



Faith

Community Church

April 25, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD'S GREETING

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish your descendants forever and build your throne for all generations.'"

Praise the Lord!

*OPENING SONGS - "Forever"

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King,
His love endures forever.
For He is good, He is above all things,
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise.

From the rising to the setting sun,
His love endures forever.
By the grace of God, we will carry on,
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise,
Sing praise, sing praise.
Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong,
Forever God is with us,
Forever, forever.
Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong,
Forever God is with us,
Forever.

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm,
His love endures forever.
For the life that's been reborn,
His love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise.
Forever God is faithful,
Forever God is strong,
Forever, God is with us,
Forever, forever.

“Build My Life”

Worthy of every song we could ever sing.
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe.
We live for You.
We live for You.

Jesus the name above every other name.
Jesus the only one who could ever save.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe.
We live for You.
We live for You.
Holy, there is no one like You,
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love
To those around me.

Jesus the name above every other name.
Jesus the only one who could ever save.
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe.
We live for You.
We live for You.
I will build my life upon Your love;
It is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone,
And I will not be shaken.

I will build my life upon Your love;
It is a firm foundation.
I will put my trust in You alone,
And I will not be shaken.
Holy, there is no one like You,
There is none beside You.
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love
To those around me.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

Forgiving happens in three stages. First, we rediscover the humanity of the person who wronged us.

Lord, we must confess that far too often we make monsters out of those who have hurt us. Or, we make them less than human and stoke our wrath against them. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to remember that those who have hurt us are human.

The second stage of forgiveness is that, we surrender our right to get even.

We desire justice Lord, and you are a just God. But if you were to “get even” with us, none of us would exist. Help us to surrender our desire for revenge while still being people who love and seek justice. Help us to balance that justice with forgiveness.

Third, we wish that person well.

We confess, heavenly Father, that occasionally we hope for horrible events to occur to those who have hurt us deeply. We sometimes nurture our bitterness towards them and crave gossip of their demise. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to grow in peace toward all people, including those that we must forgive.

These stages of forgiveness are not easy. They may not come quickly.

Lord, stay with us in your faithfulness and please nourish us to become like Jesus: forgiving those who have harmed us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Unison)

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

DECLARATION OF FAITH- Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 17

45. Q. How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

A. First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.

*SONG OF PREPARATION- "Love Divine All Loves Excelling"

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling;
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
Pure, unbounded love Thou art.
Visit us with Thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee:
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love and praise.

SCRIPTURE- Ephesians 4:29-5:32

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. **5** ¹ Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³ But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. ⁴ Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵ For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be partners with them. ⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴ This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." ¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. ²² Wives,

submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” ³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

SERMON – “Forgive and Remember- Part 1”

SONG OF RESPONSE- “Joy (Housefires)”

There's beauty in my brokenness
I've got true love instead of pain
There's freedom though you've captured me
I've got joy instead of mourning
You give me joy
Down deep in my soul
Down deep in my soul
Down deep in my soul
(repeat)

Never been so free, caught in Your love for me.
Never been more secure knowing Your heart, Lord.
Never been more secure. You give me joy.
You give me joy
Down deep in my soul
Down deep in my soul
Down deep in my soul
You give me joy
Down deep in my soul
Down deep in my soul
Down deep in my soul

***BENEDICTION**

***DOXOLOGY- “You Are My King (Amazing Love)”**

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted; You were condemned.
And I'm alive and well,
Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again.
Amazing love, how can it be
That You, my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true;
It's my joy to honor You.
In all I do I honor You.
You are my King,
You are my King.
Jesus, You are my King.
In all I do I honor You.