

FAITH BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, April 19, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 51 (excerpts)

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy,
blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

....

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

....

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶ For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

LOOK, YE SAINTS! THE SIGHT IS GLORIOUS (HYMN 141)

Look, ye saints! the sight is glorious:
See the Man of Sorrows now;
From the fight returned victorious,
Ev'ry knee to him shall bow:
Crown him! crown him!
Crowns become the Victor's brow.

Crown the Savior! angels, crown him!
Rich the trophies Jesus brings;
In the seat of power enthrone him,
While the vault of heaven rings:
Crown him! crown him!
Crown the Savior, king of kings!

Sinners in derision crowned him,
Mocking thus the Savior's claim;
Saints and angels crowd around him,
Own his title, praise his name:
Crown him! crown him!
Spread abroad the Victor's fame!

Hark! those bursts of acclamation!
Hark! those loud triumphant chords!
Jesus takes the highest station—
O what joy the sight affords!
Crown him! crown him!
King of kings and Lord of lords!

FOREVER GRATEFUL by Mark Altrogge

You did not wait for me to draw near to You
But You clothed Yourself in frail humanity.
You did not wait for me to cry out to You
But you let me hear Your voice calling me.

And I'm forever grateful to You,
I'm forever grateful for the cross.
I'm forever grateful to You
That You came to seek and save the lost.

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COME, PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING, *Words and music by Keith and*

Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend

Come, people of the Risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.

Come, young and old from every land -
Men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands -
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing -
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age:
"Our God is all in all!"

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YOUR LOVE, OH LORD, *by Brad Avery, David Carr, Mac Powell, Mark Lee*

Your love, oh Lord, reaches to the heavens;
Your faithfulness stretches to the sky.
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains;
Your justice flows like the ocean tide.

And I will lift my voice to worship you, my king,
And I will find my strength in the shadow of your wings.

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture *Genesis 15:1-6*
John 10:22-30
Philippians 1:3-11

Sermon..... *From Groaning to Glory*
† Lee Copeland
Romans 8:26-30

SERMON NOTES

*Sometimes the regenerate backslide and fall into gross sin.
But in this they act out of character, do violence to their own nature, and make
themselves miserable, so that eventually they seek and find restoration in
righteousness.*

J. I. PACKER

Preserving ministry of the Holy Spirit
Helps, intercedes, groans for the believer

All according to God's will

The promise of meaning

Ultimate good

God's purpose

*In retrospect, a [Christian's] lapse seems to them to have been madness.
When regenerate believers act in character, they manifest a humble, grateful desire
to please the God who saved them; and the knowledge that he is pledged
to keep them safe forever simply increases this desire.*

J. I. PACKER

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RESPONSE TO THE PREACHED WORD

PSALM 62 by Stuart Townend

My soul finds rest in God alone, My Rock and my salvation;
A fortress strong against my foes, And I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse, And lies like arrows
pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness, I'll look to Him who hears me.

O praise Him, hallelujah, My Delight and my reward;
Everlasting, never failing, My Redeemer, my God.

Find rest, my soul, in God alone Amid the world's temptations;
When evil seeks to take a hold I'll cling to my salvation.
Though riches come and riches go, Don't set your heart upon them;
The fields of hope in which I sow Are harvested in heaven.

I'll set my gaze on God alone And trust in Him completely;
With every day pour out my soul And He will prove His mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath, A sigh too brief to measure,
My King has crushed the curse of death And I am His forever.

Stuart Townend & Aaron Keyes Copyright © 2007 Thankyou Music

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Feel free to respond in prayer, aloud or silently, as the Lord leads.

O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST (HYMN 10) by Isaac Watts, from Psalm 90

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of Thy throne still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOewYw3ejkM

BENEDICTION

MISSIONARY LETTER

Ilse Maier, Crossworld, Germany

April 11 - Dear Friends, we celebrate Easter because "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead,...." *I Corinthians 15:20.*

A few days ago a dear friend, Sieghard, was confronted with the diagnosis "Cancer" and is scheduled for surgery next week. Another dear friend, Andreas L., went through the scary experience of battling the Corona virus just a few days ago. And in the daily news, there is so much sadness and death that one does not want to look at it any more.

But what a wonderful message we can share and be comforted by: "Christ is risen, and because HE is risen, we will also rise." Sickness and death are not the end, because as Christians we have this eternal hope of glory. We also have God's promise that he will be right beside us—always!

Because of this wonderful hope I wish you a most blessed, wonderful Easter—the day we remember our Lord's Resurrection.

In Jesus' love, who gave HIS life for you and me, Yours, Ilse

April 15 - It was really great to be part of your church life via the Internet. I listened to Pastor Sam's sermon—a great blessing! It was a first for me and this way I met him. It was a wonderful background—I suppose it was in his back yard.

Many people in your church were involved in putting together this great Easter service. The family with the 3 girls who were singing reminded me of one of our church family—they have 4 girls and they seem to be much alike.

Just like at your church, we are not able to meet, but we do get together every evening at 9pm for prayer via phone-conference. That is a good thing. It seems we are more connected now than we were before the Corona virus came around. We never prayed so much together!

It is also interesting how many churches had and still have great ideas to bring the "Word" to the world—even the German State church. Some churches had big Banners with Bible verses or Jesus-related writings hanging from their tall church towers. Young people chalked Bible verses on the sidewalks. Many church brass bands got together "two-by-two" and went through town playing Easter hymns on many street corners. And there were many more things Christians did to point to Christ. We distributed "Easter-greeting-cards"—explaining about Easter—in the mailboxes.

I have never experienced Easter with so many public references to Christ and His resurrection than this year. Before, every church had their service behind their walls; now people had many opportunities to witness church life and the meaning of Easter via live stream, YouTube, or sidewalk paintings.

In all the misery this virus causes, God gives opportunities to make something good of it. And it does not have to end with the Easter holiday!