

MBC Worship Service - May 30, 2021

Call to Worship

Come, bow down and worship,
kneel to the Lord, our Maker.

This is our God, our shepherd,
we are the flock led with care.

— Psalm 95:6-7

Call to Confession

God's Word assures us:

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

If we confess our sins,
he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

—based on 1 John 1:8-9

Prayer of Confession

**Awesome and compassionate God,
you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy,
but we have not loved you.**

You constantly call us, but we do not listen.

**You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbours in need,
wrapped in our own concerns.**

We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

**God of grace, as you come to us in mercy,
we repent in spirit and in truth,**

**admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse,
 nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
 nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
 so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
 so far he removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children,
 so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.
 —Psalm 103:8-13, NRSV

Responsive Reading Psalm 65:5-13

By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
 O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
 and of the farthest seas;
the one who by his strength established the mountains,
 being girded with might;
who stills the roaring of the seas,
 the roaring of their waves,
 the tumult of the peoples,
so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs.
You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

You visit the earth and water it;
 you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
 you provide their grain,
 for so you have prepared it.
You water its furrows abundantly,
 settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
 and blessing its growth.
You crown the year with your bounty;
 your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

**The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
 the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
 the valleys deck themselves with grain,
 they shout and sing together for joy.**

Sermon: Finding Strength

Text: Esther 4

Big Idea: God strengthens people through action.

Outline: 1. Esther's Weakness
 2. Our Weakness
 3. Strength is Found in God
 4. Becoming Strong

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.