

*Town North is a community of disciples  
making disciples of Jesus.*



The Week's Order of  
**WORSHIP**  
for  
**THE LORD'S DAY**

*August 13, 2023 10:30 A.M.*

REFLECTION

***“Beware of that practical atheism which excludes God from His own world; which excludes Him from your individual history. He is not only present in His created universe, but He is as much in personal events of life, shaping, guiding, overruling each and all.”***

-Octavious Winslow, *The Fullness of Christ*, Chapter 7, "The Glory of Christ in Heaven."

PRELUDE

*Lynna Harbison*

ACTIVITIES & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

*David Rogers, Pastor*

*(Please sign, pass & return the black attendance pad at the end of the aisle)*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 91:1-2, 11-12; Psalm 95:1*

LEADER: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

PEOPLE: **I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust."**

LEADER: For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.

PEOPLE: **On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

ALL: **Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

\* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\* SONG OF PRAISE

*Ensemble & Congregation*

***Our Great God***

1 Eternal God, unchanging,  
mysterious and unknown;  
your boundless love unfailing,  
in grace and mercy shown.  
Bright seraphim in endless flight  
around your glorious throne,  
they raise their voices day and night  
in praise to you alone.

**Chorus**

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

2 Lord, we are weak and frail  
helpless in the storm.  
Surround us with your angels,  
hold us in your arms.  
Our cold and ruthless enemy,  
his pleasure is our harm.  
Rise up, oh Lord, and he will flee  
before our Sov'reign God.

**Chorus**

3 Let ev'ry creature in the sea,  
and ev'ry flying bird,  
let ev'ry mountain, ev'ry field,  
and valley of the earth,  
let all the moons and all the stars  
in all the universe  
sing praises to the living God,  
who rules them by his Word.

**Chorus (x 2)**

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

*Hebrews 5:11-12*

LEADER: And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the  
full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but  
imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**ALL: Almighty God,  
we are slow to believe your promises,  
and we are quick to give up hope  
when your promises are delayed.  
Forgive us, and increase our faith. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

*In these moments, we individually come to God in prayer, silently confessing personal sins so that we may take hold of the forgiveness won for us by Christ, our Redeemer.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PEACE WITH GOD

*Romans 5:2-5*

**LEADER:** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

## \* SONG OF RESPONSE

*Ensemble & Congregation*

### ***Christ Is Mine Forevermore***

- 1 Mine are days that God has numbered,  
I was made to walk with him.  
Yet I look for worldly treasure  
and forsake the King of kings.  
But mine is hope in my Redeemer;  
though I fall, his love is sure.  
For Christ has paid for ev'ry failing;  
I am his forevermore.
  
- 2 Mine are tears in times of sorrow,  
darkness not yet understood.  
Through the valley I must travel  
where I see no earthly good  
But mine is peace that flows from heaven  
and the strength in times of need.  
I know my pain will not be wasted,  
Christ completes his work in me.

*(Continued...)*

3 Mine are days here as a stranger,  
pilgrim on a narrow way.  
One with Christ, I will encounter  
harm and hatred for his name.  
But mine is armor for this battle,  
strong enough to last the war.  
And he has said he will deliver  
safely to the golden shore.

And mine are keys to Zion city  
where beside the King I walk.  
For there my heart has found its treasure:  
Christ is mine forevermore.

**Bridge (x 2)**

Come rejoice now, O my soul,  
for his love is my reward.  
Fear is gone and hope is sure;  
Christ is mine forevermore!

And mine are keys to Zion city  
where beside the King I walk.  
For there my heart has found its treasure:  
Christ is mine forevermore,  
Christ is mine forevermore,  
Christ is mine forevermore.

PSALTER READING

*David Rogers, Pastor*

***Psalm 54***

*To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Maskil of David,  
when the Ziphites went and told Saul, "Is not David hiding among us?"*

O God, save me by your name,  
and vindicate me by your might.  
2 O God, hear my prayer;  
give ear to the words of my mouth.  
3 For strangers have risen against me;  
ruthless men seek my life;  
they do not set God before themselves. *Selah*  
4 Behold, God is my helper;  
the Lord is the upholder of my life.  
5 He will return the evil to my enemies;  
in your faithfulness put an end to them.  
6 With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;  
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.  
7 For he has delivered me from every trouble,  
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

\* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn 528 (vv 1-4)

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 My faith looks up to thee,<br>thou Lamb of Calvary,<br>Savior divine:<br>now hear me while I pray,<br>take all my guilt away,<br>O let me from this day<br>be wholly thine.               | 3 While life's dark maze I tread,<br>and griefs around me spread,<br>be thou my guide;<br>bid darkness turn to day,<br>wipe sorrow's tears away,<br>nor let me ever stray<br>from thee aside.            |
| 2 May thy rich grace impart<br>strength to my fainting heart,<br>my zeal inspire;<br>as thou hast died for me,<br>O may my love to thee<br>pure, warm, and changeless be,<br>a living fire. | 4 When ends life's transient dream,<br>when death's cold, sullen stream<br>shall o'er me roll,<br>blest Savior, then, in love,<br>fear and distrust remove;<br>O bear me safe above,<br>a ransomed soul. |

\* SCRIPTURE READING

David Hitt, Elder

*1 Samuel 23:14-29*

And David remained in the strongholds in the wilderness, in the hill country of the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not give him into his hand.

David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh. <sup>16</sup> And Jonathan, Saul's son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God. <sup>17</sup> And he said to him, "Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Saul my father also knows this." <sup>18</sup> And the two of them made a covenant before the LORD. David remained at Horesh, and Jonathan went home.

<sup>19</sup> Then the Ziphites went up to Saul at Gibeah, saying, "Is not David hiding among us in the strongholds at Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah, which is south of Jeshimon?" <sup>20</sup> Now come down, O king, according to all your heart's desire to come down, and our part shall be to surrender him into the king's hand." <sup>21</sup> And Saul said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, for you have had compassion on me. <sup>22</sup> Go, make yet more sure. Know and see the place where his foot is, and who has seen him there, for it is told me that he is very cunning. <sup>23</sup> See therefore and take note of all the lurking places where he hides, and come back to me with sure information. Then I will go with you.

*(Continued...)*

And if he is in the land, I will search him out among all the thousands of Judah.”<sup>24</sup> And they arose and went to Ziph ahead of Saul.

Now David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah to the south of Jeshimon.<sup>25</sup> And Saul and his men went to seek him. And David was told, so he went down to the rock and lived in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.<sup>26</sup> Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain. And David was hurrying to get away from Saul. As Saul and his men were closing in on David and his men to capture them,<sup>27</sup> a messenger came to Saul, saying, “Hurry and come, for the Philistines have made a raid against the land.”<sup>28</sup> So Saul returned from pursuing after David and went against the Philistines. Therefore that place was called the Rock of Escape.<sup>29</sup> And David went up from there and lived in the strongholds of Engedi.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

#### APPLYING GOD’S WORD

*David Rogers, Pastor*

#### ***“God Protects His King”***

#### THE LORD’S SUPPER

*Grape juice is in the purple cups in the center of the tray. Wine is in the clear cups around the outside of the tray. The matzo bread is gluten free.*

*Please hold the elements until everyone is served. Used cups may be placed in the baskets in the narthex after the service.*

#### \* RESPONDING IN SONG

*Hymn 92 (vv 1-4)*

#### ***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe;  
his craft and pow’r are great;  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.

*(Continued...)*

2 Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing;  
were not the right man on our side,  
the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he,  
Lord Sabbaoth his name,  
from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.

3 And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed  
his truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo! his doom is sure;  
one little word shall fell him.

4 That Word above all earthly pow'rs,  
no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still;  
his kingdom is forever.

\* BENEDICTION

*Psalm 91:14-16*

PASTOR: The LORD says, "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him;  
I will protect him, because he knows my name.  
When he calls to me, I will answer him;  
I will be with him in trouble;  
I will rescue him and honor him.  
With long life I will satisfy him  
and show him my salvation." Amen.

POSTLUDE

*Lynna Harbison*

# SERMON NOTES

*“God Protects His King”*

*1 Samuel 23:14-29*

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***Next Week:***  
Text: *1 Samuel 24:1-22*  
Preacher: David Rogers, Pastor

***Our Great God***  
Words and Music: Fernando Ortega and Mac Powell. © 2002 Word Music Publishing (ASCAP) / New Spring Publishing, Inc. (ASCAP) / DeJamesolo Music.

***Christ Is Mine Forevermore***  
Words & Music: Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson. © 2016 CityAlight Music.

***My Faith Looks Up to Thee***  
Words: Ray Palmer, 1830. Music: Lowell Mason, 1832. Public Domain.

***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***  
Words: Martin Luther, 1529; Tr. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; Based on *Psalms* 46. Music: Martin Luther, 1529. Public Domain.