



🎵Prelude

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

🎵我要唱耶和華的大慈愛

I will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord

🎵 I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever
(I will sing)*3 of the mercies of the Lord forever
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord
🎵 With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness Thy faithfulness
With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness to all generations
O how He loves you and me!

🎵叫我抬起頭的神 **The Lifter of My Head**

🎵 Lord, You are my solid rock I shall not be moved
with You as my provider who is there to fear
🎵 Lord, You are my shepherd I shall not want
with You as my banner There will be victory
🎵 For You are my shield and my defender
Glory of my life and You are the lifter of my head
🎵 Weeping may remain at night
But at dawn we will rejoice
You're my solid rock Lord, You are my help

🎵頌讚全能上帝

Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty

🎵 Father in heaven, how we love You;
We lift Your name in all the earth.
May Your kingdom be established in our praises,
As Your people declare Your mighty works.

CHORUS:

🎵 Blessed be the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come;
Blessed be the Lord God Almighty,
Who reigns forevermore!

🎵**Responsive Reading: Psalm 144:1-3, 9, 12-15**

1 Praise be to the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle.
2 He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge, who subdues peoples under me.
3 LORD, what are human beings that you care for them, mere mortals that you think of them?
9 I will sing a new song to you, my God; on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music to you,

12 Then our sons in their youth will be like well-nurtured plants, and our daughters will be like pillars carved to adorn a palace.

13 Our barns will be filled with every kind of provision. Our sheep will increase by thousands, by tens of thousands in our fields;

14 our oxen will draw heavy loads. There will be no breaching of walls, no going into captivity, no cry of distress in our streets.

15 Blessed is the people of whom this is true; blessed is the people whose God is the LORD.

🎵Praise

🎵榮耀歸於真神 **To God be the glory**



🎵Special Music

🎵願祢國度降臨 **Let Your Kingdom Come**

🎵Scripture Reading:

Exodus 32:10, 13-14, 32

10 So now let me **destroy** them in anger. Then I will **make a great nation from you.**"

13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel. These men served you, and you used your name to make a promise to them. You said, 'I will make your people as many as the stars in the sky. I will give your people all this land as I promised. This land will be theirs forever.'"

14 So the Lord **felt sorry** for the people. He did not do what he said he might do—he did not destroy them.

32 Now, **forgive** them of this sin. If you will not forgive them, then **erase my name** from your book.

**Sermon: Dark Night Dawning (II) –
The Reversal Prayer**

– Pastor Hsu

Exodus 31:18 When God finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two stone tablets of the agreement. God had written on the stones with his finger.

Exodus 32:1-6, 9 The people saw that a long time had passed and Moses had not come down from the mountain. So they gathered around Aaron. They said to him, "Look, Moses led us out of the land of Egypt, but we don't know what has happened to him. So make us some gods to go before us and lead us."

Aaron said to the people, "Bring me the gold earrings that belong to your wives, sons, and daughters." So the people collected all their gold earrings and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from the people and used it to make an idol. Using a special tool, he shaped the gold into a statue of a calf. Then the people said, "Israel, here are your gods! These are the gods that brought you out of the land of Egypt!" Aaron saw all these things, so he built an altar in front of the calf. Then Aaron made an announcement. He said, "Tomorrow will be a special festival to honor the Lord." The people woke up very early the next morning. They killed animals and offered them as

burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. They sat down to eat and drink. Then they got up and had a wild party.

9 The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen these people, and I know that they are very stubborn. They will always turn against me.

Leviticus 10:1-2 God Destroys Nadab and Abihu
Then Aaron’s sons Nadab and Abihu made a mistake. They took their incense dishes and put some fire and incense in them. But they did not use the fire that was on the altar—they took fire from some other place and brought it to the Lord. This was not what he had commanded. So fire came from the Lord and destroyed Nadab and Abihu, and they died there in front of the Lord.

Zechariah 7:5-6 “Tell the priests and the other people in this country this: ‘For seventy years you fasted and showed your sadness in the fifth month and in the seventh month. But was that fasting really for me? And when you ate and drank, was that for me? No, it was for your own good.

Deuteronomy 1:43, 45 “I spoke to you, but you did not listen. You refused to obey the Lord’s command. You thought you could use your own power, so you went up into the hill country. Then you came back crying to the LORD for help, but the LORD refused to listen to you.

Galatians 6:8 If you live to satisfy your sinful self, the harvest you will get from that will be eternal death. But if you live to please the Spirit, your harvest from the Spirit will be eternal life.

I. God made a covenant on the mountain, But people broke the covenant at the foot of the mountain: Exodus 31:18, Exodus 32:1

1. Creating idols: Exodus 32:1-4 The Golden Calf
The people created idols at the mountain, idols that were tangible, controllable, and visible.
The essence of idols is “self,” satisfying one’s own desires and selfishness, everything for oneself!
They believed that the golden calf was the Lord, and some people worshiped both the true God and themselves!

2. Self-worshiping:

Exodus 32:5-6; Leviticus 10:1-2; Zechariah 7:5-6
During the self-imposed festival, they offered sacrifices in their own way, with priests and the form of worship, but without the true God!
Aaron’s two sons offered unauthorized fire and were consumed by divine fire; people fasted for themselves, but God was not pleased!

3. self-inflicted destruction: Exodus 32:9-10, Deuteronomy 1:43, 45; Galatians 6:8

God became angry with the people and intended to destroy them completely. By refusing to be God’s chosen people, they became His enemies. When people do not listen to God, He does not listen to their pleas. They reap what they sow.

Exodus 32:7, 11-12, 31

7 At the same time, the Lord said to Moses, “Go down from this mountain. Your people, the people you brought out of the land of Egypt, have committed a terrible sin.

11 But Moses begged the Lord his God, “Lord, don’t let your anger destroy your people. You brought them out of Egypt with your great power and strength. But if you destroy your people, the Egyptians will say, ‘God planned to do bad things to his people. That is why he led them out of Egypt. He wanted to kill them in the mountains. He wanted to wipe them off the earth.’ So don’t be angry with your people. Please change your mind! Don’t destroy them.

31 So Moses went back to the Lord and said, “Please listen! These people committed a terrible sin and made a god from gold.

1 Timothy 3:15 so that, even if I cannot come soon, you will know how people should live in the family[a] of God. That family is the church of the living God. And God’s church is the support and foundation of the truth.

Acts 20:28 Be careful for yourselves and for all the people God has given you. The Holy Spirit gave you the work of caring for this flock.[b] You must be shepherds to the church of God, the people he bought with his own blood.

Ephesians 4:24 Be that new person who was made to be like God, truly good and pleasing to him.

Matthew 18:10 “Be careful. Don’t think these little children are not important. I tell you that these children have angels in heaven. And those angels are always with my Father in heaven.

Ephesians 6:5, 7 Slaves, obey your masters here on earth with fear and respect. And do this with a heart that is true, just as you obey Christ. Do your work, and be happy to do it. Work as though it is the Lord you are serving, not just an earthly master.

Acts 26:18 You will make them able to understand the truth. They will turn away from darkness to the light. They will turn away from the power of Satan, and they will turn to God. Then their sins can be forgiven, and they can be given a place among God’s people—those who have been made holy by believing in me.”

1 Samuel 17:26, 47

26 David asked the men standing near him, “What did he say? What is the reward for killing this Philistine and taking away this shame from Israel? Who is this

Goliath anyway? He is only some foreigner,[a] nothing but a Philistine. Why does he think he can speak against the army of the living God?"

47 All the people gathered here will know that the LORD doesn't need swords or spears to save people. The battle belongs to the LORD, and he will help us defeat all of you."

Philippians 2:21 Others are interested only in their own lives. They don't care about the work of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:5 I thank God for the help you gave me while I told people the Good News. You helped from the first day you believed until now.

Daniel 9:2-3 During his first year as king, I was studying the Scriptures[a] and noticed in the Lord's message to Jeremiah that 70 years would pass before Jerusalem would be rebuilt. Then I turned to the Lord God. I prayed to him and asked him for help. I did not eat any food. I put ashes on my head and put on the clothes that showed I was sad.

1 John 5:14 We can come to God with no doubts. This means that when we ask God for things (and those things agree with what God wants for us), God cares about what we say.

Romans 9:2-3 I have great sorrow and always feel much sadness for my own people. They are my brothers and sisters, my earthly family. I wish I could help them. I would even have a curse on me and cut myself off from Christ if that would help them.

II. Moses Prayed to Reverse the Punishment:

God intended to punish the Israelites and raise Moses' descendants to be a great nation. However, Moses interceded through prayer to reverse the punishment.

1. Caring for God's people: **Exodus 32:7, 11**

Moses' people vs. God's people; Perspective determines value! The church belongs to Jesus; children belong to Jesus; work is for Jesus; spreading the Gospel is for Jesus!

2. Concerned about God's reputation:

Exodus 32:12; 1 Samuel 17:26, 47; Philippians 2:21; Philippians 1:5

Moses did not care about his own reputation, but he cared about the reputation of God!
David fought for the glory of God. We should also care about the things of God and build the church!

3. Holding onto God's promises:

Exodus 32:13; Daniel 9:2-3; 1 John 5:14

Begging God to remember His covenant with our ancestors and His own words is a powerful prayer. Clinging to God's words and promises can have a

great impact. Just as Daniel prayed and fasted, God will surely listen to such prayers.

4. Intercession in Sacrificial Love:

Exodus 32:31-32; Romans 9:2-3

Moses used his own eternal life to plead with God for forgiveness and mercy towards the Israelites, and behind it was a profound love! Paul willingly accepted being cursed and separated from Christ. It was not Moses' prayer that changed God's punishment, but rather God's mercy touched Moses' heart. When we pray according to God's love, God listens!

Exodus 32:20, 26, 29, 34 Then Moses destroyed the calf that the people had made. He melted it in the fire. Then he ground the gold until it became dust and threw it into the water. Then he forced the Israelites to drink that water.

26 So Moses stood at the entrance to the camp and said, "Anyone who wants to follow the Lord should come to me." Everyone from the tribe of Levi ran to Moses.

29 Then Moses said, "Take your role today as special servants of the Lord because you were willing to fight against even your own sons and brothers. You will receive a blessing for this."

34 So now, go down and lead the people where I tell you to go. My angel will go before you and lead you. When the time comes to punish those who sinned, they will be punished."

Exodus 33:3, 6, 13-19 So go to the land filled with many good things, but I will not go with you. You people are very stubborn. If I go with you, I might destroy you along the way."

6 So the Israelites stopped wearing their jewelry at Mount Horeb.

13-19 If I have really pleased you, then teach me your ways. I want to know you. Then I can continue to please you. Remember that these people are your nation." The Lord answered, "I myself will go with you. I will lead you." Then Moses said to him, "If you don't go with us, then don't make us leave this place. Also, how will we know if you are pleased with me and these people? If you go with us, we will know for sure. If you don't go with us, these people and I will be no different from any other people on the earth." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I will do what you ask. I will do this because I am pleased with you and because I know you very well." Then Moses said, "Now, please show me your Glory." Then the Lord answered, "I will show my love and mercy to anyone I want to. So I will cause my perfect goodness to pass by in front of you, and I will speak my name, Yahweh, so that you can hear it.

III. Recommitting to journey with God.

1. completely removing idols. Exodus 32:20; Exodus 32:26; Exodus 32:29; Exodus 33:6

Moses burned and ground the golden calf, leaving no trace behind. He called upon the repentant people to take up their swords and remove weakness. They were urged to purify themselves and dedicate themselves to God's holiness. The people completely removed their ornaments and distanced themselves from sin.

2. Praying for God's Presence:

Exodus 32:34; Exodus 33:3

Originally, God refused to accompany the Israelites.

1) **Seeking God's companionship:** In Exodus 33:13-14, Moses asked God, "Please, let me know Your ways."

2) **Seeking God's companionship for us:**

Exodus 33:15-17

Moses sought God's presence and pleaded, "Let God go with us."

3) **Seeking the manifestation of God's presence:**

Exodus 33:18-19

The greatest glory of God lies in His grace and compassion.

In the midst of the sin and darkness of the golden calf, God is waiting for someone who will receive and embody the sacrificial love of Jesus.

This person will intercede on behalf of the people, bringing about God's presence and causing the entire era to experience the grace of walking with God. Through this intercession, the people will see the dawn of hope, and they will experience the guidance and illumination of God's presence, just like the pillar of cloud and fire. The grace of the true light of the Gospel will shine upon them, bringing transformation and redemption.

☞ Responsive Hymn

† 更深經歷祢 **More Deeply**

♪ O Lord, I long to know You so completely
Experience Your power and glory deeply
Reveal to me Your purpose and open my eyes
Day by day, Lord, please make my life new

♪ O shine Your light and faithfulness upon me
Please lead me, Lord, into Your holy presence
For You my heart is longing, I seek You alone
I will follow wherever You lead
Tune my life to Your heartbeat
Let each breath speak Your word to me

♪ Deeper, deeper in love with You
Oh, to know you intimately
Love and follow all my days
My heart belongs to You alone

☞ Announcement

1. The theme of Beautiful Life Sharing Series this week is "Turning Back to You – Brother Liao Guan-Yao's Life Story" (Part 1). Please invite your non-believing friends and family to watch it.
2. The physical classes for the third season of Adult Sunday School have begun. Brothers and sisters

are encouraged to seize this learning opportunity. To register, please refer to the website address: <https://thfc.pse.is/sschool>.

3. The church has prepared a series of exciting activities for the months of July and August. Brothers and sisters are welcome to join the "THFC Fun Activities LINE broadcast group" to stay updated with the latest news. Please scan the QR cod or refer to the website address: <https://lin.ee/Nsa6wpR>. Don't forget to share this with your non-believing family and friends to join us.
4. The Talent Development Center will be holding a Summer Bible Camp from August 7th (Monday) to August 9th (Wednesday). The theme is "Setting Sail from the Shores—The Book of Romans," and it will be led by Pastor Hsu. To register, please refer to the website address: <https://thfc.pse.is/Training2023>.
5. May all the brothers and sisters unite in caring for summer missions and praying for the upcoming missions. We have the following missions to pray for: 7/17-7/21- Hualien Short-Term Missions, 7/18- Parent-Child Garden, 7/23- Children's Camp, 8/3-8/5- Freshman Experience for 20 prospective university students
6. This week, we will be reading Psalms 52 to 54 together. Please refer to the Unity Church website (<http://www.ctfhc.org>) to watch "The Key to the Bible," "Bible Is Good to Read," and listen to the "Clear Mind" program on the Good News Radio, focusing on the book of Leviticus.

☞ 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!