



☞ Prelude	.....	Choir
☞ Invocation	.....	Presider
☞ Praise	.....	Congregation
☞ Responsive Reading	.....	Congregation
☞ Prayer	.....	Presider
☞ Special Music	.....	Choir
☞ Scripture Reading	.....	Presider
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☞ Offertory	.....	Pastor
☞ Holy Communion	.....	Pastor
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☞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:



☞得救的人讚美主

**Let The Redeemed Of The Lord Say So**

♪ [Let the redeemed of the Lord say so]x3  
I'm redeemed, I'm redeemed, praise the Lord!

☞震動天地 **Shake the Heaven and Earth**

♪ Hallelujah celebrate, Hallelujah shout for joy  
For you have won the victory  
Hallelujah celebrate, Hallelujah shout for joy  
For you have risen from the grave  
♪ Lord, come again in power  
Lord, come and shake the heaven and earth  
Let every tribe and tongue return to you  
Lord, come again in glory  
Your glory fills the earth  
Your peace and blessings rain upon our land

☞我的力量我的山寨 **My Strength, My Fortress**

♪ [Jehovah my Lord, my strength (I love You)x2] \*2  
♪ You are my rock, oh Lord. And my fortress  
You are the rock for me. And are my shield  
♪ Jehovah my Lord, my strength (I love You)x2

☞Responsive Reading: **Psalm 63:1-5, 7-8**

- 1 You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.
- 2 I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.
- 3 Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.
- 4 I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.
- 5 I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.
- 6 On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night.
- 7 Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.
- 8 I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.

☞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

☞詩篇 121 篇 Psalm 121 -A Psalm For Help

♪ I lift my eyes unto the hills,  
the hills from where my help is come.  
[ My help, it cometh from the Lord  
Who made heaven, heaven and earth. ]

♪ I lift my eyes unto the hills x2  
the hills from where my help is come. x2 [ ]

♪ He will not suffer the foot to be moved,  
neither will He, will not sleep.  
The Lord is thy keeper, the Lord is thy shade.  
The sun shall not smite thee by day;  
the moon shall not smite thee by night.  
[ The Lord shall protect thee from every evil,  
He shall preserve thy soul. ] x2  
For ever, x3 preserve forever.

♪ I lift my eyes unto the hills,  
the hills from where my help is come.  
My help, it cometh from the Lord x3  
Who made heaven, heaven and earth. Amen

## 🔗 Scripture Reading:

### John 3:26-30

**26** Then they came to John and said, “Teacher, remember the man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan River? He is the one you were telling everyone about. He is also baptizing people, and many are going to him.”

**27** John answered, “A person can **receive only what God gives**.

**28** You yourselves heard me say, ‘**I am not the Messiah**. I am only the one God sent to prepare the way for him.’

**29** The bride always belongs to the bridegroom. **The friend who helps the bridegroom** just waits and listens. He is happy just to hear the bridegroom talk. That’s how I feel now. I am **so happy** that he is here.

**30 He must become more and more important, and I must become less important.**

### John 3:26-30 (NIV)

**26** They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.”

**27** To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is **given them from heaven**.

**28** You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘**I am not the Messiah** but am sent ahead of him.’

**29** The bride belongs to the bridegroom. **The friend who attends the bridegroom** waits and listens for him, and is **full of joy** when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete.

**30 He must become greater; I must become less.”**

## Sermon: Enduring Adversity

- Pastor Hsu

### I. I. Adversity: John 3:26

#### 1. Comparison: Matthew 3:5; 1 Kings 19:4

Matthew 3:5 People came to John from Jerusalem and the rest of Judea and from all the areas along the Jordan River.

Matthew 3:5 (NIV) People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

1 Kings 19:4 and walked for a whole day into the desert. Then he sat down under a bush and asked to die. He said, “I have had enough, Lord! Take my life. I am no better than my ancestors.”

1 Kings 19:4 (NIV) while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, Lord,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.”

In the past, many people went to John to be baptized, but now everyone is running to Jesus. What was once bustling is now desolate! Elijah wanted to die; much of people's suffering comes from comparison, which makes the heart bitter!

#### 2. Slander: Psalms 3:2; 2 Samuel 16:7

Psalms 3:2 They say to themselves, “God will not rescue him!” Selah

Psalms 3:2 (NIV) Many are saying of me, “God will not deliver him.

2 Samuel 16:7 Shimei cursed David. He said, “Get out, get out, you no-good murderer !

2 Samuel 16:7 (NIV) As he cursed, Shimei said, “Get out, get out, you murderer, you scoundrel!

As people depart, the speaker may be unwitting, but the listener is certainly hurt.

Many people talk about how David does not receive God's help, and Shimei curses David! Evil words and slander abound, Satan accuses, and one questions their own "imposter syndrome."

#### 3. Defeat: \_

As people depart, it seems like there's no longer any effectiveness, importance, or value!

Defeat made Elijah seek death, made Peter go out and weep bitterly, feeling like failures!

### II. Soaring Through Adversity:

#### 1. I Am Not the Focus:

John said, "**I am not the Christ**," I am not the bridegroom, not the focal point!

Many people think **the world should revolve around them!** If things don't go their way, they criticize others and complain to God!

But John believed **the world should revolve around Jesus!** I am not the Savior, God decides everything, God has absolute sovereignty and wisdom!

#### 2. I Am a Servant of the Lord, Exalting His Name:

John looked up to **what was given from above**, that's what's true!

John knew "**who I am**," a friend of the bridegroom, rejoicing at the sound of the bridegroom!

### Out of love for God,

**He must increase, I must decrease;** while people see me as failing, I see the Lord as victorious!

**Esteeming the secular lightly, esteeming Jesus highly;** not seeking "my own way," only seeking "obedience to the Lord's will"!

Joseph said, "Can I replace God? God's intention is good!" (**Genesis 50:19-20**)

Wise individuals can **clearly distinguish between "my responsibility" and "the Lord's work,"** Not running ahead of the Lord (trying to do His work), not falling behind (avoiding responsibility),  
Because of the Lord, a life of lightness and joy!

Action: Walking with the Lord, fulfilling my responsibilities, waiting for the Lord's grace!

**Genesis 50:19-2** Then Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. I am not God! I have no right to punish you.

**20** It is true that you planned to do something bad to me. But really, God was planning good things. God's plan was to use me to save the lives of many people. And that is what happened.

**Genesis 50:19-20 (NIV)** But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God?"

**20** You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives

### ☞ Responsive Hymn

✪ 我要用你 I Want to Use You (I Need You)

♪ Though you may seem like a little donkey,  
Tied outside the door, noticed by nobody,  
Behold, today the glorious King Jesus,  
Tells you in His gentle voice: "I want to use you."

♪ Though I could send ten thousand angels,  
To spread the gospel throughout the world,  
I have chosen and called you out of love,  
Please hear again my earnest voice,  
"I want to use you."

♪ Will you be like the prophet Isaiah,  
With joy and obedience in your heart,  
Bow down before me, saying with trembling,  
"Lord please send me, I am here."

♪ In the midst of that glorious new heaven and earth,  
Enjoying eternal blessings as we reign together,  
You'll understand that serving me is grace,  
For without the cross, there is no crown of glory.

Chorus:

(I want to use you) x2 I truly delight in using you,  
If you'll cleanse yourself,  
And humble yourself before my cross,  
Fully letting me lead you, Then I will use you.

### ☞ Offertory

### ☞ Holy Communion

### ☞ Baptism

### ☞ Announcement

1. The "Essential Life Lessons" series of lectures will start on June 1st (Saturday), held every Saturday from 14:00 to 15:30. Through fun games, group discussions, and Bible sharing, we'll address various life questions and delve deeper into the value and meaning of life. High school, college, and graduate students are warmly invited to join.
2. The "Storyteller Showdown" will be held on June 1st (Saturday) at 6:30 PM in the Cloud Hall on the first floor. The theme is "Prophets in the Old Testament," and young adults from the community are welcome to participate.
3. Tune in to the "Awakened Heart" program on Good News Radio, airing Pastor Xu's lectures on the "Book of Hebrews" starting from May 30th (Thursday). Listen online for more details.
4. This week's unified Bible reading progress: Ecclesiastes chapters 6 to 8. Visit the Unity Church website (<http://www.ctfhc.org>) to watch "Keys to the Bible" and "Bible, It's Good to Read."

### ☞ 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!*