

WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday April 8, 2018 9:30am
MORNING WORSHIP

PREPARATION MUSIC—This hymn played on the flute helps us praise God for his amazing power in creation. Psalm 72: 8 reads: He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the rivers unto the ends of the earth. The hymn also teaches we should sing of his goodness and wisdom as well as his omnipresence. Bottom line, we have A LOT to sing about!

We sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. We sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; the moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey. We sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food; he formed the creatures with his word and then pronounced them good. Lord, how your wonders are displayed, where'er we turn our eyes, if we survey the ground we tread or gaze upon the skies.

CALL TO WORSHIP In Acts 3:6 “In the name of Jesus” means “by the authority of Jesus”. The apostles were doing this healing through the Holy Spirit’s power, not their own. The Holy Spirit prompts us toward confessing our sins as well.

Leader: Lord, you have given me all that I have. You offer me so many invisible but real gifts---gifts with eternal value.

People: The gift of your Spirit in my life empowers me far beyond my own capacities. The gift of your forgiveness enables me to forgive. The gifts of your mercy and grace enable me to extend the same kindness to others.

Leader: You have made me to be a storehouse of your blessings, Lord.

People: Work through me to impart those blessings to others.

HYMN Revelation 4:11 reads: *You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.* This scripture and hymn are about worship. As the Holy Spirit prompts us toward confessing our sins,

the Holy Spirit also prompts our worship. One writer defines worship as the quickening of the conscience by the holiness of God; a feeding of the mind with the truth of God; an opening of the heart to the love of God; and a devoting of the will to the purpose of God. Today as we worship, we should remember that the heavenly beings and ransomed souls from every kindred, every tribe on earth are worshiping with us even now. And we will one day all join together in singing the everlasting song when Christ is crowned Lord of all.

1.

**All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.**

2.

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.**

3.

**Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.**

5.

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.**

CONFESSION: When Jesus departed to be with his Father, he left us the Holy Spirit to empower, to teach, to protect, to quicken and interpret God's word to us, and to help us pray and confess our sins! Allow the Spirit to direct your thoughts this morning.

Leader: Lord God, you made the hearts of the disciples glad with the knowledge of the resurrection of Jesus, your Son. Forgive us because, like them, we find the truth of Easter so hard to believe; forgive us that we are so easily downcast, and given to despair; forgive us that, although we claim to live by the resurrection faith, we so often appear to believe that suffering is simply a tragedy and that death is the end; forgive us that we take so much convincing of the hope that you give to the world.

**People: Come to us, Lord God, in the power of the risen Christ.
Take away our crippling doubts and fears, and through your**

Holy Spirit bring us to life in your service; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Today's words of assurance are based on Romans 8:9-11. If you trust Jesus for your salvation and acknowledge him as Lord, then the Holy Spirit has come into your life. As the Holy Spirit is active within you, you will believe that Jesus is God's Son and that eternal life comes through him, you will begin to act as Jesus directs and you will find help in your daily life and in your prayers. You will be empowered to serve God and do his will. You will become part of God's plan to build up his church.

Leader: God himself has taken up residence in your life, thus, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him. You who welcome the Spirit of Christ, in whom he dwells, even though you still experience all the limitations of sin, you yourself experience life on God's terms. If the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he will do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself!

People: When God lives and breathes in us (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), we are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in us, our bodies will be as alive as Christ's!

SCRIPTURE/SERMON Read Acts 3:1-10. In this passage, we see Peter and John at the Beautiful Gate, the entrance to the temple, many people passed through it on their way to worship. The lame man was begging where he would be seen by the most people. He asked for money, but Peter gave him something much better---the use of his legs. We often ask God to solve a small problem, but he wants to give us a new life and help for all our problems. Ask God for what you want, but don't be surprised when he gives you what you really need!

OFFERING MUSIC Today's offering music continues the jubilant celebration of the resurrection with a medley of two Easter hymns. As the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter is only the first of fifty days of Eastertide, the Great Fifty Days that lead up to Pentecost. This season of the church year is for extended celebration, for exploring the ramifications of Easter, for the redemption of

all creation, and for joyful Christian living! These hymns and the joyful flute will help us continue the festivities!

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise; sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise; he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled, Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead. -----Crown Him with many crowns, The lamb upon the throne: Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own! Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

CLOSING HYMN **1st Corinthians 15:57**--*Thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. We continue our Easter Celebration singing of many attributes of our Lord Jesus Christ and his victory over sin and death!*

1

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise
The glories of my God and King the triumphs of His grace.**

2

**Jesus, the name that charms our fears that bids our sorrows cease
'Tis music in the sinner's ears 'tis life and health and peace.**

3

**He breaks the power of canceled sin he sets the prisoner free
His blood can make the foulest clean his blood availed for me.**

4

**He speaks and listening to His voice new life the dead receive
The mournful broken hearts rejoice the humble poor believe**

5

**My gracious Master and my God assist me to proclaim
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name**

SEE YOU SUNDAY IN WORSHIP