

MBC Worship Service - April 18, 2021

Call to Worship

Lift up your heads, you gates;
be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.

**Lift up your heads, you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

Who is he, this King of glory?

**The LORD Almighty—
he is the King of glory.**

—Psalm 24:7-10

Call to Confession

When we gather to praise God,
we remember that we are people
who have preferred our wills to his.
Accepting his power to become new persons in Christ,
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty and merciful God,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts.**

**We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to the world
in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
And grant, O merciful God, for his sake,
that we may live a holy, just, and humble life
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

All the prophets testify about Christ
that everyone who believes in him
receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

—from Acts 10:43

Responsive Reading Psalm 138

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;
I bow down toward your holy temple
**and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your
faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.**

On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.

All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,

and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord,

for great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,

but the haughty he knows from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,

you preserve my life;

you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,

and your right hand delivers me.

The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;

your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.

Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Sermon: A Tale of Two Cups

Text: Esther 1:1-8

Big Idea: Jesus is the kind of leader we can follow.

- Outline:
1. The Cup of Ahasuerus
 2. The Cup of Jesus
 3. Following Ahasuerus
 4. Following Jesus
 5. Choosing Who To Follow

Benediction

As we go, know that we go
with the love of God the Father,
the grace of God the Son,
and the fellowship of God the Spirit.

Amen