

St. John's Worship

Sunday, April 11, 2021

Introduction to Worship

Greeting & Prayer of Submission

Rev. Lee Gray

Hymn of Praise

Thine Is the Glory

MACCABEUS

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb. Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth death hath lost its sting.

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast won.

Reading from the Epistle of John

1 John 1:1-2:2

Anna Cushman, reader

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

This is the written word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Song of Forgiveness

Forgive our sins as we forgive, you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart, that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

The Church at Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Allison Benfield

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

InLighten Video

A Journey of Forgiveness

Musical Meditation

Forgiveness

by J. Kevin Gray

Day by day, year by year, as we make our way through life, there are mountains and hills we must climb, but now and then we're thrown into the valley dark and deep, filled with wounds we try so hard to hide, dark and deep, filled with wounds we try so hard to hide.

Oh, but where do you go when you step outside the door of this lonely place of hurt and pain? Do you run far away or do you stay another day, lost in memories of hate that eat at your soul?

Step out of the past and into the light; leave behind the weight that you feel. Grace is revealed when wounds begin to heal. It's only when you forgive that you truly start to live; it's the gift you give yourself.

Message

The Speed of Forgiveness

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

Song

Help Us Accept Each Other
ACCEPTANCE

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; renew us with your Spirit;
Lord, free us, make us one!

Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

Postlude

He Is Alive

arr. Jason Payne

J. Noel Lance