

Theme: Passing the Baton of Gospel Ministry

Welcome to worship. We are delighted that you are here.

You listen very carefully to the parting advice of someone who is getting ready to die. Last words are crucially important words. Our sermon text today is the Apostle Paul's final charge to his son in the faith, Timothy. He is like an aged warrior speaking to a young and timid lieutenant who is about to face intense opposition, loneliness and intense grief.

Like young Timothy, the church in America is at a juncture where she must make definite resolutions towards positive action. Humanly speaking, the defense and the progress of the gospel is now in our hands. This text sets forth what our fundamental commitments must be as a church.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION ┆ **11:00 AM Service** ┆ **Gathered Worship**

Almighty God,
you have opened the way of eternal life
to every race and nation
by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit:
Pour out your Spirit upon the world
by the preaching of the Gospel,
that it may reach to the ends of the earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

PRELUDE **.As the Deer / My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

CALL TO WORSHIP **.1 Chronicles 16:31,34**

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
and let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!"

**Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!**

HYMN OF ADORATIONRejoice! The Lord is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King:
your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore.

Refrain: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Savior reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above. [Refrain]

His kingdom cannot fail,
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus giv'n. [Refrain]

He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet. [Refrain]

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home. [Refrain]

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF PRAISEPraise My Soul, The King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him,
praise him, praise him,
praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor
to our fathers in distress;
praise him, still the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless;
praise him, praise him,
praise him, praise him,
glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes;
praise him, praise him,
praise him, praise him,
widely as his mercy goes.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Praise him, praise him,
praise him, praise him,
praise the High Eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space,
praise him, praise him,
praise him, praise him,
praise with us the God of grace.

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS.Romans 8:31-32

What then shall we say to these things?
If God is for us, who can be against us?
He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all,
how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

HYMN OF RESCUE. Great King of Nations, Hear Our Prayer

Great King of nations, hear our prayer,
while at your feet we fall,
and humbly, with united cry,
to you for mercy call.

The guilt is ours, but grace is yours,
O turn us not away;
but hear us from your lofty throne,
and help us when we pray.

Our fathers' sins were manifold,
and ours no less we own,
yet wondrously from age to age
your goodness has been shown.

When dangers, like a stormy sea,
beset our country round,
to you we looked, to you we cried,
and help in you was found.

With one consent we meekly bow
beneath your chast'ning hand,
and, pouring forth confession meet,
mourn with our mourning land.

With pitying eye behold our need,
as thus we lift our prayer;
correct us with your judgments, Lord,
then let your mercy spare.

ANTHEM O God Beyond All Praising
Arranged by Dan Forrest

O God beyond all praising,
we worship You today
and sing the love amazing
that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder
at every gift You send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before You
and wait upon Your word,
we honor and adore You,
our great and mighty Lord.

For we can only wonder
at every gift You send,
at blessings without number
and mercies without end:
for Christ, your gift from heaven,
from death has set us free,
and we through Him are given
the final victory.

(CONGREGATION)
Then hear, O gracious Savior,
accept the love we bring,
that we who know Your favor
may serve You as our king;
and whether our tomorrows
be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows
and rise to bless You still:
to marvel at your beauty
and glory in Your ways,
and make a joyful duty
our sacrifice of praise.

GREETINGS/MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY CHALLENGE. 2 Peter 3:18

But grow in the grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
To him be the glory both now
and to the day of eternity. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON.2 Timothy 4:1-5

THE SERMON Passing the Baton of Gospel Ministry
#8 in our series on 2 Timothy: Finish Well

SERMON OUTLINE

1. The Chief Objective (4:1)
2. The Central Task (4:2)
3. The Coming Challenges (4:3-4)
4. The Character Needed (4:5)

HYMN OF CONSECRATION.All for Jesus

All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
All my being's ransomed pow'rs:
all my thoughts and words and doings,
all my days and all my hours.

Let my hands perform his bidding,
let my feet run in his ways;
let my eyes see Jesus only,
let my lips speak forth his praise.

Worldlings prize their gems of beauty,
cling to gilded toys of dust,
boast of wealth and fame and pleasure;
only Jesus will I trust.

Since my eyes were fixed on Jesus,
I've lost sight of all beside;
so enchained my spirit's vision,
looking at the Crucified.

O what wonder! how amazing!
Jesus, glorious King of kings,
deigns to call me his beloved,
lets me rest beneath His wings.

BENEDICTIONJude 1-2, 24-25

To you who have been called,
who are loved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:
May mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.
For He is able to keep you from stumbling
and to present you before his glorious presence
without fault and with great joy—
For He is our only God our Savior
And to Him be glory, majesty, power and authority,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.