



SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING AND PRAISE

HYMN

"Bless the Lord, O My Soul"

**Chorus: Bless the Lord oh my soul, Oh my soul. Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul. I'll worship Your Holy name**

**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**

Chorus

**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**

Chorus

**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**

Chorus x2

OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, in the silence of this moment, call us by name, lift our weary spirits, deepen our questioning faith and give us new eyes to see your blessings all around us. For you are the giver of peace, the source of joy and a whisper of love in the stillness. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

CALL TO PRAYER

"Be Still and Know"

**Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know that He is holy.
Be still oh restless soul of mine, bow before the Prince of Peace
Let the noise and clamor cease**

**Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know that He is faithful
Consider all that He has done, stand in awe and be amazed
And know that He will never change. Be still**

**Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know that He is God
Be still and know that He is God. Be still, be speechless**

**Be still and know that He is God. Be still and know He is our Father
Come rest your head upon His breast, listen to the rhythm of
His unfailing heart of love, beating for his little ones calling each of us to come
Be still. Be still**

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING for OFFERING, TITHES, AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"The Potter's Hand"

HEARING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

James 3:1-12

My brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers, because we know that we teachers will be judged more strictly. ²We all make mistakes often, but those who don't make mistakes with their words have reached full maturity. Like a bridled horse, they can control themselves entirely. ³When we bridle horses and put bits in their mouths to lead them wherever we want, we can control their whole bodies. ⁴Consider ships: They are so large that strong winds are needed to drive them. But pilots direct their ships wherever they want with a little rudder. ⁵In the same way, even though the tongue is a small part of the body, it boasts wildly.

⁶Think about this: A small flame can set a whole forest on fire. ⁶The tongue is a small flame of fire, a world of evil at work in us. It contaminates our entire lives. Because of it, the circle of life is set on fire. The tongue itself is set on fire by the flames of hell.

⁷People can tame and already have tamed every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and fish. ⁸No one can tame the tongue, though. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we both bless the Lord and Father and curse human beings made in God's likeness. ¹⁰Blessing and cursing come from the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, it just shouldn't be this way! ¹¹Both fresh water and salt water don't come from the same spring, do they? ¹²My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree produce olives? Can a grapevine produce figs? Of course not, and fresh water doesn't flow from a saltwater spring either.

SERMON

"The Way It Should Be"

David Lord

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN

"Graves into Gardens"

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me,
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough
Then You came along and put me back together
And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love

Chorus: Oh, there's nothing better than You, there's nothing better than You
Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws, Lord, You've seen 'em all, and You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley
There's not a place your mercy and grace won't find me again

Chorus: Oh, there's nothing better than You, there's nothing better than You
Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You

You turn mourning to dancing, You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory, You're the only one who can
You turn graves into gardens, You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways, You're the only one who can, You're the only one who can

Chorus x2

SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

"Shalom to You"

Shalom to you, my friend, shalom to you
May God's full mercies bless you my friend
In all your living, and through your loving
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom