



# Taiwan Harmony Friends Church

Worship Service **Jan. 14, 2024**

Jesus Loves You  
International Convention Center

4F., No.36, Jinghong St.,  
Wunshan Dist., Taipei



+886-2-293209436



www.ctfhc.org



Inspire us to seek Your face  
Jesus we want to know You more  
♪ (We wholly follow You! We wholly follow You!  
Teach us Your ways and show us Your heart  
We lay down our lives just for You)x2

### ☞Responsive Reading: **Psalm 31:1-5, 23-24**

- 1 In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.
- 3 Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.
- 4 Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.
- 5 Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.
- 23 Love the LORD, all his faithful people! The LORD preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays back in full.
- 24 Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.

### ☞Praise

#### ✠來擁戴主為王 **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

- ♪ Crown Him with many crowns  
The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns  
All music but its own  
A-wake my soul and sing  
Of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity
- ♪ Crown Him the Lord of life  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save  
His glories now we sing  
Who died and rose on high  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die
- ♪ Crown Him the Lord of years, The potentate of time  
Creator of the rolling spheres, Ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou has died for me;  
Thy praise and glory shall not fail Throughout  
eternity.

### ☞Special Music

#### ✠主我高舉祢聖名組曲

#### **Lord I Lift Your Name On High (No Other Name)**

#### ✠ Lord I Lift Your Name On High

- ♪ Lord I lift your name on high  
Lord I love to sing your praises  
I'm so glad your in my life  
I'm so glad you came to save us

#### CHORUS:

- ♪ You came from heaven to earth  
To show the way  
from the earth to the cross. My debt to pay  
from the cross to the grave

☞ Prelude	.....	Choir
☞ Invocation	.....	Presider
☞ Praise	.....	Congregation
☞ Responsive Reading	.....	Congregation
☞ Prayer	.....	Presider
☞ Special Music	.....	Choir
☞ Scripture Reading	.....	Presider
☞ Message	.....	Pastor
☞ Responsive Hymn	.....	Presider
☞ Offertory	.....	Pastor
☞ Holy Communion	.....	Pastor
☞ Announcement	.....	Presider
☞ The Lord's Prayer	.....	Congregation
☞ Doxology	.....	Congregation
☞ Benediction	.....	Pastor
☞ Postlude	.....	Congregation

### ☞Prelude

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

For Chinese Pinyin lyrics, please scan:



#### ✠來到神的面前 **Come into His presence**

- ♪ Come into His presence with thanksgiving  
in your heart  
And give Him praise, and give Him praise
- ♪ Come into His presence with thanksgiving  
in your heart  
Your voices raise, your voices raise  
Give glory and honor and power unto Him  
Jesus, the name above all names

#### ✠神本為大 **God is Great**

- ♪ Jehovah is great, He is worthy of praise  
How great is His name His power endures for ever  
We stand fast under the shadow of His wings  
He is the God Almighty That always with us
- ♪ He is worthy of praise His power is shown on earth  
He is so good to us Shows us His loving kindness  
My Lord is risen high. To give us loving grace  
God is worthy of praise. His name is to be praised  
Jesus is almighty God

#### ✠我全心跟隨祢 **We Wholly Follow You**

- ♪ We worship You in holy place

from the grave to the sky  
 Lord I lift your name on high  
 No Other Name  
 ♪ ( No other name above the name of Jesus,  
 No other name above the name of the Lord,  
 No other name above the name of Jesus,  
 He is worthy of glory, and worthy of honor,  
 And worthy of power and glory.)×2  
 ♪ His name is exalted all upon the earth,  
 His name is high above all heavens,  
 His name is exalted all upon the earth,  
 Give glory and honor and power to his name,  
 ♪ No other name above the name of Jesus,  
 No other name above the name of the Lord,  
 No other name above the name of Jesus,  
 He is worthy of glory, and worthy of honor,  
 And worthy of power and glory  
 ♪ There is no other name having power to  
 forgive me like Your name do  
 There is no other name being victor for ever and  
 ever like Your name do  
 Having power, glory, honor, and authority,  
 I praise You God of all the earth!

### 🔗Scripture Reading:

#### Matthew 18:19

To say it another way, if two of you on earth agree on anything you pray for, my Father in heaven will do what you ask.

#### **Sermon: The Father Listens to Prayer (Part 1)**

- Pastor Dong

Our God is a faithful Lord! Why is it that sometimes our prayers seem unanswered?

#### **I. Seeking through actions! Luke 18:11-13; Romans 9:31; Acts 10:4**

**Luke 18:11-13** The Pharisee stood alone, away from the tax collector. When the Pharisee prayed, he said, ‘O God, I thank you that I am not as bad as other people. I am not like men who steal, cheat, or commit adultery. I thank you that I am better than this tax collector.

**12** I fast twice a week, and I give a tenth of everything I get!’

**13** “The tax collector stood alone too. But when he prayed, he would not even look up to heaven. He felt very humble before God. He said, ‘O God, have mercy on me. I am a sinner!’

**Romans 9:31** And the people of Israel, who tried to make themselves right with God by following the law, did not succeed.

**33** The Scriptures talk about that stone: “Look, I put in Zion a stone that will make people stumble. It is a rock that will make people fall. But anyone who trusts in him will never be disappointed.”

Good deeds of humans cannot be used as a basis for God to listen to prayers!

Truly devout individuals will not use charity or good deeds as bargaining chips to request from God!

We rely solely on God’s love for us, Jesus dying for us to reconcile us with God, when we come before God in prayer, with nothing else as a basis!

#### **II. Lack of faith! Matthew 17:19-20; Mark 9:23**

**Matthew 17:19-20** Then the followers came to Jesus alone. They said, “We tried to force the demon out of the boy, but we could not. Why were we not able to make the demon go out?”

**20** Jesus answered, “You were not able to make the demon go out, because your faith is too small. Believe me when I tell you, if your faith is only as big as a mustard seed you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. You will be able to do anything.”

**Philippians 4:13** Christ is the one who gives me the strength I need to do whatever I must do.

**Mark 14:36** He said, “*Abba*,<sup>Ⓜ</sup> Father! You can do all things. Don’t make me drink from this cup.<sup>Ⓜ</sup> But do what you want, not what I want.”

**Mark 9:23** Jesus said to the father, “Why did you say ‘if you can’? All things are possible for the one who believes.”

The size and presence of faith determine whether our prayers to the Heavenly Father are heard! Secrets to increasing faith:

#### **1. Look to witnesses of faith for inspiration - Hebrews 12:1-2**

**Hebrews 12:1-2** We have all these great people around us as examples. Their lives tell us what faith means. So we, too, should run the race that is before us and never quit. We should remove from our lives anything that would slow us down and the sin that so often makes us fall.

**2** We must never stop looking to Jesus. He is the leader of our faith, and he is the one who makes our faith complete. He suffered death on a cross. But he accepted the shame of the cross as if it were nothing because of the joy he could see waiting for him. And now he is sitting at the right side of God’s throne.

#### **2. Ask Jesus for faith - Mark 9:24**

**Mark 9:24** Immediately the father shouted, “I do believe. Help me to believe more!”

#### **3. Fix your eyes on Jesus, anticipating joy ahead! - Hebrews 12:2**

**Hebrews 12:2** We must never stop looking to Jesus. He is the leader of our faith, and he is the one who makes our faith complete. He suffered death on a cross. But he accepted the shame of the cross as if it were nothing because of the joy he could see waiting for him. And now he is sitting at the right side of God's throne.

#### 4. Praise God - **Psalm 66:2; Nehemiah 8:10**

**Psalm 66:2** Praise his glorious name! Honor him with songs of praise!

**Nehemiah 8:10** Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy the good food and sweet drinks. Give some food and drinks to those who didn't prepare any food. Today is a special day to our Lord. Don't be sad, because the joy of the Lord will make you strong."

Key to praise: Always be thankful, count God's blessings! Focus on Jesus' power and love, ignoring the storms.

#### 5. Know God - **Ephesians 1:17-20**

**Ephesians 1:17-20** I always pray to the great and glorious Father, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that he will give you the Spirit, who will let you know truths about God and help you understand them, so that you will know him better.

**18** I pray that God will open your minds to see his truth. Then you will know the hope that he has chosen us to have. You will know that the blessings God has promised his holy people are rich and glorious.

**19** And you will know that God's power is very great for us who believe. It is the same as the mighty power

**20** he used to raise Christ from death and put him at his right side in the heavenly places.

#### 6. Spread the gospel - **Matthew 28:17-20**

**Matthew 28:17-20** On the mountain the followers saw Jesus. They worshiped him. But some of the followers did not believe that it was really Jesus.

**18** So he came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me.

**19** So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**20** Teach them to obey everything that I have told you to do. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of time."

#### 7. Simply choose to believe!

This choice to believe will elevate individuals beyond the realms of reason, logic, and feelings, to see the truth, see God, and experience Him!

Since the time of Abraham, the essence of believing in God is choosing to believe in Him!

### III. The sovereignty of the Heavenly Father - **Matthew 20:20-23**

**Matthew 20:23** Jesus said to them, "It is true that you will drink from the cup that I drink from. But it is not for me to say who will sit at my right or my left. My Father has decided who will do that. He has prepared those places for them."

The Heavenly Father possesses absolute sovereignty! The will of Father God is the ultimate decision! Father God has already sacrificed His own Son for us, so what would He withhold from us?

**Matthew 20:20-23** Then Zebedee's wife came to Jesus and brought her sons. She bowed before Jesus and asked him to do something for her.

**21** Jesus said, "What do you want?" She said, "Promise that one of my sons will sit at your right side in your kingdom and the other at your left."

**22** So Jesus said to the sons, "You don't understand what you are asking. Can you drink from the cup[a] that I must drink from?" The sons answered, "Yes, we can!"

**23** Jesus said to them, "It is true that you will drink from the cup that I drink from. But it is not for me to say who will sit at my right or my left. My Father has decided who will do that. He has prepared those places for them."

The cries in Gethsemane - **Matthew 26:39, 42, 44; Luke 22:42-44; Hebrews 5:7-8, 2:14**

**Matthew 26:39, 42, 44**

**39** Then Jesus went on a little farther away from them. He fell to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, don't make me drink from this cup.[b] But do what you want, not what I want."

**42** Then Jesus went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if I must do this[c] and it is not possible for me to escape it, then I pray that what you want will be done."

**44** So he left them and went away one more time and prayed. This third time he prayed, he said the same thing.

**Luke 22:42-44** "Father, if you are willing, please don't make me drink from this cup.[a] But do what you want, not what I want."

**43** Then an angel from heaven came to help him.

**44** Jesus was full of pain; he struggled hard in prayer. Sweat dripped from his face like drops of blood falling to the ground.

**Hebrews 5:7-8, 2:14-15** While Jesus lived on earth he prayed to God, asking for help from the one who could save him from death. He prayed to God with

loud cries and tears. And his prayers were answered because of his great respect for God.

**8** Jesus was the Son of God, but he still suffered, and through his sufferings he learned to obey whatever God says.

**2:14-15** These children are people with physical bodies. So Jesus himself became like them and had the same experiences they have. Jesus did this so that, by dying, he could destroy the one who has the power of death—the devil.

**15** Jesus became like these people and died so that he could free them. They were like slaves all their lives because of their fear of death.

God may not answer prayers to accomplish something beyond our imagination, granting us something even more beautiful!

Even if what we ask for isn't the best or the timing isn't right, praying to the Heavenly Father itself is a grace that ensures a profit with no loss!

Response Song: "Prayer in the Morning, I Come Before You in Prayer"

### ☞ Responsive Hymn

#### ✠ 禱告良辰 Sweet Hour of Prayer

♪ Sweet hour of prayer sweet hour of prayer

That calls me from a world of care  
And bids me at my Father's throne  
Make all my wants and wishes known  
In seasons of distress and grief  
My soul has often found relief  
And oft escaped the tempter's snare  
By thy return sweet hour of prayer

♪ Sweet hour of prayer sweet hour of prayer

The joys I feel the bliss I share  
Of those whose anxious spirits burn  
With strong desires for thy return  
With such I hasten to the place  
Where God my Savior shows His face  
And gladly take my station there  
And wait for thee sweet hour of prayer

♪ Sweet hour of prayer sweet hour of prayer

Thy wings shall my petition bear  
To Him whose truth and faithfulness  
Engage the waiting soul to bless  
And since He bids me seek His face  
Believe His Word and trust His grace  
I'll cast on Him my every care  
And wait for thee sweet hour of prayer

✠ 我以禱告來到祢跟前

#### I Come to You Lord of Mercy

♪ I come to you Lord of mercy,  
Hear my prayer oh Lord,  
I stand upon the watchman tow'r,  
Waiting there to hear Your voice  
Lord I am weak and helpless,  
You are the strength of my soul

Guide my path by your loving hands,  
Lead me to victory

Refrain

♪ When we bow down and pray,  
You move your mighty hands,  
What you can complete, My hands cannot do  
The mountains are removed,  
the roads will be paved,  
Nations worship you,  
When Your people bow and pray.

### ☞ Announcement

1. The first season of the Adult Sunday School has begun. Brothers and sisters, please enthusiastically sign up to enrich yourselves in the holy truth. Visit the website (<https://thfc.pse.is/sschool>) or scan the QR code on page six of the bulletin for more details.

2. Morning Star Fellowship will host the "Career Perspectives" lecture on 1/27 (Saturday) at 6:30 PM in the B1 hall. The topic is "Days as an Engineer in the Technology Industry - A Glimpse into the Billion-Dollar Club." All are welcome, and feel free to invite young professionals from the community.

3. The unified Bible reading this week covers Psalms 130 to 132. Please visit the Unity Church website (<http://www.ctfhc.org>) to watch "Keys to the Bible," "Enjoying the Bible," and listen to the Good News Radio program "Awake Heart - Psalms (Part 1)."

### ☞ 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!*