



Awesome
Wonder
The Majesty & Glory

Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017

presented by
the First Evan Worship Choir
with members of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra

Orchestral Prelude

“Crown Imperial” (William Walton)



“God means for us to be stunned and awed by His work of creation. But not for its own sake. He means for us to look at His creation and say: If the mere work of His fingers (just His fingers! Psalm 8:3) is so full of wisdom and power and grandeur and majesty and beauty, what must this God be like in Himself!

(John Piper, *The Pleasures of God*, 94)

“The meaning of the universe is God going public for the glory of God.”

(John Piper)

“Gratitude exclaims, ‘How good of God to give me this.’ Adoration says, ‘What must be the quality of that Being whose far-off and momentary coruscations [flashes of brilliance] are like this!’ One’s mind runs back up the sunbeam to the sun.”

(C.S. Lewis, *Letters To Malcolm: Chiefly On Prayer*, 90)

“The glory of creation and the glory of God are as different as the love poem and the love, the painting and the landscape, the ring and the marriage. It would be a great folly and a great tragedy if man loved his wedding band more than he loved his bride. But that is what Romans 1:19-23 says has happened. Human beings have fallen in love with the echo of God’s excellency in creation and lost the ability to hear the incomparable original shout of love.”

(John Piper, *The Pleasures of God*, 85)

“You don’t need what Dorothy found. Remember her discovery in *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*? She and her trio followed the yellow-brick road only to discover that the wizard was a wimp! Nothing but smoke and mirrors and tin-drum thunder. Is that the kind of god you need? You don’t need to carry the burden of a lesser god—a god on a shelf, a god in a box, or a god in a bottle. No, you need a God who can place 100 billion stars in our galaxy and 100 billion galaxies in the universe.”

(Max Lucado, *Traveling Light*, 16)

“When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs?”

(G. K. Chesterton)

Choral Introit

O Lord, my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, “My God, how great Thou art!”

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

(all, standing)

***Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!***

(please be seated)

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Cole Huffman, Senior Pastor

Hymn of Praise

(all, standing)

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with His word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where e'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below, but makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that man can be, Thou, God, art present there.
And everywhere that man can be, Thou, God, art present there!

(please be seated)



Instrumental Praise

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

*Daniel Gilbert, violin
Leesa Wilkinson, piano*

God Said...and It Was So

Genesis 1:1-31

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1*

(all, standing)

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

(please be seated)

*The earth was without form and void, and darkness
was over the face of the deep.
And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
Genesis 1:2*

(instrumental)

*And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.
And God saw that the light was good.
And God separated the light from the darkness.
God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night.
And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
Genesis 1:3-5*

From the beginning of time, before the sun, moon, and stars hung in the sky,
And the heavens and the earth were formed in Your infinite mind,
Your plan was unfolding. Then light filled the darkness.
Creation cried out as Your Word filled the silence.
*All glory be to the Father and Son and the Spirit,
Who was and is and is to come.
All glory be to Jesus, the One who redeemed us.
All glory, all glory be!*

*And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters,
and let it separate the waters from the waters."*

And it was so.

And God called the expanse Heaven.

*And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.
Genesis 1:6-8*

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
The firmament above declares His handiwork;
The starry expanse calls forth its Maker's praise;
And all His mighty works His majesty proclaims.
The sky above, both night and day, does its Creator's power display;
And testifies to every land the work of an Almighty hand!

*And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered
together into one place, and let the dry land appear."*

*And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the
waters that were gathered together He called Seas.*

And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:9-10

(instrumental)

*And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation,
plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in
which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth."*

And it was so. And God saw that it was good.

*And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.
Genesis 1:11-13*

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty 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 joyful hymn of praise.

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 joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of Thine to our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.

*And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse
of the heavens to separate the day from the night.
And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years.*

And it was so.

*And God made the two great lights—
the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light
to rule the night—and the stars. And God saw that it was good.*

*And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.
Genesis 1:14-16, 18-19*

(all, standing)

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

(please be seated)

*And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of
living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth
across the expanse of the heavens."
So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature
that moves, with which the waters swarm,
according to their kinds,
and every winged bird according to its kind.
And God saw that it was good.*

*And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.
Genesis 1:20-21, 23*

(instrumental)

Voicing Creation's Praise

*And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds
and the livestock according to their kinds,
and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind.*

And God saw that it was good.

*Then God said, "Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness.
And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea
and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock
and over all the earth and over every creeping thing
that creeps on the earth."*

*So God created man in His own image,
in the image of God He created him;
male and female He created them.*

Genesis 1:25-27

And from the dust of the earth
You made us in Your image; You gave us life.
Created to praise and lift Your name on high.
So with the angels and heavenly beings,
We hold up our praise for You to receive.
*All glory be to the Father and Son and the Spirit,
Who was and is and is to come.
All glory be to Jesus, the One who redeemed us.
All glory, all glory be!*

*And God saw everything that He had made,
and behold, it was very good.*

And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
Genesis 1:31

(instrumental)

“Without man, nature is dumb, but it is man's part to give it word:
to be its mouth through which the whole universe
gives voice to the glory and majesty of the living God.”
(Thomas Torrance)

“God made men and women in His own image
to be the priests of creation and to express
on behalf of all creatures the praises of God.”
(James Torrance)

Isaiah 40:25-29

(all, standing)

**Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.**

All creation rises to rejoice.

***Behold our God, seated on His throne; come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King. Nothing can compare; come, let us adore Him!***

**Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?**

***Behold our God, seated on His throne; come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King. Nothing can compare; come, let us adore Him!***

(please be seated)

Revelation 4:9-11

Psalm 8

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of Your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.
O, what is man, that You are mindful of him:
You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation:
The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea.
But what is man, O, what is man that You are mindful of him.

*O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of Your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.
O Lord, our God, little children praise You perfectly,
And so would we, and so would we.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! The majesty and glory of Your name.
Alleluia, alleluia! The majesty and glory of Your name.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

(all, standing)

***How great is our God, sing with me; how great is our God
And all will see how great, how great is our God!***

**The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, let all the earth rejoice;
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.**

***How great is our God, sing with me; how great is our God
And all will see how great, how great is our God!***

**Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands,
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end.
The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.**

***How great is our God, sing with me; how great is our God
And all will see how great, how great is our God!***

**Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing: How great is our God!
Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing: How great is our God!**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

(please be seated)

Psalm 148:1-5

You are God and we praise You, You are Lord, we acclaim You.
You are eternal, Father, all creation worships You,
All creation worships You, all creation worships You, Amen.

Praise belongs to You, God of love, God of wonder.
Creation worships You; see the stars, hear the thunder,
Rolling out a tapestry, shouting praises to the King of kings.

*I will join the song, for my heart belongs to You,
May my whole life sing to You, Hallelujah!
I will join the song, all the earth cries out Your name,
I will lift my highest praise, Hallelujah!*

Praise belongs to You, God of love.

Psalm 148:7-13

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

His law He enforces: the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

John 1:1-4, 9-13

(all, standing)

**And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave;
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!
Behold our God, seated on His throne;
Come, let us adore Him!
Behold our King. Nothing can compare;
Come let us adore Him!**

You will reign forever (Let Your glory fill the earth),
You will reign forever. *(repeat)*

**Behold our God, seated on His throne;
Come, let us adore Him!
Behold our King. Nothing can compare;
Come let us adore Him!**

(please be seated)



Message

Cole Huffman, Senior Pastor

“Garden to Garden”
Romans 11:33-36



All glory be to the Father and Son and the Spirit,
Who was and is and is to come.
All glory be to Jesus, the One who redeemed us.
All glory, all glory be!

To You who alone is our God,
Christ Jesus, our Lord and our Savior,
All majesty, glory and power are Yours forever!

All glory be to the Father and Son and the Spirit,
Who was and is and is to come.
All glory be to Jesus, the One who redeemed us.
All glory, all of the glory, all glory, all glory be!

(all, standing)

**All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing *Alleluia, Alleluia!*
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
*O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along, *O praise Him, Alleluia!*
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice,
*O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

**Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness, *O praise Him, Alleluia!*
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One;
*O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!***

Benediction **Psalm 100:3**

**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! Amen.**

“What, then, are we to say about our own place within this design? We begin by recalling the frequent declaration of the Psalmists that creation, in a myriad of ways, is endlessly praising its Creator. In all its colour, movement, subtlety, richness, diversity and splendour, it brings glory to God: ‘The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.’ (Ps. 19:1) Our calling, I would suggest, is to articulate and extend that praise in ever fresh ways, to be ‘priests of creation.’ In humankind, creation finds a voice.”

(Jeremy Begbie, Voicing Creation's Praise, 177)

First Evan Worship Choir

Ron Man, Pastor of Worship/Missionary in Residence, Director

David Allen	Jeanette Haney	Darrell Raber
Judy Baird	Nancy Hart	Rachel Rogers
Becky Banks	Glenda Hartmann	JemmiLou Rushing
Teresa Blanton	Jamie Henwood	Georgia Russell
Allan Bowden	Eddy Herbert	Kassie Sanborn
Heidi Branam	Nerida Herz	Hugh Spell
Garry Butler	Chip Hill	Jan Spurlin
Sara Butler	Lorinda Hill	Shirley St. Hilaire
Sara Coates	Bernie Housholder	Myrna Storck
Linda Cook	Eileen Hughes	Kellye Stelling
Hannah Craddock	Buddy Jones	Annette Stevenson
Twyla Dixon	Rick Jordan	Barbara Stewart
Lauren Duffy	Spencer Jordan	Christie Taylor
Jeff Fendley	Elaine Lim	Greg Thompson
Matt Fenske	Colleen Lipscomb	Dan Torvik
Michelle Fenske	Peggy Massey	Daryl Vrbas
April Fichthorn	Mark McKenzie	Sharon White
Eric Fuhrman	John McWhorter	Leesa Wilkinson
Beverly Garrison	Daniel Newman	Susanna Winter
Deborah Graves	Darryl Nowag	Sara Wright
Charlie Hammond	Calvin Ozier	

Orchestra

Members of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and friends
Bob Westbrook, Contractor

Instrumentalists from First Evan

Bass	Betsy Man	Piano	Jamie Scholik
Cello	Sarah Nowlin	Percussion	Bob Westbrook
French Horn	Doris Shifflette	Violin	Daniel Gilbert
Guitar	Bucky Walters	Violin	Lori Gilbert
Organ	Trent England		

Special Thanks

Flowers	Terri Hannah
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Program Design & Layout	Stephanie Johnson
Readers	John Curlin, Sally Jones
Sound	Nick Toebbe, Ryan Wiley
Worship Ministry Assistants	April Fichthorn, Jan Spurlin



Holy Week Services

Tonight

Evening Service 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Good Friday, April 14

Communion Service 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Child care: Ages 2 and under

Easter Sunday, April 16

Classic Service 8:45 a.m., Sanctuary

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Contemporary Service 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary

Evening Service 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

The cross will be on the front steps of the church for you to place flowers on in honor of our risen Lord.



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