

## Praying in Song

**Call to Worship: Welcome.** Since this is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, we'll be devoting our time to worship in song and Scripture as we have in the past. The songs we'll be singing are listed on page two of the bulletin for your convenience; and we'll also display them on the screen.

**Reading: Psalm 106:1-5**

### Opening Prayer:

**One of the great blessings of congregational worship is the opportunity to join with fellow-saints in prayer to God. This was an important part of the worship of the church in the time of the apostles:**

*“And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” (Acts 2:42)*

**There have been times when the church gathered primarily to pray as in the “prayer meetings” of the past. Today in our worship we are focusing on this special privilege as we worship together. As it turns out, many of our songs are prayers addressed to the Lord. In them we are not just speaking to one another about Him; we are speaking directly to Him in prayerful songs.**

**In addition we'll be reading passages from the Scripture about prayer and also praying for specific things mentioned in the Scripture. I hope you will be edified by this emphasis and that the Lord will be glorified through our worship.**

**As God's people we are privileged to offer...**

### Prayers of adoration for His character

**#96 *I stand in Awe* (v. 1)**

**We adore Him for His holiness**

*“Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? For Thou alone art holy; For ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE THEE, For Thy righteous acts have been revealed.” (Revelation 15:4)*

**#47 *Holy, Holy, Holy* (v. 1,3)**

**We adore Him for His faithfulness**

*“The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Thy faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22–23)*

**#57 *Great is Thy faithfulness* (v. 1,3)**

**We adore Him for His greatness**

*“For the LORD Most High is to be feared, A great King over all the earth.” (Psalm 47:2)*

**#76 *How Great thou art* (v. 1, 3)**

*There is no end to all that we could sing about the Lord's wonderful character; and in our prayers (both in word and song) we exalt His name; but are also privileged to offer...*

#### **Prayers of thanksgiving for His blessings**

**Many of our songs are also prayers of thanksgiving for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us out of His love and grace.**

*"in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:18)*

**#781 Thank you, Lord**

**#2 We praise thee, O God (v. 1,2,3)**

*This song has reminded us of so many things that make the Lord worthy of praise and thanksgiving, not the least of which is the forgiveness He has offered to us through His Son through the gospel.*

*Because of His grace we are privileged to offer...*

#### **Prayers of confession for His forgiveness**

**One of the most beautiful prayers in Scripture is David's prayer of confession in Psalm 51. Let's read portions of it together.**

*BE gracious to me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; According to the greatness of Thy compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me." (Psalm 51:1-3)*

*Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." (Psalm 51:7)*

*"Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10)*

*"Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, And sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Thy ways, And sinners will be converted to Thee." (Psalm 51:12-13)*

**In our songs, we also find prayers seeking forgiveness that are similar to David's psalm.**

**#176 Lamb of God (v. 1,2,3)**

**#586 My Faith Looks Up to Thee (v. 1)**

**#420 Cleanse Me (v. 1,2)**

#### **Lord's Supper**

**Now we come that part of our worship where we break bread to remember what the Lord has done for us in forgiving us of our sins. We remember the sacrifice that Jesus made. Today we prepare our minds by praying to Him in this song:**

**#332 Lead me to Calvary (v. 1,2,3,4 and then chorus)**

#### **Prayers of supplication for His blessing**

**Many of our songs are expressed as prayers to the Lord (Without comment we'll move through several of these prayers (Mark and I will lead in alternation a verse from several songs in which we petition the Lord for His blessing upon our lives.**

**#778 *Be with me Lord (v. 1)***

**#552 *Have thine own way (v. 1)***

**#226 *Come, Thou fount of every blessing (v. 1)***

**#309 *In my life Lord be glorified (v. 1)***

**#844 *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah (v. 1)***

**#664 *Take my life and let it be (v. 1)***

**Prayers of supplication for the salvation of the lost and for those in authority**

*"FIRST of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (1 Timothy 2:1-4)*

**In view of the troubling times in which we live, it would be especially appropriate that we pray for those who rule over us, for this year's election in which we will choose new rulers, and especially for those who have been under attack as they strive to enforce the law and protect us, our policemen and our first-responders. Brother Curtis will lead us in that prayer.**

**Invitation**

**The very first words of a typical prayer are so important in understanding the importance of being a child of God. "Our Father in heaven"**

**To go to the Lord as Father is the special privilege of those who have been forgiven of sin and who are the sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ.**

*"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." (Galatians 3:26-27)*

**#904 *Have you been to Jesus?***