

MAY 11, 2025 - 10:00 A.M. SERVICE

*Indicates we will rise in body or spirit

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Diane Ritzema

Call to Worship: based on Revelation 7:9-10, NRSV

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

ALL: “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Today our voices join this ongoing heavenly hymn of praise.
In Jesus’ name, let us worship God.

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***Songs of Praise: Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing**

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
He comes to claim the here and now
And conquer every place and time.

Women and men, in age and youth,
Can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
And find the way, the life, the truth,
Revealed in Jesus, freed for all.



Christ is alive, and comes to bring
Good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring
With joy, with justice, love and praise.

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Hymn of Heaven

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven,
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the streets;
To look upon the one who bled to save me,
And walk with Him for all eternity.

There will be a day when all will bow before Him.
There will be a day when death will be no more.
Standing face to face with He who died and rose again.
Holy, holy Is the Lord.

And ev'ry prayer, we prayed in desperation;
The songs of faith we sang through doubt and fear.
In the end, we'll see that it was worth it
When He returns to wipe away our tears.

There will be a day when all will bow before Him.
There will be a day when death will be no more.
Standing face to face with He who died and rose again.
Holy, holy Is the Lord.

And on that day we join the resurrection,
And stand beside the heroes of the faith.
With one voice, a thousand generations
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Forever He shall reign.

There will be a day when all will bow before Him.
There will be a day when death will be no more.
Standing face to face with He who died and rose again.
Holy, holy Is the Lord.

So let it be today we shout the hymn of Heaven.
With angels and the Saints we raise a mighty roar.
Glory to our God who gave us life beyond the grave.
Holy, holy is the Lord.
Holy, holy is the Lord.
Holy, holy is the Lord.

Words and music by Phil Wickham, Bill Johnson, Brian Johnson and Chris Davenport
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Simply Global Songs/ Bethel Music Publishing.

God's Greeting/Mutual Greetings

WE ARE RENEWED

Prayer of Confession:

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done. Eternal and merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and you have set us on the paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Yet we have strayed from your way; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone. As we remember the lavish gift of your grace. We praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with you, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

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[Children ages 3-3rd grade may exit for Children's Church during the song]

Song of Assurance: Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master today.
Open mine eyes, my sin show me now,
As in thy presence humbly I bow.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me.

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God's Will for Our Lives: Romans 8:35-39

GOD SPEAKS

***Song of Preparation: Firm Foundation**

Jesus, You're my firm foundation,
I know I can stand secure.
Jesus, You're my firm foundation,
I put my hope in Your holy Word,
I put my hope in Your holy Word.

I have a living hope, (I have a living hope,)
I have a future; (I have a future;)
God has a plan for me- (God has a plan for me)
Of this I'm sure, of this I'm sure!

Jesus, You're my firm foundation,
I know I can stand secure.
Jesus, You're my firm foundation,
I put my hope in Your holy Word,
I put my hope in Your holy Word.

Your Word is faithful, (Your Word is faithful,)
mighty with power; (mighty with power;)

God will deliver me- (God will deliver me)
Of this I'm sure, of this I'm sure!

Jesus, You're my firm foundation,
I know I can stand secure.
Jesus, You're my firm foundation,
I put my hope in Your holy Word,
I put my hope in Your holy Word.
I put my hope in Your holy Word.

Words and Music by Nancy Gordon and Jamie Harvill
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Scripture: Acts 9:36-43

Message

WE RESPOND

***Songs of Response The Kingdom of God**

The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

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Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer.
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to his.
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,
For by my side the Savior, he will stay.
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need, his power is displayed.

To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me.
Through the deepest valley he will lead.
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven.
The future sure, the price, it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,
And he was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.
Oh the chains are released, I can sing I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus,
For he has said that he will bring me home.
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.
All the glory evermore to him.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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Prayer for our Church:

ALL:

**Father God, thank you for hearing us when we pray to you.
Thank you for healing us. Though it might not be when or how we
expect it, you will answer our prayers when it is the right time.
Thank you for watching over us and blessing us, our church,
and our community, especially in our times of need. Thank you,
Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Prayers of the People: Diane Ritzema

Offering: General Operating Fund

GOD BLESSES US TO SERVE

***Benediction**

***Doxology: What A Mighty God We Serve**

What a Mighty God we serve,
What a Mighty God we serve,
What a Mighty God we serve,
What a Mighty God we serve!

Let us sing and praise the Lord,

Let us sing and praise the Lord,
Let us sing and praise the Lord,
Let us sing and praise the Lord!

Let us shout and praise his name,
Let us shout and praise his name,
Let us shout and praise his name,
Let us shout and praise his name!

What a Mighty God we serve,
What a Mighty God we serve,
What a Mighty God we serve,
What a Mighty God we serve!

African Folk Song; adapted Jack Schrader © 1995 Hope Publishing Co.

Postlude

