

Pastoral Welcome and Announcements

Thoughts for the Day:

- *Man is broken. He lives by mending. The grace of God is glue.* Eugene O'Neill
- Our life is full of brokenness broken relationships, broken promises, broken expectations. How can we live with that brokenness without becoming bitter and resentful except by returning again and again to God's faithful presence in our lives? Henri Nouwen

Call to Worship:

Leader: God invites you to come into the holy presence.

People: We want to come to God, but we are not worthy.

Leader: God invites you to come as you are into the holy presence.

People: We want to come, but we have not been faithful to God.

Leader: God invites you to come in spite of what you have done or not done.

People: We want to believe that God loves us, but we are afraid.

Leader: Look to the cross before you. Jesus has shown you the love of God and has reconciled you to your Creator. Christ has done what we cannot.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we come.

Song: Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us v. 1-3 (music at end of bulletin)

Our Confession:

Leader: We cannot draw close to God by our own efforts. We have nothing to offer. We pray God would accept us because of our Lord's actions on our behalf.

People: We have strayed from you, God of creation and God of grace. We have not loved you with all our being and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not followed your gracious teachings; we have ignored your prophets; we have wandered after the imaginings of our own hearts. We have found our lives desolate and lonely without you. Welcome

us back into your presence and claim us as your own children through the sacrifice of Jesus your Son. Amen.

Leader: God has reconciled us through the love and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God given in Jesus Christ. In the name of Jesus you are forgiven and reconciled to God. Thanks be to God.

Song: Amazing Grace v. 1-3 (music at end of bulletin)

The Lessons:

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Message: "Judgment"

Message Response: Everyone is a Child of God (music at end of bulletin)

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Sending Out:

Leader: Jesus Christ has reconciled us to God through his cross. Let us go into the world and take up our cross that all the people we encounter this week will know that God welcomes them home, as well.

Amen.

The Sending Song: How Great Thou Art (music at end of bulletin)

The Dismissal:

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

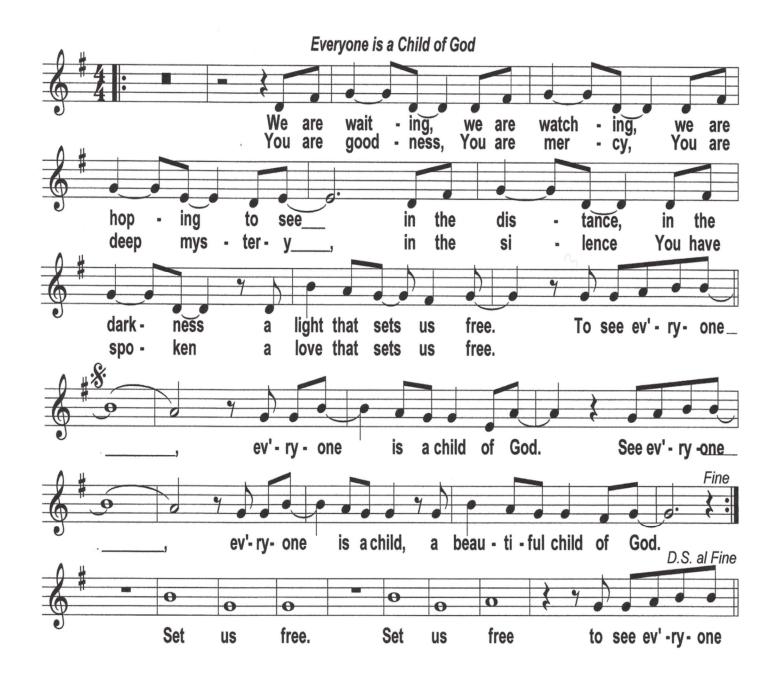


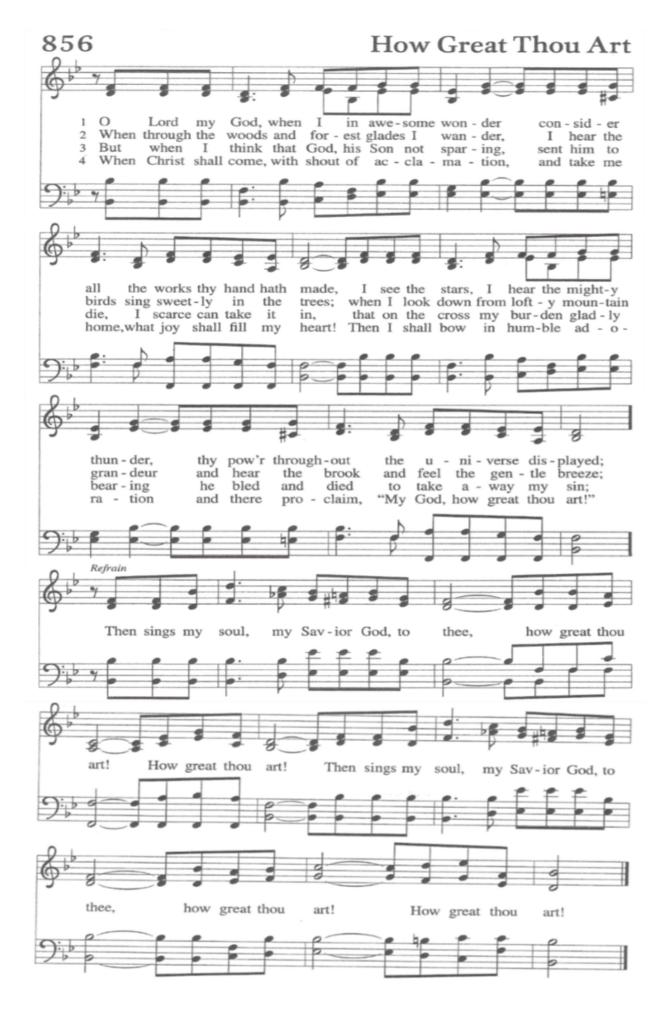


Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound









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