



*"No branch can
bear fruit by
itself; it must
remain in the vine.
Neither can you
bear fruit unless
you remain in me."*

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE ~ 11:15 A.M.

Today is April 28, 2024 ~ The Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ Pledge Day/Commitment Sunday

+ ORDER OF WORSHIP +

WELCOME

SONG: *THE FATHER'S HOUSE*

Sometimes on this journey I get lost in my mistakes
What looks to me like weakness is a canvas for Your strength
My story isn't over my story's just begun
Failure won't define me 'cause that's what my Father does
Failure won't define me 'cause that's what my Father does

Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house

Arrival's not the endgame, the journey's where You are
You never wanted perfect, You just wanted my heart
And the story isn't over if the story isn't good
Failure's never final when the Father's in the room
Failure's never final when the Father's in the room

Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house

Prodigals come home, the helpless find hope
Love is on the move when the Father's in the room
Prison doors fling wide, the dead come to life
Love is on the move when the Father's in the room

Miracles take place, the cynical find faith
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room
Jericho walls are quaking, strongholds now are shaking
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room
Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room

Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house
(Repeat 2x)

Text: Benjamin Hastings | Cory Asbury | Ethan Hulse | Text: © 2019 CCLI Song # 7135153, admin. CCLI License # 70060. Used by permission: CCLI no. 70060

SONG: *OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART*

Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You
(Repeat)

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You
(Repeat)

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy
(Repeat 2x)

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see You
(Repeat)

Text: Paul Baloché | Text: © 1997 CCLI Song # 2298355, admin. CCLI License # 70060. Used by permission: CCLI no. 70060

INVOCATION

SONG: *THE WAY*

Through every battle, through every heartbreak
Through every circumstance, I believe
That You are my fortress, Oh You are my portion
You are my hiding place, Oh I believe You are

The Way, the Truth, the Life, I believe You are
The Way, the Truth, the Life, I believe

Through every blessing, through every promise
Through every breath I take, I believe
That You are provider, You are protector
You are the One I love, I believe You are

The Way, the Truth, the Life, I believe You are
The Way, the Truth, the Life, I believe (You are)

It's a new horizon and I'm set on You
And You meet me here today with mercies that are new
All my fears and doubts, they can all come too
Because they can't stay long when I'm here with You

It's a new horizon and I'm set on You
And You meet me here today with mercies that are new
All my fears and doubts, they can all come too
Because they can't stay long when I believe You are

The Way, the Truth, the Life, I believe You are
The Way, the Truth, the Life, I believe (You are)

It's a new horizon and I'm set on You
And You meet me here today with mercies that are new
All my fears and doubts, they can all come too
Because they can't stay long when I believe You are

The Way the Truth the Life, I believe You are
The Way the Truth the Life, I believe (You are)

Text: Ben Smith / Daniel Bashta / Pat Barrett / Text: © Bread & Wine Sounds , admin. Watershed Music Group; © Go Forth Sounds , admin. Heritage Worship Publishing; © Housefires Sounds , admin. Capitol CMG Publishing; © Capitol CMG Genesis, admin. Capitol CMG Publishing; © Heritage Worship Publishing, admin. Bethel Music Publishing. Used by permission: CCLI no. 70060

FIRST READING: 1 JOHN 4:1–11

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 15:1–8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON *"The Fruitful Branch Flowing from the Vine of Love"- John 15:1-8*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

You can also give by text message: Text "goodshepherdlutheran" to 73256 followed by a gift amount. Or give online by using Realm Giving at onrealm.org/GoodShepherdChattanooga

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

- C** 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 and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION/THE LORD'S SUPPER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING SONG: *ONE THING REMAINS (YOUR LOVE NEVER FAILS)*

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains, One thing remains

Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains,

Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love

In death in life I'm confident and
Cover'd by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love
(Repeat)

Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains

Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me
Your love

Text: Brian Johnson Christa Black Gifford Jeremy Riddle | Text: © 2010 CCLI Song # 5508444, admin. CCLI License # 70060. Used by permission: CCLI no. 70060

GO IN PEACE & SERVE THE LORD

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.