

YOU'RE SAFE HERE.

Church In Bethesda is a multi-denominational, multicultural, open & inclusive community, connecting our city through spirituality, education, and service. We seek to serve people of all races, genders, ages, cultures, orientations, family configurations, physical and mental conditions, religions, and all other distinctions which make up the beautiful tapestry of God's creation.

Words

In some traditional prayers, hymns, and scripture passages, God is often portrayed as gender-specific. As we pray, sing, and learn together, you are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the full inclusiveness of God.

SINGING

Holy, Holy, Holy

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Verse 1

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee

Holy, holy, holy
Merciful and mighty
Perfect in power, love, and purity

Verse 2

Holy, holy, holy
Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eyes of mortal man
Thy glory may not see

Only Thou art holy
There is none beside Thee
Which were and are and
Evermore shall be

Verse 3

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God Almighty
All Thy works
shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea

Chorus

Ancient One
Patient One
You are holy

Changeless One
Ageless One
You are holy

All Creatures Of Our God And King

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Verse 1

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him, Alleluia

Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Verse 2

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along
O praise Him, Alleluia

Thou rising moon in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Verse 3

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship him in humbleness
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise, praise the Father praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit three in one
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Outro

Praise, praise the Father praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit three in one
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

O Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

WELCOME

McKenna Merz

We're glad you're here! Welcome back if you've been here before, and a very special welcome if you're here for the first time.

CiB Kids

Our program for kids, K through 5th grade happens right now, downstairs. During The Passing Of The Peace, you may take your children there if they would like to join the other kids.

The Passing Of The Peace

This is a time for us to greet other in the spirit of peace. Please be COVID conscious, as some might prefer not to engage in physical touch.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Allison Mckie

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever and ever.

Amen

CENTERING

We invite you to sit and listen to a song before we hear from the scriptures.

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

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Verse 1

Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures

He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine

But God, Who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

Chorus

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

SERMON

Ryan Phipps
"A Box Of Darkness"

Passage: Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Perspective: Mary Oliver

Someone I loved once gave me a box full of darkness. It took me years to understand that this too, was a gift.

FOR NOTES

REFLECTION

Lisa Dale

Communion

We take time each Sunday to remember the love of God for us symbolized by bread and wine.

Candles

You are invited to light a candle representing peace, a prayer, or in the memory of a loved one.

Giving

We give as gestures of gratitude and worship. You are invited to place your offerings in the box at the back of the room. You may also give digitally by using the QR code on the offering box.

Table Time

This is a time for us to engage with an object lesson to help us further contemplate our lesson from today.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mike Lee

This is a time for us to share our celebrations and concerns with the community. All are welcome to share.

May we pray with you?

If you have a need, a fear, a hurt, or a triumph to share with God, Tom and Allison would love to pray with you at the front of the sanctuary after the worship service concludes. Anything you share will be held in confidence, no matter your circumstance. You are safe here.

NEWS

Mike Lee

We have plenty for you to be involved with and to keep you engaged throughout the week. Please see the insert include here for more information.

SINGING

This Love

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Love in any language
Straight from the heart
Pulls us all together
Never Apart

And once we learn to speak it
All the world will hear
Love in any language
Fluently spoken here

BENEDICTION

Michael Orevba



MAY 21, 2023

WELCOME



SNAP HERE TO SAVE TREES