# The Firstborn from Among the Dead

At Jesus' baptism, the heavens had opened and the Father had declared his sheer pleasure in his Son. And now, after the cross, when the Son had so perfectly displayed the extent of his love, the Father could not leave his beloved one dead. So he vindicated - or "justified" - him, declaring him utterly worthy of life (1 Tim 3:16), declaring him with power through the Spirit to be the Son of God (Rom 1:4).

Where the guilt of Adam had brought death, the righteousness of Christ brought victorious life.

That otherwise unremarkable tomb in Jerusalem thus became the womb of a new creation. From it emerged the firstborn from the dead, the firstfruits of a royal

harvest of life. The humanity, the flesh and bones that had been weak and corruptible in Adam were now triumphant and incorruptible. "On the third day," wrote G.K. Chesterton, "the friends of Christ coming at day-break to the place found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways they realized the new wonder; but even they hardly realized that the world had died in the night. What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation, with a new heaven and a new earth; and in a semblance of the gardener God walked again in the garden, in the cool not of the evening but the dawn."

- MikeReeves, Rejoicing in Christ

#### **Events**

TODAY College & Career Lunch 1 PM 4/5 Men's Action Mtg 7:30 PM 4/7 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM 4/9 LMS 9:00 AM

#### Give

Upcoming Events







#### Service Times



- -Sunday School 9:30 am
- -Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
- -Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 pm
- -Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:15 pm

# Loving God, one another, and the world through the gospel of Jesus Christ

April 3, 2016

Tenemos
disponible
traducción al
español
durante los
servicios de la
mañana y de la
tarde

#### **Pastors**

Gary Hendrix Charles Fortner Stu Johnston Andy Dunkerton Stephen Byrd Robert Fisher Bob Prentice

919-563-9249 www.grbc.net

## Morning Worship

#### Call to Worship Opening Hymn

#### Michael Lopes All I Have is Christ

- 1. I once was lost in darkest night, yet thought I knew the way. The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave. I had no hope that You would own a rebel to Your will. And if You had not loved me first, I would refuse You still.
- 2. But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost. You looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross, And I beheld God's love displayed, You suffered in my place. You bore the wrath reserved for me, now all I know is grace. Hallelujah! All I have is Christ. Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.
- 3. Now Lord I would be Yours alone, and live so all might see the strength to follow Your commands could never come from me. O Father, use my ransomed life in any way You choose, and let my song forever be my only boast is You. Hallelujah! All I have is Christ. Hallelujah! Jesus is my life. (repeat)

Words and Music: Jordan Kauflin © 2008 Sovereign Grace Praise Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

#### Scripture Reading Pastoral Prayer Offertory

#### Revelation 10, page 1033

#### Take My Life and Let it Be

- 1. Take my life, and let it be consecrated Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2. Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee, Swift and beautiful for Thee.
- 3. Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only, for my King. Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee, Filled with messages from Thee.
- 4. Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose, Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
- 5. Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal Throne.
- 6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal Music: Mike Clark Used by Permission

#### Preparatory

#### My Chains are Gone

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

(Chorus) My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me, and like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures. (2x Chorus)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine; but God, who called me here below, will be forever mine, will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

Text: John Newton, add. Words by L. Giglio, E. Exell, Chris Tomlin & J. Rees © 2006 worshiptogether.com songs, EMI Christian Music Publishing Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

Sermon

**Pastor Gary Hendrix** 

### **Evening Worship**

# Call to Worship Opening Hymn

Brad Kinnison Glorify Thy Name

Father, we love You, we worship and adore You, glorify Thy name in all the earth. Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Jesus, we love you, ..... Spirit, we love You, .....

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#### Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

(repeat with few singing "descant")

Text: Thomas Ken Music: Jimmy Owens © 1972 LEXICON MUSIC Used by Permission CCLI # 1899094

Scripture Reading Psalm 55, page 475

**Pastoral Prayer** 

Offertory #710 I Need Thee Every Hour Preparatory O Love that will not Let Me Go

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths its flow May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to Thee; My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in Thy sunshine's blaze its day May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red Life that shall endless be, life that shall endless be.

Text: George Matheson, 1882 Music: Christopher Miner, © 1997 Christopher Miner Music Used by Permission CCLI # 189904

#### **Behold What Manner**

#### (singing 4 times, follow instructions on screen for Verses 2 & 3 in "round")

Behold, what manner of love the Father has given unto us. Behold, what manner of love the Father has given unto us,

That we should be called the sons of God, that we should be called the sons of God.

Text: 1 John 3: 1 Music: Patricia Van Tine © 1978 MARANATHA! Music

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Sermon

**Pastor Andy Dunkerton**