

INVOCATION:

Gracious Lord, we thank You again for allowing us to worship in Your presence today. We praise Your Holy name. We confess that we have fallen short of your glory and ask You to forgive us. We repent of where we have failed You. Receive our praise this morning as we worship You in Spirit and in truth. In the name of Your matchless Son, Jesus. Amen.

WELCOME:

Welcome to Sappony. We're glad that you're here. As a reminder, we will not be passing offering plates. If you have brought your gift to the Lord, you may place it in the plate on your way out the door. We do ask that you maintain appropriate distancing as we continue the worship service this morning. Guidelines for events where singing will take place suggest ten feet of distance between participants.

HYMN # 10 How Great Thou Art

HYMN # 215 Majesty

HYMN # 342 Rock of Ages

PASTORAL PRAYER:

(IMB) Church Planting in Zimbabwe: "With the majority of people here having to walk to a well to collect water, Bible stories that seem like they happened in another time are brought to life in the present day. Many Zimbabweans are having to walk several miles one way to collect water. Once they reach their destination, they may have to wait in line for hours. This means that on their list of priorities, bathing and laundry take the bottom spot, far beneath water for drinking and cooking. These are 'luxuries' that many of us take for granted. When your water flows with the turn of a

knob, please remember this need and pray that God will relieve this aspect of suffering for many. Our Zimbabwe Evangelism Team needs wisdom as we consider how God might show His love by providing another water source for an overcrowded village that He has laid on our hearts. This same village is without a church. We can ask for and expect both. Pray for these great graces to be shown to these suffering people and for God to be seen as the good King that He is. Pray for Jesus to 'meet them at the well.'" "Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life'" ([John 4:13-14 ESV](#)).

NAMB Missionaries: Josh & Deborah Stone; Church Planter, Cuyahoga Valley Church (Cleveland Suburbs)
Martha for the Homeless
Upcoming Elections
Katie: Being trained for SE Asia.

INTRODUCTION:

For the next about 12 weeks, we will be going through the book of Hebrews. There's a whole lot about the book that we don't know:

1. Authorship (Paul, Barnabas, Luke, Apollos, Aquilla & Priscilla)
2. Date (NLT 95, because was quoted by Clement of Rome)
3. To whom it was written (Essenes of Qumran?)
4. Sermon or letter?

It appears to have been written at a time when people were growing weary of waiting for Christ's return. I think that that describes us now.

SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 1:1-14

SCRIPTURE MESSAGE:

1. GOD HAS SPOKEN (1:1-2)

- a. He spoke through prophets
 - i. Moses (3:1-3) Therefore, holy brothers and companions in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession; He was faithful to the One who appointed him, just as Moses was in all God's household. For Jesus is considered worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder has more honor than the house.
 - ii. A large part of the OT is prophets
- b. He spoke through angels: Both Abraham and Jacob had encounters with angels.
- c. Finally, He spoke through Christ
 - i. Christ came and proved what the prophets said.
 - ii. Man continued to rebel.

2. THE SON IS SUPERIOR (1:5-8)

- a. Over Angels
 - i. (1:5) For to which of the angels did he ever say, You are My Son; today I have become Your Father (Psalm 2:7)
 - ii. (1:5) or again, "I will be His Father, and He will be My Son? (2 Sam 7:14)
 - iii. (1:6) When He again brings His firstborn into the world, He says, "And all God's angels must worship Him."
 - 1. If angels are required to worship Him, He is obviously superior.
 - iv. (1:7) About the angels He says: He makes His angels winds, and His servants a fiery flame. (Psalm 104:4)
- b. Over Creation

- i. (1:8) but to the Son: Your throne, God, is forever and ever, and the scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of justice.
 - 1. Note that the Son is called God
 - 2. (John 1:1-3) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created.
- ii. As Creator, the Son is Superior to all Creation. As the Son, He was placed in authority by the Father.

3. THE SON RULES (1:8-13)

- a. (1:8) but to the Son: Your throne, God, is forever and ever, and the scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of justice. (referencing Isaiah 61)
 - i. The throne and the scepter are signs of the King.
 - ii. He is King whether or not we accept Him as King.
- b. (1:9) You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; this is why God, You God, has anointed You with the oil of joy rather than Your companions. (referencing Isaiah 61)
 - i. Christ still loves righteousness and hates lawlessness.
- c. (1:10-12) In the beginning, Lord, You established the earth, and the heavens are the works of Your hands; they will perish, but You remain. They will all wear out like clothing; You will roll them up like a cloak, and they will be changed like a robe. But You are the same and Your years will never end.
 - i. The Son reigns eternally.

- ii. He hates lawlessness and reigns eternally!
- d. (1:13) Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies your footstool.
 - i. He has been at the right hand of the Father since the Ascension.
 - ii. His enemies will be His footstool.
- e. According to 1:3, He made purification for sins (not His own, because He has none). Will you accept His purification for your sins?

GOSPEL PRESENTATION (James Merritt)

1. The bad news: We are all sinners separated from God.
 - a. Everyone sins.
 - b. God is holy and sin is a barrier between us and Him.
2. The worst news: There is nothing we can do to take care of our sin problem.
 - a. Religion?
 - b. Trying harder?
 - c. Generosity?
3. The good news: Jesus did for us what we cannot do for ourselves.
 - a. He lived a sinless life
 - b. He died for our sins.
 - c. His payment was proven at His resurrection.
4. The best news: God's forgiveness and eternal life is a free gift, and all we have to do is receive it.
 - a. Realize you are a sinner.
 - b. Repent of your sin.
 - c. Receive Christ as Lord and Savior.
5. Three questions
 - a. Do you understand what you have heard, and does it make sense to you?

- b. Is there any reason you can give God that God would accept why you could not receive Christ into your life?
- c. Are you willing to pray to Christ for your salvation?

I'm going to ask that everyone close your eyes and bow your head. If you have not yet prayed to receive Christ as your Lord and Savior, I will give you a chance to do that now. If you are willing, repeat after me:

Lord Jesus, I confess today that You are Lord. I turn my life over to You to do Your will. I believe in my heart that You were born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died on a cross for my sins, was buried for three days, and was raised from the dead on the third day. I confess that I am a sinner and ask Your forgiveness for my sins. I commit my life to You from this day forward. Amen!

We will now sing a hymn of invitation, #321, "The Savior Is Waiting". If you prayed to accept Christ as Lord, you may come forward during this hymn, or if you're more comfortable, you can see me after the conclusion of the service.