



Trusting God Through Trials

*“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth,
and the former things shall not be remembered or come
into mind” (Isa 65:17)*

God Calls us to Worship

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory
and the victory and the majesty,
for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

**Yours is the kingdom, O Lord,
and you are exalted as head above all.**

(1 Chr 29:11)

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Psalm 139 (v1-10)

O Lord You have searched me,
and You know my ways;
You perceive all my thoughts from afar.
Your hand is upon me wherever I go;
before I can speak,
You already know

*If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
You are there;
If I rest on the far side of the sea,
Your love hems me in both behind
and before;
You have laid Your hand upon me;
You have laid Your hand upon me.*

Where can I flee
from Your presence, O Lord?
If I sleep in the depths, You are there.
Your day will consume
all the shadows of night;
The dark cannot hide
from Your brilliant light.

*If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
You are there;
If I rest on the far side of the sea,
Your love hems me in both behind
and before;
You have laid Your hand upon me;
You have laid Your hand upon me.*

We Confess and Are Assured

“O LORD, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.” *(Ps 139:1-4)*

Have mercy on us, O God

**According to your unfailing love;
According to your great compassion.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Therefore, let us confess our sins against God,
and against our neighbour, first in silence and then aloud together.

Please kneel or be seated.

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin! For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. For you will not delight in sacrifice, or we would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. Our sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Assurance of Pardon

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." (Rom 8:1-2)

Psalm 53

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."
They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity;
there is none who does good.

God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

Have those who work evil no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God?

There they are, in great terror, where there is no terror! For God scatters the bones of him who encamps against you; you put them to shame, for God has rejected them.

Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever, age after age. Amen!

God Speaks to us Through His Word

First Reading: Isaiah 65:17-25 “New Heavens and a New Earth”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: Daniel 8:1-27

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Trusting God Through Trials (Mark Payne)

We Respond to God’s Word

Be thou my vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that thou art.

Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom,
and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and
thou with me, Lord;

Thou my great Father and I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield,
sword for my fight;
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
Thou my soul's shelter and

thou my high tow'r:
Raise thou me heav'n-ward,
O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not,
nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and thou only the first in my heart,
High King of heaven,
my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**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.
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.**

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall. *"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you." (Deut 16:17)*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The stewards will distribute the wine and bread.

Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine until we all drink together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your dear Son,
Jesus Christ.**

**Through him, we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Amen.

Psalm 57

Be Thou, O God, exalted high;
And as Your glory fills the sky,
So let it be on earth displayed,
Till You are here, as there, obeyed;
Till You are here, as there, obeyed.

O God, my heart is fixed, 'tis bent
Its thankful tribute to present;
And, with my heart, my voice I'll raise
To You, my God, in songs of praise;
To You, my God, in songs of praise.

Awake, my glory; harp and lute,
No longer let your strings be mute;
And I, my tuneful part to take,
Will with the early dawn awake;
Will with the early dawn awake.

Your praises, Lord, I will resound
To all the list'ning nations 'round;
Your mercy highest heav'n transcends;
Your truth beyond the clouds extends;
Your truth beyond the clouds extends

We Are Blessed and Sent Out to the World

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the Name of Christ,

Amen.

Sermon Notes

What we've seen so far

- Ch 1: Food Distinctive Faithful Living
- Ch 2: Neb. 1st Dream: Statue (Reveal or Die)
- Ch 3: Neb. Golden Statue: Fiery Furnace (Worship or Die)
- Ch 4: Neb. 2nd Dream: Great Tree (Humbled and Raised)
- Ch 5: Bel. Blasph. Banquet Writing on the Wall (Bel. and Babylon Judged)
- Ch 6: Darius. Medo-Persians Lions Den (Worship or Die)
- ...
- Ch 7: Bel. Four beasts.

Apocalyptic Literature

- **Main Message**
- God's word to you
- Context
- Literal or Symbolic
- One-off, Pattern or both
- Wide-angle or close-up

Ch. 8: One Kingdom Will Stand

Live Faithfully Under God's Rule!

	<u>Superpower</u>	<u>Ch. 2 Statue</u>	<u>Ch. 7 Beasts</u>
A) 605 B.C.	Babylonian	Golden Head	Lion, Wings, Two Feet
B) 539 B.C.	Medo-Persian	Silver Chest, Arms	Bear, Devouring
C) 331 B.C.	Greek	Bronze Middle & Thighs	Leopard, Four Heads
	Alexander the Great		
	... Seleucus, Ptolemy, Philip, Antigonus		
	... Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175 - 164 B.C.)		
D) 63 B.C.	Roman	Iron/clay Legs & Feet	4th Beast, Horns

Ch 9: Trusting God Through Trials

A Vision of War

An Assurance of Victory