



*Grace Church Stamford welcomes you
to our Sunday Service
where our aim is to meet Jesus Christ
through his Word and Spirit*

March 26, 2023 AD

Call To Worship

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! **Serve the LORD with gladness!** Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God. It is he who made us, and we are his. **We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.** Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. **Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the LORD is good, his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.**

Singing Together

10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman | 2011 Atlas Mt. Songs | CCLI License # 11280377

*Chorus Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul
 Worship His holy name!
 Sing like never before, O my soul
 I'll worship Your holy name!*

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes! (Chorus)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find! (Chorus)

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore! (Chorus 2x)

Hearing God's Word

Ezekiel 34:1-24

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Confessing Together

Almighty God who inhabits eternity but dwells with those who are of a humble and contrite spirit: before you and our Lord Jesus Christ we confess our sins. We have ignored the presence of your Spirit. We have failed to look for the return of our Savior and Judge. We have been blind to your coming in the suffering of the hungry, the exiled, the destitute, the sick, and the imprisoned. In your great goodness put away our offenses and cleanse us from our sin, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. **Amen.**

Singing Together *It Is Well*

Horatio Gates Spafford, Philip Paul Bliss | Public Domain | CCLI License # 11280377

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot You have taught me to say
It is well it is well with my soul

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul! (Refrain)

*Refrain It is well (it is well)
 With my soul (with my soul)
 It is well, it is well with my soul!*

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul! (Refrain)

My sin, oh the bliss, of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (Refrain)

You Alone Can Rescue

Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman | 2008 Atlas Mountain Songs | CCLI License # 11280377

Who O Lord could save themselves
Their own soul could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea
Your grace is deeper still (2x)

*Chorus And You alone can rescue
 You alone can save
 You alone can lift us from the grave!
 You came down to find us
 Led us out of death
 To You alone belongs the highest praise!*

You O Lord have made a way
The great divide You healed
For when our hearts were far away
Your love went further still
Yes Your love goes further still (Chorus)

*Bridge We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes
 You're the giver of life!
 We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes
 You're the giver of life! (2x) (Chorus 2x)*

Praying Together

The Collection

Hearing God's Word Proclaimed

1 Peter 5:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Communing Together

Invitation

Brothers and sisters, this is the table where God intends us to be nourished; this is the time when Christ can make us new. So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

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

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you 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 by his life, death and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Awaiting his coming in glory, let us pray with confidence as our Savior has taught us: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil, for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of our Lord. So let a person examine themselves, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

*** Prayer for those searching for truth** Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. While I find that hard to believe, help me to believe your claims. Guide me, teach me, open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

*** Prayer of belief** Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn away from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Singing Together

All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name.

Edward Perronet, John Rippon, Oliver Holden |, Public Domain | CCLI License # 11280377

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race
Ye ransomed from the fall
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him who saves you by His grace
And crown Him Lord of all!

Let ev'ry kindred ev'ry tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all!

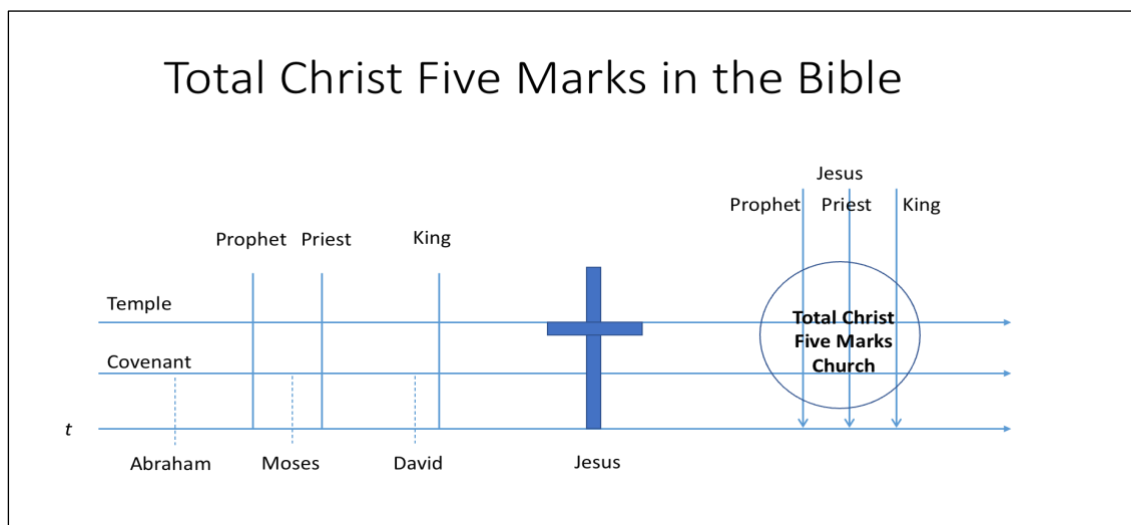
O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all!

Benediction

Sermon Series: What is the Church?

The Community of the King
1 Peter 5:1-11

1. The King's Rule
2. The King's Care
3. The King's Conflict



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