

∞Prelude

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

For Chinese Pinyin lyrics, please scan:

🕆 讓我們歡樂拍掌 Let Us Clap And Rejoice

☐ Let us clap and rejoice Let us praise with high voice Praise and adore Lord Jesus

With all my heart and all my being

☐ Jesus, You are worthy to be praised Oh, Jesus! Your name is high above all other names Jesus, wonderful, almighty God You are the God who lives Prince of peace and returning King!

† 耶和華行了大事

The Lord has Done Great Things for us

☐ Come rejoice for the Lord has done great things

He gave us clouds as covering and fire to give us

Come rejoice for the Lord has done great things for us

In the desert He has made a river flow

We will celebrate and declare of His works

For He is our help; we can do mighty things

 \square We will sing and praise, shout with joy To tell of His great works

For He is our help; we can do mighty things

☐ Come rejoice for the Lord has done great things

He calmed the storm to whisper and stilled the raging sea

Come rejoice for the Lord has done great things for

He has satisfied our hearts with His good things

☐ He brings out His people with songs of Joy He will take us into His promise lands*2

† 多美麗 Beautiful

■ Beautiful, beautiful Jesus is beautiful and Jesus makes beautiful things of my life

☐ Carefully touching me helping my eyes to see Jesus makes beautiful things of my life

Responsive Reading: Psalm 119:161-168

161 Rulers persecute me without cause, but my heart trembles at your word.

162 I rejoice in your promise like one who finds great spoil.

163 I hate and detest falsehood but I love your law.

164 Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous laws.

165 Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.

166 I wait for your salvation, Lord, and I follow your commands.

167 I obey your statutes, for I love them greatly.

168 I obey your precepts and your statutes, for all my ways are known to you.

∞Praise

↑ 天父世界 This is my Father's world

☐ This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world:

I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

☐ This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise, the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise. This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair; in the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.

☐ This is my Father's world. O let me never forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad? The Lord is King; let the heavens ring! God reigns; let the earth be glad!

∞Special Music

† 超越一切的哈利路亞 No Greater Alleluia

☐ There is no greater alleluia. There is no greater song of praise, than when we come to worship, and find in Christ our purpose to be an instrument of grace.

There is (no finer gift we bring, *2) This is our call, our reason. This our time, our season to truly live the songs we sing.

 Alleluia in our living. Alleluia in our giving. Alleluia! Lord, teach our lives to sing.

□ Lord, take our hearts and let them be given to service faithfully.

■ Lord, tune our church; renew our faith. Refresh our vision. Give us a mission. Teach us the music of Your grace, music of Your grace.

 □ Lord, now renew our alleluia. Lord, tune our hearts, and (set us free.*2) Inspire our silent voices. Fell us with joyful noises to share our faith through ministry.

 □ Lord, now revive our alleluia. We give to You our living art and as we crown our worship with dedicated service, we'll trust in You with all our hearts. Alleluia in our living. Alleluia in our giving Alleluia. (Lord, teach our lives to sing.*2) Alleluia!

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:1, 9

- 1 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
- **9** You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"

Sermon: Four Comforts from God (Part 1)

- Pastor Dong

<u>Isaiah 40:2</u> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

The First Comfort (from verse 2): The Savior, the Messiah, is coming! He will end the days of struggle and war. He will forgive all the sins of the people and take away the punishment they brought on themselves—even the double portion!

<u>Isaiah 39:8</u> "The word of the Lord you have spoken is good," Hezekiah replied. For he thought, "There will be peace and security in my lifetime."

40:1 "Comfort, comfort my people," says your God.

Jeremiah 17:14 Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me, and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

I. Enjoying Peace (Isaiah 40:2a)

"The days of war are over"—this means the days of suffering and hardship will come to an end!

War brings at least three kinds of pain: fear, being taken away, and being locked up.

God's first comfort is this: He will take away war and give His people peace, calm, and safety. He will free them from war, trouble, pain, and heavy burdens, and bring them into a time of true peace and security.

Our lives can feel like a battlefield too!

II. Forgiveness of Sins (Isaiah 40:2b)

Sin means doing wrong, being twisted inside.

It also means hurting others and being responsible for that hurt.

God forgives our sins—He removes them completely, washes them away, pays the price, and fully heals both us and those we've hurt.

He makes our hearts clean and bright again. We no longer need to feel hopeless or hate ourselves.

Instead, we receive full forgiveness—we don't have to live in guilt or try to punish ourselves anymore.

III. Justice and Mercy Together (Isaiah 40:2c)

Q: "She has received double from the Lord for all her sins"—how can that be a comfort?

First, it shows God's **justice**: "To whom much is given, much will be required." (Luke 12:48)

<u>Luke 12:48</u> But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

Second, it helps people wake up and truly repent.

The pain from punishment isn't just about being punished—it's meant to correct us, and it's even a **blessing!**

Justice is the foundation of a strong life (Proverbs 14:34; Psalm 72:3; Isaiah 9:7).

<u>Proverbs 14:34</u> Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.

<u>Psalm 72:3</u> May the mountains bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness.

<u>Isaiah 9:7</u> Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Mercy is what we need to survive (Psalm 94:17; 127:1).

Psalm 94:17 Unless the Lord had given me help, I would soon have dwelt in the silence of death.

127:1 Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

When **justice and mercy** come together, God helps us grow up through justice, and grow in love through mercy!

Call to God with this Scripture:

<u>Jeremiah 17:14</u> Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me, and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

Use your faith to receive from God:

- Let this battle be calmed by God, and let God block all the attacks, so that you can remain at peace even in the storm!
- Use your faith to receive forgiveness of your sins, removing self-control issues, guilt, and despair, and rise up into the sky of grace!
- Use your faith to receive God's blessing of justice and mercy together, growing and maturing in love and righteousness!

All you need to do is receive by faith!

∞Responsive Hymn

- † 恩典已降臨 Grace Falls Upon Us
- You turn poverty to wealth Turn weakness into might Mourning turns to dancing And blindness to sight!
- □ Valleys all become a plain
 The crooked is made straight
 Everything is possible with our God
- □ O Your grace falls upon us
 Joy wells up from within our hearts
 Your grace is power that, makes all burdens light
- □ O Your grace falls upon us
 Joy wells up from within our hearts
 By faith there's nothing that's impossible with God

Announcement

- 1. Our church will hold a "Prepare for Tomorrow" Mock Interview event on Saturday, May 10, from 9:10 AM to 12:00 PM on the third floor. It will include learning about different college majors, oral exam tips, and real practice interviews. The event is completely free, so please invite any high school seniors who need this kind of help. We hope they will be blessed through it.
- 2. Mother's Day is coming soon! Each fellowship group in our church will be holding a Thanksgiving Celebration. For more details, see page 4 of the church bulletin. Please invite your family to join and enjoy this special time together in God's love.
- 3. This week's Bible reading plan is Ezekiel chapters 10 to 12. You can visit the Harmony Church website (http://www.ctfhc.org) to watch "Bible Gateway" and "The Bible Is Great to Read," and listen to Pastor Hsu's radio program

"A Wakeful Heart – Isaiah" on Good News Radio.

(There is also a **LINE group QR code** for "Bible Gateway" on page 4 of the bulletin. Weekly updates are sent out there—feel free to join!)

∞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.

Solution 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'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.

∞ This Week's Gatherings

~ Everyone is welcome! Feel free to invite new friends of all ages ~

《Pine & Cypress Fellowship》 (for seniors)

• Mother's Day Music Concert: Tuesday 9:30 AM / 1F Cloud Hall

《Grace Home Fellowship》

(for married couples, single parents)

- Super Parent Time Life Lessons Through Movies: Tuesday 10:15 AM / 5F Shine Hall
- Happy Moms Group Life Lessons Through Movies: Tuesday 10:15 AM / 5F Shine Hall
- Warm Garden Group Book Sharing Time:
 Tuesday 10:30 AM / 5F Morning Star Hall

《Morning Star Fellowship》

(for young working adults)

• Survival Skills at Work: Saturday 2:00 PM / B1 Sanctuary

《United Youth Academy》

(for high school to grad school students)

Talk on Communication Skills: Saturday 2:00
 PM / 1F Cloud Hall

《Shine Teen Academy》

(for 6th to 9th grade students)

- Mother's Day Snack-Making: Saturday 10:30
 AM / 1F Cloud Hall
- Teen Worship Service: Sunday 10:30 AM / 6F Shine Hall

《Hope Seed Academy》

(for preschool to 5th grade)

- Mother's Day Special Program:
 - Sunday 8:30 AM / 3F
 - Sunday 10:30 AM / Preschool (5F), Elementary (3F)

《For Everyone》

- Beautiful Life Celebration Worship:
 - Sunday 8:30 AM / 4F Sanctuary
 - Sunday 10:30 AM / B1 Sanctuary
- Adult Sunday School: Sunday 9:30 AM & 10:30 AM
- Kingdom Revival Prayer Meeting: Monday 7:10
 PM / 4F Sanctuary

