

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

VOTUM

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made the heavens and the earth.

Amen.

GATHERING SONGS

‘Praise Is Rising’

(Paul Baloche)

Verse 1:

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You, we turn to You

Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You, we long for You

Pre-Chorus:

‘Cause when we see You we find strength to face the day

In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away

Chorus:

Hosanna, Hosanna

You are the God who saves us

Worthy of all our praises

Hosanna, Hosanna

Come have Your way among us

We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

Verse 2:

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You, we turn to You

In Your Kingdom broken lives are made new, You make us new

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus promised to be with us always

Lord, we are thankful for that promise.

In all times, this promise gives us hope.

Lord, we rejoice in the hope You give us.

Come and celebrate the eternal promises of Christ.

Lord, we are so grateful that You have given to us so much and that You promise Your presence with us always.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Patient God, it hasn't been easy for us to be witnesses to Your love. We get caught in traps of anger, impatience and fear. Our words and spirits become cynical and jaded. Yet, at all times, You are with us, guiding and guarding us. On this day, we are reminded that we are not being left without guidance. The promise of the Spirit is given and in that promise we have hope and courage to become truly faithful. Forgive us when we forget that! Forgive us when we act as though You didn't care about us or about this world. We are called to be those who live the faith of hope and reconciliation, of courage and understanding. Lift us up when we have fallen and guide us to live anew. It is in Jesus' name that we do pray.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

ANTHEM ‘When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder’ (arr. by Marianne Kim) Kate Lim

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN #234

‘Crown Him with Many Crowns’

Verse 1:

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Verse 2:

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends their burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Verse 3:

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Verse 4:

Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n:
One with the Father known.
One with the Spirit through Him giv'n
From yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise.
For Thou hast died for me;
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days
Adored and magnified.

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 24:44-49

44 Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in

his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Acts 1:1-11

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Ryan T Nace

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

THE DOXOLOGY

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

HYMN

'Stand In Your Love'

(Bethel Music)

Verse 1:

When darkness tries to roll over my bones
When sorrow comes to steal the joy I own
When brokenness and pain is all I know
Oh, I won't be shaken, no, I won't be shaken

Chorus:

My fear doesn't stand a chance
When I stand in Your love
My fear doesn't stand a chance
When I stand in Your love
My fear doesn't stand a chance
When I stand in Your love

Verse 2:

Shame no longer has a place to hide
I am not a captive to the lies
I'm not afraid to leave my past behind
Oh, I won't be shaken, no, I won't be shaken

Bridge:

There's power that can break off every chain
There's power that can empty out a grave
There's resurrection power that can save
There's power in Your name, power in Your name
(Repeat)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE