

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

VOTUM

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made the heavens and the earth.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

‘Way Maker’

(Osinachi Kalu)

Verse 1

You are here moving in our midst
I worship You I worship You
You are here working in this place
I worship You I worship You

Chorus

(You are) Way Maker Miracle
Worker Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness my God that is
who You are

Verse 2

You are here touching ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You
You are here healing ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You

Verse 3

You are here turning lives around
I worship You I worship You
You are here mending ev'ry heart
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

Tag

That is who You are
That is who You are
(REPEAT)

Bridge

Even when I don't see it You're working
Even when I don't feel it You're working
You never stop You never stop working
You never stop You never stop working

Chorus

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let praise to God resound in the heavens!

Let praise to God fill the earth!

Let all God's angels offer praise and rejoicing!

Let all God's creatures sing praise and joy!

Open your hearts and spirits today.

Let us praise the Lord today and always!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Patient God, sometimes we are just too busy for our own good. We pledge ourselves to hectic schedules, demands on time, energy, and resources that erode all too quickly. We seem to be rushing through life. The cries of those in need often go unheeded in our blur of activities which sap our energy, our resources, our spirits. Slow us down a bit, Lord.

Remind us again that we are responsible for the care of this world, for reaching out and offering Your healing love. Help us to hear the words of patient love that You have for us.

Remind us again of Jesus' words when he said all those who follow him should love one another as he loved them. May we take time to bear witness to that love in all that we do.

For we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

ANTHEM
CHILDREN'S TIME
HYMN #88

'All Creatures of Our God and King'
'Fairest Lord Jesus'

(arr. By Larry Shackley)

Verse 1

Fairest Lord Jesus
Ruler of all nature
O thou of God and man the Son
Thee will I cherish
Thee will I honor
Thou my soul's glory joy and crown

Verse 2

Fair are the meadows
Fairer still the woodlands
Robed in the blooming garb of
spring
Jesus is fairer
Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing

Verse 3

Fair is the sunshine
Fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host
Jesus shines brighter
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast

Verse 4

Beautiful Savior
Lord of all the nations
Son of God and Son of Man
Glory and honor
Praise adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 11:1-18

11 Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." ⁸ But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

RECOGNITION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Loving God, You have given us the task to love one another. May the gifts we offer bring love and life to others. May the love we share bring hope to a world that, too often, has forgotten how to love. Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

THE 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. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

ENDING SONG

‘Living Hope’

(Phil Wickham)

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I’m Yours forever

Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There’s salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
(REPEAT)

Jesus Yours is the victory ***Chorus***

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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