



☞ **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:



† 我獻上讚美 **I Give You My Praise**

♪ I give You my praise,  
cause You are my Lord, my King  
I give You my life as a holy sacrifice  
♪ Giving all my life to You, giving all my best to You  
I give You my praise, to You my Lord.

† 神本為大 **God is Great**

♪ Jehovah is great, He is worthy of praise  
How great is His name His power endures for ever  
We stand fast under the shadow of His wings  
He is the God Almighty That always with us  
♪ He is worthy of praise.  
His power is shown on earth  
He is so good to us. Shows us His loving kindness  
My Lord is risen high. To give us loving grace  
God is worthy of praise. His name is to be praised  
Jesus is almighty God

† 何等恩典 **How Could it Be**

♪ With a truthful heart, Lord, I come before Thee  
Open my eyes, so I can see  
With a grateful heart, Lord, I come to receive  
Your spirit of humbleness and grace  
♪ (How could it be), that You would care for me  
( ), Your blood was shed for me  
♪ ( ), You've crowned me. with your grace and glory  
O my soul, sing praises to the king  
♪ [You have removed], my bondage, my chains  
[ ], my burdens and shame. [ ], my sorrows and pain  
♪ O my soul, sing praises to His name

☞ **Responsive Reading: Psalm 37:23-29**

**23** The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him;  
**24** though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand.  
**25** I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.  
**26** They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be a blessing.  
**27** Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.  
**28** For the Lord loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones. Wrongdoers will be completely destroyed; the offspring of the wicked will perish.  
**29** The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.

☞ **Praise**

† 諸天讚美

**Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him**

♪ Praise the Lord! ye heavens adore him  
praise him angels in the height;  
sun and moon, rejoice before him  
praise him, all ye stars of light.  
Praise the Lord! for he hath spoken  
worlds his mighty voice obeyed;  
laws which never shall be broken  
for their guidance he hath made.  
♪ Praise the Lord! for He is glorious;  
never shall his promise fail;  
God hath made his saints victorious;  
sin and death shall not prevail.  
Praise the God of our salvation!  
Hosts on high, his power proclaim;  
heaven and earth, and all creation,  
laud and magnify his Name.  
♪ Worship, honor, glory, blessing,  
Lord, we offer unto Thee.  
Young and old, Thy praise expressing,  
In glad homage bend the knee.  
All the saints in Heaven adore Thee;  
We would bow before Thy throne.  
As Thine angels serve before Thee,  
So on earth Thy will be done.

☞ **Special Music**

† 懇求奇妙救主來臨 **Come, O Wondrous Savior**

♪ You're the Way, the Truth, the Life  
You renew my breath inside  
Truth that calms my every strife  
Life that conquered death and night  
♪ Come, O Light, O Feast, O Power  
Light that shows Your glory bright  
Feast that feeds my thirsty soul  
Power leads me to Your light  
♪ Jesus, Friend of sinners, Jesus  
Lover of my soul, my King  
Though my friends may leave or fail me  
Still my Savior cares for me  
♪ Hallelujah, wondrous Savior  
Hallelujah, You're my Friend  
You have saved me, held me, kept me  
You are with me to the end  
♪ Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart  
Nothing shakes this joy in me  
♪ Nothing separates Your love  
In Your love my heart is free

☞ **Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:13, 16, 12:1-2**

**11:13** All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.  
**16** Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

**Hebrews 12:1–2** 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,

**2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

☞ **Sermon:**

### **Seeing the Farthest City in the Deepest Night**

~ Pastor Dong

In an age of overwhelming pressure and uncertain future, how can we overcome, find peace, and pass through the storm?

Hebrews chapters 11–12 reveal this:

Be people of great faith—people of whom the world is not worthy. The key is found in Hebrews 12:1–2.

**1 Kings 19:3–4** Elijah was afraid[a] and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there,

**4** while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, Lord,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.”

#### **I. Lay aside every weight (Hebrews 12:1b; 1 Kings 19:3–4)**

**Jeremiah 32:17** “Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.

**1 Corinthians 2:9** However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”— the things God has prepared for those who love him—

**Psalm 37:5** Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

**First**, in the battlefield of the mind:

Be a transfer station, not a receiving station. (**Jeremiah 32:17; 1 Corinthians 2:9; Psalm 37:5**)

Remember: do not become a *garbage dump*—be a *transfer station*.

**Psalm 42:11** Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

**Second**, in the battlefield of emotions:

The key to victory is to immediately respond with faith—

declare, praise God, and give thanks in all circumstances. (**Psalm 42:11**)  
Speak it out. Sing it out.

**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,

**Psalm 32:1–11** Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**2** Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

**3** When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**4** For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

**5** Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**6** Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.

**7** You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

**8** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

**9** Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

**10** Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord’s unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.

**11** Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

#### **II. Throw off the sin that easily entangles (Hebrews 12:1c; Psalm 32)**

**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.

**2 Corinthians 4:4** The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**First**, ask God to reveal it. (**Psalm 139:23–24; 2 Corinthians 4:4**)

**Second**, confess it before God. (**Psalm 32:5–11**)

**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,

### III. Run with perseverance (Hebrews 12:1d)

Q: How can we persevere to the end?

**Isaiah 40:29, 31** He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

**31** 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.

**2 Peter 1:4** Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

**Galatians 5:22–23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

A: Ask God for it. (Isaiah 40:29, 31; 2 Peter 1:4; Galatians 5:22–23)

Believe that God has already given us endurance. (**2 Peter 1:4**) Seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Hebrews 12:1–2, 11:34** 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,

**11:34** quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

**Ephesians 6:10–11** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

**11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

### IV. Run the race—engage the battle and do not give up (Hebrews 12:1e; 11:34; Ephesians 6:10–11)

Hebrews 11:34 calls us to choose never to give up and to fight to the end.

Put on the full armor of God every day.

**Hebrews 12:2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**11:13–15** All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things

promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

**14** People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.

**15** If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.

### V. Fix our eyes on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2; 11:13–15)

**First**, lift up your eyes to Him, trust Him, cast your burdens on Him, and declare that He is faithful.

**Second**, fix your eyes on eternity—on the heavenly glory God has prepared for us.

**Hebrews 10:23–25** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

**24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,

**25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

### VI. Keep meeting together (Hebrews 10:23–24)

So that we may: encourage one another, stir up love, and spur one another on toward good works.

Do you want to have great faith in God, overcome the world, and pass through the storms of the last days?

Do you want to see the farthest city in the deepest night?

Then: Lay aside every weight, throw off the sin that entangles, run with perseverance the race before you, fix your eyes on Jesus, and do not stop gathering together or isolate yourself.

### ☞ Responsive Hymn

† 我相信 I Believe

♪ I believe Your true promise.

I believe Your true love

I believe Your honesty. I believe You \*Refrain

♪ I believe Your perfect grace. I believe Your mighty

I believe Your complete wisdom

I believe You \*Refrain

♪ I believe Your great redeem.

I believe Your sacrifice

I believe that Your blood was shed

I believe You have lived \*Refrain

Refrain

So I come to give You my love

So I come to give You my worship

Your works on me is wonderful

I fear You all my life

## 🌀 Announcement

1. The book launch for Sister Yu-Ling's new book "*Mistakes, Yet Made Beautiful—10 Things Italy Taught Me*" will be held today from 12:30–12:50 PM in the Cloud Hall on the first floor. Brothers and sisters are warmly invited to attend and to bring new friends along to receive renewed blessings.
2. Pastor Dong's book "*Daily Walk on the Heavenly Path 5: Outstanding Saints — Philipians MENTOR Devotional Guide*" is now available in both print and digital formats. Please pick up a copy in the lobby after the service, or scan the QR code on page 6 of the bulletin to download it. Let us build ourselves up in the most holy faith and edify one another through sharing God's Word.
3. Our church has published the "*Letters from the Father's House*" e-newsletter. You are welcome to subscribe by scanning the QR code on page 1 of the bulletin and engage in daily, in-depth meditation on God's Word. This week's Bible reading schedule is Mark chapters 9–11.

## 🌀 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.

## 🌀 Benediction

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all, now and forevermore. Amen.

*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

~ Welcome to invite new friends of all ages to join us

### Seniors' Fellowship (松柏團契) (Seniors)

· Mother's Day Concert:

Tuesday 9:30am / 1F Cloud Hall

### Couple Fellowship (家恩團契)

(Couples, married adults, and single parents)

· Super Family Fun : Story & Creative Workshop:

Tuesday 10:15 AM / 5F Hope Hall

· Blessed Moms Group : Handmade Treat Time:

Tuesday 10:15 AM / 5F Hope Hall

· Warm Garden Group : The True Light of the Word

Tuesday 10:30 AM / 5F Morning Star Hall

### Careers Fellowship (晨星團契)

(Working young adults)

General Course for Workers — "On Attitude":

Saturday 1:30pm / B1 Main Hall

### Youth Fellowship (合一青年學院)

(High school to graduate students)

· Mother's Day Creative Gift Contest:

Saturday 1:30pm / Meet at 1F Cloud Hall

### Teens Fellowship (閃耀少年學院)

(Grade 6 to Grade 9)

Mother's Day DIY

Saturday 10:30am / 1F Cloud Hall

· Youth Worship

Sunday 10:30am / 5F Morning Star Hall

### Children Sunday School (希望種子學院)

(Preschool to Grade 5)

· Kids' Sunday School:

Sunday 8:30 AM (3F)

Sunday 10:30 AM

– Kindergarten (5F), Elementary (3F)