

## **Worship on January 3rd, 2020**

### **Order of worship**

#### **We Gather**

- Prelude (Paul T.)
- Welcome and Announcements
- Responsive Call to worship
- Praise song – BOP# 373 – Jesus loves me this I know
- Prayer for worship + Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance

#### **We Listen**

- Prayer for illumination
- Scripture Psalm 51:10-12
- Sermon: Reboot
- The Lord's Supper (Online Communion)

#### **We Respond**

- Offering (invitation and prayer first)
- Offertory Hymn – BOP# 400 – Spirit of the living God

#### **We Serve**

- Benediction
- Postlude (Paul T.)

#### **Ponder Upon Questions**

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### **Announcements:**

. Welcome! Happy New Year!!! Grace and peace to you all who are worshipping God with us live right now and those who are worshipping God through this video. This is the very first Sunday of 2021. New year, may God continue to protect you and keep you safe and sound. Let us give our hearts to our faithful God in our worship.

. In this circumstance of lockdown, I don't think it is a good idea to continue personal visitation. Instead of in-person visit, I will give you phone calls or let us meet via Zoom. If you want to talk to me, please feel free to reach me.

. The Purpose Driven Life Bible study will start on Thursday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 @ 7pm – via ZOOM – link will sent through email. If the majority of participants need the book, we might be able to consider buying it together. So, let me know.

. There will be Communion after the sermon today, so please prepare your own elements.

. Thank you for your offerings. Through our giving to the Lord, may the world become better place with his love and grace.

As we come into the presence of our God, let us calm down our hearts and minds, and focus on our Lord.

### **Responsive Call to Worship**

One: Rejoice, for God has sent the Saviour

**All: to bind up the broken hearted,**

One: to proclaim liberty to the captives,

**All: to grant a garland to those who mourn instead of ashes.**

One: The mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

**All: Arise! Shine! For our light has come. We will rejoice and be glad!**

### **Praise song – BOP #374 – Jesus loves me this I know**

### **Prayer For Adoration and Confession**

God of majesty and mystery, we come to you this day in wonder. As the year opens before us, we wonder what it holds in store. We wonder where you will lead us, how you will call us to follow in the days ahead. Your purposes are beyond our comprehension, O God, but your presence is always with us. So we offer you our trust for the days ahead, as we seek to follow in the footsteps of Christ, our newborn King.

God of light and life, you have come to us in Christ Jesus to open a path to new life. Yet once the New Year has begun, we long for things to get back to normal, especially this year. We confess that our resolutions for change often don't last long. Old habits draw us back to familiar ways. It is so hard for us to make a new beginning, O God, even with the best of intentions. Forgive us, O God, and renew our determination to know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly, day by day.

**This time, we come to you in prayer that you taught us how to pray:** (The Lord's Prayer:)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our  
sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us  
from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance**

Sisters and brothers at St. Andrew's, St. Paul declared to us that from now on, we regard no one from a human point of view. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Everything old has passed away; Behold! Everything has become new! So let us regard ourselves from God's point of view. This year we can make a new start, trusting in God's love and mercy.

Before we read today's scripture, let us pray for the illumination of the Lord.

### **Prayer for Illumination:**

God of Word and Wisdom, we celebrate your Word made flesh in Christ Jesus.

Send us your Holy Spirit this day as we listen for your Word speaking in the scriptures.

Inspire us to make that Word flesh once more in the way we live for Christ's sake. Amen

### **Psalm 51:10-12**

*10 Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.*

*11 Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.*

*12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.*

**“This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God.”**

## **SERMON: Reboot**

Today's sermon title is “Reboot.” When we turn off the computer and turn back on, we say reboot the computer. When we reboot the computer, we can have new start.

Happy new year to you all. I hope and pray that we can have fresh start as we reboot our system in the Lord through this worship.

There was a pastor who visited my old church when I was about 20 years old. Before sermon, he prayed for the wisdom of God. He prayed, “Heavenly Father, we come before you. Disassemble us and assemble us back again in the way you want us to be.”

“God, take apart of what we are and make us new.”

This struck me at that time and this is the message of the day.

Before I came here at St. Andrew's, I served a youth group in a Korean church. One Sunday, I brought a box of LEGO. At the beginning of my sermon, I opened the box and put the box in front of the group. I asked them to build something represent yourself with the LEGO. They built different shapes of structures. We shared why we built our lego in the ways we built. Some focused on colour patterns of the pieces they used, some focused on the shape of the pieces they used, and the others represented themselves with the size of their structure. We had our own reasons and intentions when we used each piece of LEGO.

If I ask you to express yourself with some LEGO blocks, how would you make something representing yourself? OR, if I asked you to draw yourself on a blank paper, how would you draw yourself?

When you draw yourself, most of the time, it's not gonna be done by one single line or one shape.

Or when you build something with LEGO blocks, you will use LEGO blocks with your intentions. You have your own reasons why you use specific LEGO pieces to make something you want to make.

I will show you something I made. I built a car because, back then, before corona virus, I always drove. I dropped off and picked up my boys and my wife. Also, I worked at Canada Post delivering mails and parcels driving all day long. So, I built a car.

I will show you what I built. It's just a simple car. (CAR 1) Very simple car. Not fancy, not special, but you will say it's a car and it will function okay.



I will show you another one (CAR 2)

It's a little strange. It might stand okay, but if it moves, it's gonna fall towards the back because there is too much weight on the back.

This is the next car. (CAR 3) There is a problem with this one. There is a block under the body. The wheels cannot touch the ground. It won't move because of that block.

Imagine that you are one of the cars. What is the shape of your car? Functioning okay, good for travel, fast, and powerful, are you ready to hit the road? Are you totally okay?

Or, you feel not too bad, but something is not quite right. There is no crisis, but there is something hindering you moving forward. Something burdens in your heart.

OR, are you totally troubled? There seems to be no way to clear your obstacles. And you don't know what to do? Like the car 3, do you need some help from outside?

I have a LEGO car in my hand. This little block makes up our lives. Every little piece counts.

Our family, financial situations, appearance, relationships, educations, all our experiences. Our hobbies, tendencies, characteristics, desires, emotions, habits... Our successes or our failures.

Whether we were born with it, or we earned it in the course of our lives, whether we think it has positive influences or negative... whether we think it might deserve everyone's recognition and praise or it might be too small for anyone's recognition... whatever it may be...

We are influenced and shaped by every single event of our lives. These are the LEGO pieces building our lives. We should not ignore any unnoticeable small single piece.

For a moment, would you please think about how you are shaped who you are right now?

There might be some pieces you are proud of, good for you. But, on the other hand, there might

be some mistakes you don't even want to think about. There might be some habits you want to stop, but you cannot stop it. There might be some emotions you cannot control such as hatred, anger, and some emotions bring you down. There might be some self-esteem issues. Sometimes, you can't even share it with your spouse. There are so many different emotions, issues, events, situations, and experiences whether it is positive or negative, whether we acknowledge or not.

How are all the pieces that shape you connected? How are they connected? How are they forming you?

The wheels should touch the ground, but is there anything lifting the wheels like the CAR 3? Anything blocking your way?

Day by day, by the decisions we make, we become who we are and where we are situated.

Let's take a look at today's **Scripture**.

This is a part of the psalm of King David. He was one of the most powerful kings of Israel. One day, after he became so powerful, he didn't go to war. He was a little bored and went up to the terrace. Not too far from where he was, there was an interesting scene. There was a woman taking a shower. Watching her taking a shower became the beginning of David's cruel crime. David, eventually, killed her husband and took her as one of his wives. God sent his prophet to make David come back to God. Prophet urged David to repent! And David came back to God. He wrote this Psalm after the repentance of all the things he did wrong. He realized that he lost the connection from God. He did not focus on God any more. But he was fulfilling his own fleshly desires alone. He came to the realization of his joy-less mind and came to the realization that he lost God. And he came to God with repentance. Would you listen to his prayer? (**PSALM SLIDE**)

"Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you."

God! Sinful, I stand before you. What should I do... what have I done... Forgive my evil desires and deeds. Create a clean heart within me. And Renew a loyal spirit. Some versions translate, right spirit or steadfast spirit. David lived before God and he was after God's heart. But, he lost his focus from God and he was pleasing his fleshly and selfish desires. So, he's crying out to God, let me have that loyal heart back. Renew it, God. And, lastly, through all this, through all my sins, I lost the joy of your salvation. The connection between God and me was broken. O God, please, restore the joy in my heart, in my spirit.

This is the prayer of David.

Would you look at this LEGO CAR again?

God, the LEGO CAR (**CAR 1**) was this perfect shape at first. But, the shape was changed in the course of my sinful life. (**CAR 2**) It's almost falling to the back. Or (**CAR 3**), there is a block hindering the car going forward.

This is where we need the prayer that I introduced in the beginning of the sermon.

“God, disassemble me. Take apart of what I am now. Rebuild me according to your will. Shape me again with your good plan. Restore me to the shape you want me to be.

Create, Renew, and Restore... -- God I need REBOOT.

Let us come before God and watch how he builds my life as we open up this new year.

Let us pray.

Gracious and loving Father God, we come before you just as we are. Look into our hearts and take a look at all the elements forming who we are. And take apart all the things you don't want us to have. Make us true before you and help us live in your ways. We pray that YOU BE our Lord and BE our Master in our daily lives and help us follow you every moment. Give us wisdom to discern, and give us courage to act. We thank you that you are always with us with your love. Be with us, always. In Jesus' precious and powerful name, we pray. Amen.

### **The Lord's Supper – Communion**

This is the joyful feast of the people of God. They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took bread, blessed, broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's table. Our Saviour invites all those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared. Psalm 34 declares it. “Taste and see that the Lord is good.”

*(Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:) (Please say **BOLD** print together)*

L: The Lord be with you. **P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **P: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

L: In your Son Jesus Christ the Word became flesh, giving us a vision of your glory, that all people might be brought out of darkness into your marvelous light. How wonderful are your ways, almighty God. How marvelous is your name, O Holy One. You alone are God. Therefore with apostles and prophets, and that great cloud of witnesses who live for you beyond all time and space, we lift our hearts in joyful praise.

**(Sanctus) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

L: We praise you, most holy God, for sending your only Son Jesus to live among us, full of grace and truth. Sharing our joy and sorrow, he healed the sick and was a friend of sinners. Obeying you, he took up his cross and died that we might live. We praise you that he overcame death and is risen to rule the world. He is still the friend of sinners. We trust him to overcome every power that can hurt or divide us, and believe that when he comes in glory we will celebrate victory with him. Therefore, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we take this bread and this cup and give you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**P: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**Breaking of the BREAD and Pouring the WINE**

We thank you that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and said "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." in the same way he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Do this for the remembrance of me."

**Communion of the people (Partake all together)** Prepare the elements and take them.

"This is the body of Christ given for you." (Let us take it)

"This is the blood of Christ shed for you." (Let us drink it)

Prayer after Communion:

Loving God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine, that we, and all who share this feast, may be one with Christ and he with us.

Here we offer ourselves to be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you. in your mercy, accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Fill us with the joy of eternal life, that we may be your faithful people until we feast with you in glory.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Invitation to the offering:** This is the time of offering. God has sent Light into the world in Christ, and no darkness can overcome it. Let us offer our gifts, trusting they may bring light into the world in Christ's name. Let us pray for the offering first.

**Offering prayer:** God of purpose and promise, we offer you our gifts this day, trusting that you can use them to accomplish more than we can ask or imagine. Bless them and us, so that in this new year and the years ahead, we can shine your light into places of need and on people seeking to find a new purpose, for the sake of Christ who is Light for the whole World. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Let the Lord's offering be received as we sing our hymn.

**Offering – BOP # 400 – Spirit of the living God**

Now, it is the time for us to be sent to the world. I love this moment, not just because we are done, but because we are making decisions to shine the light of the world as the people of God. Let us REBOOT our system and be in the Lord, all the time.

### **Benediction**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with us all, now and always. Amen.

### **Ponder Upon Questions:**

1. Am I willing to stand before God with honesty, trusting that God accepts me just the way I am?
2. What does God want me to do in the year of 2021? What kind of shape should I be?
3. What prayer do I need? Create, renew, or restore? What area of my life do I need reboot?