



**EAST
CHARLOTTE**

PRES

ORDER OF WORSHIP

APRIL 26TH, 2020



CLING
THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ISAIAH 38:20

"The Lord will save us, and we will play my music on stringed instruments all the days of our lives, at the house of the Lord."

SONGS OF PRAISE

COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

R. Robinson | J. Wyeth

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it - Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my Ebenezer, here by Thy great help I've come
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger interposed His precious blood

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it - Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it - Seal it for Thy courts above

O that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in blood washed linen, How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace;
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry, Take my ransomed soul away;
Send thine angels now to carry, Me to realms of endless day.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM

Q 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

CONFESSION OF SIN

REV. TYLER DIRKS

We live as if the chief end of our lives was to impress people. We lust for man's empty praise. We are obsessed with perception, and we neglect our souls. We waste our lives worrying about our pedigree and performance, and we undervalue true purity and perfection found exclusively in the life and accomplishments of Jesus of Nazareth. We don't fear You, we fear man. God help us!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ISAIAH 38:17

"In love God has delivered your life from the pit of destruction, God has cast all your sins behind His back."

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

What can wash away my sin
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
What can make me whole again
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

chorus

*O, precious is the flow that makes me white as snow
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus*

For my cleansing this I see
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
For my pardon this my plea
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Nothing can for sin atone
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
Naught of good that I have done
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

This is all my hope and peace
Nothing but the blood of Jesus
This is all my righteousness
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER

REV. TYLER DIRKS

God, You search us and You know us. You know when we sit down and when we rise up. You discern our thoughts from afar. You are intimately aware of every area and detail of our lives, and You are acquainted with all our ways. Even before a word is on our tongue, You know it altogether. You hem us in, behind and before. Such knowledge is too wonderful for us; it is high, and we cannot attain it.

We are especially lonely these days. We are weary of isolation. We ask You to miraculously remove the pestilence, and we ask You to give us the miracle gift of perseverance. Whatever Your purpose and timing, we recognize the fantastic truth that we cannot isolate ourselves from Your Spirit. There is no season or circumstance of life that places us outside of Your presence. If we ascend to heaven, You are there. If we make our beds in Sheol, You are there. If we take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead us, and Your right hand shall hold us. If

we say, "Surely the darkness shall cover us, and the light about us be night," even the darkness is not dark to You; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

You formed our inward parts, and you knitted us together in our mother's wombs. We acknowledge and praise You, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made. We praise You God, for Your works are wonderful, and our souls know it very well. Our frames were not hidden from You, when we were being made in secret; intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw our unformed substance, and in Your book were written – every one of them – the days that were formed for us (including these Covid-19 days of isolation and pronounced uncertainty), when as yet there was none of them.

How staggering it is to realize that You are always looking at us! You think of us. You actually do love us. You really, truly, desire to have us in Your family ...for all eternity! You've paid the ransom. Your only begotten Son crucified and forsaken, so that we could officially, irrevocably, be adopted by You! How precious to us are Your thoughts, O God! How vast the sum of them! If we could count them, they are more than the sand. We awake, and we are still with You!

God, may all that is opposed to You be slain and destroyed (including the lingering hatred of You and Your agenda that we harbor in our sinful flesh). Give us the gift of delighting to wage war against lies, greed, malice, rage, and selfishness. Help us to hate with complete hatred what You hate.

Search us, O God, and know our hearts! Try us and know our thoughts! See if there be any grievous way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting! Amen.



PREACHING OF THE WORD

REV. TYLER DIRKS

“FEARING GOD”
LUKE 12: 1-7

I. THE BIG WARNING

II. FEARING GOD

– REFLECTION QUESTIONS –

- 1) Where is Jesus ‘failing’ to uphold ‘your standards’? (e.g. Luke 11:38)
- 2) Do you primarily ‘show up at church’ like a patient being admitted to the hospital, or do you fancy yourself ‘a healthy visitor’ or ‘a helpful expert’? Be honest.
- 3) How do you feel about the inevitable exposure Jesus announces in Luke 12:2-3? Be specific.
- 4) In what ways are you way too concerned about impressing people?
- 5) What does it mean to “Fear God”? Write out a thoughtful and detailed answer in the back of your Bible.

SONG OF RESPONSE

JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN

H. Lytle | B. Moore

Jesus, I my cross have taken / All to leave and follow Thee
Destitute, despised, forsaken / Thou from hence my all shall be
Perish every fond ambition / All I've sought or hoped or known
Yet how rich is my condition / God and heaven are still my own

Let the world despise and leave me / They have left my Savior, too
Human hearts and looks deceive me / Thou art not, like them, untrue
O while Thou dost smile upon me / God of wisdom, love, and might
Foes may hate and friends disown me / Show Thy face and all is bright

Man may trouble and distress me / 'Twill but drive me to Thy breast
Life with trials hard may press me / Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me / While Thy love is left to me
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me / Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure / Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service, pain is pleasure / With Thy favor, loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father / I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather / All must work for good to me

Soul, then know thy full salvation / Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station / Something still to do or bear
Think what Spirit dwells within thee / Think what Father's smiles are thine
Think that Jesus died to win thee / Child of heaven, canst thou repine

Haste thee on from grace to glory / Armed by faith, and winged by prayer
Heaven's eternal days before thee / God's own hand shall guide us there
Soon shall close thy earthly mission / Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days
Hope shall change to glad fruition / Faith to sight, and prayer to praise

BENEDICTION

ISAIAH 38:17

"In love God has delivered your life from the pit of destruction, God has cast all your sins behind His back."

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*East Charlotte Pres is a church that strives to be defined by the Gospel-
inviting everyone to See, Savor, and Serve Jesus as the Author & Perfecter of our faith.*

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