

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:



- Let us clap and rejoice Let us praise with high voice Praise and adore Lord Jesus With all my heart and all my being
- 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!

#### † 祢是彌賽亞

### You are Messiah

■ Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord loudly with joy Raise my hands to proclaim: Holy is the Lord! Praise my Lord Jesus Who had made flesh for all have sinned

You are Messiah, my Lord, and my God.

 $\square$  So rich is my God's love moving on this earth, I see it everyday

I bow down before You in awe 'n humbleness

Who had made flesh for all peoples You are Messiah, my Lord, and my God.

# † 在至高之處

#### In the Highest

- In the highest I give thanks I raise up my hands to give You glory Angel armies Give praise to You Jesus Greatest glory is unto You
- There is peace on earth with those whom He is pleased Hallelujah Hallelujah Jesus You are worthy of it all

# See Responsive Reading: Psalm 20:1-9

- 1 May the LORD answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect
- 2 May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.
- 3 May he remember all your sacrifices and accept your burnt offerings.
- 4 May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.
- 5 May we shout for joy over your victory and lift up our banners in the name of our God. May the Lord grant all your requests.
- 6 Now this I know: The Lord gives victory to his anointed. He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary with the victorious power of his right hand.
- 7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.
- 8 They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm.
- **9** Lord, give victory to the king! Answer us when we call!

#### **%**Praise

- † 齊來信主聖徒 O Come, All Ye Faithful
- O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
- ✓ Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
- $\square$  Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, All glory in the highest;

(O come let us adore him)x3 Christ the Lord.

## **∞**Special Music

- † 聖誕歡慶 Christmas Celebration
- believers praised the King of Kings; the flute and music filled the air. Drums leap and dance—come join the celebration on this joyful Christmas day.
- □ Bring your little drum, take up your flute; come lift the sound of praise to Him. Hear the heavenly beauty of this song rejoice on this blessed Christmas day.
- ☐ God the Father is now reconciled with humankind, far surpassing all the music of the world. Lift up your song of praise to Him, lift up your song of praise come celebrate this Christmas day.
- Angels spread their wings, beholding the newborn King. I praise the Holy Child on this joyful Christmas day.
- God has given His beloved Son for us. God has given His Son for us; the government shall rest upon His shoulders.

His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

- ☐ [Come now and celebrate Christmas—
  together we rejoice!] Offer the highest praise
  to our beloved Lord. (Joy!\*2)
  The King of Heaven is born! []
- Angels spread their wings, beholding the newborn King. I praise the Holy Child on this joyful Christmas day.

#### Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:8, 12, 14

- **8** What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may **gain Christ**.
- 12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.
- **14** I press on toward the goal to win the **prize** for which **God** has called me **heavenward** in Christ Jesus.

# Sermon: My GPS That Never Disconnects

~ Pastor Hsu

# I. Gaining Christ — Philippians 3:8

"Gain": receiving something through effort or investment (to gain, to win, to acquire).

Paul once gained the best heritage, education, and achievements; yet now he considers them a loss—discarding everything as garbage—in order to gain Christ. Christ belongs to me!

Philippians 3:9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

<u>Psalm 32:1</u> Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

## 1. Gaining Justification — Philippians 3:9; Psalm 32:1

"Justification" means being completely holy and blameless in God's eyes.

It is not achieved by our own efforts, but received through faith in Christ and trusting in God.

Blessed is the one whose sins are forgiven and covered—this person becomes light, free, and filled with glory.

Philippians 3:10-11 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

# 2. Gaining Resurrection — Philippians 3:10-11

To know Christ is to experience the power of His resurrection—sharing in His sufferings and His life.

We have assurance of eternal life, an eternal home, and eternal blessing. We have heaven's life, heaven's riches, and heaven's reunion—therefore, we need not fear anything.

**Philippians 3:14** I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 9:24–25 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

**25** Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

# II. Gaining the Prize — Philippians 3:14; 1 Cor. 9:24–2

"Prize": the victory crown given to the winner of a race. We are running for the prize—the imperishable crown. The prize is the **Kingdom of Heaven**:

Matthew 25:21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

2 Timothy 4:8 "Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing."

Ephesians 1:18 "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people."

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

<u>2 Peter 1:11</u> "And you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Revelation 22:5 "There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever."

- Matthew 25:21 "Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into your master's joy."
- 2 Timothy 4:8 "The crown of righteousness" is stored up for us.
- **Ephesians 1:18** The glorious riches of His inheritance.
- 1 Peter 1:4 An inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade.
- 2 Peter 1:11 A rich welcome into the eternal kingdom.

**Revelation 22:5** — We will reign forever and ever.

Earth is temporary; heaven is eternal. Earth is rehearsal; heaven is the reality.

Every role, assignment, and challenge God gives us today is training us to become faithful servants who can joyfully inherit His eternal kingdom.

Philippians 3:12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

John 1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

1 Corinthians 9:24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

Romans 9:30 What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith;

#### III. Letting the Lord Be Lord — Philippians 3:12

Paul presses on to take hold of "that for which Christ Jesus took hold of him."

What did he receive? Christ, the prize of heaven, revelation, prophecy, and union with Christ.

Paul emphasizes: "Not I, but Christ."

• "Not I" — I have not already obtained it; I am not already perfect.

• "But Christ" — He is the Lord; I submit fully to His rule.

"Whatever the Lord wants, I pursue. Whatever He does not give, I submit.

The Lord decides everything; I obey completely." Christ considers me His treasure; I consider Christ my treasure.

<u>1 Corinthians 1:30</u> "It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption."

1 Corinthians 1:13–14 "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus

Hebrews 12:1 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

When we fully surrender, our lives become radiant and glorious. (1 Cor. 1:30)

Christ's wisdom is mine, His righteousness is mine, His holiness is mine, His redemption is mine.

Therefore Paul presses on: forgetting what is behind, straining toward what is ahead, running the race marked out for us (Philippians 3:13–14; Heb. 12:1).

God is waiting for us to say: "Not my will, but Yours be done." "I want Christ to reign in every part of my life—I want to be fully one with Him."

- **∞**Responsive Hymn
- **Announcement**
- **∞**The Lord's Prayer
- **Solution** Doxology
- **Solution** 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.

