



# Gathered together to worship God

# Prelude

Beginning with Praise (9:50 am)

## “Marvelous grace of our loving Lord”

1. Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,  
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,  
yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,  
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.  
Refrain:  
Grace, grace, (Marvelous grace, God's infinite grace),  
God's grace , grace that will pardon and cleanse within.  
Grace, grace, (Marvelous grace, God's infinite grace),  
grace that is greater than all our sin.
2. Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,  
threaten the soul with infinite loss.  
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,  
points to the refuge, the mighty cross.....(*refrain*)
3. Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,  
freely bestowed on all who believe.  
You that are longing to see his face,  
will you this moment his grace receive?.....(*refrain*)

Hymnal #151  
words by Julia H. Johnston, 1911  
music by Daniel B. Towner, 1911

## Announcements

## Call to Worship

Please rise in body or spirit and join in the Call to Worship, printed on the back of your bulletin, as well as projected upon the screen.

One: Which way do I look? Which way do I turn?

**People: Look up. Lift up your eyes!**

One: Why should I look up? I must focus ahead.  
There are so many things demanding my time.

**People: Our eyes look to the Lord our God.**

One: My eyes will scan the heavens,  
until God has mercy on me.

**People: My eyes will scan the heavens,  
until God has mercy on us.**

**All: *We will lift up our eyes and never lose hope.***

by Gail Erisman Valeta, pastor  
Prince of Peace Church of the Brethren  
Littleton, Colorado  
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# “Guide me, O thou great Jehovah”

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing waters flow.  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, Strong Deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

Hymnal #582  
words by William Williams (1717-1791)  
music by John Hughes (1873-1932)

# Opening Prayer

Lord of mystery and community, you have called us here this day to remind us of the mission journey you set before us. Help us to pay attention to the words of Jesus as he sent out his disciples on a mission of healing and compassion. Remind us that success is not measured in the cures, but in the striving. Enable us to truly be your disciples in this world. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

by Nancy C. Townley  
an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church  
from [ministrymatters.com](http://ministrymatters.com)

Please be seated.

From the Prophets  
**Ezekiel 2:1-5**

Our *Call to Worship* was derived from the 123<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. From this prayer and songbook of the Bible, we now turn to the prophets. Let's listen to what the Lord spoke to and through Ezekiel...

*<sup>1</sup> (God) said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. <sup>2</sup> And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup> The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." <sup>5</sup> Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.*

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## Responsive Confession

Responding to this Word, turn to #691 in your Hymnal (also projected upon the screen). Let's make our confession.

Leader: Almighty God, Spirit of purity and grace  
whose dwelling is with  
the humble and contrite heart,  
hear your children's confession of sin  
and grant us mercy.

For all that has been evil in our lives;  
for unholy thoughts and impure motives,  
for any scorn of goodness, trifling with truth,  
and indifference to beauty,  
for being petty when we could have been gracious,

**People: forgive us, O God.**

Leader: For lack of love toward you,  
whose love has never failed;  
for doubt in your providence,  
for acts of ingratitude,  
and for disobedience to visions  
we have been able to see,

**People: forgive us, O God.**

Leader: For the wrong we have done our neighbors;  
for silence in the face of war,  
for neglect of charity and failure in justice,  
for forgetfulness of other's pain,  
and for advantage taken of another's weakness,

**People: forgive us, O God.**

Leader: For our faulty following of the Master;  
our slow faith in his power to save,  
our timid, hesitant answers to his call of service,  
our insensibility to the meaning of the cross;  
for all that mars our discipleship  
and makes it difficult for others to believe in him,

**People: forgive us, O God.**

Leader: May God, who is almighty and merciful  
forgive our sins,  
empower us to overcome temptation,  
and enable us to love as Jesus loved.

**People: AMEN**

Hymnal #691  
Adapted from a litany of repentance, Edward K. Ziegler,  
*The Adventurous Future*, ed. Paul H. Bowman,  
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# Returning our Tithes and Offerings

*“For those who are now united to Jesus the Messiah, all records of wrongdoing and any outstanding punishments have been cancelled. When life is lived in union with Jesus the Messiah, a new power is unleashed within us - the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

Romans 8:1-2 from the *Laughing Bird* version  
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With that in mind, let's take the time  
to return our tithes and offerings.  
Ushers, please pave the way.

## Offertory

From the Apostles

### 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

From the Psalms and Prophets of the Hebrew portion of our Bible, we shift to the new covenant or testament, turning to the letters found there, words from the apostles. Here, we listen to Paul write of his foolishness and weakness, and how God is faithful and true – providing what we need, regardless. In the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of his second letter to the church in Corinth, we find these words:

*<sup>2</sup> I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup> And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup> was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup> On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup> But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup> even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup> Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup> but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup> Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.*

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Sharing a joy, a concern,  
a word of testimony or praise

# Be Still, My Soul

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Katharina von Schlegel, b. 1697  
Tr. by Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897

Jean Sibelius, b. 1865

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side; Bear pa-tient-ly the  
2. Be still, my soul: thy God doth un-der-take To guide the fu-ture  
3. Be still, my soul: the hour is has-tening on When we shall be for

cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to or-der and pro-vide;  
as He has the past. Thy hope, thy con-fi-dence let noth-ing shake;  
ev-er with the Lord, When dis-ap-point-ment, grief, and fear are gone,

In ev-ery change He faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: thy  
All now mys-te-rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the  
Sor-row for-got, love's pur-est joys re-stored. Be still, my soul: when

best, thy heav-en-ly Friend Through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.  
waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be-low.  
change and tears are past, All safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last. A-MEN.

Music used by permission of the Presbyterian Board of Christian Education, owner of the special arrangement of this tune made in 1932

# Prayer

Gracious and loving God, we come to you with hearts that need to be opened to your word and your love. There is so much around us that tears at us and causes us to tremble. Keep us ever mindful of your presence and the hope that you have given us in your Son Jesus Christ.

Guide us, we pray, as your church, struggling to spread the good news. Keep us focused on the mission and ministry to which you have called us and lead us forward. We know, Lord, that there will often be bumps and holes in the road along the way. Save us from dwelling on them and make us secure in the goals you have placed before us.

Hear our prayers for all who need your tender touch of healing in their lives—those we name before you each day, and those who are known only to you in the depths of our hearts. Be with those who mourn. May we all remember the love and grace that your faithful people have brought to our world.

We pray for all your creation, always at odds with one another. Guide our leaders and those of other nations that this world might truly be as you created it to be—a world of peace, hope and love.

These are our prayers, together with those that lie on the hearts of all your faithful people, which we offer to you in the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ who said “not my will, but thine be done.”

created or adapted by Rev. David Chafin  
Deputy Regional Minister and Vice President of the Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ) in West Virginia  
from his blog: *Life in Liturgy*

From the Gospels  
**Mark 6:1-13**

Listen now to this story from the Gospel of Mark.

<sup>1-2</sup> *He left there and returned to his hometown. His disciples came along. On the Sabbath, he gave a lecture in the meeting place. He made a real hit, impressing everyone. “We had no idea he was this good!” they said. “How did he get so wise all of a sudden, get such ability?”*

<sup>3</sup> *But in the next breath they were cutting him down: “He’s just a carpenter—Mary’s boy. We’ve known him since he was a kid. We know his brothers, James, Justus, Jude, and Simon, and his sisters. Who does he think he is?” They tripped over what little they knew about him and fell, sprawling. And they never got any further.*

<sup>4-6</sup> *Jesus told them, “A prophet has little honor in his hometown, among his relatives, on the streets he played in as a child.” Jesus wasn’t able to do much of anything there—he laid hands on a few sick people and healed them, that’s all. He couldn’t get over their stubbornness. He left and made a circuit of the other villages, teaching.*

<sup>7-8</sup> *Jesus called the Twelve to him, and sent them out in pairs. He gave them authority and power to deal with the evil opposition. He sent them off with these instructions:*

<sup>8-9</sup> *“Don’t think you need a lot of extra equipment for this. You are the equipment. No special appeals for funds. Keep it simple.*

<sup>10</sup> *“And no luxury inns. Get a modest place and be content there until you leave.*

<sup>11</sup> *“If you’re not welcomed, not listened to, quietly withdraw. Don’t make a scene. Shrug your shoulders and be on your way.”*

<sup>12-13</sup> *Then they were on the road. They preached with joyful urgency that life can be radically different; right and left they sent the demons packing; they brought wellness to the sick, anointing their bodies, healing their spirits.*

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Message

*“You are the equipment”*

# “God of grace and God of glory”

1. God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power.  
Crown thine ancient church's story,  
bring her bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.
  2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us,  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.
3. Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control.  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.
  4. Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore.  
Let the search for thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.

Hymnal #366  
words by Harry E. Fosdick, 1932  
music by John Hughes, 1905

## Benediction

Go now, and wherever people will hear you,  
proclaim the life-changing love of God.  
Do not fear your weakness,  
for when you are weakest, Christ's strength is known.  
Travel lightly, live simply,  
and honor those who welcome the gospel.

And may God be your protection and safe haven;  
May the power of Christ Jesus dwell in you;  
and may the Holy Spirit be your guide forever.

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## Postlude