

First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Ascension of the Lord

Digital Contemporary Service

May 16, 2021



CONGREGATIONAL SONGS OF PRAISE

Blessed Be Your Name

Matt Redman

Verse 1

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Verse 2

Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say

Chorus

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Verse 3

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name

Verse 4

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering

Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Bridge
You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

The Lord Our God

Jason Ingram

Verse 1
Promise maker promise keeper
You finish what You begin
Our provision through the desert
You see it through till the end
You see it through till the end

Chorus
The Lord our God is ever faithful
Never changing through the ages
From this darkness You will lead us
And forever we will say
You're the Lord our God

Verse 2
In the silence in the waiting
Still we can know You are good
All Your plans are for Your glory
Yes we can know You are good
Yes we can know You are good

Bridge
We won't move without You
We won't move without You
You're the light of all and all that we need
(REPEAT)

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE

Unfailing Love

Chris Tomlin

Verse 1
You have my heart
And I am Yours forever

You are my strength
God of grace and power
And ev'rything
You hold in Your hand
Still You make time for me
I can't understand

Chorus
Praise You God of earth and sky
How beautiful is Your unfailing love
Unfailing love
And You never change God You remain
The Holy One and my unfailing love
Unfailing love

Verse 2
You are my rock
The One I hold on to
You are my song
And I sing for You
And ev'rything
You hold in Your hand
Still You make time for me
I can't understand

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, Jesus said that he came so that we might have life, and have it abundantly. But all too often, we resign ourselves to a life of faith defined by scarcity. We hesitate to speak of our faith, fearing the reactions or judgment of others. We are half-hearted in our service, preferring deeds that bring temporary comfort rather than true transformation. We focus on the resources that we do not have for ministry rather than those that we do. We lament a sense of your absence without considering that we may be looking for you in the wrong places. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to recognize and be true witnesses of all the things that you are doing to shower us in your boundless grace and love.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 24:44-53

Lindsey Chadbourn

SERMON

“Going Far to Come Near”

The Rev. J.C. Austin

SONG OF PRAISE

Let There Be Light

Brooke Ligertwood

Verse 1

There's no darkness in Your eyes
There's no question in Your mind
God almighty God of mercy
There's no hiding from Your face
There's no striving in Your grace
God of mercy God almighty

Chorus 1

Let there be light
Open the eyes of the blind
Purify our hearts in Your fire
Breathe in us we pray
(Jesus have Your way)

Verse 2

There's no borders in Your love
No division in Your heart
God of heaven God of freedom
There's no taking back the cross
No regret in what it cost
God of freedom God of heaven

Chorus 2

Let there be light
Open our eyes to Your heart
Des'prate just to know who You are
Shine in us we pray
Jesus have Your way

Bridge

Good news embracing the poor
Comfort for all those who mourn
For the broken hearted we sing louder
Release from prison and shame
Oppression turning to praise
For ev'ry captive sing louder
Restoring sight to the blind
Breaking the curse of the night
For all in darkness sing louder

Proclaiming freedom for all
This is the day of the Lord
Beauty for ashes

Verse 3

Let the light that shines above
Become the light that shine in us
There's no darkness in Your way
So have Your way
Lord have Your way

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

The Blessing

Chris Brown

Verse

The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make his face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn his
Face toward you
And give you peace

Chorus

Amen

Amen

Amen

Bridge

May his favor
Be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family
And your children

And their children
And their children

Bridge
May his presence
Go before you
And behind you
And beside you
All around you
And within you
He is with you
He is with you

Bridge
In the morning
In the evening
In your coming
And your going
In your weeping
And rejoicing
He is for you
He is for you

Tag
He is for you
He is for you

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE