

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Ben Van Haitsma

PRELUDE

Peace

Eugene Englert

CALL TO WORSHIP – *Psalm 100*

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all creation!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into God's presence with singing!

Know that the Lord is our God!

It is God who made us, and we belong to God.

We are God's people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to God; bless God's name!

For the Lord is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

OPENING HYMN

When Morning Gilds the Skies

German hymn, c. 1800

Trans. Edward Caswall, 1853, 1858; alt.

Joseph Barnby, 1868

1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, My heart a - wak-ing cries:
 2. Does sad - ness fill my mind? A sol - ace here I find:
 3. Let earth's wide cir - cle round In joy - ful notes re - sound:
 4. Be this, while life is mine, My can - ti - cle di - vine:

May Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Or fades my earth-ly bliss?
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e-ter - nal song

To Je - sus I re - pair: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 My com-fort still is this: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 From depth to height re - ply: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 Through all the a - ges long: May Je - sus Christ be praised!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, our God, you are worthy of all praise and glory. You are the God who is faithful and full of love. In Jesus, we see your perfect example of love, justice, mercy, and victory. Yet, despite your goodness, we confess that we often fail to fully trust in your promises and reflect these qualities in our own lives. We have not always kept our promises, as you have kept yours. Forgive us, O God. We know that only in your tears, born out of vast love for this broken world, do we find our hope and healing. Open our hearts to your way, the way of humility, service, and love. Teach us to walk in your footsteps, so that we may experience your forgiveness, and be instruments of renewal and peace in the world.

Time of silent reflection

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: God's love is steadfast and unchanging. God's grace is always greater than our shortcomings, and through Jesus, we are embraced with mercy and peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and free to live in God's love. Thanks be to God! Amen.

SEASONAL RESPONSE

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
World without end! Amen, Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 19

SERMON

HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas Obediah Chisholm, 1923

William Marion Runyan, 1923

1. *Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring-time and har - vest,
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

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Refrain

Great is Thy faith- ful-ness! Great is Thy faith- ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed Thy

hand hath pro - vid - ed; Great is Thy faith- ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS, AND PRAYER REQUESTS

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

SONG OF PRAISE

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, as we offer our gifts to you today, we are reminded of the wisdom needed to use the resources you have entrusted to us. Teach us to be faithful stewards, not only of our material possessions but also of our time, talents, and opportunities. Help us to use them wisely for your purposes. May our offerings reflect our commitment to your kingdom and bring glory to your name. We pray this in the name of Jesus, our faithful Lord. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER with the Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

Katherine K. Davis, 1939; alt.

Welsh folk melody

Harm. Gerald H. Knight (1908-1979)

Unison

1. Let all things now living A song of thanks-giv-ing
 2. By law God en-forces. The stars in their cours-es,
 To God our Cre-a-tor tri-um-phant-ly raise;
 The sun in its or-bit ob-e-dient-ly shine;
 Who fash-ioned and made us, Pro-tect-ed and stayed us,
 The hills and the moun-tains, The riv-ers and foun-tains,
 By guid-ing us on to the end of our days.
 The depths of the o-cean pro-claim God di-vine.

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God's ban - ners are o'er us, Pure light goes be - fore us,
 We, too, should be voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing

A pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
 With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise:

Till shad - ows have van - ished, All fear - ful - ness ban - ished,
 Till all things now liv - ing U - nite in thanks - giv - ing,

As for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.
 To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

CLOSING BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Tuba Tune in D Major

C.S. Lang