



Elijah Raising the Widow's Son, Benjamin West, 1774.

September 13, 2026

Reflections

"Against other things it is possible to obtain security, but when it comes to death, we human beings all live in an unwallled city."

Epicurus

"The worldling blesses God while he gives him plenty, but the Christian blesses him when he smites him: he believes him to be too wise to err and too good to be unkind; he trusts him where he cannot trace him, looks up to him in the darkest hour, and believes that all is well."

Charles Spurgeon

"There is more in God's promises to comfort than in this world to perplex."

Thomas Watson

"And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Revelation 21:1-4

Order of Worship

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Poor Sinner, Dejected with Fear

Poor sinner, dejected with fear,
Unbosom thy mind to the Lamb;
No wrath on His brow He does wear,
Nor will He poor mourners condemn;
His arm of omnipotent grace
Is able and willing to save;
A sweet and a permanent peace
He'll freely and faithfully give.

Come just as thou art, with thy woe,
Fall down at the feet of the Lamb;
He will not, He cannot say, "Go!",
But surely will take out thy stain
A fountain is opened for sin,
And thousands its virtues have proved
He'll take thee, and plunge thee therein,
And wash thee from filth in His blood.

The soul that on Jesus relies,
He'll never, no never deceive;
He freely and faithfully gives
More blessings than we can conceive;
Yea, down to old age He will keep,
Nor will He forsake us at last;
He knows and is known by His sheep;
They're His, and He will hold them fast.

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!

Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no lack!

The young lions suffer want and hunger;

but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

**The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.**

Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

**He keeps all his bones;
not one of them is broken.**

Affliction will slay the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

**The Lord redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

From Psalm 34

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

Great Are You Lord

You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness

You give hope You restore
ev'ry heart that is broken
Great are You Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord

PRAISE SONG (11AM)

This Is My Father's World

This is my Father's world
and to my list'ning ears
All nature sings and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
the battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heav'n be one.

This is my Father's world:
the battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heav'n be one.

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Out of the depths of despair,
we cry to you, O God.
We are lost in a world
of pain and suffering.

When we put our trust in weapons of war,
we find no peace.
When we put our faith in our own resources,
we feel the ache of our true needs.
When we put our hope in the health of our bodies,
we suffer pain and find no healing.
Come to us, O God.
Forgive our sins,
Forgive our doubts and fears.
Heal our brokenness,
that we may rejoice in your steadfast love. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will.... Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

John 5:21, 24

RENEWAL SONG

It Is Well

When peace like a river, attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well, with my soul

It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, o my soul!

And Lord haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so: it is well with my soul!

LIFE TOGETHER

COVENANT OF BAPTISM (8:30AM)

Bradley Charles Downs

Jesus Loves You

Jesus loves you, this we know
For the Bible tells us so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves you,
Yes, Jesus loves you,
Yes, Jesus loves you,
The Bible tells us so.

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHILDREN DISMISSED

PREACHING OF THE WORD

"Secure in the Unwalled City"

David Speakman

¹⁷ After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸ And she said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!" ¹⁹ And he said to her, "Give me your son." And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰ And he cried to the Lord, "O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?" ²¹ Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the Lord, "O Lord my God, let this child's life come into him again." ²² And the Lord listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³ And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives."

²⁴ And the woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth.”

1 Kings 17:17-24

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

Thanks be to God!

Sermon Notes

RESPONSE

SONG OF RESPONSE

Your Word (Isaiah 55)

Your Word will do
What you sent it to do
Your Word has overcome
Your Word is true,
And it's taking root
Making all things new in us

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

O God of Mercy, Hear Our Plea

O God we've seen Your faithfulness
You brought us from the wilderness
But now our faith is frail and weak
O God of mercy hear our plea

When will You comfort our distress
How long until the promised rest
We cry to You from deepest need
O God of mercy hear our plea

Abba Father our Redeemer
In this barren land be our hope and strength
Until glory we will trust and sing
Abba Father hear our plea

We join creation's longing groan
To take Your ransomed children home

For then the eyes of all will see
The God of mercy hears our plea

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

Christ Is Risen

Let no one caught in sin remain
Inside the lie of inward shame
But fix our eyes upon the cross
And run to Him who showed great love
And bled for us
Freely You've bled for us

Christ is risen from the dead
Trampling over death by death
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead
We are one with Him again
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave

Beneath the weight of all our sin
You bowed to none but heaven's will
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown

No burden great can hold You down
In strength You reign
Forever let Your church proclaim

O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
The glory of God has defeated the night
Singing O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
Our God is not dead He's alive He's alive

SENDING

SENDING SONG

Romans 11 (Doxology)

Oh, the depth of the riches
Of the wisdom and knowledge of God
How unsearchable His judgment
How untraceable His paths

Who knows the mind of our God?
Who can bring council to Him?
Who has given to God
That God should repay?

For, from Him, through Him
To Him is everything

To God be the glory forever and ever
To God be the glory forever, amen

BENEDICTION

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

LIFE TOGETHER

HOPE FOR THE CITY

Backpack Packing Party - Sept 13 3:15-4:15: All ages help pack meals in the pavilion.

YoungLives: Childcare is needed on Monday nights. See Looking Up for signup.

CHURCH LIFE

Missions Prayer Lunch - Sept 13 12:30-2pm: All welcome upstairs!

Men's Meetup - Sept 14 12-1:15pm: Yamas on 4th.

Pickleball League - Sept 19 9-11am: Details in Church Center.

Gathering Hour - Sept 28: Change of time and place to 7:30pm at Easytalk.

Discovering Hope - Oct 2-3: Register now for our new member class!

PARENTS & CHILDREN

Pizza and Playground - Sept 25 5:30-7pm: All kids 3yrs-5th grade. Bring your wheels!

Mystery Dinner - Oct 16 6:15-8pm: HS serving MS. Register now!

Kids Praise - 2nd & 4th Sundays 4:30-5:30pm: Resumes for 3rd-5th Grade Sept 13.

Kids Connection - *Sept Verses* - Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Matthew 5

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF SEPT 9, 2026

	Actual to Date	Budgeted	Difference	
Income	\$924,781	\$954,418	-\$29,637	-3.11%
Expense	\$1,054,588	\$1,079,691	-\$25,103	-2.33%
Surplus (Deficit)	-\$129,807	-\$125,273		

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	\$764,558	\$4,895,345