

Worship Service for May 21, 2023

Welcome and Announcements ~ John Hess

Tuesday ~ There is a Summer Discovery Camp Planning meeting from 3-4 pm at First Congregational Church. If you would like to participate, please let Pastor Rebecca know. There is a need for decorators who will prepare the space on July 15th for the week of July 17-21 and other opportunities as well.

At 7 pm, there is an opportunity to have discussions about *“Right, Wrong, and Other Possibilities: Jewish and Christian Perspectives on Justice and Morality”* at Zion Episcopal Church at 7 pm. There is a zoom option available.

Wednesday ~ There is a PRC meeting at the church at 3:30 pm.

Next Sunday ~ It will be Pentecost, the birthday of the church. You are invited to wear red in remembrance of the fire of the Holy Spirit. There will also be an outdoor potluck supper with a campfire and songs at Kay and Craig Keith's house at 6 pm that night.

Other opportunities ~

The Kids Summer Lunch program is looking for volunteers who are available on Thursday mornings and can lift heavy boxes. Please see Pastor Rebecca for more information. Neighbor to Neighbor is looking for more volunteers. Please see Martha Thompson if you would like to help.

Thank you, Linda Hulett, for bringing flowers in loving memory of your mother, Mary Smith.

Happy 25th Anniversary to Barb & Jim West and
Happy Birthday to Russ Taxter on Thursday
and to Theresa Taylor on Saturday

Mission Moment ~ Linell Pike would like to share a story to help us understand what the America for Christ offering supports. There are special envelopes for this mission-giving opportunity found near the offering boxes by each door or you can designate your check for AFC in the memo line. Thank you!

Word of Preparation ~ John Hess

Prelude ~ The worship team will share *“Flawless”* as we prepare our hearts for worship.

CCLI Song # 7020472

Barry Graul | Bart Millard | Ben Glover | David Garcia | Mike Scheuchzer |
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Call to Worship ~ selected verses from Psalm 89 (NLT)

Please join in reading the bold lines.

¹ I will sing of the Lord's unfailing love forever!

Young and old will hear of your faithfulness.

² Your unfailing love will last forever.

Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens.

¹¹ The heavens are yours, and the earth is yours;

everything in the world is yours—you created it all.

¹⁴ Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.

Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants.

¹⁵ Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship,

for they will walk in the light of your presence, Lord.

¹⁶ They rejoice all day long in your wonderful reputation.

They exult in your righteousness.

¹⁷ You are their glorious strength.

It pleases you to make us strong.

Song ~

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Open the eyes of my heart Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see You

I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up

Shining in the light of Your glory

Pour out Your power and love

As we sing holy, holy, holy

[repeat]

Holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy

I want to see You

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Praying Together ~

**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, Messiah”

He became sin who knew no sin

That we might become His righteousness

He humbled Himself and carried the cross

Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

Jesus Messiah Name above all names

Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel

The Rescue for sinners

The Ransom from heaven

Jesus Messiah Lord of all

His body the bread His blood the wine

Broken and poured out all for love

The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn

Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

All our hope is in You

All our hope is in You

All the glory to You God

The Light of the world

Chorus

Jesus Messiah

Lord of all

The Lord of all

The Lord of all

CCLI Song # 5183443

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Sermon Introduction ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

Scripture Passage ~ 1 John 1:5 – 2:2 (TPT) read by John Hess

⁵ This is the life-giving message we heard him share
and it's still ringing in our ears.

We now repeat his words to you: God is pure light.
You will never find even a trace of darkness in him.

⁶ If we claim that we share life with him,
but keep walking in the realm of darkness,
we're fooling ourselves and not living the truth.

⁷ But if we keep living in the pure light that surrounds him,
we share unbroken fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus, his Son,
continually cleanses us from all sin.

⁸ If we boast that we have no sin,
we're only fooling ourselves and are strangers to the truth.
⁹ But if we freely admit our sins when his light uncovers them,
he will be faithful to forgive us every time.
God is just to forgive us our sins because of Christ,
and he will continue to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

¹⁰ If we claim that we're not guilty of sin
when God uncovers it with his light,
we make him a liar
and his word is not in us.

^{2:1} You are my dear children,
and I write these things to you so that you won't sin.

But if anyone does sin,
we continually have a forgiving Redeemer
who is face-to-face with the Father:
Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,
and not only for ours
but also for the sins of the whole world.

Sermon ~ "God is Light"

Song ~

"This is Amazing Grace"

*Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory, the King above all kings
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory, the King above all kings*

Chorus

***This is amazing grace. This is unfailing love
That You would take my place, that You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life that I would be set free
Oh ~ Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me***

*Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory, the King of Glory
Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory, the King above all kings*

Chorus

*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
[Repeat two times]*

*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy, worthy, worthy*

Chorus

All that you've done for me

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Benediction ~ ***As we leave this place,
May we continue to walk in the light of your presence, Lord.
May we delight in Your love and be filled with Your beauty & strength.
When we stray from Your goodness, help us to return to You
And find ourselves welcomed with Your forgiveness and grace.***