



Brightest & Best

March 2, 2025

Prelude

Welcome

Silent meditation Isaiah 35:1-2

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Micah 5:2, 4-5a

Pastor Michael Anderson

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

...

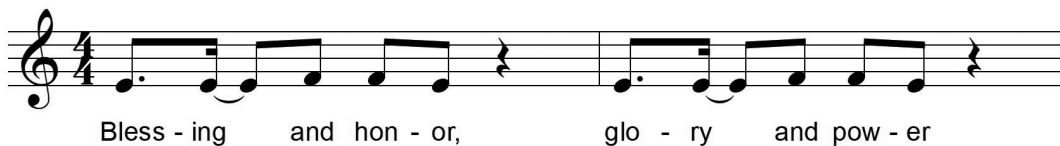
And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.
And he shall be their peace.

Psalm 63:1-4

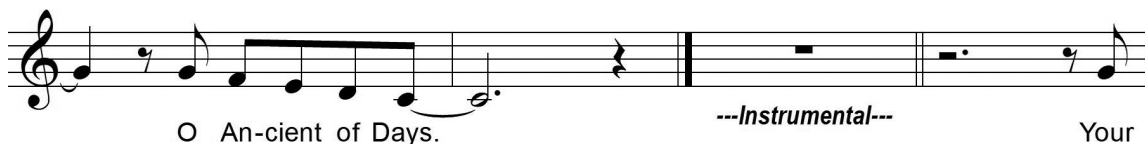
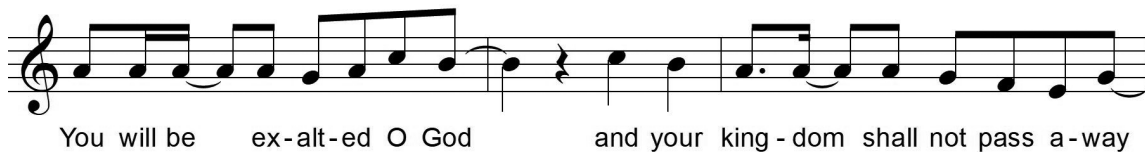
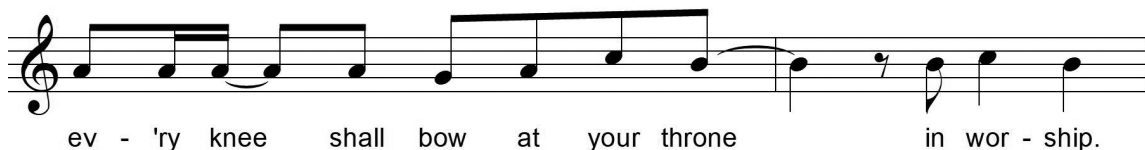
O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.

* *Ancient of Days*

Gary Sadler & Jamie Harvill



Chorus



king-dom shall reign o - ver all the earth. Bow be-fore the An - cient of

Days. For none can com-pare to your match-less worth.

Sing un - to the An - cient of Days. *to chorus*

c 1992 Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI 332344

* Invocation

Be Strong in the Lord

children's choir

text, Roger Thornill (based on Joshua 1:9)
music, Brad Nix

Be strong in the Lord, be strong in the Lord.
Trust him in all of your ways.
Be strong in the Lord, be strong in the Lord.
Serve him for all of your days.

Whatever path you travel,
wherever you may go,
God will be your shepherd.
You'll never walk alone.

Mountains may rise before you.
Storms may be fierce and strong.
Shadows may gather 'round you
when the night is long.

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession

Isaiah 45:5-7

I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness;
I make well-being and create calamity;
I am the LORD, who does all these things.

Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

8:30 service On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 6-year-olds are dismissed to the foyer for Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.

11:15 service Church bags for 4- to 6-year-olds are available in the foyer.

Satisfied

text, Clara T. Williams; music, Karl Digemess

Youth Ensemble

All my life long I had panted
for a drink from some cool spring
That I hoped would quench the burning
of the thirst I felt within

Hallelujah! He has found me,
the One my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies all my longings,
through his blood I now am saved

Feeding on the filth around me,
'till my strength was almost gone
Longed my soul for something better,
only still to hunger on *Chorus*

Poor I was and sought for riches,
something that would satisfy
But the dust I gathered 'round me
only mocked my soul's sad cry *Chorus*

Well of water ever springing,
Bread of Life so rich and free
Untold wealth that never faileth,
my Redeemer is to me

* Congregation rise & join on Chorus after Verse 4



GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

* Scripture reading

Mark 6:30–44

³⁰ The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. ³⁵ And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. ³⁶ Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” ³⁷ But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?” ³⁸ And he said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” ³⁹ Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. ⁴¹ And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴² And they all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³ And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. ⁴⁴ And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

Elder: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

* Prayer

Sermon The Shepherd's Revolution

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

Shepherd King meets needs of his sheep.

Shepherd King sets the path for his sheep.

Shepherd King lays down his life for his sheep.

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

** Break Thou the Bread of Life*

Trinity Hymnal 146

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Trays will be passed through the rows. The bread served is gluten free.

Hold the bread or cup until all are served and we'll partake together.

During the passing of the bread Communion Hymn Verses 1 & 2

congregation

by Keith and Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend



1. Be - hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for
2. The bo - dy of our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ, torn for
3. The blood that cleans - es ev - 'ry stain of sin, shed for
4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to re -



us, and we re-mem-ber the pro-mise made that all who
you, eat and re-mem-ber; the wounds that heal, the death that
you, drink and re-mem-ber. He drained death's cup that all may
spond, and to re-mem-ber our call to fol-low in the



come in faith find for-give-ness at the cross. So we share in this
brings us life paid the price to make us one. So we share in this
en-ter in to re-ceive the life of God. So we share in this
steps of Christ as His bod-y here on earth. As we share in His



bread of life, and we drink of His sac-ri-fice as a sign of our
bread of life, and we drink of His sac-ri-fice as a sign of our
bread of life, and we drink of His sac-ri-fice as a sign of our
suf-fer-ing we pro-claim Christ will come a-gain! And we'll join in the



bonds of peace a - round the ta - ble of the King.
 bonds of love a - round the ta - ble of the King.
 bonds of grace a - round the ta - ble of the King.
 feast of heav'n a - round the ta - ble of the King! © Sept. 2009

During the passing of the cup *Communion Hymn* Verses 3 & 4

congregation

Prayer of Thanksgiving spoken together

With joy we praise you, gracious God,
 for you have created heaven and earth,
 made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—
 even when we fell into sin.
 We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord,
 who came as the light of the world
 to show us your way of truth in parables and miracles.
 Therefore we join our voices
 with all the saints and angels and the whole creation
 to proclaim the glory of your name. Amen.

Living out our faith announcements about the life of the church

Prayers of the People

During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows.

Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820

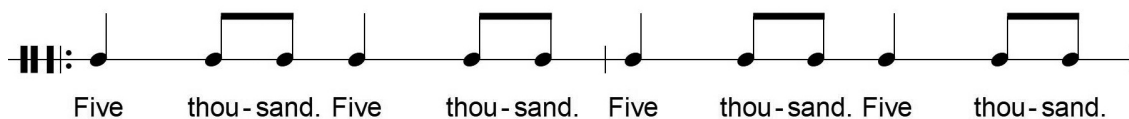
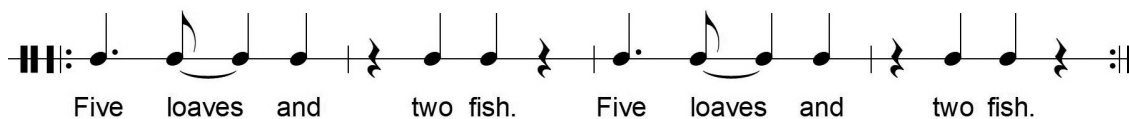
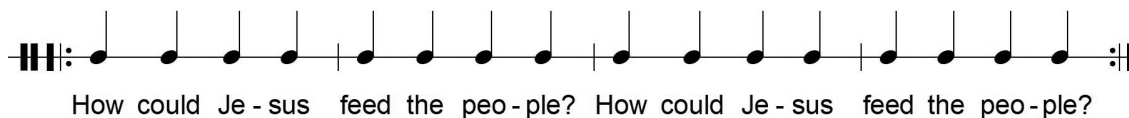
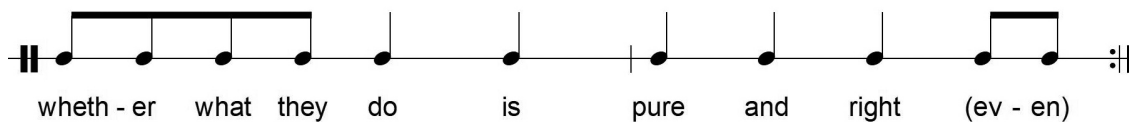
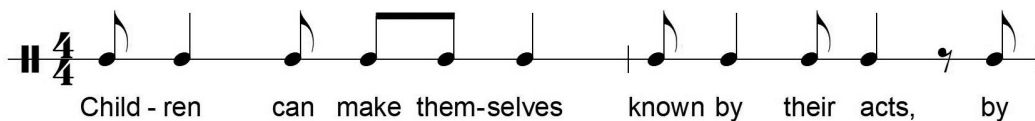
Offertory

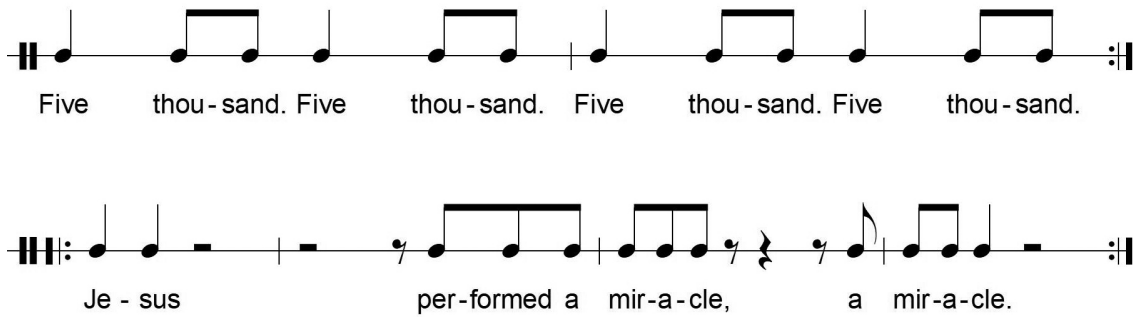
Feeding the Five Thousand (A Percussion Groove)

as recorded in John 6:1-14
by Brian Hehn and Mark Burrows

Youth Ensemble

Djembe: Children can make themselves known by their acts, by whether what they do is pure and right.
Shakers: How could Jesus feed the people?
Clave: Five loaves and two fish.
Guiro: Five thousand.
Bongos: Jesus performed a miracle, a miracle.





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*** Doxology** Trinity Hymnal 731

*** Benediction**

Kids and All: You are invited to come forward and wave the colorful flags as we sing our closing Amen song.

*** Let the Church Say Amen**

Let the church say Amen. Let the church say Amen.
God has spoken, let the church say Amen.

*** Postlude**

Worship musicians

Children's Choir
Lena Bading, Leah Quinn, Karen Kooistra, leaders
Youth Ensemble
Susan Guerra & Rebecca Klamer, leaders
LuLu Churchwell, vocal trio, clave
Miles Faber, trumpet, guiro
Tessa Faber, vocal trio, shaker
Lucy Harley, ukulele, djembe
Mirs Harley, ukulele, bongos

Katrielle Hutchison, singer, djembe
Quinn Klamer, trumpet, bongos, vocal solo
Amos Maupin, trumpet, guiro, vocal duet
Ruben Morales, vocal duet, guiro
Josie Ratajeski, cello, shaker
Hazel Snyder, clarinet, bongos
Jude Snyder, drums, timpani, clave
Nona Snyder, oboe, bongos
Danielle Vanderput, vocal trio; shaker
Jaci Yasugi, violin, djembe
Theo Yasugi, cello, bass, clave