



**February 28, 2021 WORSHIP NOTES**  
**An Audience of One**  
**Matthew 6:2-4**

**PREPARATION *My Shepherd Shall Supply My Need***

*My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His Name;  
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream.  
He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake His ways,  
And leads me, for His mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.*

*The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may Thy house be mine abode, and all my work be praise!  
There would I find a settled rest (while others go and come),  
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home*

**This song is based on Psalm 23. The Lord loves us so we know how to love. The Lord is generous with us so we see how to be generous in return. The text reminds us: the Lord will supply our needs, he feeds us, brings us back and offers grace when we forsake his ways, he leads us for his mercy's sake, his provisions attend us, he prepares an eternal home for us. Our response: to praise and worship him!**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

As we gather to recognize God's presence in our lives, we know the ways of death in this world are many. We experience weather disasters, disease, bodies shutting down, poverty and injustice and oppression. The words of death surround us. The fear of death envelopes us. But we come now to hear a different Word, a true Word, a life-giving Word.

We are here on Isaiah's mountain where tears are wiped away, where a banquet table has been set, where death has been swallowed up forever. We do not fully understand it. And yet here it is: the power of Christ's life within us and among us. So let us be glad and rejoice in our salvation! And say "Surely this is our God; we trust in him, and he saves us. Let us rejoice

and be glad in his salvation.” Isaiah 25: Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Our call to worship is from Isaiah 25. A prayer: Wonderful God, your presence is everywhere, permeating the heavens and the earth. Your omnipresence is a blessing for your people. Your inescapable presence is our lifeline. There is no depth so dark, no place so hidden, no trial so interminable that you are not there with us always. Because of your faithfulness, we can wait out the storms with the certain hope of our release and restoration. We bless your name!

### SONG OF PRAISE

### *Joyful Joyful*

*Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day! (repeat)*

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee. Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee.  
Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee.*

*Mortals, join the mighty joyful chorus, which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is always reigning o'er us, joining all within its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us ever sunward in the triumph song of life.*

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee. Heart unfold like flow'rs before Thee. (repeat).  
Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love.*

*The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy...against such things there is no law (Gal. 5:22). If I sow seeds of my sinful nature, I will reap a life of selfishness and depravity. If I sow seeds of the Spirit, I will reap the spiritual fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness gentleness and self-control. I choose to sow to the Spirit. Lord, bring forth in me a harvest that will honor you.*

### SCRIPTURE AND SERMON

**An Audience of One**—Matthew 6:2-4

Jesus' words here challenge a lot of what goes on today in fund-raising and charitable causes. Of course, one of the biggest motivations for people who give large gifts is the prestige that results. Jesus questioned that spirit of giving. He detested those who made a great show of presenting their gifts in the temple and elsewhere as if they were generous and upright, but behind the scenes practiced the worst sorts of greed and immorality. He was not attacking giving, but hypocrisy. We can be sure we are giving with right motives when we give anonymously. This way, our gifts will affect no one's opinion of us one way or the other. The matter will stay between us and God and he can evaluate our motives.

SONG OF RESPONSE

***The Blessing***

*(from Numbers 6: 24-26-The priestly blessing)*

***The Lord bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you***

***The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace (2x)***

***A-men, A-men, A-men (2x)***

***[Verse]***

***The Lord bless you and keep you***

***Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you***

***The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace***

***[Chorus]***

***A-men, A-men, A-men (4x)***

***[Bridge]***

***May His favor be upon you and a thousand generations***

***And your family and your children and their children and their children (4x)***

***May His presence go before you, and behind you and beside you***

***All around you and within you, He is with you, He is with you***

***In the morning, in the evening, in your coming and your going***

***In your weeping and rejoicing, He is for you, He is for you***

***He is for you He is for you, He is for you He is for you***

***He is for you He is for you***

***[Chorus]***

***A –men, A-men, A-men (x2)***

This blessing washes over me today like refreshing ocean waves on a scorching summer day. I praise you, my compassionate, merciful God, for granting me your acceptance and your favor. I praise you, my strong, tender Father, for giving me your peace---a peace like no other, a peace that only you can give. I praise you and rest in you today, sweet Lord, as you offer me your blessing and your protection. Turn your face toward me now, I pray, and shine upon me, that I may shine for you!

CLOSING MUSIC

*We Will Glorify*

*We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb  
We will glorify the Lord of lords who is the great I AM  
Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty we will bow before His throne  
We will worship Him in righteousness we will worship Him alone  
He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth, he is Lord of all who live  
He is Lord above the universe all praise to Him we give  
Hallelujah to the King of kings hallelujah to the Lamb  
Hallelujah to the Lord of Lords who is the great I AM.*

Read Revelation 5:1-13 and pray this prayer: Lord Jesus, Anointed One, Lion of Judah, Lamb of God, you are the convergence of majesty and meekness. You embody the very essence of the Father's love for us. "Slain from the creation of the world," triumphant over death and hell, eternally enthroned in glory, you are the Savior of the world, the central figure of heaven, the flash point of the fire of true worship. All glory, honor and praise be to you, my Savior and my God!

***See you in worship  
on-line or on-site beginning at 9:30am  
Sunday February 28, 2021***