

~ Far As The Curse Is Found ~



PRELUDE

Praise Band

WELCOME & GREETINGS

Rev. Ray Cortese, *Senior Pastor*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Choir

“O Be Joyful In The Lord”

Arranged by John Rutter

*O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands,
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands,
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
Serve the Lord with gladness,
Serve the Lord with gladness,
And come before His presence with a song.*

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Congregation

“Rejoice, The Lord Is King”

Words: Charles Wesley, 1746/Music: John Darwall, 1770; Arr. by John Rutter

Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.

REFRAIN: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains, He took His seat above.

His Kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n.

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord, and Judge, shall come,
And take His servants up to their eternal home.

“The Lord Is King”

Josiah Conder/William Gardiner

The Lord is King! Lift up thy voice;
O earth and all ye heavens rejoice.
From world to world one song shall ring,
The Lord omnipotent is King.

The Lord is King! Who then shall dare,
Resist His will, distrust His care,
Or question still His faithfulness,
Or doubt His royal promises?

He reigns! Ye saints, exalt your strains;
Your God is King, your Father reigns;
And He is at the Father's side,
The man of Love, the Crucified.
One Lord, one empire, all secures;
He reigns, and life and death are yours:
Through earth and heav'n
One song shall ring,
“The Lord omnipotent is King.”

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Leader & People

Belgic Confession, Article 26 (“The Intercession of Christ”)

We believe that we have no access to God except through the One and only Mediator and Intercessor: Jesus Christ the Righteous. He therefore was made man, uniting together the divine and human natures, so that we human beings might have access to the divine Majesty. Otherwise we would have no access.

But this Mediator, whom the Father has appointed between Himself and us, ought not terrify us by His greatness, so that we have to look for another one, according to our fancy. For neither in heaven nor among the creatures on earth is there anyone who loves us more than Jesus Christ does. Although He was “in the form of God,” He nevertheless “emptied Himself,” taking the form of “a man” and “a servant” for us; and He made Himself “completely like His brothers.”

Suppose we had to find another intercessor. Who would love us more than He who gave His life for us, even though “we were His enemies?” And suppose we had to find one who has prestige and power. Who has as much of these as He who is seated “at the right hand of the Father,” and who has all power “in heaven and on earth?” And who will be heard more readily than God's own dearly beloved Son?

We should not plead here that we are unworthy—for it is not a question of offering our prayers on the basis of our own dignity but only on the basis of the excellence and dignity of Jesus Christ, whose righteousness is ours by faith.

And further, to encourage us more to approach Him, the apostle says, “Since we have a high priest, Jesus the Son of God, who has entered into heaven, we maintain our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to have compassion for our weaknesses, but one who was tempted in all things, just as we are, except for sin. Let us go then with confidence to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace, in order to be helped.”

What more do we need? For Christ Himself declares: “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to my Father but by Me.” Therefore, in following the command of Christ, we call on the heavenly Father through Christ, our only Mediator, as we are taught by the Lord’s Prayer, being assured that we shall obtain all we ask of the Father in His name.

SONGS OF RESPONSE

Congregation

“Jesus, Lover Of My Soul”

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Greg Thompson © 2000 Greg Thompson Music/CCLI License #136148

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, ‘til life’s storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide; receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, I helpless, hang on Thee;
Leave, oh leave me not alone, support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head in the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, are all I want, more than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name, I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am; Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart; for all eternity.

“Be Still My Soul”

Katharina von Schlegel; Jean Sibelius

Be still my soul: the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;

Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In ev’ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still my soul: thy best, thy heav’nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the winds and waves still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul! The hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord.
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul! When change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

PRAYER

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Welcome Pads Passed

Congregation

OFFERTORY

Solo, Becky Ickstadt, *Saturday*
Karen Medrano, *Sunday*

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Words: Civilla D. Martin, Music: Charles H. Gabriel, 1905, Arr. Luigi Zaminelli

*Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

*Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He cares for me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He cares for me.*

*I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

MESSAGE

Rev. Ray Cortese

CLOSING SONG

Congregation

“Joy To The World!”

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, based on Psalm 98/Music: G. F. Handel, 1742

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And heav'n and nature sing....

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:

Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy....

No more let sins and sorrows grow,

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow,

Far as the curse is found....

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love...

CLOSING PRAYER