

**6:30 – 6:40am: Praise Song**

*-During this time, we will learn a new praise song that invites us to open our hearts before God*

Behold Our God – Sovereign Grace Music

[https://youtu.be/Gqrli3Lkf58?si=Elt\\_PZMmcbNtbhiE](https://youtu.be/Gqrli3Lkf58?si=Elt_PZMmcbNtbhiE)

Songwriters: Jonathan Baird / Meghan Baird / Ryan Baird / Stephen Altrogge

Behold Our God (Who has held the oceans) lyrics © Sovereign Grace Worship, Sovereign Grace Praise

Who has held the oceans in his hands?  
Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at his voice  
All creation rises to rejoice

Behold our God, seated on his throne  
Come, let us adore him  
Behold our king, nothing can compare  
Come, let us adore him

Behold our God, seated on his throne  
Come, let us adore him  
Behold our king, nothing can compare  
Come, let us adore him

You will reign forever (let Your glory fill the Earth)  
You will reign forever (let Your glory fill the Earth)  
You will reign forever (let Your glory fill the Earth)  
You will reign forever (let Your glory fill the Earth)

Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of his words?  
Who can teach, the one who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds?

You will reign forever (let Your glory fill the Earth)  
You will reign forever (let Your glory fill the Earth)  
You will reign forever (let Your glory fill the Earth)  
You will reign forever (let Your glory fill-)

Behold our God, seated on his throne  
Come, let us adore him  
Behold our king, nothing can compare  
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Behold our God, seated on his throne  
Come, let us adore him  
Behold our king, nothing can compare  
Come, let us adore

Who has felt the nails upon his hands?  
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man  
God eternal, humbled to the grave  
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign

Behold our God, seated on his throne  
Come, let us adore him  
Behold our king, nothing can compare  
Come, let us adore him

**6:40 – 6:50am: Scripture Reading & Devotional**

Today's reading comes from John 19:18-25.

Throughout this chapter, the author of John has focused on the kingship of Jesus. And Jesus' kingship has been recognized by the non-religious. From beginning to the end of the interaction between Jesus and Pilate has acknowledged that Jesus is a king. He even wrote an inscription declaring him king. And that inscription was translated into three different languages so that all might look and see that Jesus is king. (What beautiful use of irony by the author!)

And what the people who should have believe have failed to believe, is believed by the unexpected.

We don't often fully understand the concept of monarchy. We don't live in a country with a king, nor do we live in a time when sovereignty means much to us.

But let us consider what it should mean when we say that Jesus is our king.

Even the title given to Jesus, Christ, means king (you didn't think Christ was Jesus' last name, did you?)

Specifically, in the Old Testament context, the title Messiah, also given to Jesus, means Anointed One.

And the ones who were anointed were priests and kings.

To be a king to have authority. And we who accept someone as king means that we obey that authority.

Obedience is another of those unpopular concepts not often preached on. But what God wants is our obedience, not forced nor neglected.

Obedience requires tremendous humility on our part. To actively choose someone's way of going things. To actively choose to lay aside our own ideas and follow someone else.

Obedience requires discipline and thus, practice. Especially for us, living in this country, obedience has never been a valued skill. Though everybody wishes to have other people obey them. But because precisely obedience is a skill, we can practice it.

So, let us surrender to Jesus. Give him space to speak. And then let us do what he asks us to do.

Today is Maundy Thursday. Maundy comes from the Latin word for mandate. And at tonight's evening worship service, we will learn what is the "mandate" Jesus has given us. Since Jesus has given us one, may we obey our King of kings with joy.

### **6:50 – 7:10am: Prayer**

First, pray for peace across the world. Pray for the end of war and violence. For the end of bloodshed and conflict. For lasting peace and reconciliation. For the restoration and rebuilding of broken communities.

Secondly, pray for our community. For all to thrive. And that we might be a blessing to everyone where we work, play, eat, and shop.

Thirdly, pray for our church and for all our members on the prayer list. Let us pray for healing and for wellness. For comfort, renewal, strength.

Lastly, pray that we may surrender to the King of kings. Submitting all part of our lives to his guidance and purpose.

### **7:10 – to whenever: Personal prayer time**

*-During this time, there will be gentle instrumental music that will play in the background and all are invited to stay as long as they wish in prayerful posture, lifting up everything into God's hands.*