



CHRIST
CHURCH

April 12, 2026

Prelude *Amazing Grace*

arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome

Silent meditation

For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing.

- Deuteronomy 10:17-18

But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

- Mark 10:43b-45

“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.”

-James 1:27

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 146

Elder CJ Verbrugge

Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
on that very day his plans perish.

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD watches over the sojourners;
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the LORD!

** Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder*



1. Let us love and sing and won - der,
 2. Let us love the Lord who bought us,
 3. Let us sing though fierce temp - ta - tion
 4. Let us won - der; grace and jus - tice
 5. Let us praise and join the cho - rus



Let us praise the Sa - vior's name,
 Pit - ied us when en - e - mies
 Threat - ens hard to bear us down
 join and point to mer - cy's store;
 of the saints en - throned on high;



He has hushed the law's loud thun - der,
 Called us by his grace and taught us
 For the Lord our strong sal - va - tion
 when through grace in Christ our trust is
 here they trust - ed him be - fore us,



He has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame, He has
 Gave us ears and gave us eyes He has
 Holds in view the conq - u'ror's crown He who
 jus - tice smiles and asks no more: He who
 now their prais - es fill the sky: "You have



washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,
 washed us with His blood He has washed us with His blood
 washed us with His blood He who washed us with His blood
 washed us with His blood, He who washed us with His blood,
 washed us with Your blood, You have washed us with Your blood,



He has washed us with His blood, He has
 He has washed us with His blood He pre -
 He who washed us with His blood Soon will
 He who washed us with His blood has se -
 You have washed us with Your blood; You are



brought us nigh to God
 sends our souls to God
 bring us home to God
 cured our way to God.
 wor - thy, Lamb of God!"

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* **Invocation** concluding with "The Lord's Prayer," spoken together

**Our Father who is 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 the evil one.
 For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

How Deep The Father's Love for Us

Stuart Townend



1. How deep the Fath - er's love for us, how
2. Be - hold the Man up - on a cross, my
3. I will not boast in an - y - thing: no



vast be - yond all meas - ure that He should give His on - ly Son to
sin up - on His shoul - ders. A - shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call
gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dom. But I will boast in Je - sus Christ: His



make a wretch His treas - ure. How great the pain of sear - ing loss. The
out a - mong the scof - fers. It was my sin that held Him there un -
death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why should I gain from His re - ward? I



Fa - ther turns His face a - way as wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring
til it was ac - com - plished; His dy - ing breath has brought me life. I
can - not give an an - swer. But this I know with all my heart: His



man - y sons to glo - ry.
know that it is fin - ished.
wounds havepaid my ran - som.

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GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession Isaiah 58:10

“If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.”

Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of Forgiveness Romans 5:6-11

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

8:30 service On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 5-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 5-year-olds are available in the foyer.

* *Speak O Lord*

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

CAPO 3 $\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat/G \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} D \\ F/A \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} G \\ B\flat\text{add}9 \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat\text{add}9 \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} G \\ B\flat \end{matrix}$

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re -
 2. Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly
 3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us

$\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat\text{add}9 \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} G \\ B\flat \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat/G \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} D \\ F/A \end{matrix}$

ceive the food of Your Ho - ly Word.
 re - - ver - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.
 grasp the heights of Your plans for us.

$\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat/G \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} D \\ F/A \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} G \\ B\flat\text{add}9 \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat\text{add}9 \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} G \\ B\flat \end{matrix}$

Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us; shape and
 Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the
 Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, that will

$\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat\text{add}9 \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} G \\ B\flat/D \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} C \\ E\flat\text{add}9 \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} D \\ F \end{matrix}$ $\begin{matrix} G \\ B\flat \end{matrix}$

fash - ion us in Your like - - - ness; that the
 ra - - di - ance of Your pur - i - ty. Cause our
 e - - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



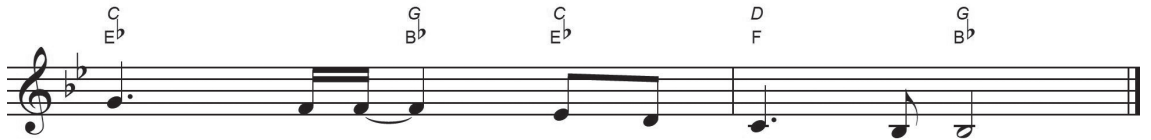
light of Christ might be seen to - day in our
faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma -
grace we'll stand on Your pro - mis-es; And by



acts of love and our deeds of faith.
jes - tic love and au - tho - ri - ty.
faith we'll walk as You wald with us.



Speak, O Lord and ful - fill in us all Your
Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; let their
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built, and the



pur - - - pos - es for Your glo - - - ry.
truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
earth is filled with Your glo - - - ry.

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

* Scripture reading

Acts 6:1-7

¹ Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables." ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Elder: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

* Prayer

Sermon

Growing Pains

Pastor Michael Anderson

The Problem: Addition Produces Division (v 1-2)

The Solution: Division Prevents Division (v 3-6)

The Result: Addition Plus Multiplication (v 7)

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

* *Take My Life and Let It Be*

Trinity Hymnal 585

Living out Our Faith

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 *I See the Birds*

by Jon Guerra

Do not be anxious about your life
I heard you say to me
You dress the lilies
You leave the weeds
The sower of the seed

Am I in charge of my own mind
Or is it in charge of me?

I see the birds up in the air
I know you feed them
I know you care

So won't you teach me
How I mean more to you than them
In times of trouble
Be my help again

You've held me sturdy
You've led me on
Through years of joy and grief
So don't you leave me
All on my own
You know me, Lord
I'm weak

I see the birds up in the air
I know you feed them
I know you care
So won't you teach me

How I mean more to you than them
In times of trouble
Be my help again
Oh, be my help again

Don't you worry, child
Don't you worry, child
He won't leave you by yourself
In times of trouble, he's your help

He won't leave you by yourself
In times of trouble, he's your help

I'm letting go of my own life
I'm letting go again

I see the birds up in the air
I know you feed them
I know you care
So won't you teach me
How I mean more to you than them
In times of trouble
Be my help again

Be ever present
Lord, won't you be my closest friend
In times of trouble
Be my help again

* *Gloria Patri*

Trinity Hymnal 535

* **Benediction**

Kids and All: You are invited to come forward and play rhythm instruments as we sing our closing Amen song.

* *And All the People Said Amen!*

Matt Maher

And-all the peo-ple said "A-men" Oh _____ And all the peo-ple said "A-

men." Give thanks to the Lord for his love ____ ne-ver ends.

And all the peo - ple said "A - men."

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff has a 4-measure rest followed by notes for the lyrics "And-all the peo-ple said 'A-men' Oh _____". The second staff continues with notes for "men." and "Give thanks to the Lord for his love ____ ne-ver ends." The third staff has notes for "And all the peo - ple said 'A - men.'" Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, A, D, G, D, A, G, D, F#, Bm, G, A, G, G/F#, G/E, D.

* **Postlude**

Prayer Partners are available to pray with you right now. Come to the area by the organ with anything on your heart: praise, fears, questions, thanksgiving. We'll sit down and pray together.

Worship musicians

Janelle Stutzman, piano

Vivian Stutzman, song leader