

Let this  
**MIND**  
be in **YOU**  
which was also in  
**Christ Jesus.**

Philippians 2:5

***Worship Theme:***

Being the Church of Grace for the People who will be Grace

**PRELUDE** - 'Sursum corda (Lift up your hearts)' – John Ireland (1879-1962)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Becoming a baby,

**People: Christ transformed all of us into his sisters and brothers.**

Leader: Telling us stories we had forgotten,

**People: God helps us to walk the paths of discipleship.**

Leader: Becoming foolish in the world's eyes,

**People: the Spirit teaches us all we need to find our way into the kingdom.**

## **HYMN #400** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. 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.
2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm 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.
3. 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.

## **Opening Prayer**

God, words cannot express our humble awe that you came to us in Jesus Christ. In him all your fullness dwells. What had been cloaked in mystery is now clear. Your love knows no bounds and is lavished upon all. Open not only our eyes, but our hearts and souls as well, so we may more fully receive the abundant life you offer us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, #881** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **GLORIA PATRI, #70**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

## **Hymn #2191 Eternal Father, Strong to Save**

1. Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave, who bid the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

2. O Savior, whose almighty word the wind and waves submissive heard, who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

3. O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude, and bid its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

4. O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour; from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go; thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

## **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 17:1-7**

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of

you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

### **PSALM LESSON Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16**

Hear my teaching, O my people;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.  
I will open my mouth in a parable;  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.  
That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us,  
we will not hide from their children.  
We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,  
and the wonderful works he has done.  
He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers,  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.  
He split open the sea and let them pass through;  
he made the waters stand up like walls.  
He led them with a cloud by day,  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.  
He split the hard rocks in the wilderness  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.  
He brought streams out of the cliff,  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **EPISTLE LESSON Philippians 2:1-13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was[a] in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that

Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

### **HYMN #189 Fairest Lord Jesus**

1. Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring: Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast.
4. Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine.

### **GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 21:23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

**Pastor: This is the Word of God for the people of God.**  
People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN #438 Forth in Thy Name, O Lord**

1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue; thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.

2. The task thy wisdom hath assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill; in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.

3. Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine in most substance see, and labor on at thy command, and offer all my works to thee.

4. For thee delightfully employ whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given; and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee to heaven.

**BENEDICTION**

*To the God of the heavens, the earth and all that is within it –  
be all glory and power and eternal worship!*

*May the lives that we live from this moment forward reflect you and you alone! Amen.*

**POSTLUDE** – ‘Postlude on “Hyfrydol”’ – Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

