

## Worship Service for May 14, 2023

**Welcome and Announcements** ~ Ken Taylor

**Sunday** ~ Happy Mother's Day and thank you to Theresa Taylor for bringing us our message this morning.

**Tuesday** ~ Uplift – Cancer Support group at 3 pm  
Diaconate meeting at church at 4:30 pm

**Wednesday** ~ Seeking God at 11 am via Zoom

**Thursday** ~ Choir Practice at 7 pm at Church

**Friday** ~ Men's Group lacrosse game from 7-9 pm at Applejack Field



The flowers today are given by Lorraine Wilkins in loving memory of her mother Frances Mitchell.

**Word of Preparation** ~ Ken Taylor

I said a Mother's Day prayer for you  
to thank the Lord above  
for blessing me with a lifetime  
of your tenderhearted love.  
I thanked God for the caring

you've shown me through the years,  
for the closeness we've enjoyed  
in time of laughter and of tears.  
And so, I thank you from the heart  
for all you've done for me  
and I bless the Lord for giving me  
the best mother there could be!

Anonymous

**Prelude** ~ Barb West will play while we prepare our hearts for worship.

**Call to Worship** ~ Mother's Day creed

Excerpted from: Mastering worship by Jack Hayford.  
Please join in reading the bold lines.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God,  
**who was born of the promise to a virgin named Mary.**

I believe in the love Mary gave her Son,  
**that caused her to follow him in his ministry and stand by his Cross as he died.**

I believe in the love of all mothers, and its importance in the lives of the children they bear.

**It is stronger than steel, softer than down, and more resilient than a green sapling on the hillside.**

It closes wounds, melts disappointments,  
**and enables the weakest child to stand tall and straight in the fields of adversity.**

I believe that this love, even at its best, is only the shadow love of God,  
**a dark reflection of all that we can expect of Him, both in this life and the next.**

And I believe that one of the most beautiful sights in the world is a mother who lets this greater love flow through her to her child,  
**blessing the world with the tenderness of her touch and the tears of her joy.**

Thank God for mothers, and thank you mothers for helping us understand God!

**Song ~ “Gracious Saviour, Who Didst Honor” (#473 in the red hymnal)**

*Gracious Saviour, who didst honor Womankind as woman’s son;  
Very Man, though God-be-gotten, And with God the Father one –  
Grant that womanhood may be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.*

*Jesus, Son of human mother, Bless our motherhood, we pray;  
Give us grace to lead our children, Draw them to Thee day by day;  
May our sons and daughters be Dedicated, Lord, to Thee.*

*Thou who didst with Joseph labor, Nor didst humble work disdain,  
Grant we may Thy footsteps follow Patiently through toil or pain;  
May our quiet homelife be Lived, O Lord, in Thee, to Thee.*

*Thou who didst go forth in sorrow, Toiling for the souls of men,  
Thou who shalt draw all men to Thee, Though despised, rejected then;  
Humble though our influence be, Use it in the world for Thee. Amen.*

Words ~ Emily L. Shirreff, 1814-1897, Music ~ L. Meadows White, 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**Prayers and Praises ~ Craig Keith**



**Our Father, Who Art in Heaven, hallowed be Your name.  
Your Kingdom come, Your 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**

**Choir Song ~ “In the Valley Flows a River”**

**Song ~ “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” (#190 in the blue hymnal)**

*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 love-light of Jesus’ face.*

*Into the city I’d follow the children’s band,  
Waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;  
One of his heralds, yes, I would sing  
Loudest hosannas, “Jesus is King!”*

Words ~ William H. Parker, 1855, Music ~ Frederick A. Challinor, 1903

**Introducing the Sermon ~ Rev. Theresa Taylor**

**Compassion video** Bible project

**Scripture ~ 2 John (NIV)** read by Ken Taylor

1 The elder,

To the lady chosen by God and to her children, whom I love in the truth—and not I only, but also all who know the truth— 2 because of the truth, which lives in us and will be with us forever:

3 Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love.

4 It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. 5 And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I

ask that we love one another. 6 And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

7 I say this because many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist. 8 Watch out that you do not lose what we[a] have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully.

9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take them into your house or welcome them. 11 Anyone who welcomes them shares in their wicked work.

12 I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.

13 The children of your sister, who is chosen by God, send their greetings.

**Sermon ~**

***“Joy of Children”***

Rev. Theresa Taylor

**Song ~ “Spirit Song” (#352 in the blue hymnal)**

*O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love,*

*Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.*

*O let him have the things that hold you,*

*And his Spirit like a dove will descend upon your life and make you whole.*

**Refrain**

*Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.*

*Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.*

*O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filed with joy.*

*Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.*

*O give him all your tears and sadness; give him all your years of pain, And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.*

**Refrain**

Words and Music ~ John Wimber, 1979

**Benediction ~ Jude 24:25 ~ Rev. Theresa Taylor**

**24 To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—**

**25 to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.**

Please join us in the fellowship room for a time of refreshments and visiting.