

# Service of Holy Communion

## September 27, 2020

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*"10,000 Reasons"*

Marr Redman & Jonas Myrin

One Voice

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*  
Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

**Amen.**

### GATHERING SONG *"What a Beautiful Name"*

Verse 1

You were the Word at the beginning  
One with God the Lord Most High  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You our Christ

Chorus 1

What a beautiful Name it is  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a beautiful Name it is

Nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

#### Verse 2

You didn't want heaven without us  
So Jesus You brought heaven down  
My sin was great Your love was greater  
What could separate us now

#### Chorus 2

What a wonderful Name it is  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a wonderful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You  
The veil tore before You  
You silence the boast of sin and grave  
The heavens are roaring  
The praise of Your glory  
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival  
You have no equal  
Now and forever God You reign  
Yours is the kingdom  
Yours is the glory  
Yours is the Name above all names

#### Chorus 3

What a powerful Name it is  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a powerful Name it is  
Nothing can stand against  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

Ending

What a powerful Name it is

The Name of Jesus

What a powerful Name it is

The Name of Jesus

CCLI Song # 7068424

Ben Fielding | Brooke Ligertwood

CCLI License # 11534117

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **HYMN OF PRAISE** *“I Will Call Upon The Lord”*

Verse

I will call upon the Lord (ECHO)

Who is worthy to be praised (ECHO)

So shall I be saved from my enemies (ECHO)

I will call upon the Lord

Chorus

The Lord liveth

And blessed be my Rock

Let the God of my salvation be exalted

(REPEAT)

2x

CCLI Song # 11263

Michael O'Shields

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### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of love, **giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST READING: *Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32*

*Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

<sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM *Psalms 25:1-9*

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
 nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
 rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
 for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
 for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;**

**therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

**SECOND READING: *Philippians 2:1-13***

*As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>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; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION      “Sing Alleluia”**

Sing Alleluia to the Lord. Sing Alleluia to the Lord. Sing Alleluia, sing Alleluia, sing Alleluia to the Lord. (*repeat*)

**GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 21:23-32***

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] 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?” <sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>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?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>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.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>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.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

In his letter to the Philippians, Paul urges us to be “of the same mind.” “Be of the same mind,” he says, “having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind...” One mind. That sounds commendable, sharing the same mind, but it also sounds like a far, far, far off goal. We, in this nation at this time, are not of one mind. We are of many minds, too often turned against each other in suspicion, frustration, and anger. What a relief it would be, what a joy it would be, if the people of our nation managed to share the same mind. I don’t mean we would agree on everything – there would still be debates about taxes and the economy, about social policies and pollution, about foreign policy.

But what if we had one, united mind of loving our country, loving our neighbors and recognizing that we’re better off working together. What if our “one mind” was set on making progress, progress that would require compromise from all of us, setbacks and mistakes at times, but dedication and trust that we could achieve our ideals: everyone having the same fair chance, people getting ahead through steady work and cooperation with each other, finding ways other than violence to address our grievances, and together making the world a better place for our children and grandchildren. Wouldn’t that be awesome! “Be of the same mind,” Paul says. What a wonderful idea, a lovely aspiration.

Philippians 2:6-11 is often referred to as a hymn, praising God for our Savior, Jesus Christ – for who he was and how he lived and what he gained for all the world in his death and resurrection. Hymns are meant to be sung – sung with full voices and

overflowing hearts. “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus!” There we are, again, with the theme of sharing one mind, this time the mind of our Lord. The purpose of a good hymn is to inspire us, to carry us past the boundaries of our human frailties, beyond the world as it is today, into the possibilities God offers those who trust him, into the world as it might be – as it will be – under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. A good hymn grabs us where we feel stuck today, and transports us into an imagined tomorrow that isn’t here yet, but will be one day, through the love of God in Jesus. “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus!” Those words might sound out of reach, except the hymn bears us aloft, over our doubts, our weariness, and the obstacles in our path, to God’s reality of everything that can be, everything as it is in the reality of the Christ.

In these opening verses of chapter 2, Paul shifts between pressing us to become who we can be by faith, and extolling who Jesus is and what Jesus has done. Verse 4 is addressed to us, giving direction on how to conduct ourselves. It says “Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” In the abstract, that sounds noble and honorable, but in the grind of daily life... it’s a hard task. If Paul had said, “Take care of what you and your family need first, then when there’s time, do what you can for other people,” that would have been a lot more realistic. Are we able to care about and strive for someone else’s interests ahead of our own? I don’t mean the interests of other family members, but ‘other people’ – the folks in that questionable apartment complex down the street, poor families who have more children than they can feed, people who are disabled...but are they *really* disabled and are they even trying? People who are angry, who are demanding things, and we wish they would just calm down. Which “others” did Paul mean when he said, “look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.”?

Paul pushes us to live as genuine, dedicated followers of Jesus, to model our lives after Jesus’ own. In verse five, he gives an example of what he means: “Let the same mind be in you (“you all,” not ‘you’ in the singular) that was in Christ Jesus, who... though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited (his own interests), but emptied himself...being born in human likeness (our interests)... and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.” Jesus put our interests – all of ours, the angry people, the neighbors in the sketchy apartments, the disabled and the poor – Jesus put our interests ahead of his own...not just once, for an hour or a day, but throughout his life. “Let the same mind be in y’all that was in Christ Jesus...” The same mind... the same mind.

I don’t know about you, but my mind has a mind of its own. And pretty often it is not Jesus’ mind. My mind can be cluttered with anxiety, or weighed down from grief or frustration, or critical and biting toward someone I think is in the wrong. So, if your minds also have a mind of their own, and each of our minds is wandering off in different directions, preoccupied with disparate things, how can our minds come together and be like the mind of Jesus?

Notice that verse 5 begins with the word “Let.” It doesn’t say “Make your minds become like Jesus,” or “Figure out a strategy so your minds can be like Jesus,” but “Let

the mind of Jesus be in you-all.” Don’t work against it, or stop it, or shove it aside when it’s not convenient, when it’s asking too much, when you just don’t want to go where it’s leading you. Instead of putting up road-blocks or convincing yourself, “This is too hard for me,” take a deep breath, and let the same mind be in you, me, us together, that was in Jesus Christ. Let it be. Listen for its guidance. Trust that it is already in and among y’all.

We sing what is real and true, even if those things are not apparent yet in this world. We sing of peace when there is no peace; we sing of enough for all when many are left wanting. We sing despite what we see and experience. Singing bolsters our faith, makes what we trust-by-faith, become stronger and activated in our blood and our bones. We sing when our hearts are breaking, when we’re fearful, when we’re tired and hopeless. And our singing works in us, by God’s Holy Spirit, to bring about the things we sing. The song goes out before us, hand in hand with the Spirit, and leads us into the kind of life, the kind of being, God has planned for his Church and for the world.

Paul assures us of this, saying, “It is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God’s good pleasure.” It is **God** who is at work in you – putting the same mind in y’all that was in Christ Jesus.

We sing a truth greater than all earthly truths, this truth: Jesus Christ, who even though he was God, did not cling to equality with God, but emptied himself to take on human flesh, and humbled himself to the point of dying on a cross. He did this for love of God and love of the world. That same mind – the mind of Jesus – lives within us. God has given it to us and God builds it up week after week with word and prayer, with the meal and the songs of the faithful. We have the mind of the one who gave his life for the sake of the world. He is alive and at work in us. And we have his promise, that we share in his eternal life, now and in the world that is to come.

### **HYMN OF THE DAY    “*Change My Heart, O God*”**

Change my heart, O God;  
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;  
may I be like you.

You are the potter;  
I am the clay.

Mold me and make me;  
this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God;  
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;  
may I be like you.

**Repeat twice**

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

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## APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole Church let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried;  
He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sin permeates our cultures and institutions, change our minds and teach us to trust your authority. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Bless ministries of care in our community; make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us—tax collectors and prostitutes, likely and unlikely, obedient and slow to learn. By their witness, teach us to

confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your gathered people...  
For Barbara, that she regain the fullness of health.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy;  
through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.  
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.  
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink,  
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,  
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

*(Please have the bread and wine/juice ready for Holy Communion)*

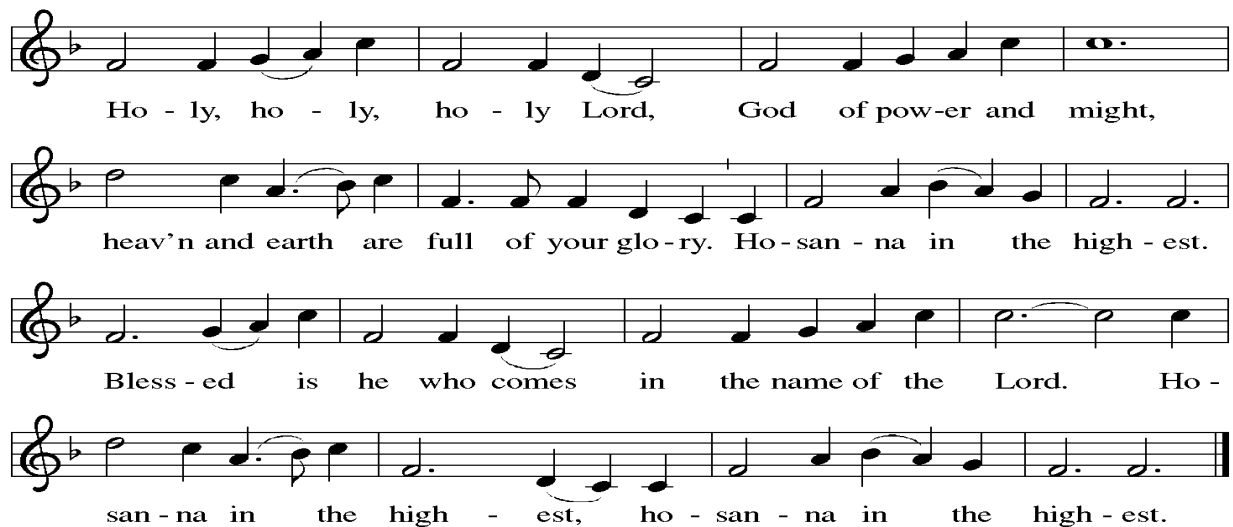
### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### “Holy, Holy, Holy”



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

God of marvel and might, from chaos and disorder, you created the heavens and the earth. You formed humans from dust and gave them the breath of life. You brought a weary, abused people out of slavery into the freedom of the Promised Land. And when the time had come, you sent your Son, not to condemn, but so that the world might be saved through him. We celebrate his life, death, and resurrection, as we remember...

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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 and ever. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

COME to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

Take the bread and eat, this is the body of Christ, given for you. (*please consume the bread*)

Take the cup and drink, this is the blood of Christ, shed for you. (*please drink from the cup*)

**BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Build your Ofrenda for All Saints Sunday – Nov. 1. Take picture and send it to Courtney at church office via email or text.

We are looking for folks to write up an Advent or Christmas memory to share in the December Newsletter. Those, and the pictures of your ofrendas, need to be sent to Courtney no later than Monday, November 9.

Council has approved a proposal by the Worship and Music Team to aim for limited, in-person worship beginning on **Sunday, November 29**, which is the first Sunday in Advent, the beginning of the new Church year. Attendance will be restricted to a total of 50 people, masks will be required, your temperature will be taken before you enter the building. These plans are in place assuming there is not a rise in COVID cases. Sunday worship will continue to be offered via livestream on Facebook.

Again, as long as COVID infections stay low, we will resume our weekly, outdoor prayer service in the Huth garden. The brief service will be held twice a month, on the **second and fourth Tuesday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:00**. You are asked to bring your own chair, to social distance, and to wear a mask. The first prayer service in the Huth garden is on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **BLESSING**

sung by **One Voice**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 Make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.

Chorus

Amen, Amen, Amen  
 Amen, Amen, Amen

(repeat all)

CCLI Song # 7147007  
 Chris Brown | Cody Carnes | Kari Jobe | Steven Furtick  
 CCLI License # 11534117

## **CLOSING HYMN    “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”**

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
 That saved a wretch like me  
 I once was lost but now I'm found  
 Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
 And grace my fears relieved  
 How precious did that grace appear  
 The hour I first believed

### Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free  
 My God my Savior has ransomed me  
 And like a flood His mercy rains  
 Unending love amazing grace

### Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me  
 His word my hope secures  
 He will my shield and portion be  
 As long as life endures  
 Chorus x2

### Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
 The sun forbear to shine  
 But God who called me here below  
 Will be forever mine  
 Will be forever mine  
 You are forever mine

CCLI Song # 4768151

Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio

CCLI License # 11534117

## **DISMISSAL**

Go about your day in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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