

Worshiping the God to Whom We Vow!

PRELUDE *Fugue in E Flat Major (ST. ANNE)* J. S. Bach
Dennis Bergin, organ

For this God is our God forever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.
Psalm 48:14 (KJV)

WELCOME

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP *The Mighty God with Power Speaks (Psalm 50)*
Sanctuary Choir; Carrie Smith, piano

The Mighty God with power speaks, and all the world obeys;
From dawn until the setting sun, God's wonder earth displays.
The perfect beauty all around from Zion's height shines forth;
And stars across the firmament so brightly beam their worth.

The heavens declare your justice, Lord, as endless as the sky;
Against the taunts of disbelief, our God will testify.
Receive my heartfelt gift of thanks as honor to your might;
Refresh my faith with each new day; protect me through the night.

Words: Psalm 50:1-2, 5-6 paraphrased by Michael Morgan; Music: Star of County Down arr. Rory Cooney © 1999 & 1990. Psalms for All Seasons: A Complete Psalter for Worship. All rights reserved.

***GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** Psalm 25:1, 4-10

Reverend David Barnes, Associate Pastor

Pastor: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

People: Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

Pastor: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation for you I wait all the day long.

People: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Pastor: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

People: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

***FATHER, ALL GLORIOUS No. 101** *Come, Thou Almighty King*

Kyrstan Brantley, Deborah Roby, vocals; Matt Brantley, bass; Bill Myers, Billy Stulac, Ariana Stout, guitar; Greg Wagener, drums

***WE INVOKE HIS PRESENCE**

GOD EXPOSES OUR NEED Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 18:9-13

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John

You shall not murder. When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you. You shall be blameless before the LORD your God.

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

CHRIST PROVIDES FOR OUR NEED 1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

***THE SON HAS RESCUED ME**

There is One Gospel

There is one Gos-pel on which I stand for all e - ter - ni - ty. It
There is one Gos-pel to which I cling, all else I count as loss. For
There is one Gos-pel where hope is found, the emp - ty tomb still speaks. For
And in this Gos-pel, the church is one, we do not walk a - lone. For
is there, my sto - ry, my and Fa - ther's plan, the Son has res - cued me.
death could not keep my Sav - ior meet, He saved me on the cross.
have His Spir - it as we press on to lead us safe - ly home.
Oh what a Gos - pel, oh what a peace. My high - est joy and my deep - est need.
No more I boast in what I can bring, no more I car - ry the weight of sin.
Now on my Sav - ior I fix my eyes, my life is His and His hope is mine.
*And when in glor - ry still I will sing of this old sto - ry that res - cued me.
Now and for - ev - er, He is my light. I stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus
For He has brought me from death to life. I stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus
For He has prom - ised I too will rise. I stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus
Praise to my Sav - ior, the King of life. I stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus
Christ.
Christ.
Christ.
Christ.

* (Tag after verse 4)

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WE INVOKE HIS HELP Psalm 18:6

John Hibbler, Elder

In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

GOD CALLS US TO STEWARDSHIP 1 John 3:16-18

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

WE GIVE OUR GRATEFUL OFFERINGS

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD *Shall We Gather at the River?*
Sanctuary Choir

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

Chorus: Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. (*Chorus*)

Deep river, my Home is over Jordan,
Deep river, I want to cross over into campground.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. (*Chorus*)

Children's Church - Pre-K, Kindergarten & 1st Grade Children & Teachers please come forward **AFTER** the Offertory. **Meets in Room 207**

GOD PROCLAIMS HIS WORD	Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor
SERMON SERIES	"Anatomy of a Bad Decision"
SCRIPTURE TEXT	Judges 11:29-40 page 212 in the pew Bible
SERMON TITLE	<i>Jephthah's Rash Vow</i>

***TO HIM I OWE MY LIFE!**

I Vow to Serve My Savior

I — vow to serve my Sav - ior, with bo - dy and with soul, for
 I — vow my fruit - ful la - bor, my strength and ev' ry breath, to
 I — vow to see the coun - try that A - bram longed to see, the

these glo - ri - fy my pur - chased to save and make me of whole. My And sins Christ puts a -
 home of sheep who wan - der, which Christ has giv - en me, the ci - ty with foun -

sun - der; my — guilt and shame he bore, that — he might own my prais - ses from
 calls me, some du - ty to ful - fill, I'll — vow to serve him free - ly, and
 da - tions, which God de - signed with grace, where gol - den pave - ment shim - mers be -

now and ev - er - more. I — vow to fol - low Je - sus; to him I owe my life, for
 to com - plete his will. I'll vow no - thing un - ho - ly, but on - ly what is true, and
 neath re - splen - dent gates. I'll so - journ to this coun - try, and one day I will ford, a -

he loved me by ma - king a mor - tal sa - cri - fice.
 by the my Sav - ior's bles - sing, all that I vow with the do. Lord.
 cross the Jor - dan's wa - ters, to dwell there with the Lord.

Words: Russell St. John (2025), Music: THAXTED; Gustav Holst, *The Planets* (1918).

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 1 Timothy 3:1-7

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John

Elder: Tom Siedhoff

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover; he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

CHARGE TO THE ELDER

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW! NO. 731 *Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessing flow:

Praise him all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly hosts:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** Reprise: *I Vow to Serve My Savior*

Jephthah's Rash Vow

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

Judges 11:29-40 | page 212 in the pew Bible

How did God Jephthah go so tragically wrong?

1. He vowed to sin

2. He kept his vow to sin

*Congregation please rise

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