

Sunday, April 13, 2025

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

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship 1 Peter 1:3–9 (ESV)

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Hymn: "Oh, How Good It Is"

Words and music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, and Stuart Townend

Oh, how good it is when the family of God dwells together in spirit in faith and unity.

Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love are the fruits of His presence here among us.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord; and with one heart we'll live out His Word. Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come, for He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh, how good it is on this journey we share to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn. For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace when we offer the blessing of belonging. So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord; and with one heart we'll live out His Word. Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come, for He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh, how good it is to embrace His command to prefer one another, forgive as He forgives. When we live as one, we all share in the love of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord; and with one heart we'll live out His Word.
Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come, for He dwells in the presence of His people.

Hymn: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Words: Henry van Dyke. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven.

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening 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!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays, Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed, Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine; Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began; Father love is reigning o'er us, draws us through the Son of Man. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife, Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.

Hymn: "Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery"

Words and music by Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, and Michael Bleecker

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King; He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity. In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come; look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man; in His living, in His suffering never trace nor stain of sin.

See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man;

Christ, the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree, in the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory. See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold; bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life; but no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord, He is alive! What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope; Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes.

Time of Prayer

Sermon: "East of Eden" Genesis 3:22–24 (ESV)

²²Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Hymn: "Across the Lands"

Words and music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began. Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by Your hand. All creation holds together by the power of Your voice. Let the skies declare Your glory; let the land and seas rejoice!

You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man; and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost, and exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross. With a prayer You fed the hungry; with a word You calmed the sea; Yet how silently You suffered that the guilty may go free!

You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man; and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

With a shout You rose victorious, wresting vict'ry from the grave,

And ascended into heaven, leading captives in Your way. Now You stand before the Father, interceding for Your own; From each tribe and tongue and nation, You are leading sinners home!

You're the Author of creation; You're the Lord of ev'ry man; and Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Benediction
1 Timothy 6:21b (ESV)
Grace be with you.