

Midweek Worship Bulletin

December 9th, 2020

Call to Worship

Sydney V.

A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Our salvation is near. The gift of God's love in human flesh comes to set us free from our sins. Let us worship God together.

Song: "How Good It Is" by Andy Irons (chorus)

How good it is to sing praises to our God
How good it is to sing his praise
How good it is to sing praises to our God
Praise the Lord

Great is the Lord our mighty King
There is no end to all he knows
Each shining star he calls by name
Lift up the Lord come sing his praise (*refrain*)

The Lord provides for all our needs
Delights in those who hope in him
He binds our wounds and gives us strength
Sing to the Lord with thankful hearts (*refrain*)

We praise you God
Praise you the one true God
We praise you God our King (*repeat then refrain*)

CCLI Song # 7000812

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Prayer of Adoration

Scriptures: Malachi 2:10-3:1

¹⁰ Have we not all one father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors? ¹¹ Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the Lord, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god. ¹² May the Lord cut off from the tents of Jacob anyone who does this—any to witness or answer, or to bring an offering to the Lord of hosts.

¹³ And this you do as well: You cover the Lord's altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor at your hand. ¹⁴ You ask, 'Why does he not?' Because the Lord was a witness between you and the wife of your

youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. ¹⁵Did not one God make her? Both flesh and spirit are his. And what does the one God desire? Godly offspring. So look to yourselves, and do not let anyone be faithless to the wife of his youth. ¹⁶For I hate divorce, says the Lord, the God of Israel, and covering one's garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So take heed to yourselves and do not be faithless.

¹⁷ You have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet you say, 'How have we wearied him?' By saying, 'All who do evil are good in the sight of the Lord, and he delights in them.' Or by asking, 'Where is the God of justice?'

^{3:1} See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

Luke 1:5-17

⁵ In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸ Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. ¹⁰Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.'

Message: "A New Priesthood"

Song: "Lord You Hear the Cry" (Lord Have Mercy) by Geraldine Latty

Lord you hear the cry of the widow weeping
Lord you hear the cry of the child ill treated
Lord you hear the cry of the depressed one sinking
Lord have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us

Lord you hear the sound of the proud ones laughing
Lord you hear the sound of the childless hoping
Lord you hear the sound of those in debt and struggling
Lord have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us

(chorus)

Break the heavens Lord
You said the poor are not forgotten
Let your justice roar
In mighty waves across the earth
Come and whisper peace
O God of generous compassion
Lord have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us

Lord you hear the sound of the addict craving
Lord you hear the sound of the greed of nations
Lord you hear the sound of the martyrs praying
Lord have mercy on us
Lord have mercy on us *(chorus)*

Lord we hear the sound of your kingdom coming
Resurrection day for creation groaning
Mercy I receive pouring out in loving
Lord have mercy on us (3X)
Lord have mercy on us

CCLI Song # 6142988

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Benediction