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# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

# October 8, 2023

## Gathering Song: Shine On Us

+ Call to Worship (1 Chronicles 29:10b-13)

Pastor: Praise be to you, LORD, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

- People: Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.
- Pastor: Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.
- People: In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

Unison: Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

**†** Hymn: Thanks to God Whose Word Was Spoken

+ Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

#### **First Scripture Readings**

#### Romans 10:1-18 Responsive

<sup>1</sup> Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup> For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. <sup>3</sup> Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

<sup>5</sup> Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: "The person who does these things will live by them." <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup> "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

<sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: <sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

# <sup>11</sup> As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame."<sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup> for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

<sup>14</sup> How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? <sup>15</sup> And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

<sup>16</sup> But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" <sup>17</sup> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. <sup>18</sup> But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did:

"Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world."

#### John 1:1-14 Responsive

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John.<sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his

own, but his own did not receive him.

<sup>12</sup>Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

#### This is the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

#### † Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**†** Hymn: How Firm a Foundation

#### **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory: "Nearer My God to Thee"

arr. Yuta Sugano

#### + Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### **Second Scripture Readings**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God<sup>-2</sup>the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup> regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup> and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

<sup>5</sup> Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes

# from faith for his name's sake. 6 And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup> First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. <sup>9</sup>God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you <sup>10</sup> in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.

<sup>11</sup> I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— <sup>12</sup> that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. <sup>13</sup> I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

<sup>14</sup>I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish.

#### **Psalm 19 Responsive**

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. <sup>2</sup> Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

<sup>3</sup> They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.
<sup>4</sup>Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.
<sup>5</sup> It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.
<sup>6</sup> It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

> <sup>7</sup>The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul.
>  The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.
>  <sup>8</sup>The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.
>  The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

 The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.
 The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous.

<sup>10</sup> They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.

<sup>11</sup> By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
<sup>12</sup> But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.
<sup>13</sup> Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup> May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

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

Sermon: The Three Voices of God Dr. James N. McGuire

**Pastoral Prayer** 

**+** Hymn: Wonderful Word of Life

#### Responsive Litany (Philippians 2:8-10; Revelation 5:13b)

- Pastor: And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- People: Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the Name that is above every name,
- Pastor: so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- People: and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- Unison: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever." Amen.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Yuta Sugano, Musician

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

#### In Need of Prayer

Rosie, Linda's daughter, grieving Brenda, for recovery from Covid Ed, for mobility, back pain Nancy, health Darlene, heart and dialysis, in rehab Maureen, dear friend of Lisa Raven, child with seizures Pray for caregivers of those who are ill Jack W, deep grief, loss of wife Brenda's nephew and his friends for encouragement and better jobs, and For nephew Glenn: serious illness Richard, recent stem cell transplant successful, home and improving! Caroline M's mother, failing College students, for continuing faith Jennet family, illness and deaths Linda S, breathing concerns Janet Evans, confusion (in AZ) Pickett family Alicia, niece of Carolyn, cancer diagnosis

#### In Need of Prayer

Debbie T, blood clot in leg Enrique, continues hospital care in Korea Lisa, Pastor's niece, newly discovered cancer Glad, for restored strength Benita, improved blood counts and strength Jalene, MS flare-up and heart attack, husband caring for her Domingo, needs transplants; LaShell, cancer Sean's aunt & uncle, heavy caregiving Debbie, Pam's friend, improved, more chemo Judy V. and family in Florida Lance, brother-in-law of Isles family Sue, sister-in-law of Isles family Ron, age 34, heart failure, needs heart transplant Katalee, for full healing of lymphoma Sarah, for strength to carry her load Ryan, age 16, recent kidney transplant, also the family donor Donna's friends, Janene & Sam, who has a bad infection Tom & Carol's son, back surgery, needs care of family Pastor Scott McKee, serious cancer Family of Rusty, dear friend of Ron I, sudden death Willy, 76, needs Jesus

General Fund giving last week: \$5,200
Total giving in October: \$5,200

Moment for Missions: Please pray for the ministries of Barnabus International—for staff, travel safety, missionaries being encouraged by the staff, and wisdom and understanding as these shepherds tend their flocks.

**Heidelberg Catechism Q. 124.** What does the third requests mean? **A.** *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven* means: Help us and all mankind to reject our own wills and to obey your will with any back talk. Your will alone is good.

Help everyone carry out the work he has called us to as willingly and faithfully as the angels in heaven.

## **Notice of Congregational Meeting**

The congregational meeting for the purpose of approval of the proposed budget for 2024 will be held on October 15, 2023, following the worship service. Members are encouraged to attend. Non-members are welcome to observe, but may not vote.

# **Church Directory News**

To update our three-year-old church directory we have begun to photograph new attendees and others who would like to update their photo. We will also update things such as emails, phones, addresses, etc.

Anna, our volunteer photographer is feeling better and expects to be here today to photograph those who still wish to have a recent photo in the upcoming directory.

If you are happy with your old photo, we can use that again, but please fill out the form. You may also choose to submit a nice photo you may have at home. We will keep you informed on the progress of this much needed update.

# Ladies' Bible Study

The Ladies' Bible study continues to meet every Tuesday at 10 am at the church. The current study is the book of Second Corinthians. For more information, you may speak to Judy Dellinger.