



P O R T R A I T O F  
A L I V I N G F A I T H

**Sunday Morning Service**  
**March 19, 2023**

***How Great Thou Art***

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine  
© 1949 and 1953 Manna Music, Inc.  
CCLI # 1071790

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds, Thy hands have made  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy pow'r thru'out, the universe displayed

***Chorus***

***Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee***  
***How great Thou art, how great Thou art***  
***Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee***  
***How great Thou art***  
***How great Thou art***

When through the woods, and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds, sing sweetly in the trees  
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze

***Chorus***

And when I think, that God His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died, to take away my sin

***Chorus***

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, my God how great Thou art

***Chorus x2***

## Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism # 1

What is your only comfort in life and death?

**That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.**

## Memory Verse

James 1:2–3, ESV

**Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.**

## \*Call to Worship and Prayer

Psalm 36:5–7, ESV

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD. How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

### *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Conrad Kocher and Folliott Sandford Pierpoint  
Public Domain

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies  
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies

#### *Chorus*

*Lord of all to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise*

For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight  
For the mystic harmony, linking sense to sound and sight

For the joy of human love, brother sister parent child  
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild

For Thy church that evermore, lifteth holy hands above  
Offering up on every shore, her pure sacrifice of love

For Thyself best gift divine, to the world so freely given  
For that great, great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven

For the martyrs' crown of light, for Thy prophets' eagle eye  
For Thy bold confessors' might, for the lips of infancy

For Thy virgins' robes of snow, for Thy maiden mother mild  
For Thyself with hearts aglow, Jesus victim undefiled

## \*Corporate & Silent Confession

**Eternal and merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Yet we have strayed from your way; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with you, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.** *-taken from the Worship Sourcebook*

## Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Joel 2:12–13, ESV

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

### *Steadfast*

Sandra McCracken, Joshua Silverberg, and Leslie Jordan  
© Capitol CMG Amplifier, Red Red Pop, Integrity's Praise! Music, and Drink Your Tea Music CCLI # 1071790

I will build my house, whether storm or drought  
On the rock that does not move, I will set my hope  
In your love, O Lord, and your faithfulness will prove

#### *Chorus*

*You are steadfast, steadfast.*

By the word you spoke, all the starry host  
Are called out by name each night, in your watchful care  
I will rest secure, as you lead us with your light

I will not trust in the strength of kings, on your promise I will stand  
I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice  
Hallelujah to the Lamb!

In the moment of emptiness, all was fulfilled  
In the hour of darkness, Your light was revealed  
In the presence of death, Your life was affirmed  
In the absence of holiness, You are still God.

**Pastoral Prayer & 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.**

*\*sins/trespases*

**Sermon            The Testing of our Faith Produces Steadfastness (James 1:1-12)            Rev. Dave Latham**

***He Will Hold Me Fast***

Ada Ruth Habershon and Matthew Merker  
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When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold, through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold, He must hold me fast

**Chorus**

**He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast**

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost, His Promises shall last  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast

**Chorus**

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last

**Chorus**

**\* Benediction**

***The Doxology***

Thomas Ken, 1709

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

**OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW IN GOD'S GRACE**

**Sunday**

9:00 a.m.....Sunday School  
10:15 a.m.....Worship Service  
6:00-7:30 p.m.....Youth Group with Pastor Matt

**Tuesday**

10 a.m.....Daytime ladies' Bible study at Coal & Iron Building

**Wednesday Nights – Spring Semester**

4:00 p.m.....Prayer Group  
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.....Wednesday Night Fellowship (meal & teaching)

**A full schedule and class info is available on the website and bulletin table.**

<b>GRACE CHURCH DAILY PRAYER CALENDAR</b>		
<i>DAY</i>	<i>CHURCH FAMILY</i>	<i>MISSIONARY / MINISTRY</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Sue & Gary Gaither	Molly & Vinnie Athey <i>RUF at UAH</i>
<b>MONDAY</b>	Niki & Jeff Graves	Brenda Carter <i>MTW, Taiwan</i>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Laura & Bob Hambaugh Lucie	Sharlene & Brandon Coker <i>MAF, Canada</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Pat & Mike Harper	Aileen Coleman <i>MAFRAQ Hospital, Jordan</i>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Wende & Brad Hood	Katie & Adam Comeens <i>Campus Outreach, Florence, AL</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Mary Jane Hunt Caleb	Kathy & Scott Craig <i>MTW, Mexico</i>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Christy & Dale Jackson	Kelci & Tanner Crum <i>RUF at Auburn</i>

**Prayer Concerns**

Shelby Weatherly – recovery from shoulder replacement  
Matt Habel – continued healing

**Various Cancer Treatments**

Judy Lewis, Harold Kilgo, Paula Knuckles, Leanne Burkett Weatherford, Betty Langley

**2023 Faith Promise**

Faith Promise commitment slips should be placed in the offering box by Sunday, April 2. Slips are available on the table in the sanctuary entrance. Note Faith Promise on memo line for checks; contributions going forward will go to 2023 unless otherwise noted.