

PRELUDE

Change My Heart, O God

CALL TO WORSHIP – from Psalm 51

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

**Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.**

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

**Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.**

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

**For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased.**

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

*HYMN #360

You Are My King

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most High and holy God, have mercy on me, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgement. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

HYMN #622

God, Be Merciful To Me

ASSURANCE OF PARDON – from Matthew 5 & 6

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven;

for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

ANTHEM

God Is Good

SCRIPTURE

I Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

SERMON

The Lord Looks On the Heart

*HYMN #223

Crown Him With Many Crowns

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

(over)

OFFERTORY

Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God

***DOXOLOGY #964**

Inclusive lyrics:

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God, above ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost*

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG #948**