



WEST BRIDGEWATER
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday, June 4, 2023

Join us live on our Facebook or YouTube page beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Hymn: “Behold Our God”

Words and music: Ryan Baird, Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, and Stephen Altrogge.

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.

Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come, let us adore Him!

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come, let us adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave.
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come, let us adore Him!

You will reign forever.
(Let Your glory fill the earth.)
You will reign forever.

(Let Your glory fill the earth.)
You will reign forever.
(Let Your glory fill the earth.)
You will reign forever.
(Let Your glory fill . . .)

Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King, nothing can compare. Come, let us adore Him!

Song: “God Is for Us”

*Music and words: Michael Farren, James Ferguson, Tiarne Tranter, Jesse Reeves,
Jonny Robinson, James Tealy, and Rich Thompson.*

We won't fear the battle, we won't fear the night.
We will walk the valley with You by our side.
You will go before us, You will lead the way.
We have found a refuge, only You can save.

Sing with joy now; our God is for us.
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress.
Raise your voice now, no love is greater.
Who can stand against us if our God is for us?

Even when I stumble, even when I fall,
Even when I turn back, still Your love is sure.
You will not abandon, You will not forsake.
You will cheer me onward with never-ending grace.

Sing with joy now; our God is for us.
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress.
Raise your voice now, no love is greater.
Who can stand against us if our God is for us?

Neither height nor depth can separate us.
Hell and death will not defeat us.
He who gave His Son to free us hold me in His love.

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Raise your voice now, no love is greater.
Who can stand against us if our God is for us?

Time of Prayer

Sermon: “Jesus and Politics”

Matthew 22:15–22 (ESV)

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” ²¹They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Daniel 2:21 (ESV)

He changes times and seasons;
he removes kings and sets up kings;
he gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to those who have understanding;

Proverbs 21:1 (ESV)

The king’s heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD;
he turns it wherever he will.

John 18:33–38a (ESV)

³³So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” ³⁵Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” ³⁷Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”

³⁸Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

John 19:1–16 (ESV)

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” ⁶When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” ⁷The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.”

⁸When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?” ¹¹Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

¹²From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.” ¹³So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” ¹⁵They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” ¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

Romans 13:1–7 (ESV)

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

1 Peter 2:13–17 (ESV)

¹³Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

1 Timothy 2:1–4 (ESV)

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Psalms 146:3 (ESV)

Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

Hymn: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

Words and Music: Stuart Townend.

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.

The Lord's Supper

Hymn: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

Words: Charles Wesley. Music: John Darwal.

Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior, reigns, the God of truth and love;
when He had purged our stains, He took His seat above.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ the Judge shall come
and take His servants up to their eternal home;
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Benediction

Galatians 6:18 (ESV)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.