



February 21, 2021 | 1st Sunday of Lent
At Home Bulletin

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP*

We love the LORD, because he has heard
our voice and our pleas for mercy.

**Because he inclined his ear to us,
therefore we will call on him as long as we live.**

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
our God is merciful.

**For you have delivered our souls from death,
our eyes from tears, our feet from stumbling;**

What shall we render to the LORD
for all his benefits to us?

**We will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,
We will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.**

Adapted from Ps 116

INVOCATION*

SONGS OF PRAISE*

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unshaking and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Text: Walter Chambers Smith (1867); Music: JOANNA (OR ST. DENIO)

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,"
Whoever 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 with His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Charitie Lees Bancroft | Vikki Cook
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CONFESSION OF SIN

God of exodus and wilderness,
God of refuge and help,
hear us now as we make our confession to you.

**In times of temptation
we forget what you have done for us.
You give us everything we need,
yet we often remain unsatisfied;
and spoil what we have been given.**

You show us the way we are to follow,
yet we often continue on the path
of self-indulgence and self-centeredness.
Forgive us, we pray.

**We ask for your direction, your patience, your love,
in the name of Jesus Christ,
who, in spite of his temptations,
was faithful to your saving Word.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 53:4-6

PROFESSION OF FAITH *

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I am not my own, but belong - body and soul, in life and in death - to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the

tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me whole-heartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

How do you know this?

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1 & Romans 8:1, 28, 37-38

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION *

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Rock of Ages, cleft for me let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears for ever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778) (1776); TOPLADY Thomas Hastings (1830)

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 4:14-16

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Help to Hold On”

Pastor Ian Hard

Outline:

- 1) Who are we asking?
 - a) Great High Priest
 - b) Sympathetic High Priest
- 2) How should we ask?
 - a) Frankly
 - b) Confidently
 - c) Expectantly

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

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CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Elders will distribute the elements to seats. Juice and wine are both available. We will partake together after all have been served.

MERCY OFFERING

HYMN OF SENDING

Jesus Paid it All

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small,
child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."

Refrain:

Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,
can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone. *(Refrain)*

For nothing good have I whereby thy grace to claim —
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv'ry's lamb. *(Refrain)*

And when, before the throne, I stand in him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat. *(Refrain)*

Text: Elvina M. Hall (1865; mod.); ALL TO CHRIST John T. Grape (1868)

BENEDICTION*