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GraceFallsChurchVA



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Grace Falls Church

June 6, 2021

“O COME TO THE ALTAR”

[Verse 1]

Are you hurting and broken within,
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling.
Have you come to the end of yourself,
Do you thirst for a drink from the well,
Jesus is calling.

[Chorus]

O come to—the altar
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness—was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

[Verse 2]

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes.
Come today there's no reason to wait.
Jesus is calling.
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy,
From the ashes a new life is born.
Jesus is calling.

[Chorus]x2

O come to—the altar
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness—was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ.

[Bridge]x2

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

[Chorus]x2

O come to—the altar
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness—was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ)

CONFESSION OF SINS

Worship Leader: In a normal year, there are roughly 1,100 marathons in the US, with 509,000 participants that complete the race. Just over 50% of those runners are first timers.

Anyone who has run or is training for a marathon knows the exorbitant amount of hard work, dedication, and determination it takes to prepare for a race. And yet, for as many people who love running marathons, there are just as many who abhor running, as if it were the bane of their existence. It is much easier to not run than it is to run.

As Christians, our ‘marathon,’ our race, is different; but it is grueling. There are times when running our race seems only to be an uphill battle. We become fearful of our spiritual legs giving out, and us sliding back to the start. Yet, Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans:

“Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us” (Romans 5:3-5).

When we face hardships, when we sinfully neglect our spiritual training, when we slip and fall, we do not need to feel hopeless or discouraged because God demonstrated his love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). And so, we press on in our race, renewed and refreshed, because we know that our ability to succeed does not come from our own volition. The source of our supply comes from Christ. Therefore, let us confess our sins and be reminded, refreshed, and renewed by the forgiveness Jesus has secured for us:

Congregation: Lord, you have given me my body and soul, my eyes and ears, my mind and all my abilities. You have richly and daily provided all I need to support my body and life. Yet with all these blessings I have continued to sin—in thought, word, and deed. Lord, I pray that you have mercy on me. Not because I have earned it or deserved it, but because of your unfailing love and your Son Jesus. Assure me of the forgiveness of my sin. Take away my guilt. Renew me and grant me strength to continue running the race of life.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

WL: God, our Heavenly Father, is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in faithful love. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. May the God of hope fill you with the peace and joy that comes only through his forgiveness and give you his strength to live according to his will. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 11:1-7, 16-21

Love the Lord your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always.

² Remember today that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the Lord your God: his majesty, his mighty hand, his outstretched arm; ³ the signs he performed and the things he did in the heart of Egypt, both to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his whole country; ⁴ what he did to the Egyptian army, to its horses and chariots, how he overwhelmed them with the waters of the Red Sea as they were pursuing you, and how the Lord brought lasting ruin on them.

⁵ It was not your children who saw what he did for you in the wilderness until you arrived at this place, ⁶ and what he did to Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab the Reubenite, when the earth opened its mouth right in the middle of all Israel and swallowed them up with their households, their tents and every living thing that belonged to them. ⁷ But it was your own eyes that saw all these great things the Lord has done.

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¹⁶ Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. ¹⁷ Then the Lord's anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the Lord is giving you.

¹⁸ Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ¹⁹ Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

²⁰ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, ²¹ so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

“COME HOME”

[Verse 1]

I am hiding in the darkness;
Shameless, I am ignorant.
They say that ignorance is bliss.
Can't hit the mark if you aim to miss.
So, I sit and ask myself this,
“Who am I, that I should be missed?”

[Verse 2]

Then the still small voice cries out
Whispers my name in that quiet shout
“My dear friend, I still love you;
So please don't hide from me.
I paid the debt you had due.
I bore it on the tree

[Chorus 1]

So you can come home.
You can come home.
Please come home.

[Verse 3]

That still voice that sought me out
Was my Savior I had no doubt.
In the light, the Son he shines,
Calls me dear and he calls me mine.

[Chorus 2]

So, I'll sing: Gloria.
Gloria. Gloria. Gloria.

[Verse 4]

All those sins that held me down
In my baptism I will drown.
I'll still have fears and I'll have qualms,
But my heart it beats—A steady calm.

[Chorus 3]

Cause I'm going home; I'm going home.
Cause I'm going home; I'm going home.
Singin': Gloria. Gloria.
Gloria. Gloria. Gloria.

Words and Music by Kyle A. Heise and Alex Randazzo

RUNNING THE RACE OF LIFE

Message based on 1 Corinthians 9:24-26

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-26

Do you not know that in a race all the
Runners run, but only one gets the prize?
Run in such a way as to get the prize.

²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games
goes into strict training. They do it to get a

crown that will not last, but we do it to
get a crown that will last forever.

²⁶ Therefore I do not run like someone
running aimlessly; I do not fight like
a boxer beating the air.

PRAYER

Following the prayer:

All: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

"YES I WILL"

[Verse 1]

I count on one thing:
The same God that never fails
Will not fail me now;
You won't fail me now.
In the waiting,
the same God who's never late,
Is working all things out;
You're working all things out.

[Chorus 1]

Yes, I will—lift You high
in the lowest valley.
Yes, I will—bless Your name.
Yes, I will—sing for joy
when my heart is heavy.
All my days—yes, I will.

[Verse]

I count on one thing:
The same God that never fails
Will not fail me now;
You won't fail me now.
In the waiting,
the same God who's never late,
Is working all things out;
You're working all things out.

[Chorus 2]

Yes, I will—lift You high
in the lowest valley.
Yes, I will—bless Your name.
Yes, I will—sing for joy
when my heart is heavy.
All my days—yes, I will.
For all my days—yes, I will.

[Bridge] x3

And I choose to praise
To glorify, glorify
The name of all names
That nothing can stand against

[Chorus 2]

Yes, I will—lift You high
in the lowest valley.
Yes, I will—bless Your name.
Yes, I will—sing for joy
when my heart is heavy.
All my days—yes, I will.
For all my days—yes, I will.
For all my days—yes, I will.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & BLESSING

WANT TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE MUSIC?

This playlist contains nearly every one of the songs that we use for contemporary worship over the year:

**Also, feel free to send song suggestions or recommendations to Staff Minister Kyle Heise 😊.*



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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