

Sunday Worship

January 17th, 2021 - 9:30 a.m.

Please have your microphones muted once we start service, thank you.

Greeting

Centering for Worship - Psalm 139 (CEB)

For the music leader. Of David. A song.

Lord, you have examined me. You know me. You know when I sit down and when I stand up. Even from far away, you comprehend my plans. You study my traveling and resting. You are thoroughly familiar with all my ways.

In these times of chaos, I will remain calm for I know God knows me and loves me as I am.

There isn't a word on my tongue, Lord, that you don't already know completely. You surround me—front and back. You put your hand on me.

In these times of sickness of all kinds, of dangers and of threats, I will remain secure for God's hand is upon me.

That kind of knowledge is too much for me; it's so high above me that I can't reach it. Where could I go to get away from your spirit? Where could I go to escape your presence? If I went up to heaven, you would be there. If I went down to the grave, you would be there too! If I could fly on the wings of dawn, stopping to rest only on the far side of the ocean - even there your hand would guide me; even there your strong hand would hold me tight! If I said, "The darkness will definitely hide me; the light will become night around me," even then the darkness isn't too dark for you! Nighttime would shine bright as day, because darkness is the same as light to you!

No matter where I go, no matter what happens, God is with me. God is the conqueror. God is our Savior. Thanks be to God.

You are the one who created my innermost parts; you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb. I give thanks to you that I was marvelously set apart. Your works are wonderful—I know that very well. My bones weren't hidden from you when I was being put together in a secret place, when I was being woven together in the deep parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my embryo, and on your scroll every day was written that was being formed for me, before any one of them had yet happened. God, your plans are incomprehensible to me! Their total number is countless! If I tried to count them—they outnumber grains of sand! If I came to the very end—I'd still be with you.

God knows me intimately, completely, and loves me. What a miracle that is! It gives me hope and confidence for whatever tomorrow may bring.

Centering for Worship - Psalm 139 (Continued)

If only, God, you would kill the wicked! If only murderers would get away from me - the people who talk about you, but only for wicked schemes; the people who are your enemies, who use your name as if it were of no significance. Don't I hate everyone who hates you? Don't I despise those who attack you? Yes, I hate them - through and through! They've become my enemies too.

We resolve to hold on to the Light, on to our Lord. We resolve to stand for love and justice, mercy and righteousness.

Examine me, God! Look at my heart! Put me to the test! Know my anxious thoughts! Look to see if there is any idolatrous way in me, then lead me on the eternal path!

Dear God, we have asked you to know our hearts. May our hearts and our minds stay steadfast on you no matter what may be in our future. May we love you first, and then love all of your children, even those we may disagree with. May our worship today bring honor to you. Amen.

Song of Worship - Amazing Grace

CCLI Song # 4755360 John Newton © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1269167

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believe

Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun

Prayers of the People

Pastor Lori will speak a prayer area and then pause, feel free to “chat” your concern in that area, to speak it aloud in your space and to name it in your heart. After a pause, she will say “Lord in your mercy” and all will respond “Hear our prayer.”

Pastoral Prayer followed by the Lord’s Prayer

Scripture - Mark 1:4-11 (CEB)

John the Baptist was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. John wore clothes made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He announced, “One stronger than I am is coming after me. I’m not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. And there was a voice from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness.”

Scripture - John 1:43-51 (CEB)

The next day Jesus wanted to go into Galilee, and he found Philip. Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter.

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law and the Prophets: Jesus, Joseph's son, from Nazareth."

Nathanael responded, "Can anything from Nazareth be good?"

Philip said, "Come and see."

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, "Here is a genuine Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?"

Jesus answered, "Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree."

Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are God's Son. You are the king of Israel."

Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these! I assure you that you will see heaven open and God's angels going up to heaven and down to earth on the Human One."

Message - A Matter of Perspective

Song of Worship - Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

CCLI Song # 4768151 Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio © 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1269167

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Chorus

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Community Share Time

For those who wish - stay on for community share time as we visit from box to box.

Go In Peace!