

Gettysburg United Methodist Church

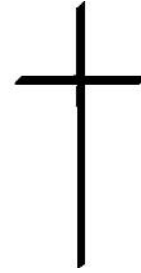
May 20, 2020

Psalm 145:1-14

A psalm of praise. Of David.

- 1 I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.*
- 2 Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever and ever.*
- 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.*
- 4 One generation shall laud your works to an
other,
and shall declare your mighty acts.*
- 5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.*
- 6 The might of your awesome deeds shall be
proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.*
- 7 They shall celebrate the fame of your
abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.*
- 8 The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast
love.*
- 9 The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has
made.*
- 10 All your works shall give thanks to you,
O Lord,
and all your faithful shall bless you.*
- 11 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,
12 to make known to all people your mighty
deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.*
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all
generations.*

*The Lord is faithful in all his words,
and gracious in all his deeds.[c]
14 The Lord upholds all who are falling,
and raises up all who are bowed down.*



Meditation

Read Job 1-3.

Job has always been famous for his patience. But when I read his own words he seems to be anything but patient. He is impatient with his wife, who tells him to “Curse God, and die.” He is impatient with his friends, who offer him the worst kind of “comfort”. (If you want to know how not to comfort someone, you can learn a lot from Job’s friends!) He is impatient with God. He demands to see God so that God can vindicate him, or at least give him some answers. God remains silent (at least until chapter 38), and Job becomes increasingly strident. He is impatient with life itself, and wishes that he had never been born. Job is not a patient person.

Job has some other sterling qualities, however. He’s honest. He sees his situation as it really is, even if he doesn’t understand it. He’s honest with his friends. He doesn’t make a false confession of sin but maintains his own true innocence. He’s not afraid to be honest with God and demand that God answer his questions. God commends him for his honesty in 42:7-8.

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Sunday worship video services are uploaded to our Facebook page every week. You don’t have to be a member of Facebook to view them. Please see page 3 for complete instructions.

Be faithful.

(Continued from page 1)

He's a righteousness person. He lives in a right relationship with God and with his fellow human beings. His difficulties don't make him curse God or lose his faith; he retains his trust in God's faithfulness as he seeks God's presence. He does everything he can to show his love for his family. He goes the second mile to help the poor, the sick, the blind, and the needy. He reaches out to help strangers (Job 29:7-17) and strives for peace with justice in the world.

Job is always faithful to God. He doesn't give up on God, even though it seems that God must have given up on him. Even during his darkest times, he retains a glimmer of hope in God. In 19:25-26 (NIV) he says, "I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!"

Job is not always patient, but he always perseveres. He has a faith that endures. He finds his answer in a vision of God's majesty and power when God speaks to him from the whirlwind (chapters 38-41). It's not an answer of logic or reason, but an answer of relationship and God's self-revelation. It satisfies Job's deepest desire—a longing for God's presence.

We live in times of impatience. We're impatient with

I know
that my
Redeemer
LIVES
JOB 19:25

the current situation, and wish everything would get back to normal. We want answers for why things happen the way they do. We may not learn patience from Job, but we can learn how to endure. We learn the importance of honesty with ourselves and with the current situation. We learn to live in a right relationship with God and with others. Above all, we learn to be faithful to God even though we don't understand his ways. We know that our Redeemer lives, and that nothing in all creation can separate us from his love for us. We don't need to see God in a whirlwind, for we have already seen God in the person of Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus tells us that if we have seen him we have seen the Father, that he and the Father are one. Our answers and our strength are found in our relationship with Jesus Christ. He satisfies our deepest desire—our longing for God's presence.

We find wisdom in the Serenity Prayer. It is not necessarily a prayer of patience, but it is a prayer of endurance. It's very appropriate for times like these: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other. Amen." May this be the prayer of our hearts in the days and weeks ahead.

—Pastor Rick



Our Redeemer lives !

Prayer

Lord, keep us steadfast in times of change. Enable us to stand on the solid rock of Christ, that we may not be moved by the winds and waves of misfortune. Make us ever faithful and always hopeful in times of stress and trouble.

May we be living witnesses to your love and your grace. Above all, help us to reach out to those who suffer loss of health, loss of work, and loss of hope. Make us your healing presence in their lives.

Bless all people throughout the world as we navigate this crisis together. Remind us that we depend on each other as well as on you. Heal and strengthen us even as you grant us your wisdom. Fill us anew with your Holy Spirit, that we may love others as Christ has loved us; this we pray in his name. Amen.

Crisis Hotlines and Helplines

During these trying times, it's good to be aware of some of the positive resources available in our community. Many people are under extraordinary stress because of the current situation. Please feel free to share this information with others as you feel appropriate.

CONTACT Helpline: (800) 932-4616

Wellspan Behavioral Health Helpline (Philhaven):
(800) 932-0359

TrueNorth Crisis Line: (866) 325-0339

Suicide Prevention Hotline: (800) 273-8255

Substance Abuse Hotline: (800) 662-4357

Disaster Distress Helpline: (800) 985-5990
(for distress caused by natural disasters,
including coronavirus)

Veterans Crisis Line: (800)-273-8255

Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233

Adams-Hanover Crisis Information Referral Hotline:
(717) 632-4900

How to Watch GUMC Sunday Worship Services Online

We are posting our worship services on the Gettysburg UMC Facebook page. If you have a Facebook account, simply type Gettysburg UMC in the search window at the top of the page and click search. It will take you to our Facebook page.

However, **you do not need a Facebook account** to access our page on Facebook. Here's what to do:

Go to our **webpage** (www.gettysburgumc.org)

Under the photo of our steeple you'll see this link:

Special Notices!!

[Click here to see Pastor Rick's Video Messages on the GUMC Facebook page](#)

Click on the link and it will take you to the GUMC Facebook page. Once there, scroll down until you see the image of the Easter Cross. There is an image for each service that we've recorded with the date. Click on the date you wish to watch, and it will start the video.

That's all there is to it. If you have any trouble, feel free to call Larry Speer at 717 642-6123 (H) or 717 387-3577 (M).

See you online this coming Sunday!



Our Wednesday morning Bible study is meeting on Zoom every week from 10:30 to noon. We are studying the second half of the Gospel of John. If you would like to participate please contact Pastor Rick, who will send you the link for each week's meeting.

HYMN

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Graham Kendrick

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire;
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy,
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Verse 1

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Verse 2

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance;

By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Verse 3

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory.
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

CCLI Song # 30426

Graham Kendrick

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Graham Kendrick wrote both the words and the music for *Shine, Jesus, Shine*. He was born in 1950 in Blisworth, Northamptonshire, England, and now lives in Kent. Although trained as a teacher, he began his career as a singer/songwriter in 1972 and has written over 400 songs.

Kendrick was inspired to write *Shine, Jesus Shine* as he meditated on God's holiness and God's desire to have us live continuously in his presence. The verses seemed incomplete on their own, so the chorus was added several months later. The song celebrates the light of Christ that overcomes all the darkness of the world, and expresses our desire to have his light shine brightly in our lives. It may be found as No. 2173 in *The Faith We Sing*

Special thanks to everyone who has continued to send their weekly donations to GUMC. Your generosity is helping us to get through this difficult situation. Your faithful giving is deeply appreciated!

Thank you for your very generous donations to purchase grocery cards for families in need. So far, we have received \$8,569.98 for grocery cards. Your generous support of this project is greatly appreciated!!

As Adams County moves toward the "Green Zone" in COVID-19 readiness, we anticipate resuming regular worship services as soon as we may safely do so. You will be notified through this weekly newsletter and also via our phone tree when regular worship services resume.

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