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🌀 **Prelude**

🌀 **Invocation:** In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, we worship together on this Sunday Morning.

† **讚美祭 We Offer Heart to Praise You**

- ♪ We offer heart to praise You
To enter Lord Jesus' court (*2)
- ♪ We offer a grateful heart
To give You worship and thanksgiving
We offer a cheerful heart
To offer it to praise You
- ♪ Stand up and bless the Lord, The Lord!

† **將天敞開 Open Heaven**

- ♪ Lord, release an open heaven and come down x3
May the nations sing
You're the glorious king
- ♪ Heaven and earth will join as one
Singing Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God is
Worthy of our praise
Heaven and earth singing everlasting praise
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

[Bridge]

- ♪ God is here with us, dwelling in this place
Let our eyes be fixed on You
Nations will declare You alone are God

We will give You the highest praise

- † **唯有耶穌 Jesus, You Can**
- ♪ Jesus, You can make the blind man see
Jesus, You can heal broken hearts
Jesus, You can set captives free
You make all things possible
- ♪ You reign on high in heaven and on earth
You are the One who calms the raging seas
You turn water into wine
You do miracles in life
Jesus, no one compares to You

🌀 **Responsive Reading: Psalm 18:25-31**

- 25 To the faithful you show yourself faithful, to the blameless you show yourself blameless,
- 26 to the pure you show yourself pure, but to the devious you show yourself shrewd.
- 27 You save the humble but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.
- 28 You, LORD, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light.
- 29 With your help I can advance against a troop ; with my God I can scale a wall.
- 30 As for God, his way is perfect: The LORD's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him.
- 31 For who is God besides the LORD? And who is the Rock except our God?

🌀 **Praise**

- † **榮耀歸於真神 To God be the glory**
- ♪ To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.
- ♪ O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
- ♪ Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
- Refrain:
♪ (Praise the Lord)*2, let the earth hear his voice!
(Praise the Lord)*2, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

🌀 **Special Music**

- † **何等偉大的神 Great I AM**
- ♪ I wanna be close, close to Your side,
so heaven is real, And death is a lie
I wanna hear voices of angels above singing as one;
Hallelujah,
*Holy, holy, God Almighty, great I AM;
Who is worthy, none beside Thee; God almighty,
great I AM,*
- ♪ I wanna be near, near to Your heart,

loving the world, hating the dark,
I wanna hear dry ones living again, singing as one:
Hallelujah, * *

- ♪ The mountains shake before You;
the demons run and flee
at the mention of Your name,
King of majesty; there is no pow'r in hell or any
who can stand before the power and the presence of
(the great I AM*5)
- ♪ Alpha Omega Jehovah, Messiah Redeemer
our Savior, I AM Great I AM.
Hallelujah, holy holy God Almighty great I AM.
Who is worthy, none beside Thee; God Almighty,
great I AM. Hallelujah,
- ♪ Holy, holy! Who is worthy, none beside Thee;
God Almighty, great I AM.
The Alpha, Omega, Jehovah, the great I AM.
- ♪ Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy holy holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, Blessed Trinity!
- ♪ Holy holy holy, all the saints adore Thee,
casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
which wert and art and ever more shall be.
God in three persons, blessed Trinity. Son of God,
Son of Man,
Holy Lamb, the great I AM.

🔗Scripture:

Lam 3: ¹⁸So I say, "My splendor is gone and all that I had hoped from the LORD." ¹⁹I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. ²⁰I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. ²¹Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: ²²Because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. ²³They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

Sermon: When I Feel Too Feeble to Pray

---Pastor Hsu

As one lives in a subverted nation with no hope for the future, he is under unbearable stress and feels too feeble, too downcast to pray, what can he do to change this condition?

I. Make all efforts to come to see the face of God, even if it takes crawling to achieve this goal. **【Lam 3: 18-19】**

Even influenced by a spirit of hopelessness, bitterness, affliction, suppression, and vexation, do everything you can to come to the face of God! The key to overcoming the adversary condition you're in is to keep your faith in God and always

manage your way to see God's face. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us for what we ought to pray.

【Rom 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. **】**

When you find yourself in an utterly downcast condition beyond you can manage, just come to the Lord and open your heart to Him **for His mercy and grace, beg the Lord to take control!**

II. Focus on God's love and compassion: **【Lam 3: 20-22】**

The key to reverting disheartenment and lethargy to prospect is: seeing and appreciating God's love, compassion, and faithfulness. When we turn our vision at brightness we see hope! Hannah**【1Sa 1: 17**Eli answered, "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him."
¹⁸She said, "May your servant find favor in your eyes." Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast. **】**

While we often walk in the path of evil, the Lord always bestows the best blessings on us **【Luk 11:13** If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" **】**

Though we are often faithless, the Lord always remains faithful **【2Ti 2:13** if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself. **】**

Though we are frequently weak, the Lord's grace is sufficient for us **【2Co 12:9** But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. **】**

While we may occasionally forget our beloved ones, the Lord never fails in remembering us **【Isa 49:15** "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! **】**

A Pharisee vs. a tax collector praying in the temple **【Luk 18: 10**"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men -- robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' ¹³"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said,

'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'].] .

Our proper action: acknowledge and give and account of God's mercy every day. **【Lam 3: 23】** God's mercy for us is renewed daily, so should be our acknowledgement! The Lord supplied fresh manna as spiritual nourishment to the Israelites on their journey in the desert, so was the pillar of cloud and fire. Jesus' disciples could not fully understand Jesus' teachings when they failed to keep in mind the miraculous signs Jesus performed on five small barley loaves and two small fish. **【Mat 16: 7】**They discussed this among themselves and said, "It is because we didn't bring any bread." ⁸Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked, "You of little faith, why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread? ⁹Do you still not understand? Don't you remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered? ¹⁰Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered?"]

III. Regard the Lord more than all: **【Lam 3: 24】**

1. LORD, you have assigned me **my portion** and **my cup**; to me you are more than all!

When I deem **the world** my possession, I fall into snares of disappointment, disheartening, pride, depravation, and utterly forsaking God! In the contrary, when I deem **the Lord** my possession, I get to know my Lord more every day, love Him and serve Him ever more eagerly, and experience His gracious mercy with His responding to my prayers!

Refrain ourselves from putting Jesus in the position of a judge or an arbiter over worldly disputes, or merely a stepping stone to worldly success. **【Luk 12:14】** Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" **24: 17**He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. ... ²⁵He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!"]

2. **Have faith in God's provision for the best outcome!**

It is good for a man to bear the yoke while he is young. **【Lam 3: 25】**The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; ²⁶it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. ²⁷It is good for a man to bear the yoke while he is young.】 Joseph is a good example **【Gen 50:20】** You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now

being done, the saving of many lives.]

Sit alone in silence in his distress **【Lam 3: 28】** Let him sit alone in silence, for the LORD has laid it on him. ²⁹Let him bury his face in the dust--there may yet be hope. ³⁰Let him offer his cheek to one who would strike him, and let him be filled with disgrace.], David is a good example **【2Sa 16: 11】**David then said to Abishai and all his officials, "My son, who is of my own flesh, is trying to take my life. How much more, then, this Benjamite! Leave him alone; let him curse, for the LORD has told him to. ¹²It may be that the LORD will see my distress and repay me with good for the cursing I am receiving today. "]

God does not willingly bring affliction or grief to the children of men **【Lam 3:33】** For he does not willingly bring affliction or grief to the children of men.], God's plans for men are prosperous and hopeful future! **【Jer 29:11】** For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.]

God destines the outcome **【Lam 3:38】** Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that both calamities and good things come?], not me **【Rom 11: 34】**"Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" ³⁵"Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" ³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.] !

Our proper action: thoroughly examine our ways. **【Lam 3:40】** Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD.]

Living in a time of skin-depth, we should pursue knowing God's being thoroughly, clearly knowing His commandments, rigorously examine our conducts, know ourselves in-depth, love others and repent wholeheartedly **【Lam 3:42】** "We have sinned and rebelled and you have not forgiven.], and interact with God with awe. Trough others' faults and shortcomings, David clearly appreciated his own weakness. **【Psm 139: 22】**I have nothing but hatred for them; I count them my enemies. ²³Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.]

3. **God's love is our locomotive power!**

【Lam 3:57】 You came near when I called you, and you said, "**Do not fear.**"]

【2Co 5: 14】For Christ's love **compels** us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵And he died for all, that

those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.】

【**Eph.3: 18** may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, **19** and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may **be filled** to the measure of all the fullness of God.】

There is **no fear** in love, Christ's love compelled Apostle John, whom Jesus named "Son of thunder", to transform into an apostle of love. 【**1Jn 4:18** There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.】

☞ Responsive Hymn 祂何等的愛 (祂的愛)

† How much He loves

♪ Though it's hard to express, I would try to express
Though I can not confess, I would try to confess
Though I can't understand,
I would like to realize.
Though I can't act like Him
I'd like to be more like Him

♪ How awesome is His love, thoroughly beautiful
How awesome is His love
I could have life to the full
How awesome is His love
that I shall fearfully praise.
How awesome is His love
which touches my heart more and more

☞ Announcement

1. Children Sunday School Worship is reopening today at 8:30 and 10:30 on 5th and 6th floor. Welcome 3 to 11 year-old children to join the events.
(1.) Please wear the face mask all the time, let our usher to check the forehead temperature, and please avoid physical contacting. The ushers will regularly sanitize the environment.
(2.) The Online Children Sunday School Worship will be held simultaneously.
(3.) For attending the Children Sunday School events, please take the freight elevator.
2. Praise the Lord! After 5 months of closure, the church has started the physical service! Welcome brothers and sisters return to God's house. Here are some rules that we need to follow:
(1.) To avoid physical contact, we will not arrange ushers to escort people to the seats. So please sit at the front seats when arrived and spare the seats behind for the late arrivals.

(2.) For providing a safe gathering environment to all the brothers & sisters, please leave the hall as soon as possible after attending the service, so that the helpers may sanitize the hall at once.

(3.) Since the helpers do need some time to sanitize after the service, please come around 10:20 am and do not arrive earlier.

(4.) In the Sunday morning, 5th floor (the area inside the glass gate) & 6th floor is only for children Sunday School, please do not enter if not needed. Thank you for your cooperation.

3. This Sunday (Oct. 17th) at 10:30 am is our Beautiful Life Online Sharing "Testimony of Brother Wu – The Priceless Gift". Next Sunday is the "Accompanied by Love - Testimony of Sister Bai" Welcome brothers and sister to invite family and friends to attend the event on our YouTube channel.
4. The Bible verses writing book "Psalm" has been published, welcome brothers and sisters to write, read, and meditate God's words every day.
5. The Progress of Bible speed reading plan for this week is: 1 Samuel 21-23. Hope we all root our faith in God's words. We could all go listening to Pastor's daily sharing on www.ctfhc.org.
6. If you are looking for someone to pray for you or you want to know more about Jesus, please scan the QR code or click on the "Prayer and Devotion Form 代禱與決志表" below the video. We will contact you as soon as possible to pray for you and introduce the Gospel to you.

☞ Offertory

☞ Baptism

☞ The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

☞ Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

☞ Benediction

May the grace from Lord Jesus, the love from our heavenly Father and the guiding of Holy Spirit be with all of our brothers & sisters from now on and forevermore.

*Today, our worship service together is coming to an end.
Emmanuel! May our good Lord bless you!*