



☞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:

✚ 早晨唱新歌 It's a Morning of New Song

- ♪ It's a morning of new song,
It's a morning to rejoice
In the Lord's loving kindness
And to lift up my voice
To sing hallelujah, right from the start
And to glorify Jesus. Morning Star of my heart

✚ 敞開心不停讚美 Endless Praise

- ♪ I come into Your temple
Joy abounding in Your presence
Lord, You are my God
I will glorify Your name
- ♪ Love that reaches to the heavens
Faithfulness beyond all measure
Your salvation set me firm on higher ground
- ♪ I give my heart to You oh through and through
Lord just as I am I come to You
Turning back to childlikeness
Abba Father how I love You
- ♪ I give my heart to You oh through and through
All my praise and honor just for You
I'm rejoicing in Your presence. In endless praise

✚ 開啟雙眼 Open My Eyes

- ♪ Open my eyes gaze upon Your glory
Lift up my voice
Give the glorious King praise
- ♪ Lord I love You I give You praise
Hallelujah I exalt You

☞Responsive Reading: **Psalm 121:1-8**

- 1** I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from?
- 2** My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.
- 3** He will not let your foot slip— he who watches over you will not slumber;
- 4** indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5** The Lord watches over you— the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
- 6** the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.
- 7** The Lord will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life;
- 8** the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

☞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

✚ 主成就大事 The Lord Has Done Great Things

- ♪ Glory be to the true God, He has done great things;
For the love of the world,
He even gave His only Son.
He offered His life, suffered to redeem mankind;
The door to eternal life is opened wide,
everyone can enter. (Praise the Lord)*2,
let the whole earth hear His voice;
(Praise the Lord)*2,
let all people be joyful and glad. Come,
through the Lord Jesus, enter the Father's home;
Glory be to the Lord,
He has accomplished great works.
- ♪ Redemption is complete,
salvation is the merit of the Lord's precious blood;
Whoever believes shall have eternal life,
this is God's promise to the world. As long as
we sinners sincerely receive the Lord,
Whoever trusts in the Lord Jesus
will surely be forgiven by Him.
- ♪ Glory be to the true God, He has done great things;
Through His Son Jesus, we have great joy.
Most holy and most honored, our Lord Jesus Christ;
What great grace and blessing it will be to see
the Lord's face on that day. (Praise the Lord)*2,
let the whole earth hear His voice;
(Praise the Lord)*2,
let all people be joyful and glad. Come,
through the Lord Jesus, enter the Father's home;
Glory be to the Lord Jesus,
He has accomplished great works,
all glory belongs to Him.

☞Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 40:1, 3-5**

- 1** Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
- 3** A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

5 And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

☞ **Sermon: God’s Four Comforts (Part 2):
Enjoying the Highest Glory** ~ Pastor Dong

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!

The First Comfort: (Isaiah 40:2a)

Isaiah 40:2 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 Savior, the Messiah, will come. He will end all the days of war, forgive all the sins of His people, and take away the punishment they brought on themselves—punishment that was more than they could bear.

Matthew 3:1–12

1 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea

2 and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

3 This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

4 John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

5 People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

6 Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?”

8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.

9 And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

10 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

11 “I baptize you with[Ⓜ] water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with[Ⓜ] the Holy Spirit and fire.

12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

**The Second Comfort: Enjoying the Highest Glory
(Isaiah 40:3–5a)**

When we compare (Isaiah 40:3–5) with (Matthew 3:1–12), we can see that “the glory of the Lord” means the Messiah, Jesus!

What does the glory of the Lord—Jesus—bring to the world? How can we receive it?

The book of Isaiah shows us that God’s second comfort is this: God gives us His glory—that is, the Messiah, Jesus Christ—so that we can pass from death to life, live forever in His blessing, and enjoy true freedom and glory!

Q1: What does the glory of the Lord—Jesus—bring to the world?

A: When Christ (the Savior) came, He took away our sins and brought us glory. (John 1:29)

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

1. From death to life, from darkness to light, and from fear to peace (Luke 1:78)

Luke 1:78-79 because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven

79 to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

2. Eternal fullness of life (Isaiah 40:8; John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 4:16; 1 Peter 1:4)

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

2 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

1 Peter 1:4 ...and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,

Isaiah 40:3-8 A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord[a]; make

straight in the desert a highway for our God.[b]

4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

5 And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

6 A voice says, “Cry out.” And I said, “What shall I cry?” “All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

7 The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass.

8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.”

3. Freedom and glory (Romans 8:21; Ephesians 2:1–6)

Romans 8:21 ...that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

Ephesians 2:1–6 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,

5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

Q2: How can we receive this comfort from God?_

A: By repenting and believing in Jesus. (Isaiah 40:3–4; Matthew 3:1–12; Hebrews 1:3)

Isaiah 40:3–4 A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.”

Hebrews 1:3 The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Ephesians 2:2, 8–9 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of

the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

Q3: Why do some believers have this glory but don’t enjoy it—or even lose it?

A: We need to *receive* and *live in* what God has given us. (Romans 10:9; Romans 8:17; 1 Peter 4:13)

Romans 10:9–10 If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

8:17–18, 21 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

1 Peter 4:13 But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

Q4: What kind of faith is it to “declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead”?_

Matthew 16:15–17 “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

17 Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.”

24–26 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

25 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

A: According to Matthew 16:15–17, 24–26, believing in Jesus has two parts:

1. **Believing with your mind** — Saying with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and truly

believing in your heart that God raised Him from the dead.

- 2. Following with your life** — Denying yourself, carrying your cross, and following Him. This means letting Jesus be the Lord of your life and giving Him full control.

Those who only believe halfway are people who say they believe in Jesus, but don't really honor Him or walk with Him. They don't deny themselves or carry their cross with Him.

But those who truly believe with all their heart suffer with Christ, deny themselves, carry their cross, enter through the narrow gate, and walk the small road. These are the ones who do the will of the Father—and they will reflect God's glory now and forever!

Q5: How can we actually suffer with Christ and be someone who denies themselves and carries their cross?

A: By having the heart of Jesus. (**Philippians 2:5**) — (“Have the same mindset as Christ Jesus”)

Philippians 2:5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

Q6: What kind of heart does Jesus have?

A: According to the context of **Philippians 2:5**, **The heart of Jesus is:**

- A heart that puts **God first** and **people first**
- A heart that chooses **love first** and **truth first**

The kind of heart you have will shape the kind of blessings you enjoy—the kind of love, glory, abundance, and freedom you experience!

Whether you can enjoy the comfort Jesus gives depends on whether you have the heart of Jesus.

The heart of Jesus:

- Puts **God first**, puts **people first**
- Chooses **love first**, chooses **truth first**

Loving God by humbling yourself—obeying Him, honoring Him, and serving Him.

Loving others by denying yourself—being a servant, honoring others, and serving them.

Rise up and take on the heart of Jesus, so you can fully enjoy the comfort God gives you through Him!

☞ **Responsive Hymn**

✠ **愛是神的心-連結你和我**

Love Is God's Heart—Connecting You and Me

- ♪ Love is a pair of eyes,
seeing the needs of those nearby.
Love is a pair of ears,
hearing the urgent lack from afar.
Love is a pair of hands,
reaching out to unspoken pleas.
Love is a pair of feet,
walking to the forgotten wilderness.
- ♪ Love is God's heart, love is God's sign,
When love connects our lives, how beautiful it is!
Love is God's heart, love is God's call,
When love turns into action,
how wonderful the world becomes!

☞ **Announcement**

- 1. Super Parent & Child Program Lecture Series**
On **Tuesday, May 20 and May 27 at 10:30 AM**, Super Parent & Child Program will host two talks on the theme “**Love and Life**.”
Topics include hospice care, advance medical decisions, and Taiwan's Long-Term Care 2.0 system. These talks aim to help families understand how to access end-of-life care and government resources. All are welcome to join.
- 2. Shine Youth Academy Group Activity**
On **Saturday, May 24 at 10:30 AM**, Shine Youth Academy will host a fun group event!
There will be drink-making, board games, and badminton.
Students from **6th to 9th grade** are welcome to sign up and enjoy a great time together.
Please scan the QR code on **page 6** of the bulletin to register.
- 3. This Week's Bible Reading Plan**
We are reading **Ezekiel chapters 16–18** this week.
Visit the Harmony Church website (<http://www.ctfhc.org>) to watch “**Logos Gateway**” and “**Bible Fun Watch**”.
You can also listen to Pastor Hsu's radio program, “**A Sober Heart – The Book of Isaiah**,” on Good News Radio.

☞ **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.