

MBC Worship Service - April 25, 2021

Call to Worship

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

We desire to live in God's house

and to seek God in his holy temple.

We have come with shouts of joy,

to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Teach us your ways and make straight our paths

in this hour of worship and always.

—based on Psalm 27; John 4:23

Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion,

let us confess our sin before God and one another.

—based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16

Prayer of Confession

Often, O holy and righteous God,

we dare your justice,

mock your mercy,

jeer your patience,

slight your power, and

show contempt for your love.

We even say “I’m sorry” insincerely and confess our sin flippantly.

We plead your help

to own up carefully to how we have wronged you,

to admit honestly how we have grieved you,

to plead penitently for your mercy and pardon.

We beg your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

—based on a prayer by John Bunyan (1628-88)

Assurance of Pardon

God the Creator brings you new life,

forgives and redeems you.

Take hold of this forgiveness,

and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus. **Amen.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved;

he who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, he who keeps Israel

will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper;

the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day,

nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil;

he will keep your life.

**The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.**

Sermon: A Tale of Two Cups

Text: Esther 1:9-12

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

Outline: 1. It's Not About Vashti
 2. It's About Esther
 3. It's About Jesus
 4. It's About Us

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