



🎷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:



† 讚美祭

We Offer Heart to Praise You

- ♪ We offer heart to praise You.
To enter Lord Jesus' court (*2)
- ♪ We offer a grateful heart
To give You worship and thanksgiving
We offer a cheerful heart.
To offer it to praise You
- ♪ Stand up and bless the Lord, The Lord!

† 這是耶和華所定日子

This is the Day

- ♪ [For this is the Day the Lord has made
All the people sing and shout Your praise
The enemy has been defeated
For Your glory we shout for victory] x2
- ♪ You're my strength, my God my King
In You my hope is found
You are the author of my song.
You are my saving grace
- ♪ We'll march through the nations
Sharing good news, lifting Your mighty name
We raise a banner of victory
Give thanks to You, my God and King!

† 願祢降臨

Let Your Glory Fall

- ♪ Longing for You, yearning for You.
Humbly I come,
Kneel before Your holy place
- ♪ Longing for You. This is my cry, oh Lord
Every day and night.
I'll never cease to seek Your face
- ♪ Your kingdom come reveal Your heart
I seek Your face Lord;
I long to see Your beauty
Your kingdom come,
let Your glory fall in this place.
Draw me closer, God, to a deeper place with You

🎷Responsive Reading: **Psalms 42:1-2, 5-8, 11**

- 1 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.
- 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?
- 5 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.
- 6 My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.
- 7 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.
- 8 By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.
- 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.

🎷Praise

† 榮耀歸於真神 To God be the glory

- ♪ To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.
- ♪ O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
- ♪ Great things he hath taught us,
great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain:

- (Praise the Lord)*2, let the earth hear his voice!
- (Praise the Lord)*2, let the people rejoice!
- O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

🎷Special Music

† 更高處 Higher Ground

- ♪ I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining every day,
Still praying as I'm onward bound,
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."
- Refrain:
- ♪ Lord, lift me up and let me stand,
By faith, on Heaven's tableland,
A higher plane than I have found;
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.
 - ♪ My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;
Though some may dwell where those abound,
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground.
 - ♪ I want to live above the world,
Though Satan's darts at me are hurled;
For faith has caught the joyful sound,
The song of saints on higher ground.
 - ♪ I want to scale the utmost height

And catch a gleam of glory bright;
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

☞ **Scripture Reading: John 3:16**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

☞ **Sermon: "God So Loved the World" Series:
Seeing How Deeply God Loves You Through
Creation (Part 1)**

~ Pastor Dong

To deeply understand how greatly God loves people, and how greatly He loves me, is extremely important.

The more deeply we know how precious and loved we are by God, the more honor, joy, and true happiness we will experience.

From the book of Genesis, we see that God loves the world — how deeply He loves you and me.

Genesis 1:4,10,12,18,21,25,31 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

10 God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

12 The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

18 to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.

21 So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

25 God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

John 1:12, 10:10 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

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.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Romans 1:17, 8:31-39 For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,

39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 3:20-21 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

I. God Gives Every "Good" Thing to Humanity (Genesis 1:4,10,12,18,21,25,31; John 1:12, 10:10; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Romans 1:17, 8:31-39; Ephesians 3:20-21)

In Genesis chapter 1, during creation, God declared "good" seven times.

"Good" means goodness in essence, function, value, appearance — perfect goodness in every way.

After mankind sinned, people lost all that was good. But because God deeply loves humanity, He did not give up on us.

Through Jesus' sacrifice, death, and resurrection, those who believe in Him can regain goodness — and receive something even better. (**John 1:12; 10:10**)

God helps those who firmly believe in Him and continue believing to the end to become holy and

complete. ([1 Thessalonians 5:23-24](#); [Romans 1:17](#))

After being born again, believers place their faith in:

- 1) [Romans 8:31-39](#)
- 2) Believing that what we cannot do, God can do. ([Ephesians 3:20-21](#))
- 3) [1 Thessalonians 5:23-24](#) — He will surely save us and bring us to dwell with Him forever in eternity.

Our faith is: “from faith to faith” — beginning by faith and ending in faith. ([Romans 1:17](#))

[Genesis 1:26; 2:7](#) Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

[2:7](#) Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

[2 Corinthians 3:18](#) And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate[a] the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

II. God Gave Humanity the Best Image ([Genesis 1:26; 2:7](#); [2 Corinthians 3:18](#))

God gave us the most beautiful image in the universe — outwardly and inwardly — reflecting Him.

God gave you incomparable beauty, honor, excellence, and inner worth. You bear God’s most precious image.

But after mankind sinned, this was lost.

Through rebirth in Jesus, God restores us according to His design, making us more like Him and more glorious. ([2 Corinthians 3:18](#))

How to Receive Salvation and This Blessing:
Open your heart toward God, and the Holy Spirit will regenerate and transform you from within.

After receiving this glory and beauty through rebirth, we should pursue three things:

First: Reject all shameful and hidden things, and boldly proclaim the truth of the gospel. ([2 Corinthians 4:1-2](#))

[2 Corinthians 4:1-2](#) Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

2 Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God.

[2 Corinthians 4:7-10](#) But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair;

9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

[2 Corinthians 4:15](#) All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

[2 Corinthians 4:16-18](#) Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Second: Follow Jesus by doing what is good for others in all things. ([2 Corinthians 4:15](#))

The focus and central theme of life should be:
Glorify God and benefit people.

“He must increase, but I must decrease.” Though this sounds sacrificial, it is actually living out the precious image, life, and purpose God created humanity to have.

Third: Choose to be strong and not lose heart. ([2 Corinthians 4:16-18](#))

[Genesis 1:26](#) Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

[Psalm 8:1-9](#) Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.

2 Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, **4** what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

5 You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them[f] with glory and honor.

6 You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet:

7 all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,

8 the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

9 Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Hebrews 2:5-8 It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking.

6 But there is a place where someone has testified: “What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him?”

7 You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor

8 and put everything under their feet.” In putting everything under them,[d] God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them.

Proverbs 17:3 The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the heart.

III. God Gave Humanity Glory and Authority (**Genesis 1:26; Psalm 8; Hebrews 2:5-8; Proverbs 17:3**)

“To rule” means kingly authority — serving as vice-regents under God, the Supreme King.

This is not a rule of exploitation or violence, but leadership filled with love, justice, mercy, wisdom, and shepherd-like care — the governance of an ideal king. (**Psalm 72**)

Even after humanity lost this glory through sin, God still desires to crown people with glory and honor. (**Psalm 8; Hebrews 2:5-8**)

Today, we should accept God’s refining and training so we may become qualified kings. “The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the heart.” (**Proverbs 17:3**)

Do You Want to Deeply Know and Experience God’s Love for You?

Choose to believe God. “He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all — how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?” Choose to rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances.

Continually draw faith from God. Keep believing to the very end. Be renewed day by day. Reflect His glory and love.

Grow from glory to glory. Be refined successfully, shaped into a vessel useful for God’s purposes.

☞ Responsive Hymn



☞ Announcement

1. The Couple Fellowship will hold a life testimony gathering titled “Looking Back on Half a Century: A Journey of Grace” on Sunday, May 31, from 1:00–2:30 PM in the Main Sanctuary on the 4th floor. Brother and Sister Chen Sai-Feng will share how they came to know God and experienced His grace through decades of walking with Him. New friends are warmly welcome. To register, please scan the QR code on page 6 or contact a Home Grace Fellowship small group leader. (Lunch will be provided at noon. Registration is required for the meal.)
2. 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 from Mark chapter 15 through Luke chapter 1..

☞ 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

