

When God Swears by God by John Piper

Since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." (Hebrews 6:13-14)

There is one Person whose worth and honor and dignity and preciousness and greatness and beauty and reputation is more than all other values combined — ten thousand times more — namely, God himself. So, God swears by himself.

If he could have gone higher, he would have gone higher. Why? To give you strong encouragement in your hope. What God is saying in swearing by himself is that it is as unlikely that he will break his word of promise to bless us as it is that he will despise himself.

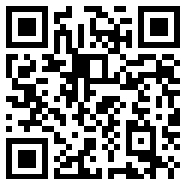
God is the greatest value in the universe. There is nothing more valuable or wonderful than God. So, God swears by God. And in doing that he says: "I mean for you to have as much confidence in me as it is possible to have." For if more were possible, Hebrews 6:13 says he would have given us that.

Now this is our God, the God who is reaching as high as he can reach to inspire your unshakable hope. So, flee to God for refuge. Turn from all the superficial, self-defeating hopes of the world and put your hope in God. There is nothing and no one like God as a refuge and a rock of hope.

Events

TODAY Hawfields 3 PM
TODAY Baptisms PM
11/30 Thanksgiving
Testimonies 7:15
12/3 Men's Prayer for
Revival 7:30 AM
12/3 LMS 9 AM

Give



Upcoming Events



GRACE
REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

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**

November 27, 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

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Morning Worship

Call to Worship Opening Hymn

I thank You, Lord, for Your sov'reign goodness,
the mercy You've shown me, Your glorious church.
I thank You, Lord, for justification, divine contemplation,
the comfort and goodness and truth of Your Word.

I thank You, Lord, for the joys of communion,
of table and closet, the sweetness of prayer.

I thank You, Lord, for the saints gone before us, the heavenly chorus,
and future rejoicing in "The LORD who is There."

**(Chorus) Surely goodness and mercy follow me all of my days---
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord,
forever and ever, Amen.**

I thank You, Lord, for each precious baby,
the blessings of children, the pleasures of home.

I thank You, Lord, for opening bare wombs, for conquering the tomb,
the promise of reaping from tears we have sown.

I thank You, Lord, for corporate mercies,
the work of Your Spirit, the gifts we employ.

I thank You, Lord, for heavenly glimpses, for all that Your Word says,
the giving of thanks with Your people in joy. **(Chorus)**

I thank You, Lord, for restoring the lost years,
for bottling my tears, renewing my soul.

I thank You, Lord, for healing diseases, salvation in Jesus,
for each wand'ring sheep that's brought back to the fold.

I thank You, Lord, for the trials you have brought me,
the patience you've taught me in suff'ring and loss.

I thank You, Lord, for the hope that You give me, that You'll never leave me,
the work of redemption, for gold from the dross. **(Chorus)**

Words and Music: Courtney Dunkerton Used by Permission

Scripture Reading Pastoral Prayer

Matthew 8:18-34, page 813

Offertory

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

1. My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again;
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me with His light-
And wrote His law of righteousness with pow'r upon my heart.

2. My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly.
Whose ev'ry promise is enough for ev'ry step I take.
Sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

3. My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose ev'ry thought is love.
For ev'ry day I have on earth is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all, to love and follow Him.

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Preparatory

Jesus, Thank You

The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend, the agonies of Calvary.
You, the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son, drank the bitter cup reserved for me.

(Chorus) Your blood has washed away my sin. Jesus, thank You.

The Father's wrath completely satisfied, Jesus, thank You.

Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table, Jesus, thank You.

By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near.

Your enemy You've made Your friend.

Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace,

Your mercy and Your kindness know no end. **(Chorus 2x)**

(Bridge) Lover of my soul, I want to live for You. Lover of my soul, I want to live for You.

Lover of my soul, I want to live for You. **(Final Chorus, 1 x)**

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Sermon

Pastor Gary Hendrix

Evening Worship

Call to Worship Opening Hymn

**Pastor Charles Fortner
O Church Arise**

1. O Church, arise, and put your armor on; hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong, in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand against the devil's lies;
an army bold, whose battle cry is love, reaching out to those in darkness.

2. Our call to war to love the captive soul, but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole, we will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side, we know the outcome is secure,
and Christ will have the prize for which He died- an inheritance of nations.

3. Come see the Cross, where love and mercy meet, as the Son of God is stricken;
then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, for the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away and Christ emerges from the grave,
this vic'try march continues till the day ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

4. So Spirit come, put strength in ev'ry stride, give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
that we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way, retelling triumphs of His grace,
we hear the calls and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in Glory.

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Scripture Reading Pastoral Prayer

Joshua 24:14-24, page 198

Offertory

There is a Redeemer

Preparatory

Nearer, My God, to Thee

Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

Even though it be a cross that raiseth me; Still all my song shall be,

(Chorus) Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone; Yet in my dreams I'd be **(Chorus)**

There let the way appear, steps unto heaven;
All that Thou sendest me in mercy given; Angels to beckon me **(Chorus)**

Then, with my waking thoughts, bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs, Bethel I'll raise; So by my woes to be **(Chorus)**

Or if on joyful wing, cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly, still all my song shall be **(Chorus)**

Text: Sarah F. Adams, Music: Lowell Mason

Sermon

Alex DiPrima