

**"Worthy is the Lamb"  
A Sermon in Song**

**CALL TO WORSHIP: Rev. 1:9-18 (Johnny Felker)  
OPENING PRAYER (Dennis Blanton)**

**SERMON IN SONG & SCRIPTURE (Mark Claypool, Johnny Felker)**

**Introduction: Our fifth priority for this year focuses on worshipping God in spirit and in truth. I have planned that we on each fifth Sunday of this year place a special emphasis upon meaningful worship. As we did earlier this year, we will have this morning a sermon in Scripture and song. I have again enlisted Mark's help in leading the songs as I read the Scripture and comment on them and their messages. I urge you to listen to the Scriptures and then hear the words of the songs as they express their messages. (Numbers on board; I have tried to display the upcoming songs in the title slides as well so you can turn there and be ready to sing as we move through our lesson.)**

**So often our worship and teaching about Jesus is focused upon His earthly life; but the NT offers another perspective that we should especially appreciate. It is the picture of who and what Jesus is now. We have just seen a portrait of Jesus in His present glory in our call to worship. Now let's consider the vision of Revelation chapter 5:**

*Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" <sup>13</sup> And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" <sup>14</sup> And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped. (Rev. 5:11-14, ESV)*

***Today we join that great throng in praising this one who is said to be "worthy to receive power and riches and wisdom and honor and glory and blessing."***

**#264--O Come, Let Us Adore Him (v. 1,2,3,4)**

**#230--Worthy are Thou (v. 1,2,3)**

**Truly Jesus is worthy of our praise; and the picture of Him in Revelation 5 makes it clear why He is worthy. He is pictured as coming before the throne of Father to take from His hand the book that reveals God's purposes for His kingdom. No human was worthy to open it; but when**

## **Jesus appears we learn why He is the one who will carry out the will of God for His kingdom:**

*Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." (Rev. 5:1-10, ESV)*

**From this reading we can see why Jesus is worthy of our praise. As God's lamb, He was slain or slaughtered as a sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. We can say "Worthy is the Lamb because..."**

### **He is our Atoning Sacrifice**

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

As the Lamb of God Jesus' blood was shed, His life given, to make atonement for our sins on the cross.

#### **#361--Nailed to the cross (v. 1, 2,3, the chorus)**

So then, Jesus is worthy of praise because He was slain; but the revelation goes on to say He is worthy because He "by his blood ransomed people for God from every tribe and tongue and people and nation." He is worthy of praise because...

### **He is our Loving Redeemer.**

#### **#376--He Paid a Debt (v. 1,2) Alt: #922**

*And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. (Col. 2:13-14)*

*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us. (Eph. 1:7-8)*

**#513--I Will Sing of My Redeemer (v. 1,2,3)**

So then, Jesus is worthy of praise because He "purchased for God with His blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation;" and the heavenly chorus adds...

*...you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth "We can say "Worthy is the Lamb because..."*

**He is our Glorious King.**

*Revelation's greeting is from the Father and from Jesus Christ, who is described as "the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father; to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. (Rev. 1:5-6)*

**#162--All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (v. 1,2,3)**

**#166--He's My King (v. 1,2)**

And so today we gather to join in praise with that great throng in heaven, for all that Jesus has done for us. He has left us a spiritual feast in which we remember Him as our atoning sacrifice, as our loving redeemer, and as our glorious king who will return for us someday.

**LORD'S SUPPER**

**Jesus is worthy to be praised not only for what He has done for us through His sacrifice on earth, but for what is now doing from His throne in heaven. We can say "Worthy is the Lamb" because..."**

**He is our Good Shepherd**

*I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.... I came that they might have life, and might have it abundantly. "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep..." "I am the good shepherd; and I know My own, and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. (Jn. 10:9-15)*

**#134--The Lord is My Shepherd (v. 1,2,3,4,5)**

**He is our Perfect Guide**

*Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. (Mt. 16:24)*

**#415--Each Step I Take (v. 1,2,3)**

**He is our Great High Priest**

*For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need. (Heb. 4:15-16)*

**#800--What a Friend We Have in Jesus (v. 1,2,3)**

**He is our Strength in times of weakness**

**#778--Be With Me Lord (v. 1,3)**

**He is our Rock in times of uncertainty**

**#558--There Stands a Rock (v. 1,2,3, then chorus)**

**He is our Hope in times of despair**

**#538--My Hope is Built on Nothing Less (v. 1,2)**

**All this and more we have in our relationship with the living Lord. He is truly worthy of our love and obedience.**

**Maybe today you have known Jesus only in abstract terms as someone else's sacrifice, redeemer, king, shepherd, guide, intercessor, friend, help, and hope. We you make Him your Savior too?**

**INVITATION**

**#943--Do you Know My Jesus?**