



# SOUTH CLT PRES CHURCH

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Worship Service

**Welcome**

Pastoral Intern Kurt Witters

**Call to Worship**

Pastoral Intern Kurt Witters

*Psalm 103:1-5*

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

**People: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

Leader: Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit.

**All: Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

**Worship in Song**

HIS MERCY IS MORE

WHAT LOVE COULD REMEMBER NO WRONGS WE HAVE DONE  
OMNISCIANT, ALL KNOWING, HE COUNTS NOT THEIR SUM  
THROWN INTO A SEA WITHOUT BOTTOM OR SHORE  
OUR SINS THEY ARE MANY, HIS MERCY IS MORE

WHAT PATIENCE WOULD WAIT AS WE CONSTANTLY ROAM  
WHAT FATHER, SO TENDER, IS CALLING US HOME  
HE WELCOMES THE WEAKEST, THE VILEST, THE POOR  
OUR SINS THEY ARE MANY, HIS MERCY IS MORE

PRAISE THE LORD  
HIS MERCY IS MORE  
STRONGER THAN DARKNESS, NEW EVERY MORN  
OUR SINS THEY ARE MANY, HIS MERCY IS MORE

WHAT RICHES OF KINDNESS HE LAVISHED ON US  
HIS BLOOD WAS THE PAYMENT, HIS LIFE WAS THE COST  
WE STOOD 'NEATH A DEBT WE COULD NEVER AFFORD  
OUR SINS THEY ARE MANY, HIS MERCY IS MORE

### **DEATH WAS ARRESTED**

ALONE IN MY SORROW AND DEAD IN MY SIN  
LOST WITHOUT HOPE WITH NO PLACE TO BEGIN  
YOUR LOVE MADE A WAY TO LET MERCY COME IN  
WHEN DEATH WAS ARRESTED AND MY LIFE BEGAN

ASH WAS REDEEMED ONLY BEAUTY REMAINS  
MY ORPHAN HEART WAS GIVEN A NAME  
MY MOURNING GREW QUIET MY FEET ROSE TO DANCE  
WHEN DEATH WAS ARRESTED AND MY LIFE BEGAN

OH YOUR GRACE SO FREE WASHES OVER ME  
YOU HAVE MADE ME NEW NOW LIFE BEGINS WITH YOU  
IT'S YOUR ENDLESS LOVE POURING DOWN ON US  
YOU HAVE MADE US NEW NOW LIFE BEGINS WITH YOU

RELEASED FROM MY CHAINS I'M A PRIS'NER NO MORE  
MY SHAME WAS A RANSOM HE FAITHFULLY BORE  
HE CANCELLED MY DEBT AND HE CALLED ME HIS FRIEND  
WHEN DEATH WAS ARRESTED AND MY LIFE BEGAN

OUR SAVIOR DISPLAYED ON A CRIMINAL'S CROSS  
DARKNESS REJOICED AS THOUGH HEAVEN HAD LOST  
BUT THEN JESUS AROSE WITH OUR FREEDOM IN HAND  
THAT'S WHEN DEATH WAS ARRESTED AND MY LIFE BEGAN

OH WE'RE FREE FREE FOREVER WE'RE FREE  
COME JOIN THE SONG OF ALL THE REDEEMED  
YES WE'RE FREE FREE FOREVER AMEN  
WHEN DEATH WAS ARRESTED AND MY LIFE BEGAN

### **NO LONGER SLAVES**

YOU UNRAVEL ME  
WITH A MELODY  
YOU SURROUND ME WITH A SONG  
OF DELIVERANCE  
FROM MY ENEMIES

'TIL ALL MY FEARS ARE GONE

I'M NO LONGER A SLAVE TO FEAR  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD  
I'M NO LONGER A SLAVE TO FEAR  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD

FROM MY MOTHER'S WOMB  
YOU HAVE CHOSEN ME  
LOVE HAS CALLED MY NAME  
I'VE BEEN BORN AGAIN  
INTO YOUR FAMILY  
YOUR BLOOD FLOWS THROUGH MY VEINS

I'M NO LONGER A SLAVE TO FEAR  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD  
I'M NO LONGER A SLAVE TO FEAR  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD  
I'M NO LONGER A SLAVE TO FEAR  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD  
I'M NO LONGER A SLAVE TO FEAR  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD

I AM SURROUNDED  
BY THE ARMS OF THE FATHER  
I AM SURROUNDED  
BY SONGS OF DELIVERANCE  
WE'VE BEEN BE LIBERATED  
FROM OUR BONDAGE  
WE'RE THE SONS AND THE DAUGHTERS  
LET US SING OUR FREEDOM

YOU SPLIT THE SEA  
SO I COULD WALK RIGHT THROUGH IT  
MY FEARS ARE DROWNED IN PERFECT LOVE  
YOU RESCUED ME  
SO I COULD STAND AND SAY  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD

I AM A CHILD OF GOD  
I AM A CHILD OF GOD  
YES, I AM A CHILD OF GOD

## Community Update

Rev. Josh Creason

## Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Josh Creason

*Matthew 6:9-13*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## Scripture Reading

Rev. Dean Faulkner

*Nehemiah 5:1-13*

Now there arose a great outcry of the people and of their wives against their Jewish brothers. For there were those who said, "With our sons and our daughters, we are many. So let us get grain, that we may eat and keep alive." There were also those who said, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards, and our houses to get grain because of the famine." And there were those who said, "We have borrowed money for the king's tax on our fields and our vineyards. Now our flesh is as the flesh of our brothers, our children are as their children. Yet we are forcing our sons and our daughters to be slaves, and some of our daughters have already been enslaved, but it is not in our power to help it, for other men have our fields and our vineyards."

I was very angry when I heard their outcry and these words. I took counsel with myself, and I brought charges against the nobles and the officials. I said to them, "You are exacting interest, each from his brother." And I held a great assembly against them and said to them, "We, as far as we are able, have bought back our Jewish brothers who have been sold to the nations, but you even sell your brothers that they may be sold to us!" They were silent and could not find a word to say. So I said, "The thing that you are doing is not good. Ought you not to walk in the fear of our God to prevent the taunts of the nations our enemies? Moreover, I and my brothers and my servants are lending them money and grain. Let us abandon this exacting of interest. Return to them this very day their fields, their vineyards, their olive orchards, and their houses, and the percentage of money, grain, wine, and oil that you have been exacting from them." Then they said, "We will restore these and require nothing from them. We will do as you say." And I called the priests and made them swear to do as they had promised. I also shook out the fold of my garment and said, "So may God shake out every man from his house and from his labor who does not keep this promise. So may he be shaken out and emptied." And all the assembly said "Amen" and praised the Lord. And the people did as they had promised.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation:** Thanks be to God.

**Sermon**

Rev. Dean Faulkner

When the Lone Hero Defends the Exploited  
Rebuild Sermon Series  
*Nehemiah 5:1-13*

- I. Economic Exploitation Exposed (vv. 1-5)
  
- II. Examination with a Call to Mercy (vv. 6-11)
  
- III. Repentance for the Common Good (vv. 12-13)

**Song of Response**

**AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)**

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND, THAT SAVED A WRETCH LIKE ME  
I ONCE WAS LOST, BUT NOW AM FOUND, WAS BLIND BUT NOW I SEE

'T WAS GRACE THAT TAUGHT MY HEART TO FEAR, AND GRACE MY FEARS RELIEVED  
HOW PRECIOUS DID THAT GRACE APPEAR, THE HOUR I FIRST BELIEVED

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

THE LORD HAS PROMISED GOOD TO ME, HIS WORD MY HOPE SECURES  
HE WILL MY SHIELD AND PORTION BE, AS LONG AS LIFE ENDURES

WHEN WE'VE BEEN THERE TEN THOUSAND YEARS, BRIGHT SHINING AS THE SUN,  
WE'VE NO LESS DAYS TO SING GOD'S PRAISE THAN WHEN WE FIRST BEGUN. THAN  
WHEN WE FIRST BEGUN

**Benediction**

Rev. Dean Faulkner