



**July 25, 2021**

# Traditional Service – 8:30 am

## Scripture for Meditation

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy,  
it does not boast, it is not proud. (1Corinthians 13:4)

## Prelude

### We are Called

(David Hass, arr. Larry Shackley)

## Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all

People: And also with you

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

## Announcements

## Opening Hymn

### Blessed Assurance

#363

Blessed assurance: Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of \*rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

Perfect submission: all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]

## Psalm Response

### Psalm 103:1-8

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

**Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—**

Who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,

**Who redeems your life from the Pit,  
Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

Who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**The LORD works vindication and justice  
for all who are oppressed.**

He made known his ways to Moses,  
His acts to the people of Israel.

**The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Gracious Lord, it is much easier to ask you to save us from our sins than seeking your wisdom to avoid the sin in the first place. We say your way is the abundant life but end up acting in ways that satisfy our internal desires. Forgive us Lord for moving forward in life without seeking your direction. Help us to turn to your way, your voice, and your Word revealed through the Holy Scriptures. Enable us to be open to your wisdom. In His name we pray.

*(People silently offer their personal confessions to God.)*

**Assurance of Pardon                      Psalm 103:9-20**

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News:

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**Response                                      Glory Be to the Father                                      #961**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be  
World without end. Amen, Amen.

**Anthem    Come Down, Angels**  
(arr. Undine Smith Moore)

**Scripture Reading                              James 3:13-18**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon    The Source of Our Wisdom**

**Offertory    O Perfect Life of Love**  
(Thomas Canning)

(Offerings are received weekly via mail and online giving at  
<https://villagechurchnorthbrook.org/give/>. Those attending live worship can  
leave their donations in the offering plates in the Narthex.)

**Doxology    Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

### Closing Hymn

### My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

#369

My Shepherd will supply my need; the LORD God is his name:  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake his ways;  
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;  
One word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, shall still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;  
no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

### Benediction

### Postlude

### Forth in Your Name, O Lord, We Go

(Theodore W. Ripper)

# Contemporary Service - 10:00 am

## Scripture for Meditation

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy,  
it does not boast, it is not proud. (1Corinthians 13:4)

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Call to Worship

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

## Praise and Prayer

### Your Grace Is Enough

CCLI #4477026 | Matt Maher  
2003 spiritandsong.com and Thankyou Music

### Living Hope

CCLI #7106807 | Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham  
© Bethel Music Publishing

## Prayer of Confession

### Way Maker

CCLI #7115744 | Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu  
2016 Sinach (Admin. by SLIC Inspire)

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## Announcements

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

## Scripture Reading

### James 3:13-18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## Sermon

### The Source of Our Wisdom

## Closing Song

## Lord, Do What You Want To

CCLI #7035185 | Jacob Sooter, Meredith Andrews, and Jason Ingram  
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## Blessing

## Postlude

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome & Sermon

Liturgist & Worship Leading

Prayers of the People (10:00)

Pianist (8:30)

Soloist (8:30)

Director of Music

Pianist (10:00)

Worship Band (10:00)

Audio/Visual Team

Rev. Dr. Spencer Lundgaard

Rev. Greg Buell

Todd Luke

Sharon Peterson

Damon Cole

Ruth G. Heald

Jim Peterson

Jay Charlesworth (guitar); Christine Cheung (synthesizer);

Michael Brennan (drums); Greg Dill & Deb Valkenaar (vocals)

Ed Burton, Kyle Johnston

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# Reflection Questions

## Connecting with One Another

- Who is wise or seems to know what to say or do in every situation?
- What is it about them that compels you to ask them for advice?

## Listening and Acting upon the Text

### Read James 3:13-18

**Background:** James is the head of the church in Jerusalem and is writing this letter to the scattered Christians who are facing hardship, suffering illness, and enduring persecution for their belief in Jesus Christ. He is providing them guidance and wisdom to endure in the faith since they are open to the advice from a trusted leader who is dealing with his own persecution. In this section of Chapter 3, James is pointing Christians to the wisdom from God rather than the wisdom from the world.

## Digging Into the Text

- Why does James connect gentleness/humility and wisdom? (vs. 13)
- What two behaviors indicate a lack of wisdom? (vs.16) What are the consequences of those behaviors?
- If envy is seeing something that you don't have but desire it, why is this so destructive to the way of living for the kingdom of God?
- What is at stake when we are boastful or not truthful in life?
- What does heavenly wisdom produce? (vs. 17-18) When you think of people you turn to for wisdom, which of these characteristics do you notice?
- Read Matthew 5:1-11 and fill in the characteristic most reflected in James 3:17-18?

1. Matthew 5:8 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Matthew 5:9 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Matthew 5:5 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Matthew 5:7 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Matthew 5:6 \_\_\_\_\_

- What qualities in vs 17 do you find most challenging? Which one comes most easily?

**Talking with God:** Thomas Merton was a monk and prolific author of the Christian faith. He resided at The Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky. My hope is that you will use this prayer in your time with God as you seek the wisdom from above rather than from below.

My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
nor do I really know myself,

and the fact that I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please you  
does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.  
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore will I trust you always though  
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.