

Call to Worship: Matthew 16:24-26

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?"

Singing: *Jesus I My Cross Have Taken*

1. Jesus I my cross have taken, All to leave and follow Thee
Destitute, despised, forsaken, Thou from hence my all shalt be
Perish every fond ambition, All I've sought or hoped or known
Yet how rich is my condition, God and heaven are still my own
2. Let the world despise and leave me, They have left my Savior too
Human hearts and looks deceive me, Thou are not like them untrue
Oh while Thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom love and might
Foes may hate and friends disown me, Show Thy face and all is bright
3. Man may trouble and distress me, Twill but drive me to Thy breast
Life with trials hard may press me, Heaven will bring me sweeter rest
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me, While Thy love is left to me
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me, Were that joy unmixed with Thee
4. Go then earthly fame and treasure, Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service pain is pleasure, With Thy favor loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father, I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl and clouds may gather, all must work for good to me
5. Soul then know thy full salvation, Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station, Something still to do or bear
Think what Spirit dwells within thee, Think what Father's smiles are thine
Think that Jesus died to win thee, Child of heaven can'st thou repine*
6. Haste thee on from grace to glory, Armed by faith and winged by prayer
Heaven's eternal day's before thee, God's own hand shall guide us there
Soon shall close thy earthly mission, Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days
Hope shall change to glad fruition, Faith to sight and prayer to praise

**Repine- feel or express discontent; fret*

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading: A Prayer of Thanksgiving Psalm 65

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.
O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.
When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

**Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts!
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!**

By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;
the one who by his strength established the mountains, being girded with might;

who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples, so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs.

You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy. You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it;

The river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of Petition:

- Pray for the Carlsons, Simpsons, Wallings and others who are now back in the U.S. that they will find a church that they can become a part of and worship God while giving of their gifts and service.
- Pray for those who cannot be with us because of illness, traveling or other reasons that God will protect them until they can join us once more.
- Pray for those who are suffering from the financial impacts of the pandemic.
- Pray for protection of people in healthcare and those deemed essential workers.
- Pray for us to be loving in our responses to people's fears and anxiety over things we can't control.
- Pray that all the work on our new building will be completed so we can get it ready to provide the ministries and outreach in fulfilling our mission.
- Pray for those who are seeking employment and that God will provide for their needs.
- Pray that our worship will honor God and glorify him.
- Pray for our hearts to receive the message of the word preached.

Sermon: Imitating God and Not the World Ephesians 5:1-7

Ephesians 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. **2** And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

5:3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. **4** Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. **5** For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

I. The Rule: Imitate God and Walk in Love (1-2)

II. The Prohibition: Not Even a Hint of Sexual Immorality or Covetousness (3-5)

III. The Command: Give Thanks (4)

Singing: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* #598

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; Hold me with thy pow'ful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more.
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar, Lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, Be thou still my Strength and Shield.
Be thou still my Strength and Shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee.
I will ever give to thee

Close by praying for God's guidance for this day and for the week.