“Because of the Great Because”

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

“Our Father, God in Heaven” (Hymn for Mother’s Day)
*Hymn: St. Theodolph (ALL GLORY LAUD AND HONOR)*

Our Father, God in heaven, on whom our world depends;
To You let praise be given for families and friends,
For parents, sisters, brothers, a home where love belongs;
But on this day for mothers, we bring our thankful songs.

What wealth of God's bestowing for all the world to share,
What strength of heart outgoing to children everywhere.
Our deepest joys and sorrows, a mother's path must trace;
And earth's unknown tomorrows are held in her embrace.

How well we know the story that tells of Jesus' birth,
The Lord of heaven's glory become a child of earth,
A helpless infant sleeping, yet King of realms above;
Who finds in Mary's keeping the warmth of human love.

Our Father, God in heaven, to You we lift our prayer,
That every child be given such tenderness and care;
Where life is all for others, where love Your love displays,
For God's good gift of mothers, let earth unite in praise.

TEXT: Timothy Dudley Smith, c. 2000; London, Bishop of Church of England  CCLI #445619

“The Family Prayer Song” – Morris Chapman (Joshua 24:15)
Come and fill our homes with Your presence;
You alone are worthy of our rev'rence.

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord;
We will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:15)

Lord, we vow to live holy,
Bowing our knees to You only.
Words and music by Morris Chapman, Promise Keepers 1995
CCLI #445619


The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and He helps me.
My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise Him. Psalm 28:7

You are here, moving in our midst.
I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, working in this place.
I worship You, I worship You.

Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.
Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.

You are here, touching ev'ry heart.
I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, healing ev'ry life.
I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, mending ev'ry heart.
I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, meeting every need.
I worship You, I worship You.

Even when I don't see it, You're working.
Even when I don't feel it, You're working,
You never stop, You never stop working.
You never stop, You never stop working.

CCLI #445619

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Steve Ferber

Pastor
All

Allleuia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia

THE FIRST READING 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.
As you come to Him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,  
a chosen and precious Cornerstone,  
and the one who trusts in Him  
will never be put to shame.”

Now to you who believe, this Stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,  
“The Stone the builders rejected  
has become the Capstone,”

and,

“A Stone that causes men to stumble  
and a Rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

HOLY GOSPEL  John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me. In My Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we don’t know where You are going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered, “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you really knew Me, you would know My Father as well. From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him.”

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

Jesus answered: “Don’t you know Me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just My own. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work. Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it.”
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor
Brothers and sisters in Christ,
The Way Maker comes to us in our earthly deadlock and shows us the Way.
The God of Comfort speaks gently with His disciples and also to us.
The Lord comes to us in our confusion and helps us to trust Him.
Let us confess our sins to Him as He shows us the way.

People
Merciful God,
We have lost our direction – show us the Way.
We have listened to lies and deceit – show us the Truth.
We are dead in our sins – show us the Life.
Bring Your light into our darkness.
Grant us mercy and forgiveness.

Pastor
Jesus says: “I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask for anything in My name, and I will do it.” (John 14:13-14) Because you have asked for forgiveness in Jesus’ name, God has kept His promises. You are forgiven in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People
Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.
Thank you, Lord, for all your blessings. Amen.

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (Mother’s Day flowers)

WE WORSHIP GOD WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”
Words and music by Thomas Dorsey, Chicago, 1938

When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call;
Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord;
Lead me home.

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

When the darkness appears
And the night draws near
And the day is almost gone.
At the river I stand;
Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord;
Lead me home.

SERMON “Because of the Great Because”
Pastor Steve Ferber

PRAYER

COMMUNION – “Remember Our Lord Jesus Christ”

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NIV Pew Bible)
For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night 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, after supper He took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

“Eat This Bread”
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Come to Him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Trust in Him and you will not thirst.
Music from Taize, France; 1984
CCLI #445619
BLESSING

Pastor     Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People    He is risen indeed Alleluia!

Pastor:    The Lord bless you and keep you;
            The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
            The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People    Amen.

“My Redeemer Lives” – Hillsong
I know He rescued my soul,
His blood has covered my sins,
I believe, I believe.

My shame He's taken away,
My pain is healed in His name,
I believe, I believe.
I'll raise a banner
'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave!

My Redeemer lives!
My Redeemer lives!
My Redeemer lives!
My Redeemer lives!

You lift my burdens,
I'll rise with You,
I'm dancing on this mountaintop
To see Your kingdom come.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord.
Thanks be to God.