

Sunday Worship

By Faith

May 17, 2020

But Now, the Cross

GATHERING

Welcome Video

> *Welcome to Grace Sacramento. Thanks for joining us for the video stream of our worship service this morning. My name is . . . [Introduce family] and I'm/we're joining you from our (kitchen, living room, backyard).*

1. Especially in this time when we cannot gather together in person, we still want to connect with you. We want to hear from you. If you're visiting for the first time or new to Grace, we would love to meet you, help answer any questions, add you to our weekly email or get you connected to our wonderful community. You can do that by visiting us on our website and finding the "contact us" tab and filling out our form so that we may better serve you.

2. If you're experiencing difficulty, we would love to hear from you and pray with you. If you are in need of material help or other kind of assistance, including a pastoral call, follow the resources button on our website. Or, if you have ideas about how you'd like to help others or care for others in need, we'd love to know that as well.

3. If you'd like to give to Grace, follow the "give" link on the menu for instructions for online giving or where to mail a gift if you'd like.

> *The worship stream will start in just a moment. Thanks for being with us. Stay after the worship stream for a few announcements!*

Prelude (Welcome Slide) - Living Hope

Call to Worship

> *Good morning, church. My name is . . . and I have the privilege of leading us in this call to worship this morning.*

> *We are in the season of the Christian Year known as Eastertide, a period of 50 days that spans from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. We continue to celebrate the reality of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Today is the sixth Sunday of Easter.*

*It is with grateful hearts we welcome another Eastertide Sunday.
Join me as we joyously repeat the ancient Easter Christian greeting:*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed!

Please join me in this call to worship and stand if you are able as we read responsively from Psalm 66.

Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of His name;
give to Him glorious praise!
All the earth worships You
and sings praises to You;
they sing praises to Your name.” (Psalm 66:1-2, 4)

Let's continue to worship!

Praise to the Lord (Joyful, Joyful)

[V1] Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation
Come, all you hear, now to His temple draw near
Join me in glad adoration

[V2] Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning
Sheltering you under his wings, and so gently sustaining
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?

[V3] Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriends you

[Tag] Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, op'ning to the Sun above

[V4] Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him
Let the Amen sound from His people again
Gladly forever adore Him

King Of Kings

V1, C, V2, C, V3, V4, Cx2, Ending

Confession/Assurance

We come to a moment in our service where we confess our sins to God and to one another. This might seem a strange thing to do - like a relic of the ancient past. But this portion of the service is an invitation to honesty - honesty with God, honesty with each other, and honesty with ourselves. We come before God, not just hoping to find some willingness on His part to listen and to pardon; rather, we come as God's redeemed children who know His covenant love and therefore, make our confession in full confidence of His constant grace toward us.

Our call to confession this morning comes from Psalm 66.

Confession of Sin (Psalm 66:16-18)

[16] Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what He has done for my soul.

[17] I cried to Him with my mouth,
and high praise was on my tongue.

[18] If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.

Prayer of Confession [Book of Common Worship]

Almighty God,

You love us, but we have not loved You.

You call, but we have not listened.

**We walk away from neighbors in need,
wrapped in our own concerns.**

We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

**God of grace,
help us to admit our sin,
so that as You come to us in mercy,
we may repent, turn to You, and receive forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.
Amen.**

[Silent Reflection]

Words of Assurance (Psalm 66:19-20)

[19] But truly God has listened;
He has attended to the voice of my prayer.

[20] Blessed be God,
because He has not rejected my prayer
or removed His steadfast love from me!

Thanks be to God!

This I Believe

V1, C1, V2, C1, Bx2, C2, C1

Doxology

Prayers of the People

Dear God,

It's been a long week. You know, Lord, how much we need You, now more than ever. We ask, that especially during this time, You would direct our eyes, our minds and our hearts towards You. You remind us in Your Word that You are faithful to carry our burdens. You tell us that You will renew our strength, and You promise to give us rest as we come to You.

Lord, we come to come to You, now. We give You praise and honor for Your ways are righteous and true. We give you worship for You are good and holy. And as we have heard over the past 4 weeks, You are merciful and just. We declare, now, that Your love stands firm and Your lovingkindness endures forever.

We acknowledge that Your ways are far greater than our ways and Your thoughts far deeper than our thoughts. Thank you that, even before the foundations of the world, You had a plan to redeem, to make all things new. Thank You that Your face is towards the righteous, You are close to the brokenhearted, You hear our prayers, and know our hearts. Thank You for your daily, powerful presence in our lives, that we can be assured, no matter what we're facing, Your heart is towards us, Your eyes are over us, and Your ears are attentive to our prayers. Thank You that You surround us with favor as with a shield, and that we are safe in Your care.

We pray especially for Your protection over our lives, our families, and for Your church. We ask for Your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy – that You would be a barrier over us and that we would find refuge in You. We pray that You would give us discernment and insight beyond our years to understand Your will, hear Your voice, and know Your ways.

Lord, we also lift up dear friends and family who suffer from illness and loss. Lord, help us to be a presence of comfort for them; for those who are lost and alone, alienated from family and friends, we ask that You empower us to reach out in compassion, offering help in this time of need; for all everywhere who are in situations of danger, war, and strife, we pray that Your peace will be with them and that the warfare and dangers will be vanquished by Your good news; for our community, our nation, Lord, we ask that You give to the leaders compassion and wisdom, remembering that their lives rest in your care.

Help us never to take for granted the gift of love You've offered on our behalf on the cross. Help us to cease striving and to remember again that You alone are God. We choose to press in, to lean in close to You today and to keep You first in our hearts and lives. We ask that as doubts arise, so will our faith, so that we may meet them with courage, and that we would be a witness of the Gospel to those who desperately need Your presence and healing. And we pray all this in Christ's name, who suffered, died, was buried and rose again. Amen.

[Lord's Prayer]

Ministry Moment

WORD

Scripture Reading

Romans 3:21-27

Please stand if you are able for a reading from God's Holy Word. Today's Scripture reading is from Romans 3:21-27. Please read the verse in bold.

[21] But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

[22] the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: [23] for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

[24] and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

[25] whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

[26] It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

[27] Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

By Faith

TABLE

Before The Throne Of God

V1, V2, V3

SENDING

Benediction

Closing Video (Announcements)

Thanks for being with us today.

Remember if you need help or prayer you can call the church or visit our website and send us a request through our resource menu.

We continue to need your support. If you'd like to give to Grace, follow the "give" link on the menu for instructions for online giving or where to mail a gift if you'd like.

I'm [NAME] and I'm glad you were here. Peace of Christ.

Grace Sac Slide

Band

Acoustic Guitar

Mia Bordisso 🌐

Piano

Christine Yoo 🌐

Vocals

Christine Yoo 🌐

Mia Bordisso 🌐