

FAITH CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR MICHAEL BROWN

CALL TO WORSHIP

1 PETER 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you...

INVOCATION

PASTOR DEVIN KAHAN

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

I Stand Amazed (How Marvelous)

Gabriel | Norton Hall Band

Verse 1

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how He could love me
A sinner condemned unclean

Chorus

How marvelous how wonderful
And my song shall ever be
How marvelous how wonderful
Is my Savior's love for me

Verse 2

He took my sins and my sorrows
He made them His very own
(And) He bore the burden to Calvary
And suffered and died alone

Verse 3

And with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see
It will be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me

CONFESSION OF SIN

1 PETER 1:13

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ...

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

PASTOR DEVIN KAHAN

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we undervalue the inheritance that you have won for us. Our rejoicing is not where it should be. For we often put our hope in our works or our circumstances, not our Lord. Forgive us, we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 PETER 1:24-25

...for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

SONGS OF PRAISE

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Boswell | Papa | Bleecker

Verse 1

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Verse 2

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in Him we stand

Verse 3

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured love untold

Verse 4

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive
What a foretaste of deliv'rance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes

Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me

Robinson | Thompson | Farren

Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 3

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete
still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

GENESIS 14:19-20

And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

If the Lord is leading you to give, we offer two ways to do so: there are two black boxes in the foyer immediately as you exit the sanctuary, or you can give online at www.faithrpc.org/connect/give.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

BOB RUSH

Children may go to children's church if desired. First-time visitors, please escort your children out of the sanctuary for check-in.

“Prodigal Son and the Unrelenting Love of God”

Pastor Michael Brown

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

In Christ Alone

Getty | Townend

Verse 1

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

Verse 2

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

Verse 3

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

Verse 4

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

SERMON TEXT & NOTES

Luke 15:11-13. ¹¹ And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living.”

I. Heartbreaking Request

II. Sacrificial Dividing of the Inheritance

III. Squandering the Inheritance

- He spent as if he could find himself in his pleasures. But pleasure will later put it and as he soon discovered to his great hurt, and as perhaps you yourself may have come to discover, pleasure when we try to use it as a tool of self-discovery, is really nothing more than a devourer. A devourer! *David Strain*

Luke 15:14-16. ¹⁴ “And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.”

IV. Lowest of Lows

- This is where reckless living always leads. To run away from God and decide to go our own way in life is to end up living in spiritual squalor. When we gratify ourselves with sinful pleasures, when we live for more possessions, and when we rush from one entertainment to the next, we are starving our souls. Soon we will end up as a disillusioned lost soul. *Phillip Ryken*

SERMON TEXT & NOTES

Luke 15:17-18. ¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.” ’

V. Coming to His Senses

VI. Journey Back Home

Luke 15:20-24. ²⁰ “And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.”

VII. In the Father’s Embrace

- And he comes after both with the same message – your status, your significance has nothing to do with how good you’ve been. It’s hard for us to get our head around, isn’t it? Good religious folks, most of us, that our status has nothing to do with how good we’ve been and everything to do with being rightly related to the Father. *David Strain*