



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

August 7, 2022 AD

Call To Worship

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD, **let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.** In his hands are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. **The sea is his, for he made it, and the hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

Singing Together *How Great Thou Art*

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine | Stuart Hin Trust | CCLI License # 11280377

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed!

*Chorus Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

And when I think that God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin! (Chorus)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God how great Thou art! (Chorus)

Hearing God's Word

Psalm 1

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

Confessing Together

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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

Speak O Lord

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Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord, full obedience
Holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majesty love and authority
Words of pow'r that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Christ Is Mine Forevermore

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson | ©S2016 CityAlight Music| CCLI License # 11280377

Mine are days that God has numbered
I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings
But mine is hope in my Redeemer
Though I fall His love is sure
For Christ has paid for every failing
I am His forevermore

Mine are tears in times of sorrow
Darkness not yet understood
Through the valley I must travel
Where I see no earthly good
But mine is peace that flows from heaven
And the strength in times of need
I know my pain will not be wasted
Christ completes His work in me

Mine are days here as a stranger
Pilgrim on a narrow way
One with Christ I will encounter
Harm and hatred for His name
But mine is armor for this battle
Strong enough to last the war
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore

*Bridge Come rejoice now O my soul
For His love is my reward!
Fear is gone and hope is sure
Christ is mine forevermore! (3x)*

And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore

Praying Together

Hearing God's Word Proclaimed

Colossians 1:24 – 2:7

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

Communing Together

Invitation

Come to this table: you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more; you who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

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.

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.**

Let us pray in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray: **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 but deliver us from evil, for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Most gracious God, we praise you for what you have given and for what you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Now we give ourselves to you; and we ask that our daily living may be part of your kingdom, and that our love may be your love reaching out to the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

In Christ Alone

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In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand!

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am his and he is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ!

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny!
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand
Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Benediction for Mission

Sermon Series in Colossians: The Elephant In The Room

The Path Of Spiritual Growth

Colossians 1:24 – 2:7

Introduction: Spiritual status report

1. Received

2. Walk

3. Roots

4. Foundations

Application