

Jesus Loves You International Convention Center



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%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:



† 耶穌 耶穌 是我心樂歌

Jesus, Jesus, a song of my heart

Jesus, Jesus leads me everyday He always aside me, He will never leave me Till I get to the heavenly home. Jesus, Jesus, is my best friend Jesus, Jesus, leads me in His light We praise his mercy and grace Walk with Him in his light all day.

† 來慶賀 Celebrate

☐ Come on and celebrate His gift of love, we will celebrate The Son of God who loved us And gave us life We'll shout Your praise, O King You give us joy nothing else can bring We'll give to You our offering In celebration praise

☐ [Come on and (celebrate)*3 and sing Celebrate and sing to the King] *2

† 主祢是我力量 You are My Strength

You're my salvation, when all my hope is gone As the mountains surround Jerusalem Your presence surrounds me the same You are my strength, oh Lord, You are my shield, my song My solid rock, on You I stand, I trust in You You are my strength, oh Lord, You are my hiding place. You are my hope I trust in You

Responsive Reading: Psalm 147:7-11, 19-20

- 7 Sing to the Lord with grateful praise; make music to our God on the harp.
- 8 He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills.
- **9** He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call.
- 10 His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of the warrior;

- 11 the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.
- 19 He has revealed his word to Jacob, his laws and decrees to Israel.
- 20 He has done this for no other nation; they do not know his laws. Praise 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 oe'r 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

† 神配得我們讚美 God Is Worthy of Our Praise

- praise the Lord who reigns on high. With heart and voice we sing to Him, let heaven and earth rejoice, for He is worthy of our praise.]
- □ Praise the Lord in His holy place, praise the Lord who reigns on high. Praise Him for His mighty works, He knows all our needs,
 - our Lord is worthy of our praise.
- □ [] With joyful songs we lift His name, with clashing cymbals, loud and clear, praise the Lord with instruments. Let everything that has breath proclaim, praise the Lord with all your strength.
- ☐ Praise the true God, the source of all, all nations, all people lift His praise. Angels and hosts exalt His name, praise the Father, Son, and Spirit.
- With heart and voice we sing to Him, let heaven and earth rejoice. For He is worthy of our praise, come now and worship Him.

Scripture Reading: John 8:5-12 (NIV)

- 5 In the Law Moses commanded us to **stone** such women. Now what do you say?"
- 6 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a **basis** for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to **write** on the ground with his finger.
- 7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."
- **8** Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.
- **9** At this, those who heard began to **go away** one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.
- 10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"
- 11 "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."
- 12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Sermon: Why Did Jesus Write on the Ground?

~ Pastor Hsu

I. Seeing Other People's Mistakes

1. Seeing the woman's sin (John 8:3-5)

John 8:3-5 The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group

- 4 and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery.
- **5** In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"

The woman was caught in adultery. According to the Law of Moses, she should be stoned to death. It looked very serious and "righteous," like they were defending God's honor.

2. Trying to trap Jesus (John 8:6)

John 8:6 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

The teachers of the law and the Pharisees wanted to test Jesus. They wanted a reason to accuse Him.

• If Jesus said "stone her," He would follow Moses' law but break Roman law, and the Roman government could punish Him.

• If He said "don't stone her," He would follow Roman law but break Moses' law, and the Jewish leaders could accuse Him.

3. Looking at the speck in others' eyes (Matt. 7:2-3; 1 Sam. 13:11; 15:15)

<u>Matthew 7:2-3</u> For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

3 Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?

1 Samuel 13:11; 15:15 "What have you done?" asked Samuel. Saul replied, "When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikmash, 15 Saul answered, "The soldiers brought them from the Amalekites; they spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to the Lord your God, but we totally destroyed the rest."

People are quick to notice others' mistakes!

King Saul always blamed others. To him, everything was someone else's fault, never his own.

II. Realizing Our Own Mistakes

1. Facing our own sins (John 8:6-9)

John 8:6-9 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

- 7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."
- 8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.
- **9** At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

The crowd was angry, holding stones, ready to kill. But Jesus bent down and wrote on the ground.

Then He asked, "Whoever has no sin, throw the first stone."

One by one, from the oldest to the youngest, they left.

They realized: "I have sinned too—just not caught yet. She was caught, I wasn't."

Jesus gave them quiet space to think, to look inside themselves.

If we only see other people's problems, we will blame, criticize, and live in a mess.

2. Truly admitting our sin (John 8:9-11)

John 8:9-11 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. 10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" 11 "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

Jesus had the authority to judge. But His heart was not to "destroy the sinner," but to "destroy sin."

He told the woman, "Go and sin no more." He reminded her that she really had sinned, but He did not condemn her. He set her free so she could live a holy life.

<u>Matthew 7:3-4</u> "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?

- 4 How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?
- 2 Samuel 12:13 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

<u>Psalm 51:3</u> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

<u>Psalm 51:10-12</u> Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

- 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

<u>Psalm 19:12-13</u> But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.

13 Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

3. Looking at the plank in our own eyes (Matt. 7:3-4; 2 Sam. 12:13; Ps. 51:3, 10-12; Ps. 19:12-13; Ps. 139:23-24)

When you see the small speck in another person's eye, remember the big plank in your own.

King David sinned, but when he was confronted, he admitted it and truly repented. Repenting is more important than saving face.

Action step: Admit, "I need to change."

John 8:12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

<u>Luke 18:11-12</u> The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: "God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector.

- 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get." Luke 18:13-14 But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner."
- 14 I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

III. Seeing the Light of the Lord

1. Jesus is the Light (John 8:12; Luke 18:11-14)

How can we stop sinning? Jesus is the Light of the world. He shines into our darkness and gives us power to change.

When we compare ourselves to other people, we may feel proud. But when we compare ourselves to God's holiness, we bow down in humility.

Seeing the Lord's light shows us our darkness. Seeing His holiness shows us our sin. Experiencing His love teaches us to love.

John 8:12,32,36 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

- **32** Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
- **36** So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

<u>Proverbs 4:18</u> The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter until the full light of day.

<u>Matthew 5:14</u> You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

Philippians 2:15 so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky

2. Receiving the Light of Life (John 8:12, 32, 36; Prov. 4:18; Matt. 5:14; Phil. 2:15)

Whoever follows Jesus will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life!

The Son of God makes us free. His truth sets us free.

The true light of Jesus attracts us, leading us to walk with Him—brighter, freer, and more joyful.

We also become the light of the world, shining like stars!

Action step: See the Lord's light, and live out His light!

∞Responsive Hymn

- ↑ 世界之光 Light of the World
- Jesus, the Hope of the world
 The Bright morning star,
 That shines through the darkness.
 Jesus, the way, the truth and the life.
 To You, all honor and praise, forevermore.
- All the nations worship the Lord, In the light of Your grace, We will lift up the name of Christ,
- □ All the heavens shout out your praise
 [Glory, honor and praise.]x3
 Light of the world. Glory, honor and praise.

Announcement

- 1. Adult Sunday School (4th Quarter) will begin on 10/8 (online class) and 10/19 (in-person class). We welcome brothers and sisters to join in learning and building up your faith on God's holy truth. Please register through this link: http://thfc.pse.is/sschool or by scanning the QR code on page 6.
- 2. Hosted by the Arts and Humanities Center, the Photography Exhibition by Huang Yao-Xian & Cross-Disciplinary Production by Dong Xin Dance of the Aurora, Poem of the Dark Night will have its opening ceremony today at 12:50 PM in the Cloud Hall (1st floor). Brothers and sisters are welcome to invite friends and family to join and enjoy this spiritual feast.
- 3. The "Encounter God Retreat" will be held on 9/21 (Sunday) at 1:00 PM in the Morning Star Hall (5th floor). On-site registration is available.

Through prayer for release, worship, and truth learning, you will experience true freedom from God.

4. **This week's Bible reading plan:** Hosea chapters 7–9. Please visit the church website (http://www.ctfhc.org) to watch *Bible Key* and *Bible Easy 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.

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.