

HOPE CHURCH



Alexandre domptant Bucéphale by Nicolas-Antoine Monsiau, 1787

June 28, 2026

Reflections

"Aim at Heaven and you will get Earth 'thrown in': aim at Earth and you will get neither."

C. S. Lewis

"Self-help is the American gospel, which translates into self-congratulation and self-protection. ... Jesus looks at us and he knows that we cannot help ourselves. He looks at us this very day in the same way he looked at every human being that he encountered during his earthly life: with infinite sadness for our predicament, yet with unquenchable love and with unflinching resolve to rescue us from certain condemnation and death, whatever it took, wherever it led, whatever the price. 'Self-help' is crucified with Christ."

Fleming Rutledge

"Vulnerability is not a weakness, a passing indisposition, or something we can arrange to do without. Vulnerability is not a choice. Vulnerability is the underlying, ever present and abiding undercurrent of our natural state. To run from vulnerability is to run from the essence of our nature; the attempt to be invulnerable is the vain attempt to become something we are not and most especially, to close off our understanding of the grief of others. More seriously, in refusing our vulnerability we refuse the help needed at every turn of our existence and immobilize the essential, tidal and conversational foundations of our identity. To have a temporary, isolated sense of power over all events and circumstances, is a lovely illusionary privilege and perhaps the prime and most beautifully constructed conceit of being human and especially of being youthfully human, but it is a privilege that must be surrendered with that same youth, with ill health, with accident, with the loss of loved ones who do not share our untouchable powers; powers eventually and most emphatically given up, as we approach our last breath. The only choice we have as we mature is how we inhabit our vulnerability . . ."

David Whyte

"The fruit of the Spirit is . . . meekness."

Galatians 5: 22

Order of Worship

GATHERING

PRELUDE

I'll Not Be Shaken

For God alone I wait in silence
My soul is still before the Lord
He is my rock and my salvation
My fortress strong I trust in Him

I'll not be shaken I'll not be shaken
For all my hope is in His love
From God alone comes my salvation
I'll wait and trust His steadfast love

Put not your hope in gain of riches
Seek not your rest in empty wealth
The rich are weak the poor are mighty
Who turn to God alone for help

Pour out your heart to God our refuge
And trust in Him to hear you cry
No other hope will never fail you
No other love will not run dry

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

"We have a strong city;

**he sets up salvation
as walls and bulwarks.**

Open the gates,
that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

**You keep him in perfect peace
whose mind is stayed on you,
because he trusts in you.**

Trust in the Lord forever,
for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

For he has humbled

**the inhabitants of the height,
the lofty city.**

He lays it low, lays it low to the ground,
casts it to the dust.

**The foot tramples it,
the feet of the poor,
the steps of the needy.”**

from Isaiah 26:1-6

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
his truth to triumph through us.

The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers
no thanks to them abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!

PRAISE SONG

Jesus Cast a Look on Me

Jesus cast a look on me,
Give me sweet simplicity
Make me poor and keep me low,
Seeking only Thee to know

All that feeds my busy pride,
Cast it evermore aside
Bid my will to Thine submit,
Lay me humbly at Thy feet

Make me like a little child,
Of my strength and wisdom spoiled
Seeing only in Thy light,
Walking only in Thy might

Leaning on Thy loving breast,
Where a weary soul can rest
Feeling well the peace of God,
Flowing from His precious blood

In this posture let me live,
And hosannas daily give
In this temper let me die,
And hosannas ever cry!

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in Whom we live and move and have our being, Whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and Whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to You, confessing our faults, confiding in Your grace, and finding in You our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

1 Peter 1:3-4

RENEWAL SONG

We Are Not Overcome

Flesh will fail, and bones will break;
thieves will steal, the earth will shake.
Night will fall, the light will fade;
The Lord will give and take away:

Because of His great love,
we are not overcome!
Because of His great love,
we are not overcome!

Put no trust in the earth,
in the sod you stand upon.
Flowers fade into dust;
The Lord will make a place for us:

Have no fear for your life;
turn your cheek! turn your cheek!
Bear the yoke of love and death;

The Lord will give all life and breath:

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHILDREN DISMISSED

LIFE TOGETHER

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“Meekness in a World of Self-Concern”

David Speakman

¹ Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

Matthew 5:1-5

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

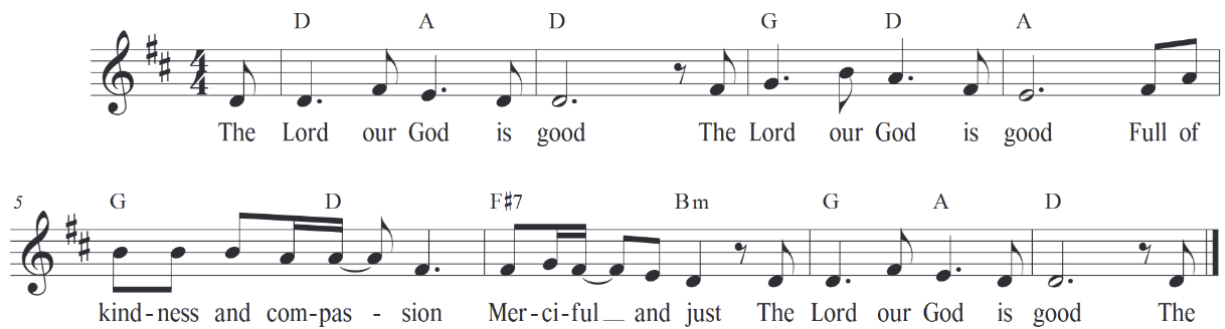
Thanks be to God!

Sermon Notes

RESPONSE

SONG OF RESPONSE

The Lord Our God Is Good



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

A Son of God

I lie down and rest cause I work no longer
I breathe in refreshed no more soiled in disgrace
I look up at him to whom I am kneeling
And I see just delight there in my Father's face

I am last and low cause I fight no longer
To be right or good or to prove my own worth
I'm not driven or pushed or weighed down with duty
I am filled with release that Christ did all for me

I'm a son of God and love is my freedom
I can ask anything of my Father the King
I'm an heir I'm adopted and my brother is Jesus
I'm a son of God and my soul is at peace

I stand up in faith cause I fear no longer
And I pray and wait for God to provide
I lean all of my weight on him who is able
And I set aside every effort of mine

I know now I'm safe cause nothing can harm me
Or break in and take what's stored up for me
I need not to cling to dead helpless idols
They no longer can hold any comfort for me

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

COMMUNION SONG

Be Still My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still my soul when dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in the vale of tears
Then shall you better know His love His heart
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears
Be still my soul your Jesus can repay
From His own fullness all He takes away

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

SENDING

SENDING SONG

The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

LIFE TOGETHER

FAMILY UPDATES

Congrats to Sarah and Nate on the birth of Mabel June: Meal plan in Looking Up.

Congrats to Ashley and Patrick on the birth of Hudson Reed: Meal plan in Looking Up.

Meal plan for Kathy Pickett during her treatment in Looking Up.

HOPE FOR THE CITY

June Sunnyside Men's Clothing Drive: Gently used clothing + shoes: Rack by office.

YoungLives Ministry Needs: See Looking Up for details.

CHURCH LIFE

Women's Summer Book Study - Wednesdays 7:30-9pm | June 10: Register now.

Men's Book Study - Wednesdays 12pm or Thursdays 5:30am | June 10: Rm 209.

Have a working vehicle you're not using? Please reach out to the Deacons.

Lawn Party - July 19: Save the date! Details to follow.

Wishlist for Books to take to Quito on missions trip in Looking Up or see Ethan.

Life Group registration for the fall is now open in Church Center.

PARENTS & CHILDREN

Summer Youth Group - June 28 4:30-6pm: Rising 6th + current youth.

CFA Lunches - Wednesdays 11:30-12:30: Rising 6th + Current youth; self-pay.

Kids Connection - *June Verse* - Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.

Matthew 5:8

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF JUNE 23, 2026

	Actual to Date	Budgeted	Difference	
Income	\$650,543	\$659,623	-\$9,080	-1.38%
Expense	\$780,377	\$760,483	\$19,894	2.62%
Surplus (Deficit)	-\$129,834	-\$100,860		

ANNUAL MINISTRY BUDGET: \$1,558,309***MAKING ROOM FOR MORE UPDATE***

Campaign Goal	Campaign Commitments	Gifts Received Beyond Commitments	Total Funds Received to Date
\$9.4 million	\$5,243,302	\$746,893	\$4,797,916