

**August 1, 2021**

**Theme: Psalm 1 - Joining God's party**

**Participants:**

Message: Rev. Tom

Pianist: Janie

Prayer: Mark

Liturgists: Judi, Janie

Prelude – Slides and MP3

**GOD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP**

**Welcome – Tom**

**God's Call to worship – Tom**

Happy are those who follow the ways of the Lord because God's ways are just and merciful.

Happy are we when we walk in God's ways *together*

Those who follow God's ways are continually nourished in faith.

In all that they do, they prosper.

So, come, let us open our hearts to God and offer him a sacrifice of praise.

Let us celebrate God together.

**OPENING SONG: Praise is rising (Judy, Janie)**

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You, we turn to You  
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You, we long for You  
'cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day  
In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away

Hosanna, hosanna, You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises  
Hosanna, hosanna, come have Your way among us  
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You, we turn to You  
In Your Kingdom, broken lives are made new, You make us new  
'cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day  
In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away

Hosanna, hosanna, You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises  
Hosanna, hosanna, come have Your way among us  
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

**GOD HEARS OUR CONFESSION AND FORGIVES OUR SIN**

**NT Scripture:** Ephesians 1:2,3 and 3:14-19 NRSV (**Janie**)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places . . . For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

**Prayer of Confession (Judi)**

To come before God with the truth of our lives is itself an act of faith: we trust that the Holy One is interested in us, interested in our minds and hearts and souls. We trust that God's mercy and grace are intended for us, too. With faith and in trust, let us make our confession to God.

Holy God, hear our prayer. Sometimes our lives are a mess, because of choices we have made or because of choices others have made. Sometimes our lives are great, and we're kind and generous. Sometimes our lives are great and we forget to be grateful and humble. We trust that in the jumble of all of this, you are present. We trust that you are with us, walking with us when we stray, nudging us back to the right path, slowing us down when we get ahead of you, and waiting for us when we lag behind.

Forgive us when we follow those paths that do not lead to life, that lead instead to hate or fear and isolation. We run away, and you seek us. We make foolish choices, and you teach us the better way. We hurt you and others, and instead of hurting us back, you forgive us. Help us, we pray; help us reveal your glory and goodness in our living as we will bear the imprint of Christ everywhere we go. We pray in Jesus' name and for his sake. Amen.

**Words of Assurance**

Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us proclaim the Good News: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. And we are not only forgiven, we are also freed. Let us greet the world as people made new in Christ. Amen.

**GOD GIVES US HIS WORD**

**Scripture:** Psalm 1 (**Tom**)

**Message:** **Joining God's party**

**Song of Response:** May the Mind of Christ My Saviour, *Lift Up Your Hearts* 334 (**Judi, Janie**)

May the mind of Christ, my Saviour, live in me from day to day,  
by His love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
so that all may see I triumph only through His pow'r.

May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,  
looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.

**Prayers of the People: Mark (Audio recording)**

**GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE**

**Offering: Tom**

**God Blesses Us: Tom**

**BENEDICTION SONG:** In Our Lives Lord Be Glorified #861 *Lift Up Your Hearts* (**Judi, Janie**)

In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in our lives, Lord, be glorified today.

In our homes, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in our homes, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.

In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in your world, Lord, be glorified today.