



🌀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:



† 讓我們來登耶和華的山

Let Us Go Up To The Mountain Of The Lord

♪ [(Let us go up)*3 to the mountain of the Lord] *2
Where is the Lord there is freedom
Where is the Lord there is joy
He will teach and guide us with His Holy words
Where is the Lord there is power
Where is the Lord there is mercy
These blessings belong to you.
You just have to come
[(Let us go up)*3 to the mountain of the Lord] *2

† 我要全心讚美 **My Heart will Praise You Lord**

♪ With all my heart I will give thanks
And enter Your court
Offering my praise to You Lord
It's the fruit of my lips
♪ In Your presence free of worries. Joy overflows
Always grateful always praying. My hope is in You
♪ My heart will praise You Lord
I'll dance before Your throne
One day with You is better than a thousand elsewhere
My heart will praise You, Lord
I'll never stop praising your name.
The righteous will declare your victory

† 讓我靈自由 **Free my soul**

♪ Free my soul for I could worship You.
Free my soul for I could praise You.
Weight off my heart, let the salvation flow.
Free my soul for I could worship You.

🌀**Responsive Reading: Psalm 119:17-24**

- 17 Be good to your servant while I live, that I may obey your word..
- 18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.
- 19 I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me.
- 20 My soul is consumed with longing for your laws at all times.
- 21 You rebuke the arrogant, who are accursed, those who stray from your commands.
- 22 Remove from me their scorn and contempt, for I keep your statutes.
- 23 Though rulers sit together and slander me, your servant will meditate on your decrees.
- 24 Your statutes are my delight; they are my counselors.

🌀Praise

† 榮耀大君王 **O Worship the King**

♪ O worship the King all glorious above
O gratefully sing His power and His love
Our Shield and Defender the Ancient of Days
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise
♪ O tell of His might O sing of His grace
Whose robe is the light whose canopy space
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm
♪ Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite
It breathes in the air it shines in the light
It streams from the hills it descends to the plain
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain
♪ Frail children of dust and feeble as frail
In Thee do we trust nor find Thee to fail
Thy mercies how tender how firm to the end
Our Maker Defender Redeemer and Friend

🌀Special Music

† 榮耀尊貴的主 **Glorious and Honorable Lord**

♪ See glorious and honorable Lord
is seated on His holy throne
Over the time over the space
Jesus Christ reigns
Full of grace and glory
Come to exalt Him worship Him
He is the Savior
His glory has been full of the church
Oh my heart has to praise the Lord
Raise my voice high and proclaim
He is honorable Almighty King

敬拜主 **Majesty**

♪ Majesty, worship His majesty;
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority,
Flow from His throne unto His own, His anthem raise.
♪ So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty,
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

🌀**Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 13:11 (NIV)**

For as a belt is **bound around the waist**, so I **bound** all the people of Israel and all the people of Judah **to me**," declares the Lord, "to be **my people** for my **renown** and praise and honor. But they have not listened.

🌀**Sermon: Stay Close to the Lord**

- Pastor Hsu

What are your plans for the new year? What are your goals? What can you control?

I. Stay Close to the Lord, and You Will Bring Him Glor

1. "Belonging to Myself" Leads to Ruin (Jeremiah 13:7, 9-10)

Jeremiah 13:7, 9-10 So I went to Perath and dug up the belt and took it from the place where I had hidden it, but now it was ruined and completely useless.

9 "This is what the Lord says: 'In the same way I will ruin the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem.

10 These wicked people, who refuse to listen to my words, who follow the stubbornness of their hearts and go after other gods to serve and worship them, will be like this belt—completely useless!"

A belt that doesn't stay close to the waist becomes useless and rots.

God's people who don't stay close to Him follow worldly ways and idols, becoming useless.

Not staying close to God means: Ignoring His words, being proud, trusting in military power or idols.

If we chase our desires without God, we will face His discipline. Without the Lord, we can do nothing!

(Psalm 106:15; Numbers 11:33; John 15:5)

Psalm 106:15 So he gave them what they asked for, but sent a wasting disease among them.

Numbers 11:33 ut while the meat was still between their teeth and before it could be consumed, the anger of the Lord burned against the people, and he struck them with a severe plague.

John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

2. "Belonging to the Lord" Brings Glory (Jeremiah 13:11)

Prophets stayed close to God by fully obeying Him and sharing His message.

Staying close to God makes us His people, protected and greatly used by Him.

Through us, God receives fame, praise, and glory!

Even the weakest, like children, can bring God glory through His power.

(Psalm 8:2; 2 Corinthians 12:9)

Psalm 8:2

Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

2 Corinthians 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.

When we wait for God, He gives us new strength.

Wait = Gather = Be Wrapped Around the Lord.

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

II. Let Go of "Mine," and Focus on "His"

1. No "My Plans," Only "His Will"

Don't chase great things for yourself. Follow God, and He will protect you. (Jeremiah 45:5)

Jeremiah 45:5 Should you then seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them. For I will bring disaster on all people, declares the Lord, but wherever you go I will let you escape with your life.

Don't boast about your plans; say, "If the Lord is willing..." (James 4:13-15)

James 4:13-15 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money."

14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

15 Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

Human plans will fail, but what comes from God cannot be stopped. (Acts 5:38-39)

Acts 5:38-39 Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail.

39 But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.

Pray like Jesus: "Not my will, but Yours be done." (Matthew 26:39)

Matthew 26:39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is

possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

2. No "My Strength," Only "His Mercy"

Don't boast about your wisdom or power. God wants us to boast about knowing Him!
(Jeremiah 9:23-24)

Jeremiah 9:23-24 This is what the Lord says: “Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, **24** but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on the earth, for in these I delight,” declares the Lord.

David trusted God, not weapons, to fight Goliath. **(1 Samuel 17:45)**

1 Samuel 17:45 David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.”

David didn't brag about his offerings, but gave God what already belonged to Him. **(1 Chronicles 29:14,11)**

1 Chronicles 29:14,11

14 “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.”

11 Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

We should only boast about "God's mercy," which inspires and encourages others.

3. No "My Glory," Only "His Glory"

Don't seek your own glory; give all the glory to God! **(Psalm 115:1)**

Psalm 115:1 Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

Peter said it's not our power or godliness—it's all about Jesus! **(Acts 3:12)**

Acts 3:12 When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?"

Don't aim for people to see your greatness; aim for them to see God's greatness.

"Don't seek fame, but strive for character!"

4. No "My Relationship," Only "His Love and Sacrifice"

Many struggles in relationships and marriage feel impossible, but with Jesus, there is hope!
(Ephesians 5:24-25)

Ephesians 5:24-2 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

Husbands should reflect on how to love their wives sacrificially, like Christ.

Wives should reflect on how to fully respect and support their husbands.

5. No "Family Pride," Only "Glorifying God"

Love deeply, even when it's hard. God gives new hope in parent-child relationships!
(Ephesians 6:1-4)

Ephesians 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2 “Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise—

3 “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Children should obey their parents in the Lord without comparison, trusting and following God.

Parents should guide their children with love, helping them stay close to God and joyfully serve Him.

☞ **Responsive Hymn**
☞ **Announcement**
☞ **The Lord's Prayer**
☞ **Doxology**
☞ **Benediction**



Today's worship concludes here for now. Brothers and sisters, please feel free to communicate with one another before dismissing. Emmanuel, may God bless you all.