

# The Church Gathered

November 22, 2020

11:00 a.m.

*So thank God for his marvelous love, for his miracle mercy to the children he loves.*

*– Psalm 107:31 (MSG)*

Prelude *Now Thank We All Our God* Nancy Muskrat

Welcome to Worshipers Michael Mills

*We gather here in grateful praise, in prayer and song our voices raise, for all our blessings, large and small, we thank you God, who gives us all.*

Hymn of Praise 356 *We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer* KREMSER

**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator,  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.**

**We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you,  
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

**We worship you, God of our fathers, we bless you;  
through life's storm and tempest our Guide you have been.**

**When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
and with your help, O LORD, our battles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer,  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.**

**With you, LORD, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.  
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise.**

Words by Julia Cady Cory, 1902

Reading of God's Word from Psalm 28

To you, LORD, I call; you are my Rock, do not turn a deaf ear to me.

Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands  
toward your Most Holy Place.

Praise be to the LORD, for he has heard my cry for mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he  
helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

Hymn of Testimony *Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It* REDEEMED

**Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!  
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;  
redeemed thro' his infinite mercy,  
his child, and forever, I am.**

**Redeemed, redeemed,  
redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;  
redeemed, redeemed,  
his child, and forever, I am.**

**Redeemed, and so happy in Jesus,  
no language my rapture can tell;  
I know that the light of his presence  
with me doth continually dwell.**

**I think of my blessed Redeemer,  
I think of him all the day long;  
I sing, for I cannot be silent;  
his love is the theme of my song.**

Words by Fanny J. Crosby, 1882

Pastoral Prayer

Michael Mills

Hymn of Stewardship

*Sing to the LORD of Harvest*

LANCASHIRE

**Sing to the LORD of harvest, sing songs of love and praise;  
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.  
By him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;  
sing to the LORD of harvest a joyous song of love.**

**Bring to this sacred altar the gifts his goodness gave,  
the golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.  
Your hearts lay down before him when at his feet you fall;  
and with your lives adore him who gave his life for all.**

Words by John S. B. Monsell, 1866

Offertory Prayer

Eduardo Mosteiro

Instrumental Offertory

C. L. Bass

*We thank you for the sacred word, and for the call your church has heard  
to live as you would lead each day, we thank you God, your will obey.*

Reading of God's Word

*Matthew 20:29-34*

Tessie Mosteiro

As Jesus and his disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, "LORD, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet, but they shouted all the louder, "LORD, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

Jesus stopped and called them. "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

"LORD," they answered, "we want our sight."

Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.

**Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!**

Words by Charlotte Elliott, 1834

Message

*"Encounters With Jesus: What Is It You Want?"*  
Matthew 20:29-34

Michael Mills

*Praise God, the source of everything, praise God, the Son, our LORD and  
King, praise God, the Holy Spirit near, we thank you God, for you are here.*

Observance of the LORD's Supper

*Jesus At Your Holy Table*

NETTLETON

**Jesus, at your holy table, may our hearts united be.  
Bind us with your grace and presence that redeem and set us free.  
Crucify our pride and hatred, light the path on which we walk,  
Teach us how to love each other, in the way that you have taught.**

The Bread

**Christ, remind us of your passion, of your precious life outpoured,  
Of the love which none can fathom, and our victory evermore.  
Bread of heaven, wine of promise, feed us with your holy Word.  
Nourish us with your strong presence, risen Savior, only LORD.**

The Cup

**Lift your hearts and raise your voices, celebrate this wondrous love,  
Join the chorus with all Christians, and with saints who live above.  
Silent lips now sing with gladness, blinded eyes are filled with sight,  
Jesus' love has pierced our darkness, brought us home to peace and light.**

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Benediction

Michael Mills

Postlude

C. L. Bass

