

Reflection

- Acts 3:8

And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

John Frame

The creation now groans and travails in pain until the manifestation of the children of God (Rom. 8:19-22). At the return of Christ, the travail is over, and the creation gives birth to something new. Scripture speaks of this new reality as a "new heavens and a new earth" (2 Peter 3:13; Rev. 21:1). Remember, the consummation of human existence does not take us above and beyond the physical. Rather, as with Jesus' resurrection body, our existence in the new heavens and earth will be physical. There will be eating and drinking (Luke 22:18; Rev. 19:9; 22:1-2) and travel through a city with streets (Rev. 21:10-11, 21-26). Doubtless, much of the description of the New Jerusalem in Revelation is symbolic, but it does describe some heightened, consummate form of physical existence... Whether we are gathered around the throne to sing of God or exploring the far reaches of the new creation, the most significant fact will be that God is there in consummate fullness (Rev. 21:3-4; 22:3-4). There is no temple in the new city, for the Lord Almighty and the Lamb are themselves the temple (Rev. 21:22). That is, we will always be in direct contact with God, wherever we are.

INGATHERING

Words of Introduction

Silent Prayer of Preparation

PRAISE

*Responsive Call to Worship

- *Philippians 3:20-21*

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Let us praise the Lord for his wondrous grace!

*Hymns of Praise

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all Creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#542: *Who Are These like Stars Appearing*

*Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Bill Massey

*Affirmation of Faith

- *from Heidelberg Catechism #58*

How does the truth of "life everlasting" comfort you?

**Even as I already now
experience in my heart
the beginning of eternal joy,
so after this life I will have
perfect blessedness such as
no eye has seen,
no ear has heard,
no human heart has ever imagined:
a blessedness in which to praise God eternally.**

*Response of Praise

My Hope is Built

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

RENEWAL

Call to Confession of Sin

- *Philippians 2:12-13*

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Pastoral Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

- *Psalms 32:3-5*

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Hymn of Assurance

Come Thou Fount

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Welcome and Announcements

Please fill out and pass the friendship registration pad.

Offertory Words

- *Matthew 10:8*

Freely you have received, freely give.

Offertory Music: *The Lord's Prayer*

Nancy Hess

COMMITMENT

Reading of God's Word

- *Acts 3:1-26 (sanctuary Bible pg. 1159)*

Sermon: *Walking, Leaping, and Praising God*

Rev. Bill Massey

Hymn: *Father's How Deep the Love

How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure
That He would give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross, my guilt upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no pow'r's, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom

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The Words of Institution

- *1 Corinthians 11:23-29*

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing in the Bread and the Cup

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Petition, and the 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 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.*

Hymn #549: *By the Sea of Crystal

***Benediction**

***Those who are able, please stand**