

## Worship Service for April 16, 2023

**Welcome and Announcements** ~ Bryan Richheimer

**Monday** ~ Uplift Support Group at 3 pm at the church.

**Thursday** ~ Choir Practice at the church at 7 pm.

Thank you to Judy Koch for the flowers today  
in loving memory of her granddaughter, Sienna Brosemer



**Word of Preparation** ~ Bryan Richheimer

**Prelude** ~ Please sing *“Amazing Grace”* as we prepare our hearts  
for worship (#546 in the blue hymnal).

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.*

*‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come  
‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home*

*When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.*

Words ~ John Newton, 1779, Music ~ Virginia Harmony, 1831 | Public Domain

**Call to Worship** ~ Deuteronomy 6:1-7 (NIV) Bryan Richheimer

Please join in saying the bold lines.

<sup>1</sup> These are the commands, decrees and laws

the Lord your God directed me to teach you

**to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess,**

<sup>2</sup> so that you, your children and their children after them

may fear the Lord your God as long as you live

**keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you,**

**and so that you may enjoy long life.**

<sup>3</sup> Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you  
and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey,

**just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.**

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

<sup>5</sup> **Love the Lord your God with all your heart**

**and with all your soul and with all your strength.**

<sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

<sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children.

**Talk about them when you sit at home**

**and when you walk along the road,**

**when you lie down and when you get up.**



**Choir Song ~ “Family of Faith”**

**Praying Together ~**

*Space for Requests*

**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.**

**Song ~ “Jesus Loves Me” (#113 in the blue hymnal)**

*Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong*

**Refrain**

***Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so***

*Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,  
Taking children on his knee, saying, “Let them come to me.”*

**Refrain**

*Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on the way,  
Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.*

**Refrain**

Words ~ Anna Warner v.1, David McGuire v.2,3 Music ~ William Bradbury

**Sermon Introduction ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons**

**Scripture ~ Mark 10:13-16 (TPT)** read by Bryan Richheimer

The parents kept bringing their little children to Jesus  
so that he would lay his hands on them and bless them.  
But the disciples kept rebuking and scolding the people for doing it.  
When Jesus saw what was happening,  
he became indignant with his disciples and said to them,  
“Let all the little children come to me  
and never hinder them!  
Don’t you know that God’s kingdom exists for such as these?  
Listen to the truth I speak:  
Whoever does not open their arms  
to receive God’s kingdom like a teachable child will never enter it.”  
Then he embraced each child,  
and laying his hands on them, he lovingly blessed each one.

Sermon ~ *“Blessing the Children”*

Song ~ Jeremy will play *“For This Child ~ Baby Dedication Song”*  
by Ken Blount.

**A Dedication of Parents and Children to the Lord**

Pastor: God has entrusted you with a magnificent responsibility.

**Parents: We lovingly accept this responsibility.**

Pastor: God has given you the gift of these children’s lives.

**Parents: We will protect and nurture our children.**

Pastor: God wants you to teach your children  
through the example of a godly life.

**Parents: We commit to living with integrity as we walk with God.**

Pastor: The Scriptures give us Jesus’ life as a pattern for our own  
and His teachings for understanding the life of faith.

**Parents: We will read the Bible with our children,  
so we can follow Jesus together.**

Pastor: The Holy Spirit will give you the insight and strength to respond  
with grace to your children in each stage of their development.

**Parents: We will rely on the Spirit, by praying and listening  
with open hearts to the Spirit’s leading  
and to our children’s questions and needs.**

Pastor: You do not need to raise your children alone.  
You can rely on the help and support of family and friends  
who will love them come alongside you  
to show nurture and love for them.

**Community: We are here for you and your children,  
today and in the days to come.**

**A prayer for Dustin, Sarah, Tatum, and Lucas Ryan**

Song ~ *“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” (#190 blue, v. 1-2)*

*Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;  
Things I would ask him to tell me if he were here  
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,  
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me*

*First let me hear how the children stood round his knee,  
And I shall fancy his blessing resting on me  
Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace  
All in the lovelight of Jesus’ face*

Words ~ William H. Parker, 1885 Music ~ Frederick A. Hallinor, 1903 | Public Domain

**Benediction ~ John 6:37 (TPT)**

**Jesus said ~**

**“Everyone my Father has given to me,  
they will come.  
And all who come to me,  
I will embrace  
and will never turn them away.”**

*May we come to Jesus with a childlike heart  
and receive His blessing,  
And may we pass that blessing on  
as Jesus leads us to share the light of His love.*

*blessed*