

WORSHIP, JANUARY 31, 2021

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 111

By this I have known the presence of the Lord:

in the rising of the sun, in the smile of another's face,

in the touch of a hand or the sound of a laugh,

in the scent of a flower holding the promise of spring.

By this I have known the power of the Lord:

in the healing of hurts, in the forgiveness of sin,

in the giving of gifts beyond all expectation,

in the shower of love that comes from God's Son.

Let us give thanks to the Lord with all of our heart!

Let us worship our God, whose presence and power endures forever.¹

HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

Chorus:

Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and
harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. CHORUS

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.
CHORUS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You, God, are known for your wonderful deeds— your mercy, forgiveness, and love. You have shown us the power of your works time and time again. And yet, we are slow to comprehend; we refuse to acknowledge your gifts; we act self-sufficient, as if we provide ourselves everything we need, when we know in our hearts that you are the author of life. Forgive us, we pray. As we confess our sins, in thought, word or deed, may your redemptive presence flood our lives that we may praise your name forevermore. (silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear these words of assurance: God offers redemption to people of every generation, making new life possible for everyone. Repent, believe in the gospel, and be healed!¹ Amen and Amen

TIME FOR THE YOUNGER DISCIPLES

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

We have heard a new teaching from Jesus, this Nazarene who speaks with authority. We have seen how Christ commands even unclean spirits to flee, and they obey him. Jesus calls us to exorcise demons—in every form they take.

God of grace and God of mercy, grant us wisdom for the facing of this hour, and for all the hours and days of our lives.¹ Amen.

HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory*

1 God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient Church's story,
Bring her bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom,
Grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
Scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom,
Grant us courage,
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

3 Cure Thy children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom,
Grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS AND OURSELVES

God of power and wisdom, we give you our eternal thanks for the gift of your Son, who came not only to save but to teach us about your kingdom and how we might live, readying ourselves for that kingdom. He taught with authority, and if we listen, we will live a life of generosity, mercy, and compassion. Bless what we give this day and help us be faithful in the use of all our resources, that we might live like those anticipating your kingdom.¹ We pray together as our Savior taught us, saying

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE AND CARRYING OUT THE LIGHT

¹ The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009," edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu