

Worship on June 12, 2022 (CCLI: License Number #3156883)
(Welcoming Elder: Edwin Webster)

Sunday Order of worship

We Gather

- Welcome and Announcements
- Call to worship
- Praise song – BOP 299 Holy holy holy
- Prayer for worship and Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Time for our children and youth
- Praise song – BOP 292 Father, I adore you

We Listen

- Prayer for illumination
- Scripture: Romans 5:1-11
- Sermon: Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
- The Prayer for the people of God

We Respond

- Offering & Dedication
- Song for the Journey – BOP 293 Come, thou almighty King

We Serve

- Benediction

Announcements:

- . Grace and peace to you all who are worshipping God with us today. This is Sunday, June 12th. God of peace be with us as we worship him with our whole hearts.
- . There will be Fellowship time in the Church Hall after Worship. Please stay and connect.
- . Rev. Soong has his office hours on Wednesday from 9am-12pm.
- . Prayer is unseen, yet powerful. If you have prayer needs, please let us know.
Cheryl Daddis @ cheryl@pathcom.com or Soong @ revsoonghuh@hotmail.com
- . Please help Ukraine with donation and prayer. Please pray for the people who are suffering from war. Also, let us continue to pray for the people in need of our prayers in our congregation.
- . Martha's table is open for in-person luncheons.
- . Thank you for your continuing support with your gifts. As we offer our gifts to the Lord, let us give our hearts and our lives to the Lord as well. May God be in the centre of your hearts.

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

Responsive Call to Worship

One: Ascribe to the Lord all glory and honour.

All: Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

One: Come and worship the Lord in holy splendour.

All: Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

One: To the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

All: be all honour and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Praise song – BOP 299 Holy holy holy

<u>Vs. 1</u> Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!	<u>Vs. 2</u> Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea, Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, Who wert and art and evermore shalt be.
<u>Vs. 3</u> Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide thee, Though our eyes in sinfulness thy glory may not see, Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, Perfect in power, in love and purity.	<u>Vs. 4</u> Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayer For Adoration and Confession

Holy God, who is One in Three and Three in One, we praise you this day as the Source of all life, Maker of Heaven and Earth. You created us and called us good, shepherding us with your steadfast love. Jesus Christ, we praise you this day, born into our midst to show us the way of goodness, mercy and grace. Holy Spirit, we praise you this day for the energy you bring us to greet each day as a gift and serve in the world with gladness. Holy God, Three in One and One in Three, reveal to us this day what it means to live as your people so that we may honour your holy name, now and forever.

God of mercy and majesty, you are slow to anger and swift to forgive. You have shown us the depth of your love, yet we are reluctant to love others who differ from us. You have shown us compassion and forgiveness, yet we walk away from one another without concern. You have offered us hope in Christ Jesus, yet we lose that hope when life is challenging. Forgive us, O Lord. Create in us the endurance and character which help us trust in the power of your forgiving love.

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 in Christ, Jesus said, God is ready to forgive us for God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in mercy. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another, through the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Peace of the Lord be with you. Let us take few moments to greet each other and share our peace.

Story for children and youth and prayer

Jacob & Esau (picture)

Stew (immediate need right in front of eye) vs. birthright (God's special blessing – long term blessings and benefits from God)

Holy Spirit – give them wisdom to see further, so you capture their hearts and use them.

Prayer

God of mystery, you are beyond our understanding. Thank you for the wonders and mystery. You are One God, but Three Persons. We cannot understand, but by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we believe. Thank you for the gift of our faith. Lord, we pray that our faith hands down to our children and youth. You are our God and our Lord. Let our children have the confession of MY GOD and MY LORD. Let them love you in all they do. That is our prayer. Lord, pour out your faith and wisdom upon them. We offer them up to your hands. Lead them in the right path. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Praise Song: BOP 292 Father, I adore you

<u>Vs. 1</u> Father, I adore you, lay my life before you. How I love you	<u>Vs. 2</u> Jesus, I adore you, lay my life before you. How I love you
<u>Vs. 3</u> Spirit, I adore you, lay my life before you. How I love you	

Prayer for Illumination:

God of Word and wisdom, reveal the mysteries of faith to us this day by the power of your Holy Spirit. Through the Scriptures, show us how to witness to the name of Jesus Christ, your Living Word. We want to remain in the beauty of your presence. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture: Romans 5:1-11

1 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. 9 Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of

his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. 11 But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

SERMON: Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

Today’s sermon title is **“Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

Peace. Do you have peace in your mind?

This world is not peaceful. In busy mind, there is no peace. When complaining, there is no peace. Eager to have more, trying to push down others and go up, competing. No peace.

Peace is the absence of hostility. Peace is Shalom, general sense of harmonious well-being.

Isaiah 32 describes the peace. “17 The effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. 18 My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.”

This is the picture of peace from the Bible. This is the peace we long for. It is the peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. It is not human earned, but Christ gave to us. So, let us open our ears to listen to the proclamation of God’s peace and love for us.

Peace with God means that God’s hostilities with us are now over. We are no longer enemies of God, but we are at peace with God. Formerly we were enemies of God in need of reconciliation. What the Lord Jesus Christ has done for us is the basis of our justification, and we receive it by faith. Thus, the peace we have is not only temporary psychological comfort, but also the cessation of enmity with God.

1 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

These two verses have the whole summary of today’s message.

First of all, **(V1)** we are justified by faith. We are made righteous in the eyes of God. Therefore, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. **(V2)** Through whom we have obtained access to this grace. Being made righteous in the eyes of God is the grace. This grace is given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace.

Access is a means of approach. Because of our sin, we were disconnected from God.

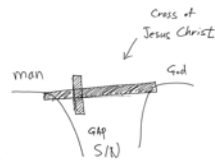
man  God

[4 Spiritual Laws diagrams] [1](harmony with God) ————— We are created by



God and we are to share the loving relationship with God. **[2] (GAP)** But, we sinned. We fell apart from God. There came a great gap between us and God. God loves us

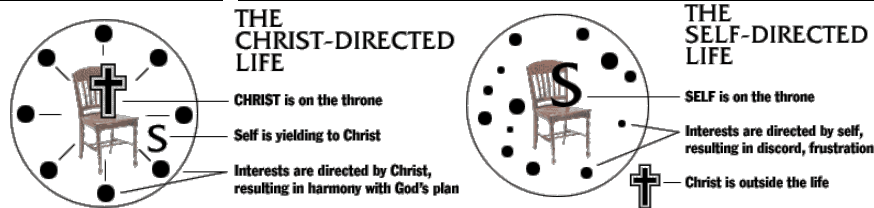
and we love God, but we lost our connection. God felt heartbroken. We experienced the same.



[3] (BRIDGE)

God sent Jesus Christ our Lord for the solution to get rid of the gap between us and God. God connected the disconnection by sending Jesus Christ as our path. **John 14:6, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me.”** So, God gave us the way back to God. God ended his hostility with us and reconciled us to himself. God’s verdict of justification marks the entrance into the re-union with God and this is the Christian life.

This is the grace that we have obtained access to. And we stand on this grace. We build our lives on this grace. This is our Christian life, which Paul states, **[v2]we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. (CIRCLE LIFE 2 – self-directed life / Christ-directed life)**



We take the bridge and we experience the re-union with God. This is, we give up the throne of our lives and let Jesus sit on the throne of our lives. Because the peace with God is restored in Christ Jesus our Lord, Paul encourages believers to have hope in the life of Christ-centred life. This is the reason why we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

When justified, we received a new nature, power over sin, and a renewed mind. However, the change does not happen in one night. These new qualities require development, which happens through knowledge of Scripture, submission to the Holy Spirit, and diligent effort on our part.

The key is the way we respond to the difficult trials that come our way. What we must do is to recognize that God uses them to build into our lives “perseverance”, which, in turn, leads to “character” – the quality that comes from having been “proven.” Then we can truly “rejoice” in the midst of suffering, knowing that God is at work even in these evil things to bring us blessing.

Therefore, in this peace with God, Paul encourages the believers in **Philippians 4. “4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.”**

We are the people of God's peace and we are given the joy of God. We are to boast the name of the Lord and we are to rejoice in the restored relationship with God. The peace is given to us. The love of God for us is poured out upon us.

This is a good image of pouring out the water. But, this is not what the Bible is talking about.



This is what the Bible is talking about when the Lord is pouring out his love upon us.



V5 – and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

There might be some disappointment. This hope and the confidence in God could be shaken because of our weakness. Our changed character, our new nature could seem to be too far or too idealistic when facing our everyday challenges. Endurance and patience, trials and problems overwhelm us every day. We have to face our reality in this broken world.

But, we have to remember that we have the new reality in God. We now have the access to the grace which we can stand on. And, in order for us to remember our new identity, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon us. **NLT, v5, "And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love."**

We might say, we have it enough. Sometimes, we feel the love of God is overflowing in our hearts. YES it happens. But, listen to King David's psalm. **Psalms 23, v5 "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows."** David was in peace with God. His heart was fulfilled with the love of God.

But, listen to this as well. **Psalms 51:10-12, "10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit."**

David fell. He lost the joy of God's salvation. He prays to God for restoration, desperately. God's love was poured upon David. He experienced it fully, but he fell. He lost God. This is our reality. This is our limitation. This is why the Holy Spirit unceasingly prays for us. **Romans 8, "26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. 27 And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."**

The Holy Spirit in us prays for us. God knows us and did not leave us alone. God not only poured out his love upon us, but also he prepared everything for us.

God created us. We fell. God gave us Jesus Christ for our substitute sacrificial Lamb to get rid of our sin. God gave us access to the grace. God restored the peace with God. God changed our nature. But still, we are too weak, so God gave us the Holy Spirit to help us and to comfort us and to pray for us. We are led by God. We are protected by God. We are cared for by God. We are with God.

God. God. God. God is our everything. Our life is not about us. Our life is about God. This is our God. How can we not boast our God who gave us everything. May God fill your heart with His Holy Spirit, so you may boast the peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord for us today.

Prayer for the people of God

God, we love to call you. God the Father. God the Creator. God the Healer. God with us. God of love. God of grace. God of mercy. God of forgiveness. Faithful God. God with power. God who protects us. God provides. The Beginning and the End. Big God. But, you still cares for all the small things in our lives. You are for each person. You build the person and intimate relationship with us. You come to us and you come the most appealing ways to each person. You care for us. You know us. You are the Best! You are indescribable.

Thank you for being our God. Thank you for calling us Yours.

Jesus, You have opened the way to the Father. You gave us the access to the Father. You freed us from all our darkness and weakness. You strengthen us. You are with us, we live with you in your power. Thank you and we praise you.

Lord, God, we are standing before you with humble hearts asking for what we long for. We pray for your people. We have difficulties in our lives. Listen to our prayers and grant us with your faithfulness and with your power.

There are people who are struggling with their illnesses. Touch them and heal them both in their bodies and in their spirits. You are unseen, but you are at work in every aspect of our lives. Powerful God, free your children from pain and fear. Comfort them and give peace in their hearts.

Also, there are people who have sickness in their inner being. Pour out your love again and again, continuously. Let their cup, let their inner being is overwhelmed with your love. Free them from their past experiences, broken relationships, struggles, regrets, anger, sadness, selfishness, self-created images. Let them restore your image in their hearts. You created all of us and you said GOOD. We are your good creatures. We are to share love relationship with you and we are to be free in you. This is the whole purpose you creating us. We are to enjoy your presence and glorify your name. Restore us. Restore our joy. Fill us with you.

Loving God, there will be a lot of traveling in this summer. Protect us safely. When we experience new environment, new people, refresh us. In the newness, help us see you. Help us experience your guidance and your protection. We want to know you in our every day life. We want to be with you in our every day life. We want to have our true identity, as your children, and we want to boast your name in all the earth! You are yours. Use us.

In Jesus' precious and powerful name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to the offering: This is the time for offering. The season of Pentecost celebrates the outpouring of God's Spirit upon the Church with the gifts required to serve others in Jesus'

name. Let us offer God our gifts this day with grateful hearts and with the generosity revealed in Christ himself. Let us pray for our offering.

Offering prayer:

Generous God, thank you for all your gifts which bring us hope and joy. Bless the gifts we bring and work with them to establish your reign in the world you love. In the name of your greatest gift, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Song for the Journey BOP 293 Come, thou almighty King

<u>Vs. 1</u> Come, thou almighty King; Help us thy name to sing; help us to praise. Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.	<u>Vs. 2</u> Come, thou incarnate Word; gird on thy mighty sword; our prayer attend: come, and thy people bless, and give thy world success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.
<u>Vs. 3</u> Come, holy Comforter; Thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour! Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power	<u>Vs. 4</u> To the great One in Three eternal praises be hence ever more! His sovereign majesty may we in glory see, And to eternity love and adore.

Now, it is the time for us to be sent to the world. We are called to boast his name. We are called to display God's outpouring love for us and for the whole world. Let us be proud of our God. Let us be free because our God gave us everything. May God be with you through the week.

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.