



ORDINARY TIME | JULY 26, 2020

REFLECTIONS

“In the love of the family of God, we must become color brave, color caring, color honoring, and not color blind. We have to recognize the image of God in one another. We have to love despite, and even because of, our differences.”

LATASHA MORRISON | *BE THE BRIDGE*

“When the Church tries to embody the rule of God in the forms of earthly power it may achieve that power, but it is no longer a sign of the kingdom.”

LESSLIE NEWBIGIN | *THE GOSPEL IN A PLURALIST SOCIETY*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

All **So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.**

Leader Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

All **So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.**

Leader My soul will be satisfied and my mouth will praise you
when I remember you upon my bed and meditate on you in the night;

Together **For you have been my help
and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy!** — from Psalm 63

SONG OF PRAISE

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES / FROM PSALM 24; MUSIC: GEORGE WEISSEL

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!
2. A helper just, He comes to thee;
his chariot is humility;
his kingly crown is holiness;
his scepter, kindness in distress!
3. O blest the land, the city blest,
where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes,
to whom this King in triumph comes!
4. Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart!
The Word made flesh descends to dwell
with joy for you who His mercies tell.
5. So come, my Lord, and enter in,
let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on
until Thy glorious victories won!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Leader Blessed be the name of the Lord!
The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.
Blessed be the Lord, our rock, our steadfast love and fortress,
our stronghold and deliverer, our shield in whom we take refuge!
Blessed be the name after whom every family in heaven and earth is named!
Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forevermore!
From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the Lord — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — is to be praised! **Amen!**
— from Eph. 3:15; Ps. 113:1-3; Prov. 18:10

SONGS OF PRAISE

10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD) / MATT REDMAN

CHORUS

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

2. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

ALL YOUR WORKS ARE GOOD / SANDRA MCCrackEN

1. The moon it marks the seasons
The sun knows when to go down
The ocean holds its creatures
The river knows its bounds

2. The birds, the trees, the cattle
And all things great and small
We find our place in creation
Your hand sustains it all (CHORUS)

CHORUS

All Your works are good
All Your works are good
From everlasting, to everlasting
All Your works are good

3. He makes the clouds His chariot
He wraps Himself in light
He stretches out the heavens,
Like a tent across the sky

4. He knows our every burden
When darkness veils our eyes
He comes with spring returning,
Bringing death to life (CHORUS)

5. As we labor until evening
There's a message on the wind
Be still and know your Maker
Be satisfied in Him (CHORUS)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Together

Eternal and merciful God,
you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding,
and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake.
Yet we have strayed from your way;
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
through what we have done and what we have left undone.
As we remember the lavish gift of your grace,
we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again.
Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin,
and to rise daily to new life in Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
and in whose strong name we pray. **Amen.**

SONG OF RESPONSE & ASSURANCE

BONHOEFFER'S PRAYER / WORDS: D. BONHOEFFER; MUSIC: BIFROST ARTS

Lord, early in the morning
We cry unto You
In You there is light, when I cannot see
In You there is love, patience and peace
Lord, I do not understand Your ways
But You know the way for me

WORDS OF COMFORT & PEACE

Leader

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord!

— from Romans 8:38-39

All

Thanks be to God!

Leader

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * Take a moment during announcements and “pass the peace” to one another. Text, call, hug the person next to you.
** Check our website for the latest updates and ways to invest in the life of our church and city.

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY

If you're accustomed to giving during worship on Sunday mornings, please consider giving online and setting up a recurring or one-time gift through the Subsplash platform. (Subsplash has one of the lowest transaction fees and reduces our fees the more people give online.) To give online, visit <https://gracepasadena.org/give>. Questions? Email info@gracepasadena.org.

THE 1ST LESSON — ISAIAH 56:3-8

³ Let not the foreigner
who has joined himself to the Lord say,
“The Lord will surely separate me from his people”;
and let not the eunuch say,
“Behold, I am a dry tree.”
⁴ For thus says the Lord:
“To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me
and hold fast my covenant,
⁵ I will give in my house and within my walls
a monument and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name
that shall not be cut off.

⁶ “And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
and holds fast my covenant—
⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.”
⁸ The Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him
besides those already gathered.” [ESV]

THE 2ND LESSON — EPHESIANS 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. [ESV]

THE SERMON — BRANNIN PITRE

Sermon Series: “Growing in the Comprehensive Gospel”
Sermon Title: “A Comprehensive Strength”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With the joy and hope of the resurrection resounding in our hearts, minds, and bodies, let us offer our prayers for ourselves and the world to God, our King and Lover of our souls. Let us be still before the Lord. All end with the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A COMMUNION PRAYER

Together Jesus Christ, you promise to meet us and feed us whenever we gather and eat from your table. Since we cannot break bread with you and one another, we ask that you would renew your presence in us and strengthen us spiritually. We long to feast with you and our church family. We long to welcome others into your presence and to experience your gracious hospitality together. In your mercy, make it so quickly. In your name, we pray. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONGS

GLORY HALLELUJAH / TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL

1. Glory hallelujah, I shall not be moved
Anchored in Jehovah, I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by waters
I shall not be moved.

2. In His loving abiding, I shall not be moved
And in Him confiding, I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters
I shall not be moved.

CHORUS

*I shall not be, I shall not be moved
I shall not be, I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters
I shall not be moved*

3. Though all hell assail me, I shall not be moved
Jesus will not fail me, I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters
I shall not be moved

4. Though the tempest rages, I shall not be moved
On the Rock of ages, I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters
I shall not be moved.

MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS / EDWARD MOTE

1. 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.

CHORUS

*On Christ the solid rock I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

2. When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

3. 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!

4. 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.

BENEDICTION & SENDING

Leader By the power of the Holy Spirit, may you have the strength to comprehend with all the saints the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of him who calls you. Be bold and share this amazing love with the world!

All **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

ORDINARY TIME

As Phillip Reinders says in *Seeking God's Face*:

"With all the big holidays and celebrations over, Ordinary Time offers us the space to find our place in God's story. We've celebrated and taken in the momentous life of Jesus; now we need a long stretch of days to absorb and assimilate it. In Ordinary Time, we fully take in the gospel, allowing it to take shape in our daily living, making connections between Jesus' story and our lives. 'Ordinary' doesn't mean boring or second-rate but simply 'everyday.' The Christian faith is not an otherworldly faith; it's about this creation, your life, these days. Ordinary Time gives us the space to consider all the implications of God's salvation in Jesus Christ for our day by day, week-in, week-out lives. As such, it is a time of listening to the story of God's people."

GIVING & BUDGET

	<u>JAN-JUN</u>	<u>JUNE 2020¹</u>	<u>MERCY²</u>
OFFERINGS & CONTRIBUTIONS _____	\$230,279	\$21,411	\$14,020
BUDGETED GIVING _____	216,000	36,000	---
DIFFERENCE _____	+14,279	-14,589	---

¹as of 7/23/2020; figures exclude directed gifts from outside donors

²Year-to-date Mercy special offering contributions (for COVID-19 relief)

In need of prayer?

Please reach out to the pastors, staff and leaders of the church. We are here for you.

Email: help@gracepasadena.org