



Seeking to bring the
life-giving Hope of Jesus Christ
to our community in Hot Springs, AR

Celebration of Worship
Sunday, December 26, 2020

Gathering Song

Be Thou My Vision #642

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
Raise thou me heavenward,
O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Welcome to Visitors / Announcements *(back of bulletin)*

Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

The Prayer of Invocation

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, who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands; my name is written on His heart.

I know that while in heaven 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.

I bow before the cross of Christ and marvel at this love divine;

God's perfect Son was sacrificed to make me righteous in God's eyes.

This river's depths I cannot know, but I can glory in its flood!

The Lord Most High has bowed down low and poured on me His glorious love,

And poured on me His glorious love.

Covenant Baptism and Receiving New Members

Corporate Confession of Sin

Holy God, Father most gracious!

Rebuke us not in your anger, nor chasten us in your wrath!

Heal us from our sin, for we are troubled.

Deliver us for the sake of your steadfast love.

Our sins trouble us, O God.

We are troubled by how they have hurt others.

We are troubled by how they have hurt us.

Your ways are right! O righteous God!

And whenever we have refused to follow them
we have found out how right they are.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Holy God, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us for the sake of your Son,

who died to free us from our sins.

To you be honor and glory! Amen.

Private Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Pardon

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance: that Christ

Jesus came into the world to save sinners. (1 Tim. 1:15)

Let everyone, with St. Paul, truly acknowledge this in his heart and believe in Christ. Thus, in His name, I proclaim unto you the forgiveness of all your sins, and declare you to be loosed of them on earth, that you be loosed of them also in heaven, in eternity. Amen."

From Martin Bucer's Strasbourg Liturgy (1539)

The Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

How Firm a Foundation #94

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,

Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!

What more can he say than to you he has said,

To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
For I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.

“How Firm a Foundation,” Early American Melody, Public Domain

Scripture Reading

Genesis 6:9-22

The Sermon from God’s Word

Mr. Billy Eddy

Tithes and Offerings

Our offering is an act of worship where we respond to the goodness and mercy of God with our gratitude and reliance on Him for all things. If you are our guest today, please feel under no obligation to give. One of our deacons will be holding an offering plate by the sanctuary doors as you leave the sanctuary.

Hymn of Response

Victory in Jesus

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,
How He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me;
I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood’s atoning;
Then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever!
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him —
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.*

I heard about His healing, of His cleansing power revealing,
How He made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,"
And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever!
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him —
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.*

I heard about a mansion He has built for me in glory,
And I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;
About the angels singing and the old redemption story,
And some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory.

*O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever!
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him —
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.*

"Victory In Jesus," Words & Music: Eugene Bartlett, © 1939 E. M. Bartlett

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

We invite all baptized Christians who profess faith in Jesus Christ for their salvation and are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel to join us in taking the Lord's Supper. The communion elements are on the cart in the center aisle. The outer ring is grape juice. The inner rings are wine.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you! **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Most righteous God, we remember in this supper the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world. In the joy of his resurrection and in the expectation of his coming again, we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices.
Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV

The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

For as often as you eat the bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Doxology #731

(Tune: "Old Hundredth" from the Genevan Psalter)

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

Benediction

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

A Note to Visitors

**If you are spiritually weary and in search of rest,
if you are mourning and you long for comfort,
if you are struggling and you desire victory,
if you recognize that you are a sinner and need a savior,
God welcomes you here in the name of Christ.
To the stranger in need of fellowship,
to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
and to whoever will come,
Hope Church Hot Springs opens wide its doors
and welcomes all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Session

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Announcements

Theology on Tap, our weekly bible study will be this Tuesday evening at 6:30. We'll be meeting both in person here at the church and via Zoom online. If you're interested in attending the Zoom call, text Pastor Scott 501-517-7268.

Are you interested in joining Hope Church? We'll be putting together another "New to Hope" Class in the coming weeks. If you're interested in joining or learning more about Hope Church fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate after the service.

Hope Church sponsors a podcast about Reformed Theology called: Assurance of Pardon. Scott Davis and Gage Jordan discuss liturgy, Scripture, music and more. Assurance of Pardon is available on iTunes or wherever you get your podcasts.