

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 26, 2021

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord o my soul)"¹

"To God Be the Glory"²

"How Great is our God"³

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"⁴

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 124 and James 5)

Pastor: If it had not been for God's presence with us...

Liturgist: the troubles of the world would have swallowed us whole!

Pastor: If it had not been for God's presence with us...

Liturgist: the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.

All SING: *"Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place"⁵*

The musical score is written for a 3/4 time signature in the key of D major. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his might - y pow - er and his grace. I can hear the brush of an - gels' wings, I see glo - ry on each face; sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place." The piano accompaniment includes chord markings: D, F#m, Gmaj9, Em, A7, D, G/D, A7, D, F#m, Gmaj9, Em, A7, Em7, A7, D.

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSxocnIaN0A> CCLI Song # 6016351 © 2021 Thankyou Music | Said And Done Music | sixsteps Music | SHOUT! Music Publishing | worshiptogether.com songs. CCLI License # 75340

² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2CeBoSQsBR0> CCLI Song # 23426, Fanny Jane Crosby | William Howard Doane © Words and Music; Public Domain. CCLI License # 542701

³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKLQ1td3MbE> CCLI Song # 4348399 © 2021 sixsteps Music | worshiptogether.com songs | Wondrously Made www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1248580

⁴ Megahan, Don. (Organist) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TctrBgaeP-g> CCLI #404313, Streaming License #20140051

⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hD9-1ZQctV4> Shared under CCLI streaming license agreement 20438127

Pastor: Are any among us suffering?
Liturgist: Come. Pray.
Pastor: Are any among us cheerful?
Liturgist: Come! Sing songs of praise!
Pastor: Are any among us sick?
Liturgist: Come. Ask for healing.
All SING: "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place"

Pastor: Our help is the name of God...
Liturgist: The Creator of heaven and earth.
Pastor: Call upon God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
Liturgist: Surely, God's presence is with us now.
All SING: "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All people: *Lord, you want us to be "salt", to add savor to your world. We cannot be bland witnesses to your love, only working when it's convenient for us or doing work that is incomplete. If we lose our "saltiness", it cannot be regained. Give us courage and joy in our service to you. Help us to be people who clear the pathways to service rather than those who place roadblocks and "potholes" in which people can stumble. Many are called to serve You, O Lord. Help us to be people who work willingly with others, not demanding that our way is the only way, but rejoicing in a new approach to ministry. Give us confidence and joy in all that we do, for we offer our lives and our prayers to you in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Beloved Ones, you are the salty people - those who bring flavor to living. Your spirit of love and confidence gives hope to others. You do not work alone - God's presence is always with you!
All people: *Hallelujah! We will work to maintain our saltiness and be peacemakers in Christ's name! Halleluiah! Amen!*

SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

FIRST READING
SECOND READING

James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

SERMON

Rev. Laura Bair

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: Family of God, we are blessed by this special moment in our worship service. In it, we are reminded of just how blessed we are! This moment also provides us an opportunity to generously give back to God, for the work of God's kingdom. May the offering of financial support we give today, be acceptable and pleasing in God's sight. Let us dedicate all we offer – time, talent, and money with a prayer of dedication:

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: *Dear Lord, receive our offering. Guide those who use it, that it may help to bring fullness of life to those who live in need and long for your Presence and care. Amen.*

When the best of me is barely breathin'
 When I'm not somebody I believe in
 Hold on to me

When I miss the light the night has stolen
 When I'm slammin' all the doors You've opened
 Hold on to me; Hold on to me

CHORUS:

Hold on to me when it's too dark to see You
When I am sure I have reached the end
Hold on to me when I forget I need You
When I let go, hold me again

When I don't feel like I'm worth defendin'
 When I'm tired from all of my pretendin'
 Hold on to me

When I start to break in desperation
 Underneath the weight of expectation
 Hold on to me; Hold on to me

CHORUS:

Hold on to me when it's too dark to see You
When I am sure I have reached the end
Hold on to me when I forget I need You
When I let go, hold me again

I could rest here in Your arms forever
 'Cause I know nobody loves me better
 Hold on to me; Hold on to me

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in peace to serve the Lord.
 Remember the healing love that has taken place in your life.
 Be open to all the wonders and opportunities
 that God puts before you.
 Go in peace.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Now We Thank All Our God”⁶

⁶ Wood, Jeff (Organist) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2ZByexrmAc> Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License # M-400000. All rights reserved. CCLI Church Copyright License #207039, CCLI Church Streaming License #100909, CCS License #13124