

GOD CALLS AND CLEANSSES US

Gathering Song

Indescribable

Story (2004)

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea,
creation's revealing Your majesty.

From the colors of Fall to the fragrance of Spring,
ev'ry creature unique in the song that it sings, all exclaiming...

REFRAIN: *Indescribable, uncontainable,*

You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.

You are amazing God!

All powerful, untamable, awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim

You are amazing God!

Who has told ev'ry lightning bolt where it should go,
or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow?

Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light,
yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of night? None can fathom.

REFRAIN X2: *Indescribable, uncontainable,*

You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name.

You are amazing God!

All powerful, untamable, awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim

You are amazing God!

You are amazing God!

Welcome, Greeting and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalm 68:32-35

LEADER: O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord,
to Him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
behold, He sends out His voice, His mighty voice.
Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel,
and whose power is in the skies. Awesome is God from His sanctuary;
the God of Israel—He is the one who gives power and strength to his people.
Blessed be God!

Prayer of Invocation

Worship Singing

O Church, Arise

Getty & Townend (2005)

O church, arise and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—
An inheritance of nations.

REFRAIN: *Arise, shine for your light has come*
Arise, shine for the Risen Son
Lift your eyes, we are His radiant bride
Arise, o church arise!

Confession of Sin

ALL: O Lord, we marvel that You should become incarnate,
be crucified, dead and buried. Help us to die with You that we may rise to new
life, for we long to be dead and buried to sin, to selfishness, and to the world.
O Lord, we have fallen short of Your glorious standard and there is much evil
about us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake.

God Be Merciful to Me

Stewart (2000)

God, be merciful to me, On Thy grace I rest my plea;
Plenteous in compassion Thou, Blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within, Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
My transgressions I confess, Grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against Thy grace And provoked Thee to Thy face;
I confess Thy judgment just, Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.

Thou alone my Savior art, Teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow, Wash me whiter than the snow.
Wash me whiter than the snow.

Broken, humbled to the dust By Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face, Blot them out in boundless grace.
Blot them out in boundless grace.

**ALL: Help us to reckon our old life dead because of the crucifixion.
Grant us to stand with our dying Savior—to be content with rejection,
to be willing to take up unpopular truths, and to accept suffering for the sake of
the Kingdom. Grant us more and more of the resurrection life—
may it rule us, may we walk in its power,
and may we be strengthened through its influence.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

God Be Merciful to Me
Stewart (2000)

Gracious God, my heart renew, Make my spirit right and true;
Cast me not away from Thee, Let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.
Steadfast make my willing heart.

Sinners then shall learn from me and return, O God, to Thee;
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing Thy love;
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.
And my mouth shall praise accord.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 68:4-5, 19-20

LEADER: Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him
who rides through the deserts; His name is the LORD; exult before Him!
Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in His holy habitation.
Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.
Our God is a God of salvation, and to GOD,
the Lord, belong deliverances from death.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

REFRAIN X2: *Arise, shine for your light has come
Arise, shine for the Risen Son
Lift your eyes, we are His radiant bride
Arise, o church arise!*

Prayer for the Church and the World

Worship through Giving

(8:30) Worship Singing

text give to 828.398.4805

There Is a Hope
Edwards & Townend (2007)

There is a hope that burns within my heart
That gives me strength for ev'ry passing day
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meager part
Yet drives all doubt away
I stand in Christ with sins forgiv'n and Christ in me the hope of heav'n
My highest calling and my deepest joy to make His will my home

There is a hope that lifts my weary head
A consolation strong against despair
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit
I find the Savior there
Through present suff'rings future's fear He whispers courage in my ear
For I am safe in everlasting arms and they will lead me home

There is a hope that stands the test of time
That lifts my eyes beyond the beck'ning grave
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine
when I behold His face
When suff'rings cease and sorrows die and ev'ry longing satisfied
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul for I am truly home
When suff'rings cease and sorrows die and ev'ry longing satisfied
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul for I am truly home

(11:00) Musical Offering: Adult Choir

Depth of Mercy
Charles Wesley | David Rasbach (2015)

*Depth of mercy! Can there be
Mercy still reserved for me?
Can, my God, His wrath forbear
Me, the Chief of Sinners spare?
There for me the Savior stands
Holding forth His wounded hands
God is love, I know, I feel
Jesus weeps and loves me still.
He loves me still*

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Sermon

James: Undefined Religion
James 2:1-7 (NASB) | *The Impartial Judge*

Chad Smith

My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of personal favoritism*.² For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,³ and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,"⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?⁵ Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?⁶ But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court?⁷ Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?

GOD STRENGTHENS US

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Gluten/Soy-free crackers are in the paper liners of each tray.

(BREAD)

(8:30) Musical Offering: Adult Choir *Depth of Mercy*

Charles Wesley | David Rasbach (2015)

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Mercy still reserved for me?
Can, my God, His wrath forbear
Me, the Chief of Sinners spare?*

*There for me the Savior stands
Holding forth His wounded hands
God is love, I know, I feel
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(11:00) Worship Singing *There Is a Hope*

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GOD SENDS US

God's Promise of His Presence and Blessing