



Saints Triumphant!
November 15, 2020

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Psalm 84

P: How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty!

C: My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD.

P: Blessed are those who dwell in your house;

C: they are ever praising you.

P: Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

P: O LORD Almighty,

M: blessed are they who trust in you.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

Worship Team

Waymaker

You are here, moving in our midst. I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, working in this place. I worship You, I worship You.

Waymaker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness.
My God, that is who You are (2X)

You are here, touching every heart. I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, healing every heart. I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, mending every heart. I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, turning lives around. I worship You, I worship You

Waymaker, miracle worker promise keeper, light in the darkness.
My God, that is who You are. (2X)
That is who you are. (4X)

Even when I don't see it, You're working
Even when I can't feel it, You're working
You never stop, You never stop working
You never stop, You never stop working (3X)

Waymaker, miracle worker, promise keeper, light in the darkness.
My God, that is who You are (4X)

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P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his holy life and innocent death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

P: God, our gracious Father, has forgiven all your sins. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for your guilt by his death on the cross and freed you from death by his resurrection from the grave. You are at peace with God. Live in the comfort and joy of his forgiveness.

C: Amen.

C: Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lesson

Revelation 19:1-9

¹After these things I heard what seemed to be the loud sound of an immense crowd in heaven, saying: Alleluia! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, ²for his judgments are true and just, because he has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and he has avenged his servants' blood that was shed by her hand.

³A second time they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke goes up forever and ever."

⁴Then the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures bowed down and worshipped God, who sits on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!"

⁵And from the throne came a voice that said, "Praise our God, all you his servants and you who fear him, small and great."

⁶And I heard what seemed to be the roar of a large crowd or the roar of many waters or the sound of loud rumblings of thunder, saying: Alleluia! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. ⁷Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory, because the wedding of the Lamb has come. His bride has made herself ready, ⁸and she was given bright, clean, fine linen to wear. (In fact, the fine linen is the "not guilty" verdicts pronounced on the saints.)

⁹The angel said to me, "Write: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb." He also said to me, "These are the true words of God."

Congregation Hymn *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

"Wake, awake, for night is flying,"
The watchmen on the heights are crying,
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"

Midnight hears the welcome voices
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Oh, where are all you virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes—awake!
Your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia!
With bridal care Yourselves prepare
To meet the Bridegroom who is near."

Zion hears the watchmen singing,
And all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom,
For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious;
Her Star is ris'n, her Light is come.
"Now come, O Blessed One,
Christ Jesus, God's own Son. Hail! Hosanna!
The joyful call We answer all
And follow to the wedding hall."

Now let all the heav'ns adore you;
Let saints and angels sing before you
With harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where, dwelling with the choir immortal,
We gather round your radiant throne.
No vision ever brought,
No ear has ever caught Such great glory;
Therefore will we In victory
Sing hymns of praise eternally.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Sermon:

Matthew 25:1-13

¹ “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish ones took their lamps, they did not take any oil with them; ⁴ but the wise took oil in their containers with their lamps. ⁵ While the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ ⁷ Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ But the wise answered, ‘No, there may not be enough for us and for you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

¹⁰ But while they were away buying oil, the bridegroom came. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later, the virgins came and also said, ‘Lord, Lord, let us in.’ ¹² But he answered, ‘Amen I tell you: I do not know you.’ ¹³ Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

Theme: ARE YOU READY TO MEET THE BRIDEGROOM?

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.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER FOR SAINTS TRIUMPHANT

P: Lord of eternity and King of saints, all the heavens adore you.
Saints and angels sing before you.

C: We too join them to praise your majesty.

P: You clothe us with garments of splendor. You bless us with grace and mercy in this life and eternal glory forever. What undeserved love you show us!

C: We thank you, Lord, that you have made us your saints.

P: Encourage us by your gracious promises. Forgive our failures to live as you desire. Strengthen the faith of all who are weak and wandering.

C: Give us power to live as your faithful people.

P: Your saints will triumph forever in new heavens and a new earth. The sound of weeping and crying will be heard no more. We anticipate with joy an eternity of perfect fellowship with you.

C: Be with us as we work and witness for Christ, so that many more people can join us before your throne.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Today, we also remember with thanks to God, those in our spiritual family that our Lord called to their eternal rest in heaven this past year:

*Victor Grabow
LaVern Rupnick
Jonathan Klug
Mike Robb
Ellen Langhammer
Betty Siekert
Harold Arrowood
Lois Leikam*

P: Lord of life, the day is coming when you will come down from heaven with the voice of the archangel and the trumpet call of God. On that glorious day, the saints triumphant will rise in bright array, clothed in your perfect righteousness.

C: Give us strength until that day when we will share fully in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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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 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.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn 727

There Is a Higher Throne

(see back page)

SERVING US TODAY

Preacher: Pastor Thomas Kneser

Keyboard: Rachel Formella

Worship Team: Denyce Baker, Lynette Blievernicht, Kathy Day, Judi Hellen, Margaret Trissel, Lynn Wessel, Pastor Ben Wessel

Sound: Jef Jaeger

Powerpoint Design: Kathy Day

Closing Hymn 727

There Is a Higher Throne



1 There is a high - er throne than all this
2 And there we'll find our home, our life be -



world has known, Where faith - ful ones from ev - 'ry tongue
fore the throne. We'll hon - or him in per - fect song



will one day come. Be - fore the Son we'll stand,
where we be - long. He'll wipe each tear - stained eye



made fault - less through the Lamb; Be - liev - ing
as thirst and hun - ger die. The Lamb be -



hearts find prom - ised grace; sal - va - tion comes.
comes our Shep - herd - King; we'll reign with him.

Refrain



Hear heav - en's voic - es sing; their thund - rous



an - them rings. Through em - 'rald courts and sap - phire skies



their prais - es rise. All glo - ry, wis - dom, pow'r,



strength, thanks, and hon - or are to God our King who



reigns on high for - ev - er - more.