

**Sunday, October 24, 2021**

Pre-Service: I Want to Know You (Andy Park) or Knowing You (Graham Kendrick)

Welcome

Call to Worship

In the midst of difficult times, we have new life from Christ.

**When we think that there is no hope, God offers us life and true joy.**

Come, let us praise the God of new life. Let us sing and shout for joy.

**For He is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under His care.**

Lord of hope and joy, shine into our darkness and bring hope to our souls. Remind us again of the wonderful ways you have cared for us when we were lost. Open our hearts to receive your loving spirit. Refresh our minds with knowledge of your everlasting power and compassion, that we may rejoice in You, and share your joy with others. Amen.

Opening Song: O Come to the Altar

God's Greeting

Greet Each other

Time of Praise: Cornerstone

What a Beautiful Name

Prayer of Confession: (based on Phil. 3)

No matter how righteous we imagine ourselves to be, Lord, your perfect word reveals our imperfections all too clearly. No matter how hard we strive to fulfill the requirements of your law, we always fall short. We have forgotten that righteousness and perfection come not from rules and regulations but from faith. Open our eyes to see that all we have accomplished is nothing compared to knowing Christ as our Lord. Let us count everything as loss, that we might gain heaven and be found blameless in Christ. In the name of Jesus our Savior we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

Persistently, patiently, lovingly,  
God pours out grace and joy into our lives,  
healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin.

**Loved, we are sent to love;**

**Forgiven, we are freed to forgive;**

**Graced, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Songs: Living Hope

Count Your Blessings (Jennie Abma, Oct. 26)

Prayers of the People

Children's Blessing

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:1-14

Sermon

Song of Response: I Can Only Imagine

**As followers of Jesus Christ,  
living in this world –  
which some seek to control,  
and others view with despair—  
we declare with joy and trust:  
Our World belongs to God!  
From the beginning,  
through all the crises of our times,  
until the kingdom fully comes,  
God keeps covenant forever;  
Our world belongs to God!  
God is King: Let the earth be glad!  
Christ is victor: his rule has begun!  
The Spirit is at work: creation is renewed!  
Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!**

(A Contemporary Testimony: Our World Belongs to God, art. 1-2)

Take My Life and Let It Be

God's Parting Blessing

Days of Elijah