

**MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

***The Lord's Day***

**July 24, 2022**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch**

**Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber**

***Morning Has Broken***

*Arranged by Mark Hayes*

**Call to Worship: Psalm 135:1-4**

**The Invocation & The Lord's Prayer (Unison)**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come: thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise 44**

***How Great Thou Art***

O Lord, my God,  
When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds  
Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars,  
I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r thro'out  
The universe displayed.

*Chorus*

Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!

When thro' the woods  
And forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds  
Sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down  
From lofty mountain grandeur,

And hear the brook  
And feel the gentle breeze; (*Chorus*)

And when I think  
That God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die,  
I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross,  
My burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died  
To take away my sin. (*Chorus*)

When Christ shall come  
With shout of acclamation  
And take me home,  
What joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow  
In humble adoration  
And there proclaim:  
My God, how great Thou art! (*Chorus*)  
Confession of Sin

### **Confession of Sin:**

#### **Need of Confession: Jeremiah 17:9-10**

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? <sup>10</sup> “I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

#### **Personal Confession of Sin**

#### **Corporate Confession of Sin (Unison)**

**Holy Father, You see us as we are and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of Your gracious care. We forget that all life comes from You and that to You all life returns. We have not sought to do Your will with our whole hearts. We have not lived as grateful children, nor lived as Christ loves us. Apart from You, we are nothing. Only Your grace can sustain us. Lord, in Your mercy, forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin and restore us to the joy of Your salvation now and evermore. Amen. (From Bobby G. Griffith Jr. Confessions of Sin and Assurances of Pardon: A Pocket Resource)**

#### **Assurance of Pardon: Mark 2:17**

<sup>17</sup> And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

### **Song of Praise**

*Before the Throne of God Above*  
Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong, and perfect plea,  
A great High Priest whose name is love,

Who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on his hands,  
My name is written on his heart;  
I know that while in heav'n he stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see him there  
Who made an end to all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died,  
My sinful soul is counted free;  
For God the just is satisfied  
To look on him and pardon me,  
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there, the risen Lamb,  
My perfect spotless righteousness,  
The great unchangeable "I Am",  
The King of glory and of grace.  
One with himself I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased by his blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

I bow before the cross of Christ,  
And marvel at this love divine,  
God's perfect Son was sacrificed  
To make me righteous in God's eyes.  
This river's depths I cannot know,  
But I can glory in its flood;  
The Lord Most High has bowed down low,  
And poured on me his glorious love,  
And poured on me his glorious love.

This river's depths I cannot know,  
But I can glory in its flood;  
The Lord Most High has bowed down low,  
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**Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (Unison)**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,**

begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; he was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; he shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Chancel Choir

*Give Thanks to the Lord*

*By Lloyd Larson*

Doxology

*Sermon Series: Why the Church?*

*Sermon Text: Acts 1:12-26 (ESV)*

*Sermon Title: Preparing Your Life for Mission*

*Pastor Jeff Birch*

This week in the text before us, Acts 1:12-26, we will explore three areas in order to prepare our lives for mission.

- I. Steadfast Obedience
- II. Corporate Prayer
- III. Renewed Leadership

<sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup> And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup> All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

<sup>15</sup> In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, <sup>16</sup> "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. <sup>17</sup> For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>18</sup> (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. <sup>19</sup> And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) <sup>20</sup> "For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

*“May his camp become desolate,  
and let there be no one to dwell in it’;*

and

*“Let another take his office.’*

*21 So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us— one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” 23 And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen 25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” 26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.*

### **Reflection**

“In Acts, prayer is crucial. When the Christians pray, the Spirit comes, prison doors open, the place of worship is shaken, they speak with boldness. The first Gentile mission was born in prayer, and we read of prayer in prison, prayer in the home, prayer on the beach, prayer in the temple. Prayer is the source of power.” (Michael Green, *Thirty Years That Changed the World: The Book of Acts for Today*)

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **Hymn 629**

#### ***What a Friend We Have in Jesus***

What a Friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge;

Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;  
Thou wilt find a solace there.

## **The Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*\*All songs covered by CCLI license #1257045*