



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Lent

22 March 2020

Even our tears of repentance need to be washed in the blood of the Lamb. —Jerry Bridges

The first, highest, and noblest of all good works is to believe in Christ. Remember that the Jews asked the Lord, “What must we do, that we may work the works of God?” Jesus answered and said unto them, “This is the work of God, that you believe on Him whom He hath sent.” —Martin Luther

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into His courts.

Gospel Invitation—Romans 10:17

Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ.

Introit—What Wondrous Love Is This, Vs. 1

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this

That caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul,

For my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

Text: American Folk Hymn; Music: WONDROUS LOVE, *The Southern Harmony*, 1835.

Call to Worship—Psalm 62:8, 5-7

Leader: Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him.

All: **God is a refuge for us.**

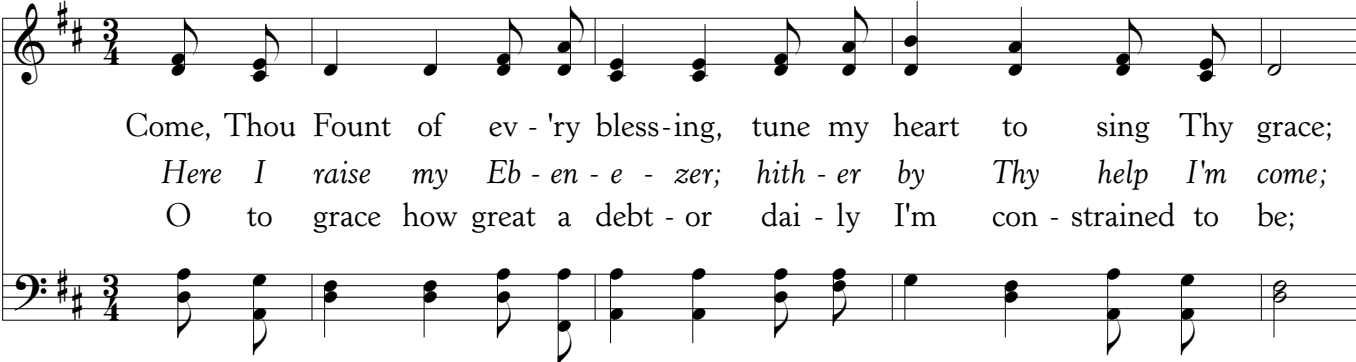
Reader 1: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Reader 2: On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

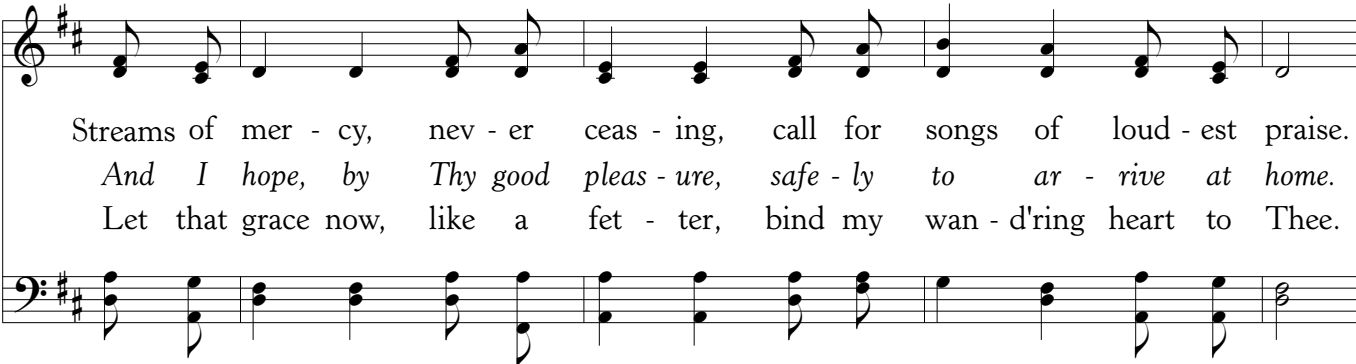
All: **Power belongs to our God.**

Leader: To You, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.

Hymn of Praise—Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing



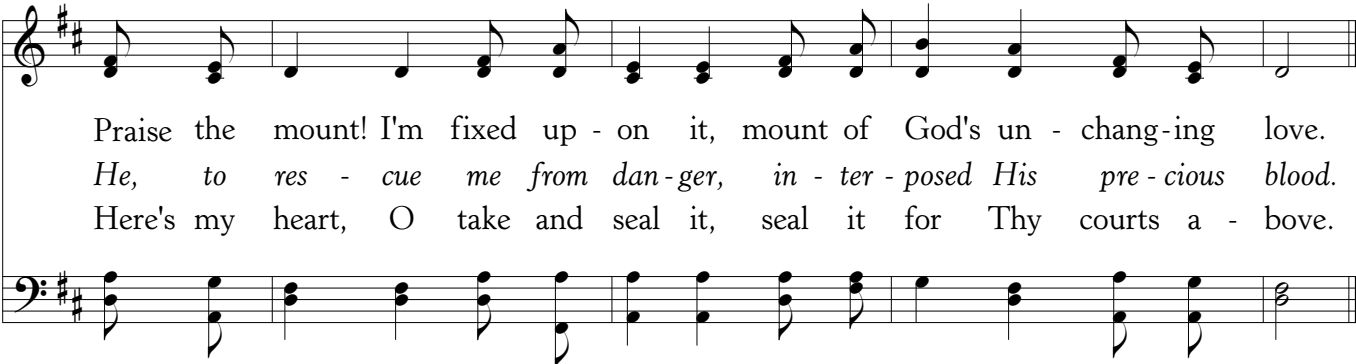
Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by Thy help I'm come;
O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
And I hope, by Thy good pleas - ure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee.



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1758; Music: NETTLETON, Asahel Nettleton, 1825.

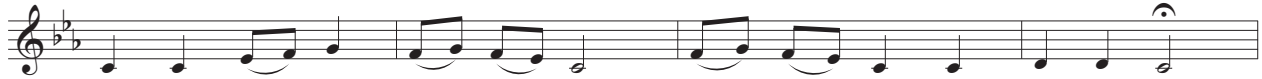
GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

The Bible is the means by which God graciously reveals Himself to His people—so we listen, read, and study with expectant hearts. God particularly entreats us in His Word to sing psalms. And while all Scripture is appropriate for hymns and spiritual songs, there is a specific exhortation for us to make use of the Psalter as the church's songbook.

Psalm of Praise—Hear Me, All You People (Psalm 49)



Hear me, all_ you peo - ple hear, folk of_ all the earth, give ear;
When with wick - ed - ness_ my foes shall sur - round me and op - pose,
If from death one would be_ free and cor - rup - tion ne - ver see,



All of high and low de - gree, rich and poor, give heed to me
Should I then to fear give way when I_ see the e - vil day?
Cost - ly is_ life's ran - som price, far_ be - yond all sac - ri - fice.



Truth with all my heart I_ seek, and_ my mouth shall wis - dom speak;
They that trust in trea - sured gold, though they boast of wealth un - told,
If men be not tru - ly_ wise, they_ are like the beast that dies,



Lis - ten how with mu - sic's strain I_ make hid - den wis - dom plain.
None can bid_ his bro - ther live; none to_ God a ran - som give.
Death their shep - herd, they the sheep; He_ with - in his fold will keep.



If men be not tru - ly_ wise, they are_ like the beast that dies,



But my Lord my soul shall save; God will raise me from the grave.

Text: *The Psalter*, 1912, Alt. Henry C. Haffner, 2019; Music: ROSE HILL, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 64:6-8

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls upon Your name, who rouses himself to take hold of You; for You have hidden Your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. But now, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; we are all the work of Your hand.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

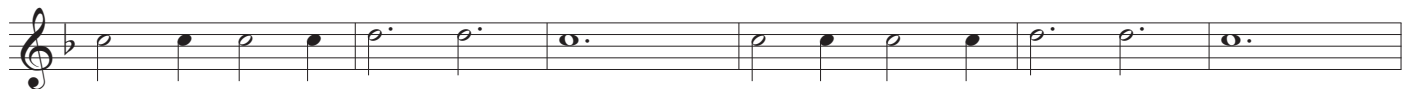
Hymn of Praise—Jesus, Lover Of My Soul



Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to Thy bo - som fly,
Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on Thee;
Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in Thee I find:
Plen - teous grace with Thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;



While the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:
Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!
Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:



Hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all my help from Thee I bring;
Just and ho - ly is Thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness;
Thou of life the foun - tain art, free - ly let me take of Thee;



Safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!
Cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of Thy wing.
False and full of sin I am, Thou art full of truth and grace.
Spring Thou up with - in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1740; Music: MARTYN, Simeon B. Marsh, 1834.

Reading of the Word—Romans 7:14-25

¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sung Response—Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me, Vs. 2

Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill Thy law's de - mands;
Could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.

The image shows a musical score for three systems of music. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The music is in 3/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

Text: Augustus Toplady, 1776; Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1830.

Sermon—Our Best Efforts

—Pastor, George Grant

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Confession of Sin—from Isaiah 53:6-7; 12

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. All we like sheep have gone astray.

All: **We have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

Pastor: He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.

All: **He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors.**

Pastor: Yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for sinners.

(Silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response—Lamb Of God

UNISON



O Lamb of God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. —



O Lamb of God, that takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. —



O Lamb of — God, that takes a - way the sins of the world,

Slightly faster

WOMEN



Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy, Grant us Thy peace,

MEN



Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace.

Text: Traditional, based on John 1:29; Music: CLOVERCROFT AGNUS DEI, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

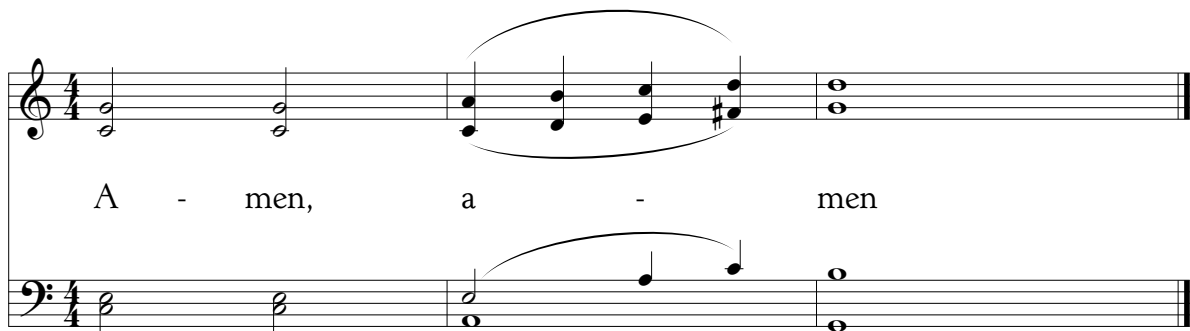
Assurance of Pardon—Romans 3:23-26; Mark 12:30

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 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. 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.

Pastor: This is the promise of God. This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Therefore, let us love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength.**

Sung Response—Amen



Text: Traditional; Music: DRESDEN, Johann Naumann, 18th Century.

HEAVENLY GIFT—*EUCCHARISTO*

As God beckons His people to the bounty of His table, they make joyous profession of their fealty to Him.

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy church—both visible and invisible;

The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

UNISON



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. —

WOMEN



We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

MEN



We praise You, we bless — You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.

Text: Traditional, based on Luke 2:14; Music: CLOVERCROFT GLORIA, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

Our praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship. It is here that our faith moves from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—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.

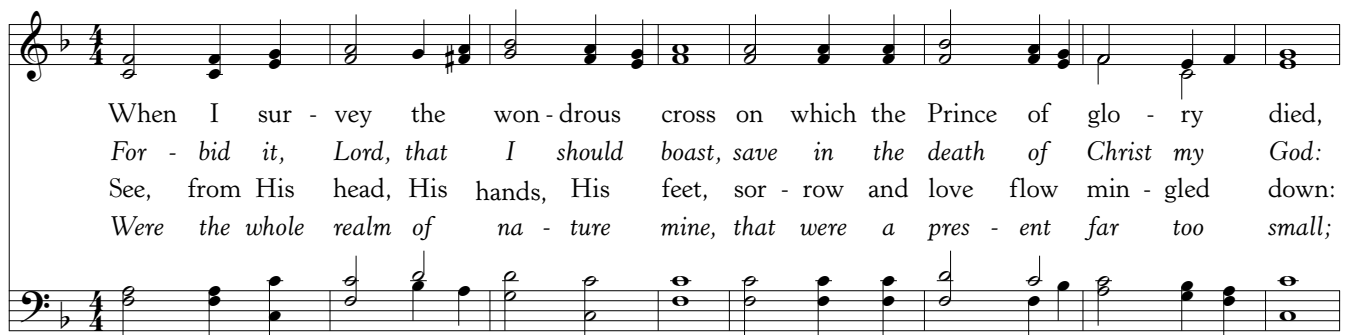
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

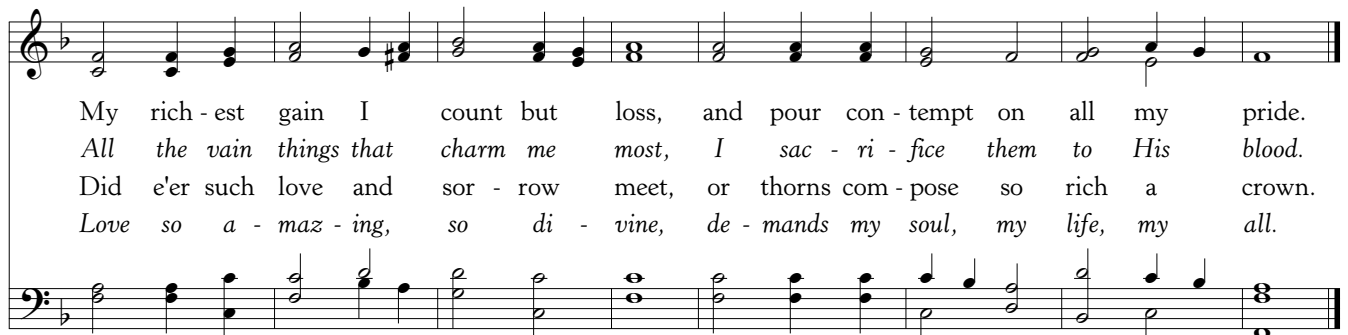
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Hymn of Thanksgiving—When I Survey The Wondrous Cross



When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the Prince of glo - ry died,
For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God:
See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sor - row and love flow min - gled down:
Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a pres - ent far too small;



My rich - est gain I count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
All the vain things that charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
Did e'er such love and sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown.
Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1709; Music: HAMBURG, Gregorian Chant,
arr. Lowell Mason, 1824.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—1 Peter 5:5-7

God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may lift you up in due time, casting all your anxiety upon Him because He cares for you. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Christ Be With Me (from St. Patrick's Breastplate)



Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me,



Christ be-side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me,



Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in dan-ger,



Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.

Text: *Atomriug indui niurt tren*, St. Patrick, 5th Century, Tr. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1889;
Music: ST. PATRICK CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish Hymn Melody.

Announcements

God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
Though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
Though its waters roar and foam,
Though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
He utters His voice, the earth melts.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come, behold the works of the Lord,
How He has brought desolations on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
He burns the chariots with fire.
“Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”
The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our fortress.

—Psalm 46

Worship Notes:

Though there can be no doubt about the fact that we are living in extraordinary times, these are not unprecedented times. The church of the Lord Jesus has faced far greater calamities and difficulties. As we worship this morning therefore, however peculiar the circumstances, we do so knowing that His promises are sure. Let us gather, wherever we are, in the spirit of unity and hope. We'll sing of the *Rock of Ages*, of the *Lover of Our Souls*, of the *Fount of Every Blessing*. We'll sing of His *Wondrous Love*, and we will reaffirm before a watching world that, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling" (Psalm 46:1-3). —George Grant

Key Words: Law, Flesh, Sin, Hate, Desire, Evil, War, Wretched, Deliver, Thanks
Keystone Verse: Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? (Romans 7:24)



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Deacons

Jimmy Allen (815-9368)	Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)	Christopher Burr (499-3043)
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All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.