

Sermon Title: Beginning at the End

Welcome to Hope Presbyterian Church. We are glad you have joined us for worship. Laura Ford and Dave Burgess are co-leading worship and Jason Chroma is preaching.

We welcome children of all ages in our worship service!

GATHERING SONG | I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee, ev'ry hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.

*I need Thee, O I need Thee, ev'ry hour I need Thee,
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.*

I need Thee, ev'ry hour, in joy or pain;
Come quickly, and abide, or life is vain. (Chorus)

I need Thee, ev'ry hour; teach me Thy will,
And Thy rich promises, in me fulfill. (Chorus)

I need Thee, ev'ry hour, Most Holy One;
O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son. (Chorus)

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP | from Isaiah 40

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

All: Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and His arm rules for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him.

Leader: He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

All: Let us worship the LORD, our Great Shepherd, who has gathered us together today to take joy in glorifying Him.

SONG OF ADORATION | Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. (*Chorus*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth;
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside! (*Chorus*)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

ADORATION SONG | We Will Glorify

We will glorify the King of kings; we will glorify the Lamb!
We will glorify the Lord of lords who is the great I AM.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty! We will bow before His throne!
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone.

He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth! He is Lord of all who live!
He is Lord above the universe; all praise to Him we give.

Hallelujah to the King of kings! Hallelujah to the Lamb!
Hallelujah to the Lord of lords who is the great I AM!

NEW TESTAMENT READING | Matthew 6:25-34

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | from Psalm 51

All: Have mercy on me, O God, in Your faithful love, in Your great tenderness wipe away my offences; wash me thoroughly from my guilt, purify me from my sin. For I am well aware of my offences, my sin is constantly in mind. Against You, You alone, I have sinned, I have done what You see to be wrong, that You may show Your saving justice when You pass sentence, and Your victory may appear when You give judgement. Remember, I was born guilty, a sinner from the moment of conception. God, create in me a clean heart, renew within me a right spirit, do not thrust me away from Your presence, do not take away from me Your Holy Spirit. Return to me the joy of Your salvation, sustain in me a generous spirit. (*Silent Confession...*)

COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF THE GOSPEL | from 1 Peter 1:3

Leader: Brothers and sisters, what can wash away our sins?

All: Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Leader: We are brothers and sisters through His blood.

All: We have died together, we will rise together, we will live together.

(the people rise in body or in spirit)

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

All: Praise be to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

GREETING OF PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING | It Is Well with My Soul

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
"It is well (it is well) with my soul. (with my soul)"
It is well, it is well with my soul!

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control:
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed His own blood for my soul. (*Chorus*)

My sin, O the bliss of that glorious thought:
My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul. (*Chorus*)

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend.
Even so, it is well with my soul. (*Chorus*)

TITHES & OFFERINGS | from Acts 20:35

Leader: Jesus, who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

All: Shape me to be a more giving person as I offer You all that I am and all that I have. Amen.

FAMILY TIME

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OLD TESTAMENT READING | Ecclesiastes 12

¹ Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them"; ² before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return after the rain, ³ in the day when the keepers of the house tremble, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those who look through the windows are dimmed, ⁴ and the doors on the street are shut—when the sound of grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low— ⁵ they are afraid also of what is high, and terrors are in the way; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along, and desire fails, because man is going to his eternal home, and the mourners go about the streets— ⁶ before the silver cord is snapped, or the golden bowl is broken, or the pitcher is shattered at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern, ⁷ and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. ⁸ Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; all is vanity.

⁹ Besides being wise, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs with great care. ¹⁰ The Preacher sought to find words of delight, and uprightly he wrote words of truth.

¹¹ The words of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings; they are given by one Shepherd. ¹² My son, beware of anything beyond these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

¹³ The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. ¹⁴ For God will bring every deed into judgement, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION | We Long to See You

*Almighty God, we long to see You.
Open our hearts and make them pure.
Spirit, we wash our hands in mercy;
Come teach our souls to love Your truth.*

SERMON | Beginning at the End

AMEN

A-A- A men! A- A- A men! A- A men! A-men. Amen!

SONG OF RESPONSE | All I Once Held Dear (Knowing You)

*All I once held dear, built my life upon,
All this world reveres and wars to own,
All I once thought gain I have counted loss;
Spent and worthless now, compared to this:
 Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You-
 There is no greater thing.
 You're my all, you're my rest,
 You're my joy, my righteousness,
 And I love You, Lord.*

*Now my heart's desire is to know You more,
To be found in You and known as Yours.
To possess by faith what I could not earn,
All-surpassing gift of righteousness. (Chorus)*

*O to know the pow'r of Your risen life,
And to know You in Your sufferings.
To become like You in Your death, my Lord,
So with You to live and never die! (Chorus)*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Communion is the family meal of Christians. The Lord Jesus invites all those who are His committed followers to commune with Him at His table: those who trust in Him, who are baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, who are willing to forsake their sin, being at peace with God and their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a follower of Jesus, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please spend this time in silent prayer. Children who have been examined by the elders and admitted to the Lord's Table are able to partake of communion.

COMMUNION RESPONSE | from the Kenyan Liturgy

Leader: Is the Father with us?
All: **He is.**
Leader: Is the Son among us?
All: **He is.**
Leader: Is the Spirit here?
All: **He is.**
Leader: He is our God:
All: **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**
Leader: We are His people:
All: **We are redeemed by His grace.**
Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of Faith:
All: **Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**
Leader: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. Hallelujah!
All: **Hallelujah!**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

SENDING SONG | My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
 On Christ the solid Rock I stand,
 All other ground is sinking sand,
 All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest in His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (*Chorus*)

His oath, His covenant, His blood, support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
(Chorus)

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. (Chorus)

COMMISSIONING

Leader: All our problems
All: **We send to the cross of Christ!**
Leader: All our difficulties
All: **We send to the cross of Christ!**
Leader: All the devil's works
All: **We send to the cross of Christ!**
Leader: All our hopes
All: **We set on the risen Christ!**

BENEDICTION

SENDING

Reader: Let us be the church in the world – loving and serving God and our
 neighbor.
All: **Alive to God. Dead to sin. We go out glorifying Him!**

