Pow’r.
The protection of His child and treasure
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;
“As thy days, thy strength shall be in measure,”
This the pledge to me He made.*

3. Help me then, in every tribulation,
So to trust Thy promises, O Lord,
That I lose not faith’s sweet consolation,
Offered me within Thy holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,
E’er to take, as from a father’s hand,
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,
Till with Christ the Lord I stand.

❖ Confession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism #12

Leader: Why are we called ‘Christians’?

All: Because, by faith, we are members of Christ and thus partakers of his supernatural life and power. As Christians we are devoted to confessing him as Lord and Savior in the world and presenting ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to him.

❖ Pastoral prayer (with the Lord’s Prayer)

“Our Father, who is in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

❖ Offering

❖ Doxology:

1. We give thee but thine own,
Whate’er the gift may be,
For all we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from thee.

2. May we thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive,
And gladly, as thou bless us still,
To thee our first-fruits give.

❖ Prayer and praise

- ❖ Old Testament Reading: Ecclesiastes 7:11-14 (p. 556 in sanctuary Bibles)
- ❖ New Testament Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21 (p. 977)
- ❖ Message: “The way of wisdom under the sun” Ecclesiastes 7

Ecclesiastes: When Life Doesn't Work
“The way of wisdom under the sun”

Three wise responses when life gets chaotic:

A. An honorable life (7:1-5)

B. A trusting life (7:6-14)

C. A humble life (7:15-29)

- ❖ Benediction
- ❖ Song of response: “Psalm 46”

1. O come behold the works of God, the nations at His feet.
 He breaks the bow and bends the spear
 And tells the wars to cease.

O Mighty One of Israel, You are on our side.
 We walk by faith in God who burns the chariots with fire.

*Refrain: Lord of Hosts, You're with us. With us in the fire,
 With us as a shelter, with us in the storm.
 You will lead us, through the fiercest battle,
 Oh where else would we go,
 But with the Lord of Hosts?*

2. O God of Jacob, fierce and great,
 You lift Your voice to speak.
 The earth it bows and all
 The mountains move into the sea.

O Lord You know the hearts of men
 And still you let them live.
 O God, who makes the mountains melt
 Come wrestle us and win.
 O God who makes the mountains melt
 Come wrestle us and win.

Refrain

Though oceans roar, You are the Lord of all,
 The one who calms the wind and waves and makes my heart be still.
 Though the earth gives way, the mountains move into the sea,

The nations rage, I know my God is in control.

Refrain