

Homecrest Presbyterian Church

Worship of the Lord's Day

April 24th, 2016

5th Sunday of Easter

**“See, I am making all things new. I am
the Alpha and Omega, the beinning
and the end.”** **Revelation 21:5-6**

Gathering Around the WORD

Call To Worship

(Based on Psalm 148:1-5)

*Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!*

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars!

*Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters
above the heavens!*

***Let us praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded all things and we are the
LORD's creation. Praise the LORD!***

Gathering Hymn

#14 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:*

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

Gathering Hymn

#14 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

***For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light***

***Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

Gathering Hymn

#14 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

***For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:***

***Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

Gathering Hymn

#14 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

***For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:***

***Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

Gathering Hymn

#14 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven:*

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

Gathering Around the WORD

Call to Confession

Indeed God is worthy to be praise, as we enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Yet from time to time, we have failed and fallen short of God's expectation of us. We need God's unconditional grace of forgiveness. In the love of God to make all things new, let us confess our sin to God and our neighbors.



Gathering Around the WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of mercy, your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment that hinders your goal for humanity.

Forgive our sins, we pray, and give us a true repentance that leads to life for all creation. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.



Gathering Around the WORD

Declaration of Forgiveness

God is in the business of creating, renewing and bringing new life. Friends, through our faith in Jesus Christ, the old is gone and the new has come. We are therefore a new and different person. **Thanks be to God, Amen.**



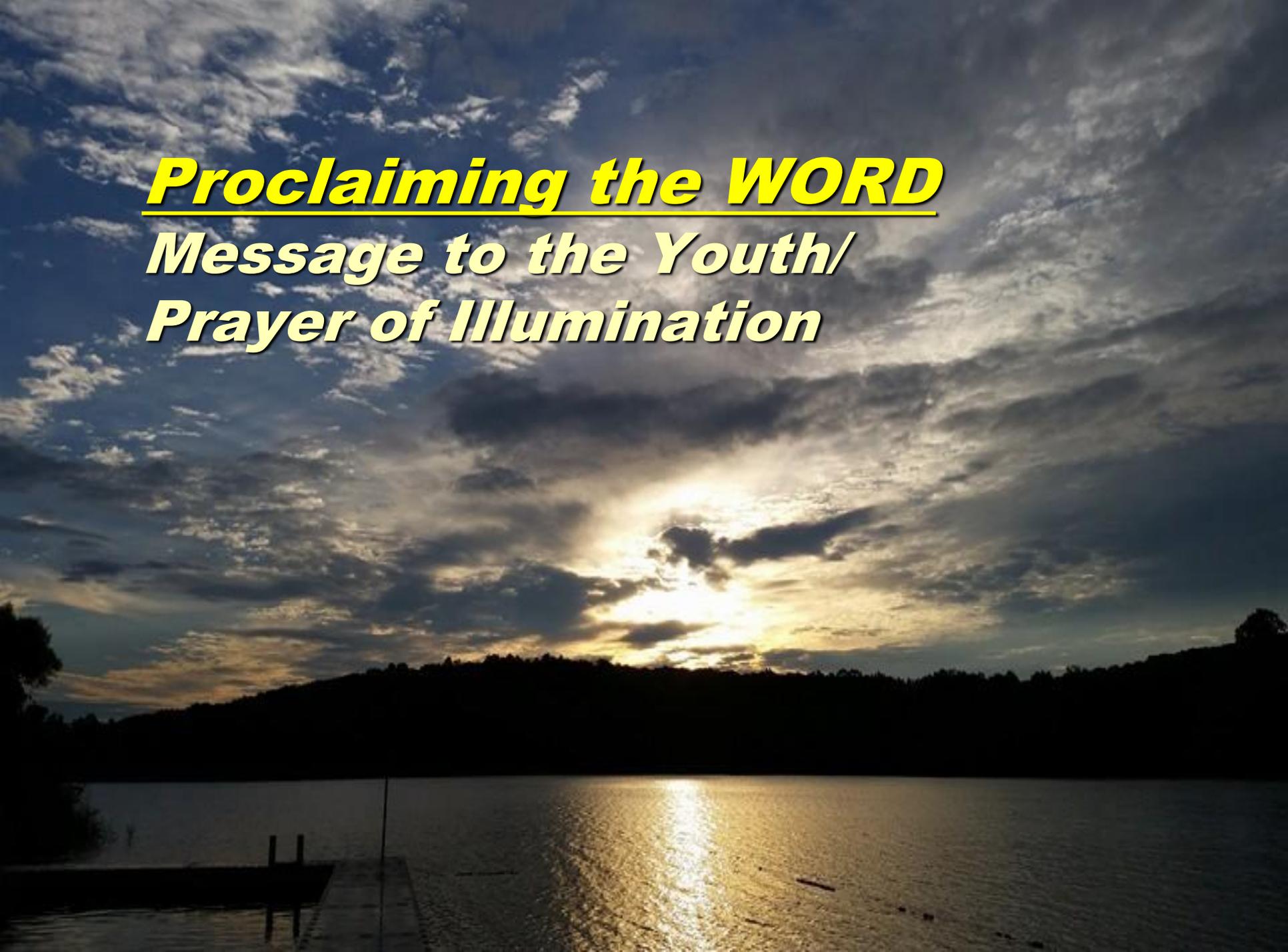
Gathering Around the WORD

Gloria Patri

***Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.***

Gathering Around the WORD
Passing of the Peace of Christ



A sunset over a lake with a forested shoreline and a dock in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright reflection on the water. The sky is filled with scattered clouds, some of which are illuminated by the setting sun. The foreground shows a dark dock with a few posts extending into the water.

Proclaiming the WORD

***Message to the Youth/
Prayer of Illumination***

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading (Acts 11:1-18)

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?"

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading (Acts 11:1-18)

4 Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. 6 As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. 7 I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.'

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading (Acts 11:1-18)

⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'

⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.'

¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading (Acts 11:1-18)

¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.'

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading (Acts 11:1-18)

15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.

16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?"

18 When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading (Revelation 21:1-6)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.



Proclaiming the WORD

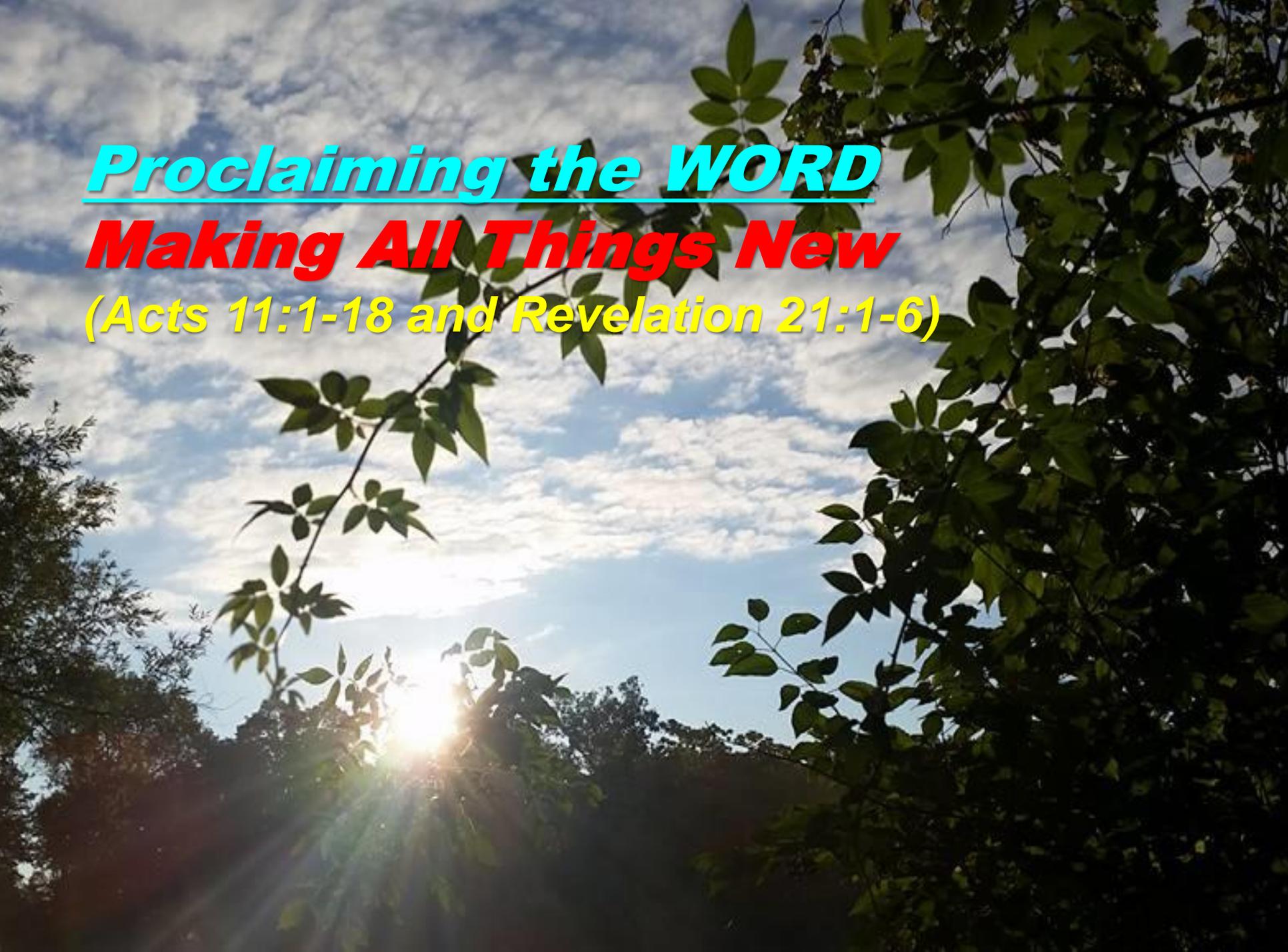
Scripture Reading (Revelation 21:1-6)

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading (Revelation 21:1-6)

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.



Proclaiming the WORD

Making All Things New

(Acts 11:1-18 and Revelation 21:1-6)

Responding Hymn

374 “O Holy City, Seen of John”

***O holy city, seen of John,
where Christ, the Lamb, does reign,
within whose four-square walls shall come
no night, nor need, nor pain,
and where the tears are wiped from eyes
that shall not weep again!***



Responding Hymn

374 "O Holy City, Seen of John"

*O shame to us who rest content
while lust and greed for gain
in street and shop and tenement
wring gold from human pain,
and bitter lips in deep despair
cry, "Christ has died in vain!"*



Responding Hymn

374 “O Holy City, Seen of John”

***Give us, O God, the strength to build
the city that has stood
too long a dream; whose laws are love,
whose ways are servanthood,
and where the sun that shines becomes
your grace for human good.***



Responding Hymn

374 “O Holy City, Seen of John”

*Already in the mind of God
that city rises fair.*

*Lo, how its splendor challenges
the souls that greatly dare,
and bids us seize the whole of life
and build its glory there.*



Responding to the WORD

An Easter Affirmation of Faith (By Brian Miller)

We believe in God the Father, who created the world, was faithful when we were not, and who continuously seeks to redeem the world.

We believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ, who humbled himself by becoming human and moving into our neighborhood; was sent by the Father to give us life; embodied and taught the righteous love of God; and who, though he knew no sin, became sin and was put to death on a cross.

Responding to the WORD

An Easter Affirmation of Faith (By Brian Miller)

We believe that three days later, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead by the power of God; was seen in bodily form by his disciples.

We believe that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus gives us victory over any form of sin and brokenness and allows us to know the full love of God for the world.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who actively works in our lives, giving us grace to be like Jesus, and sends us to show God's love for the world.

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World

Announcements &

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

- We will continue our regular afternoon **Bible Study** group, **downstairs in the basement**. We will be beginning a new seven-part series on **Isaiah**.
- The **Women's Group** will be meeting over at the Manse (2048 E 14th Street) every **Wednesday evening @ 7:30pm**. They are currently studying the book of **Esther**. They will also be meeting every other Sunday morning before service at 9:30am over at the Manse for prayers and fellowship. For more information, please see **Margaret Lesman** or **Cara Chin**.
- There will be a **FREE P/SAT Preparation Courses** for Junior High and High School students on **Wednesday-Friday, 5/25-27** from **4-7pm** over at the Manse. Please see flyer for more information.

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World

Prayer of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven.

Halloweth be thy name.

Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

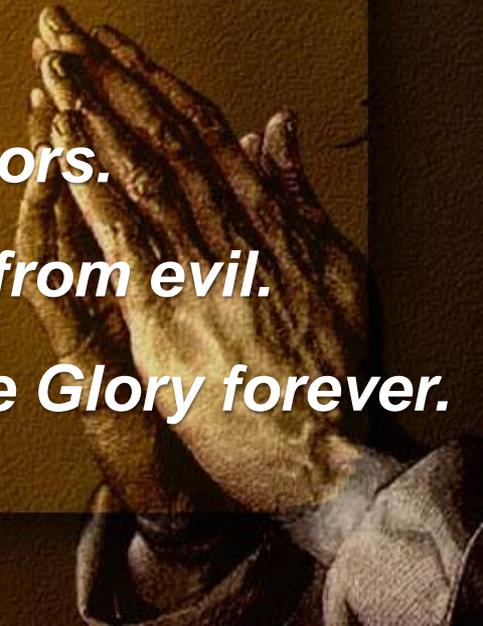
Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts; as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptations, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory forever.

Amen.



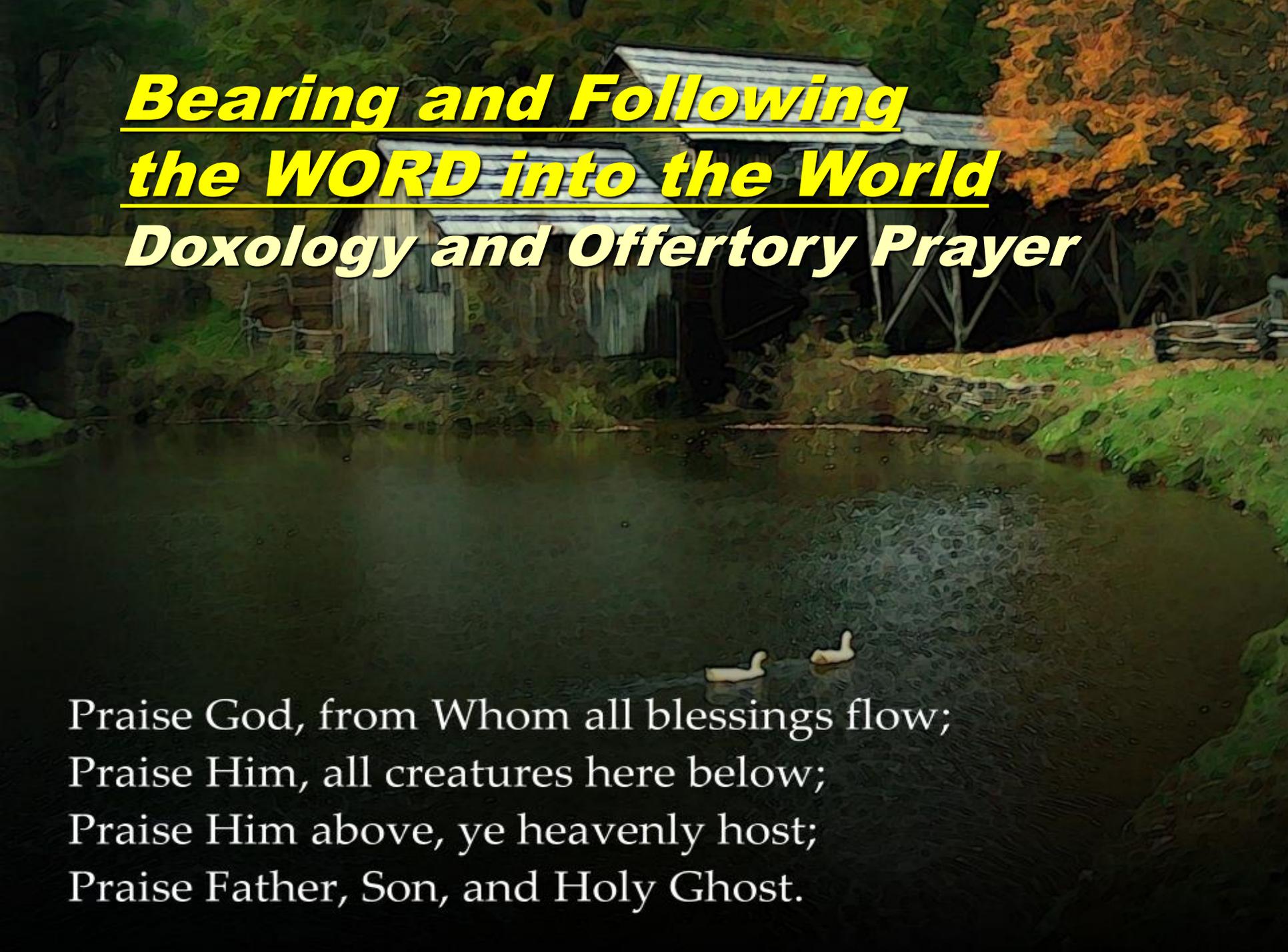
**Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Offering of our Gifts and our Lives**

Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

“Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.
And whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”

2 Corinthians 9:6



A painting of a rural scene. In the background, there is a large, weathered barn with a corrugated metal roof. To the right, there are trees with autumn foliage in shades of orange and yellow. In the foreground, a dark, still pond reflects the scene. Two small, white ducks are swimming in the water. The overall style is impressionistic with visible brushstrokes.

Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Doxology and Offertory Prayer

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Sending Hymn

#81 "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

***Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.***

***God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for a blest abode.***

***On the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?***

***With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.***

Sending Hymn

#81 "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

*Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which God gives them when they pray.*

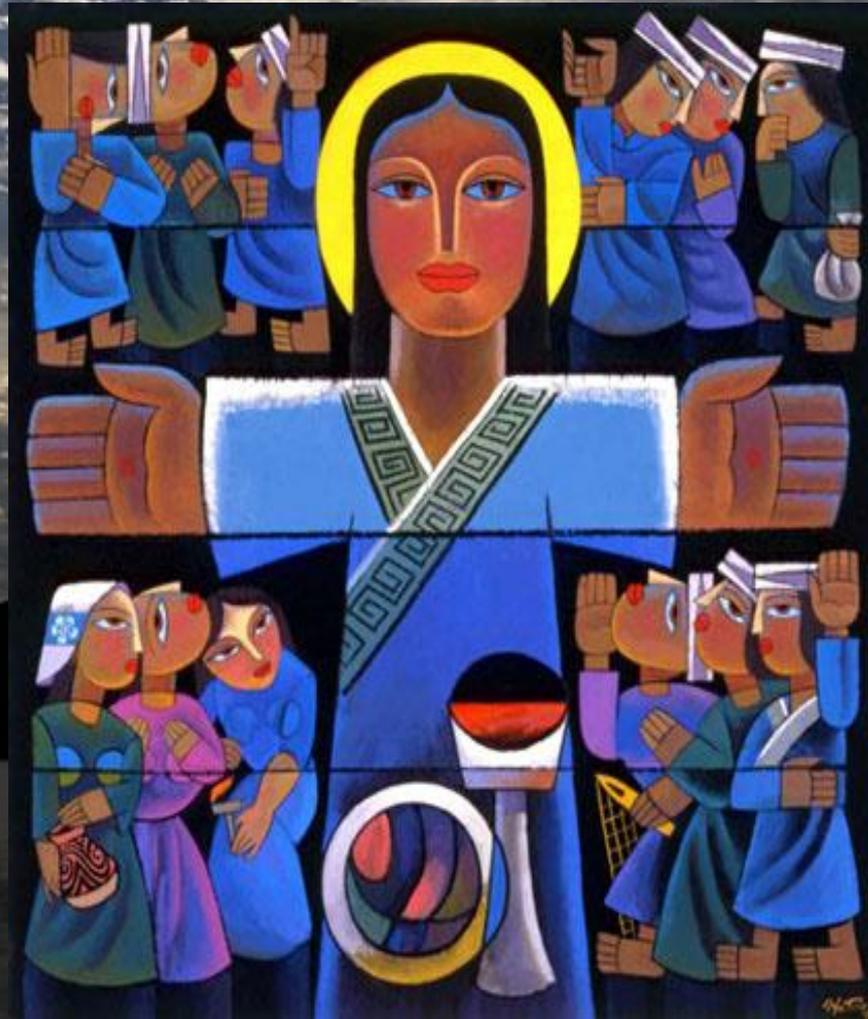
Sending Hymn

#81 "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"

*See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.*

*Who can faint while such a river
ever flows, their thirst to_ assuage?
Grace, so like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.*

Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
The Charge and Benediction



Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Benediction Response

#540 “Shalom, Chavarim! Farewell, Good Friends”

Shalom, Good friends!

Shalom, Good friends!

Shalom, Shalom!

Till we meet again, till we meet again,

Shalom, Shalom.

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