

∞Prelude

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

For Chinese Pinyin lyrics, please scan:

† 來到神的面前 Come into His presence

☐ Come into His presence with thanksgiving in your heart

And give Him praise, and give Him praise Come into His presence with thanksgiving

in your heart

Your voices raise, your voices raise Give glory and honor and power unto Him Jesus, the name above all names

† 耶和華恩年已來到 The Year of Jubilee

☐ The Spirit of the Lord is upon me now
He has anointed me to preach the good news
And heal all the broken hearts

- ☐ The Spirit of the Lord is upon you now All the captives are now set free They'll all see His liberty
- ☐ We come to celebrate the Lord
 It is the year of jubilee
 No longer held a captive
 Let His blessings come in

† 讚美之泉 Stream of praise

- With our voice we praise, hands we raise
 In thanksgiving to our God
 In worship, our spirits overflow
 With stream of love and praise.

∞Responsive Reading: Psalm 16:1-6

- 1 Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge.
- 2 I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."
- **3** I say of the holy people who are in the land, "They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight."
- 4 Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.
- **5** Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure.
- **6** The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Praise

† 這是天父世界 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

↑ 高聲讚美榮耀主 High Praise to the Glorious Lord

Behold, the glorious and honorable Lord Has seated upon God's mighty throne. Beyond all time and space He reigns, Christ rules with grace and shining glory.

☐ Let us honor Him, let us worship Him, For Jesus is our Savior! His glory fills the church, My heart will rise and praise the Lord.

☐ Lift your voice and praise the Lord, He's the King of glory, power, and might!

 High praise! Let joy fill your heart. Lift up your song—give glory to the Savior! High praise! Let joy overflow within. Let His love fill the earth forever— Come, lift your voice in praise!

When His people offer sincere praise, His heart is filled with joy. He gives amazing, unending peace; His love will never fade away.

 Raise your voice in joyful song, Proclaim to all the world: Jesus is King!

 When the Spirit of God fills our hearts, All confusion fades away. When I am weak, His power protects me And fills my mouth with praise.

☐ Lift your praise and joyful song, Proclaim to all the world: **Jesus is King!**

Scripture Reading: 2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Sermon: "Delay – The Blessing of Surprise"

~ Pastor Dong

God's delay is the amazing rhythm of His blessing. It is not a setback—it is the rhythm of surprise, the rhythm of miraculous grace!

Today, we will look at "delay" as God's extraordinary rhythm and blessing!

<u>Genesis 12:2–3</u> "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

3 I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

I. Delay Is a Blessing

- 1. Abraham waited 25 years: God step by step grew his faith, heart, and vision, making him a man who walked with God and through whom all nations were blessed (Genesis 12:2–3).
- **2. Joseph waited 13 years:** God refined and equipped him through suffering.
- **3. David waited 22.5 years:** God shaped him into a great warrior and king—one who feared and loved God deeply.

<u>Psalm 25:21</u> May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope, Lord, is in you.

Psalm 27:14

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

<u>Psalm 37:7–9, 34</u> Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

- **8** Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- **9** For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.
- **34** Hope in the Lord and keep his way. He will exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are destroyed, you will see it.

<u>Psalm 40:1–4</u> I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.

- 2 He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him.
- 4 Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.
 - 4. Elijah through three years of drought and emotional highs and lows: God refined his spirit to walk closely with Him, and eventually Elijah was taken up to heaven.

- 5. Lazarus dead for four days: So that his family could deeply experience that resurrection and life are found in Jesus, and that whoever believes in Him will live even though they die.
- **6.** Paul the thorn in his flesh: To keep him humble and help him experience the fullness of Christ's power.
- 7. **Job through suffering:** His true self was revealed; he saw God with his own eyes, became complete, and was greatly blessed.

<u>Isaiah 40:31</u> 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.

Job 42:3-4 You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.

4 "You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.'

II. The Key: Keep Believing to the End (Isaiah 40:31)

Keep believing. Keep enduring. Keep waiting.

- 1. Patience in waiting: Abraham
- 2. Holding onto purity: Joseph
- 3. Staying away from self-righteous anger and complaints: Elijah
- 4. Avoiding complaints like Martha and Mary—trusting to the end
- 5. Thankfulness in all things: Paul

Key Lessons:

- **Abraham:** Don't listen to people; believe in God.
- **Job:** Listen to God—admit what you don't know (**Job 42:3**), humbly seek answers (**Job 42:4**), and repent in dust and ashes.
- **Joseph:** Resist temptation and fear God.
- Lazarus' sisters: Don't complain or give up.
- **Paul:** Ask and obey—he prayed three times and trusted what Jesus said.

III. After Receiving Grace—Stand Firm: Witness for God, glorify God, serve God.

Even if King Ahab's threats or dangers remain... Even if Lazarus faces greater persecution, bound to Jesus' fate...

Even if Paul still suffers deeply from his thorn... Let us, like Paul, lift up God even more through our pain.

Like Abraham, keep believing and climb to the peak of faith—fully surrender to God.

Like Job, humbly listen, repent, forgive, and honor God.

Like Joseph, fear and exalt God consistently throughout life.

Like David, seek God in all things, show kindness and gratitude, so that the world may see that the Lord is God.

When God delays, He allows us to go through hardships to grow and mature, to stand tall and strong as witnesses for Him and helpers to others.

When God delays, He lets us walk through fire and water so that we may bow before Him, realize our smallness, and know that all things come from Him, depend on Him, and belong to His glory.

We may insist, "There is no God!"

Or complain, "There is a God—but why does He treat me like this?"

But we can also choose to say with faith, "I don't know all the answers—I admit that. But I believe there is a God, and He loves me!"

The wise choose to wait for God, to trust Him completely, and to believe to the end.

Hold tightly to the Lord, and never let go!

∞Responsive Hymn

† 主啊!帶我飛 Lord, I Want to Fly With You

Lord! Please give me strength. Remove my burden. Throw off the sins that bind me.
Hide me under your wings of grace fully.
So I'm in the wind of Spirit,
in the way that you prepare for me.
Make me fly, Fly with You. Steadily Fly!

Over mountains, through the valleys,
Over rivers, through the oceans
I wanna fly, I wannna fly. Heartily fly!
Out of the plains, far from deserts.
Leave from darkness, break through the winds
I wanna fly, I wanna fly. Daringly fly!

○ Over challenges, through the sorrow. Over sadness, through the hopeless.

I wanna fly, I wanna fly. So freely fly!
Out of the meak, away from fear.
Put off the shame, break through the lost.
I wanna fly, I wanna fly. Happily fly!

In sun of righteousness, in light of morning stars.
In the splendid rainbows. Take me fly!
Oh Lord! I wanna fly to You!
Fly toward Your- throne.
Fly into Your mercy embrace.

% Announcement

1. Carrer Fellowship – Tamsui Day Trip

This Saturday (Nov. 8) at 1:00 p.m., please meet at the B1 sanctuary for departure. All young adults are welcome to join us for a relaxing and joyful autumn outing!

2. 2026 Sunday Flower Offering

The sign-up sheet for Sunday flower offerings is now open. If you would like to make a donation, please write your full name neatly in print at the usher's table. The cost is NT\$300 per week. Please register as soon as possible to help our coworkers with planning.

3. Bible Reading Plan

This week's reading is *Jonah Chapters 1–3*. You can visit the Harmony Church website (http://www.ctfhc.org) to watch **Logos Gateway** and **Bible in Focus**. You're also welcome to listen online to Pastor Hsu's radio program "*A Clear Mind – Gospel of John*" on Good News Radio.

∞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.

ॐDoxology

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.