

**Sunday Worship on August 10, 2025**

(CCLI: License Number #3156883) (Welcoming Elder: Christine Tian)

**Sunday Order of Worship**

**We Gather**

- Welcome and Announcements
- Responsive Call to Worship
- Praise song BOP 675 Precious Lord, take my hand
- Prayer for Worship and the Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Praise song BOP 425 We praise you, O God

**We listen**

- Sung prayer for illumination (BOP 445 Open our eyes, Lord)
- First reading: Genesis 15:1-6
- Second reading: Psalm 33:12-22 (Refrain 1)
- Third reading: Hebrews 11:1-3
- Sermon: **Living the invisible**
- Hymn BOP 671 I heard the voice of Jesus say
- Prayer for the people

**We Respond**

- Offering, Doxology (BOP 457 Now thank we all our God) & Dedication
- Song for the Journey BOP 687 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine

**We Serve**

- Benediction
- A Sung Blessing

**Responsive Call to Worship**

The sacrifice that honours God is a thankful heart.

**We lift up our hearts with gratitude, and our voices with praise for all that God has done.**

Wait upon the Lord who is our help and shield.

**We trust in God's holy name and so we come to worship.**

**Praise song – BOP 675 Precious Lord, take my hand**

**Prayer of Adoration**

Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit: God of promise and purpose, through Jesus Christ, you have called us to be your people and given us a purpose for our lives each day.

You created the world and all that is in it and you work reconciliation and renewal among us. We gather to worship and adore you, and to be renewed to live out your purpose in the week ahead.

We seek your wisdom and guidance to lead us through the choices we face and the challenges that surround us.

You are our God and we offer you our loyalty and praise, so the world will see that we belong to you as we follow in the footsteps of Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Prayer of confession (Unison)**

**Faithful God, we confess that our choices do not always reflect your purposes for our lives.**

**Faithfulness to you is sometimes the last thing on our minds. We often choose the easiest way or what suits our interests, not yours. Forgive us, O God, when we fail to remember what you require of us. Renew a right spirit within us by your grace. Amen.**

**Heavenly Father, hear us, as we offer the Prayer that Jesus taught us:** (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**

While it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God, in Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven.

Be at peace with God, be at peace with one another, and be at peace with yourself.

**May the Peace of the Lord be with you.** (*Let us bless each other with the peace of the Lord.*)

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**Praise song – BOP 425 We praise you, O God**

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**Sung prayer for illumination (BOP 445 Open our eyes, Lord)**

- First reading: Genesis 15:1-6
- Second reading: Psalm 33:12-22 (Refrain 1)
- Third reading: Hebrews 11:1-3

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

**Sermon: Living the Invisible**

We don't say it out loud. We might not even want to admit it.

But deep inside, we know that life can be confusing. Uncertain. Heavy.

Some of you may be in that season right now.

You wonder, “Is God really working in this? Hello... are you there?”

You look at your children, your bank account, your health, your church.

And you think, “God, I can't see the way forward.”

But today, the Word of the Lord invites us into something powerful.

Not flashy. Not easy. But real. It's faith.

Faith is the gift that lets us live. Even when we can't see. Even when there are no answers. Even when the road ahead is foggy.  
Faith keeps us alive.  
Hebrews 11 invites us to "live the invisible."

V1. "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for..."

This isn't just any kind of hope. It's not wishful thinking. It's not naive optimism. Biblical hope is rooted in what God has promised. It's a picture of the future. Not drawn by our imagination, but promised by God's Word.

Sometimes, we look around and feel stuck. Like nothing will ever change.

But God gives us a better vision: a future filled with his grace.

Before baby is born, there are many tests. One of them is NT scan. Neck Thickness. By this, doctors can tell the health condition of baby. Before John was born, the result of NT scan was about triple size as normal. Doctors said he might have Down syndrome. They warned us he could die during pregnancy. They said he would be a dwarf. Some severe disease. Some even suggested ending the pregnancy.

John was eventually diagnosed with Chromosome 12 deletion. The doctors told us: "He'll be small. He'll have delays. He may never be able to lift his head."

We listened. We prepared. But we also knew that there are things you can't measure with tests or charts. There's more to life than what you can see under a microscope. That is hope. That is faith.

Second part of **V1, "...the conviction of things not seen."**

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When you go to a shopping mall, what's the first thing you look for on the map?

**The red dot: You Are Here.**

And then you look for where you want to go: NIKE store, Lulu lemon, the food court, the washroom.

Faith is a bit like that.

You know the store exists. You're not just there yet. But you know if you walk, you'll get there.

That's what God's promises are like. They're certain, but they require steps.

Sometimes, those steps feel hard. Too many turns. Too many distractions. Maybe someone tells you, "Don't bother going there." Or you lose interest halfway.

But if you've experienced God's goodness before, if you know the promise is real, it's just a matter of walking. Step by step.

Maybe God's given you a hope. Such as a restored marriage. A child's salvation. Healing in your health.

But when you think about it, it feels too far away. Too overwhelming.

That's when we remember God. The faith God gives us is ultimately faith for reunion with him.

That's our destination. That's our "NIKE store."

We're not there yet. But we know the way, and we know our good Shepherd Jesus Christ is walking with us.

**V3, "By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible."**

God spoke the universe into being. He brought something out of nothing.

If he can do that, He can certainly create a future for you, even if you see no way forward.

**Psalm 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."**

A lamp doesn't show the whole road at once. It gives just enough light for the next step.

Faith is not about seeing the end, like the spotlight. It's about taking the next faithful step.

So what does that step look like?

Taking care of your children.

Going to work with integrity.

Caring for your health.

Being kind and patient.

Serving at church.

These don't feel spectacular. They don't look special. But every faithful act is a step toward the future God has promised.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, and Jesus walks every one of them with you holding your hands.

Faith is not pretending life is easy. Faith is living today with eyes on the invisible: the hope God has promised.

Even if you feel small today... Even if your path feels uncertain... Fix your eyes on him.

Step by step. Day by day. That's how we live the invisible.

This is the message of the Lord for us today.

**Praise song – BOP 671 I heard the voice of Jesus say**

**Prayer for the people:**

Lord, when our eyes are tired and our hearts are heavy, teach us to walk by faith. Give us just enough light for the next step. Remind us that you are writing a story we cannot see yet, and it is filled with grace and love. Help us to trust, obey, and live the invisible.

Gracious, loving and faithful God, we thank you for speaking to us today through your living word. Thank you for the reminder that faith is not about having all the answers, but trusting you one step at a time, even when the road ahead is unclear.

Help us to live not by what we see, but by what you have promised. When we are weary, give us strength. When we are confused, give us clarity. When we feel small, remind us that you are great. Train our hearts to walk with confidence, not in ourselves, but in the God who made the world from nothing and makes beauty from brokenness.

Let us live the invisible with eyes fixed on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

**Invitation to the offering:**

The sacrifice that honours God is a thankful heart. So let us present our offering today with thankful hearts, grateful for all God's goodness to us.

As we give our offerings, let us glorify him.

*(BOP #457, Now thank we all our God Vs. 1)*

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**Offering prayer:**

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Bless what we offer for your purposes. Give us courage to offer ourselves more fully to you, so that our lives bring you honour and glory through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Song for the Journey – BOP 687 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine**

Now, it is our time to be sent to the world where God called us to be.

God is holding you with his powerful hands. God is watching over you when you are having a good time and when you are going through darkest valleys. God has prepared reunion with him. Let us walk one step at a time. God gave us hope and faith and eyes to see God's promises. In whatever circumstances we are in, fix eyes upon Jesus and walk toward God's promise.

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