

Welcome, Check-in, & Announcements

**Prelude** 

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Darrell Born Call-to-Worship A Simple Song

Sing God a simple song; Lauda, Laudē; Make it up as you go along; Lauda, Laude Sing like you like to sing, God loves all simple things; For God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song; To praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord. I will sing His praises while I live, All of my days. Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Blessed is the man who praises Him. Lauda, Lauda, Laudē; And walks in His ways.

I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help I will lift up my voice to the Lord, Singing Lauda, Laudē. For the Lord is my shade, Is the shade upon my right hand And the sun shall not smite me by day, Nor the moon by night Blessed is the man who loves the Lord: Lauda, Lauda, Laudē And walks in His ways.

Lauda, Lauda, Laude; Lauda, Lauda di da di day; All of my days.

# **Responsive Reading**

Servant: We have been called to walk the faithful road and to choose the way of God's justice.

People: We are here because we believe strongly that our God is good, and that we live in that goodness. We are here to proclaim our faith and to seek direction along this faith journey.

Servant: Come together, then, to be God's people. Follow Christ and listen for the good things that God has done. Rise up in praise and thanksgiving.

People: We will share with others the goodness that we have found in God. May our lives be an expression of that goodness.

**Hymn** Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

#492

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;

What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;

Leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;

Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;

Leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms; I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;

Leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Hymn

You Are My Hiding Place

#53

You are my hiding place, You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance, whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. I will trust in You; Let the weak say I am strong, in the strength of the Lord. (Repeat)

#### Invocation

O God of our comfort and joy, we gather in your name to give thanks for all the gifts of this day. Our spirits abound with your gift of joy. Of all the many things we have received from your hand, the flame of joy is the most precious. We have also come to this hour bearing in our hearts the sorrows of this world. Comfort us with your presence that we may be strengthened to continue to proclaim your goodness and deliverance in all the earth; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

Mission Moment

Youth Postcards - What is God Like?

The Written Word

Psalm 145: 10–18

The Message

Creation and creatures applaud you, God; your holy people bless you. They talk about the glories of your rule; they exclaim over your splendor, Letting the world know of your power for good, the lavish splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is a kingdom eternal; you never get voted out of office. God always does what God says, and is gracious in everything that God does. God gives a hand to those down on their luck, gives a fresh start to those ready to quit. All eyes are on you, expectant; you give them their meals on time. Generous to a fault, you lavish your favor on all creatures. Everything God does is right—the trademark on all God's works is love. God's there, listening for all who pray, for all who pray and mean it.

Music

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, Oh my soul, worship God's holy name Sing like never before, Oh my soul, I'll worship your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning; It's time to sing your song again Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me; Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, Oh my soul, worship God's holy name Sing like never before, Oh my soul, I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger; Your name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, Oh my soul, worship God's holy name Sing like never before, Oh my soul, I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing; The end draws near and my time has come Still my soul will sing Your praise unending; Ten thousand years and then forevermore Forevermore

Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, Oh my soul, worship God's holy name Sing like never before, Oh my soul, I'll worship Your holy name

I'll worship I'll worship Your holy name

### **ENTERING GOD'S STORY**

The Written Word Ephesians 3:14–21 NRSV

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through the Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Spoken Word What is God like? Rev. Mark Rambo

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD** 

**Video** We Bow Before the One

The Work of the People

### Prayers of the People

Kumbayah

God of unending mercy, we pray with those who are crying. For women and men who are battered in body or spirit, for children who sleep the fitful sleep of hunger, for all who are imprisoned by walls or worries, for all who are despondent because they feel unloved. Christ, have mercy upon those who cry; Christ have mercy on us when we turn away from the cries of others. Give us the strength of compassion, that we may not shield our eyes and hearts from the pain of our sisters and brothers, but seek to understand and heal. Bless us with courage and arm us with hope, that we may help lessen the suffering of our world...

Someone's Praying, Lord, Kumbaya

God of our tender care, we pray with those who are praying. We join the spoken and silent prayers that come to you from throughout the earth – from sanctuaries and street corners, from battle lines and prison cells, from hospital rooms and festive tables. With bowed heads or heads held high, standing boldly or kneeling quietly, we pray to you with thanks, with sorrow, with urgency. We ask your guidance; we rest in your comfort. Speak, O God, to your praying people everywhere!

Come by here, O Lord, come by here...

### The Written Word

2 Kings 4: 42-44

NIV

A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain. "Give it to the people to eat," Elisha said. "How can I set this before a hundred men?" his servant asked. But Elisha answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the Lord says: 'They will eat and have some left over." Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the Lord.

# Stewardship Moment

**Hymn** *My Savior's Love* #338, v 1-4.

I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how he could love me, a sinner, condemned, unclean.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!

For me it was in the garden, He prayed, "Not my will, but thine;"
He had no tears for his own griefs, but sweat drops of blood for mine.
How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!

He took my sins and my sorrows, He made them his very own; He bore the burden to Calv'ry, and suffered and died alone. How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be; How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!

When with the ransomed in glory His face I at last shall see, 'Twill be my joy through the ages To sing of his love for me. How marvelous! How wonderful! And my song shall ever be; How marvelous! How wonderful! Is my Savior's love for me!

# Weekly Challenge

Postlude Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Benediction Walk Humbly • Love Completely • Live Differently