

GATHERED WORSHIP SERVICE

for the
**Glory of God
and the**

Renewal of His People

December 18, 2016



To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Glorifying God...

Embracing Scripture...

Loving Corpus Christi...

GATHERING SONG

Southside Men's Chorus

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

(See the inside of the back page)

MISSIONARY REPORT

Michael Novak
RUF, Trinity University, San Antonio
michael.novak@ruf.org

PREPARATION for WORSHIP

Psalm 73:25-26

Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever

WORSHIPING GOD'S GREATNESS

*(*Indicates where congregation is invited to stand, as able)*

***CALL to WORSHIP**

1 Chronicles 16:8-25

*Minister: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!*

**People: Sing to him; sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!**

*Minister: Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!*

**People: Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!**

*Minister: Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
Declare his glory among the nations,
His marvelous works among all the peoples!*

People: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised!

*SONG of ADORATION

Arise My Soul Arise

Words by Charles Wesley, Music by Kevin Twit

Arise my soul, arise shake off your guilty fears
The bleeding sacrifice on my behalf appears
Before the throne my surety stands
Before the throne my surety stands my name is written on His hands

Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise
Arise my soul arise Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise
Arise my soul arise shake off your guilty fears and rise

He ever lives above for me to intercede
His all redeeming love His precious blood to plead
His blood atoned for every race
His blood atoned for every race and sprinkles now the throne of grace

Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise
Arise my soul arise Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise
Arise my soul arise shake off your guilty fears and rise

Five bleeding wounds He bears received on Calvary
They pour effectual prayers they strongly plead for me
Forgive him, o forgive they cry
Forgive him, o forgive they cry don't let that ransomed sinner die!

Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise
Arise my soul arise
Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise Arise my soul
Arise shake off your guilty fears and rise

My God is reconciled His pard'ning voice I hear
He owns me for his child I can no longer fear;
With confidence I now draw nigh
With confidence I now draw nigh and "Father, Abba, Father!" cry

Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise
Arise my soul arise
Arise (Arise) Arise (Arise) Arise Arise my soul
Arise shake off your guilty fears and rise

***PRAYER of INVOCATION**

ACKNOWLEDGING GOD'S GRACE

***CONFESSION of FAITH**

Romans 10:9-13

**If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,
you will be saved.**

**For with the heart one believes and is justified,
and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.**

**For the Scripture says,
"Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."
For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek;
the same Lord is Lord of all,
bestowing his riches on all who call on him.
For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."**

CONFESSION of SIN

Please, pray the following in unison

O Lord our God, we come to you as your children and servants,
grateful for your constant love and grace
and aware of our sinful condition.
We have broken your commandments.
We have fallen short of your glory.
We have not loved you with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We acknowledge our guilt,
and that apart from the saving grace of our Lord Jesus,
we rightly fall under your judgment.
Have mercy upon us, O Lord.
Blot out our transgressions and forgive our sins.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Hebrews 9:24-26

For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

SONG of RENEWAL

O Come O Come Emmanuel

Words and Music: John Mason Neale and Thomas Helmore

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come Thou Dayspring come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight
Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go
Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace
Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

PRAYER of COMMITTAL for our OFFERINGS

GIVING of OFFERINGS

Fellowship Books. Please take a moment to fill out the information on the attendance pads located underneath the seat on the inner aisles, providing any information to enable us to better serve you. When you finish, please pass the pads down the row so everyone has the opportunity to do so.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 John 3:11-24

Love One Another

¹¹ For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹² We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³ Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ 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? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹ By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰ for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

PRAYER for GOD'S PEOPLE and HIS WORLD

Please contact Tammy at the church office for prayer needs and updates.

O Little Town Of Bethlehem (Hymnal #201)

Words and Music: Lewis Henry Redner and Phillips Brooks

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep
The angels keep their watch of wondering love
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to men on earth

How silently how silently
The wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear His coming
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive Him still
The dear Christ enters in

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

EMBRACING GOD'S WORD

*READING and PREACHING of GOD'S WORD

Psalm 73

- ¹Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
²But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped.
³For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
⁴For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek.
⁵They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.
⁶Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment.
⁷Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies.
⁸They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression.
⁹They set their mouths against the heavens,
and their tongue struts through the earth.
¹⁰Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them.
¹¹And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
¹²Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches.
¹³All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence.
¹⁴For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning.
¹⁵If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
I would have betrayed the generation of your children.
¹⁶But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task,
¹⁷until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.
¹⁸Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin.
¹⁹How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors!
²⁰Like a dream when one awakes,
O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms.
²¹When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,
²²I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you.
²³Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand.
²⁴You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.
²⁵Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
²⁶My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
²⁷For behold, those who are far from you shall perish;
you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
²⁸But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.

*SONG of RESPONSE

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

Words: George Matheson Music: Christopher Miner

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

***BENEDICTION**

Hebrews 13:20-21

Congregation: (Loudly) Alleluia! Amen!

***PASSING the PEACE**

***POSTULDE**

*We praise the Lord for our accompanists this morning
– vocalists and instrumentalists and audio and video technicians.*

Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version, © 2001 Crossway Bibles,
a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved

CCLI Church Copyright License # 295041

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

George Matheson was one of Scotland's most beloved preachers, eventually becoming the pastor of the historic St. Bernard's church in Edinburgh. His eyesight deteriorated in his early years. He became totally blind as he was at the University of Glasgow preparing for the ministry. His sister aided George in his studies, going to the extent of learning Hebrew, Greek, and Latin in order to help him. He was a respected scholar and graduated with high honors.

Along the way, George experienced heartbreak in his relationship with his fiancée who decided she could not be married to a blind man. She broke the engagement, and returned his ring. George was devastated, and never married.

Years later, on the wedding night of his sister, he was reminded of the pain he had endured. He penned the words to "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" in five minutes on June 6, 1882. He described it as the fruit of "the most severe mental suffering."

Terms such as weary soul, flickering torch, rain, and pain describe his sorrows. Yet the themes of each stanza (love, light, joy, and cross) express the fulfillment a believer finds in the grace of God.

Historically, the words have been sung to the tune of "St. Margaret," written by Albert Peace in 1885. Ironically, Peace had gone through a similar pain, and the tune came to him in only five minutes. Today we sing the hymn to music written by Christopher Miner, who has written several of our modern tunes for older texts.

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Michael Novak,

RUF Trinity University, San Antonio
michael.novak@ruf.org

Michael and his wife Rachel are both from Memphis, TN. Michael attended the University of Tennessee - the other UT, while Rachel attended Covenant College in Chattanooga. Michael is also a graduate of Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis. They have three children, Caleb, Abigail, and Katherine.

As the RUF campus minister at Trinity, Michael has a tremendous ministry reaching the students with the gospel of Christ. He does that in several ways: preaching at their weekly large group meetings, leading small group Bible studies, equipping a core group leadership team, meeting one-on-one with students, and leading retreats. RUF also has outreaches throughout the year, especially in the fall as they welcome back returning students and meet the incoming freshmen.

Michael and Rachel have several prayer requests:

- Personal rest and refreshment over the coming few weeks. Pray that God would refresh me for another semester of ministry - that He would give me vision and passion for reaching students with the Gospel.
- Pray for students to be able to rest over the break as well. Pray that those who are Christians would find their identity in Christ and not in what their exam grades. Pray that students would come back in the spring excited for RUF and a new semester of ministry.
- Pray that God would keep RUF at Trinity on the hearts and minds of His people during this giving season. Pray that God provides for our needs with regard to ministry budget this year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 18

Lunch Bunch. All are invited to lunch bunch at Luby's located at 5730 Saratoga following worship service.

Friday Prayer Meeting. Everyone is invited to gather Fridays at the church at 2:00 pm for a dedicated time of prayer for revival.

Nursery Volunteers Needed – Weekly volunteers please check in with our nursery workers Roxanne and Chelsea at 10:15. Not currently a volunteer? Please contact Jami Feinberg, at jamifeinberg@gmail.com.