

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**O God, Our Help In Ages Past # 10**

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## SCRIPTURE READING

**Sun – Bob M.**

**Wed – Mike S.**

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## HYMN

**Open My Eyes, That I May See # 163**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Redeemer's Grace Church (Sellersburg, IN) is having their annual conference on July 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

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## CLOSING HYMN

**Blessed Redeemer # 112**

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### **A Glorious Paradox**

Believers on the one hand are nothing but sin, and on the other hand they have no sin. This is one of the great mysteries of the gospel that keeps God's people humble, yet hopeful. It causes them to cast all their care on the One that cares for them. It leads them to have no confidence in the flesh, yet to come boldly before the throne of grace. It is the reason they can mourn and rejoice at the same time. It shows them their inability to satisfy any part of God's law, and it frees them from the condemnation of the law. It causes them to bow in humble worship as mercy beggars, yet they hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end. They are nothing, yet have everything. They are hell deserving, yet heaven bound. They are in abject poverty, and they are infinitely and eternally rich. To the natural man, these things are a contradiction. To the child of God... they are his life.

- Greg Elmquist (Apopka, FL)

## THE SEARCHING SHEPHERD

*“For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.”*

- Matt. 18:11

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Great Shepherd of the sheep. His sheep are hopelessly lost in sin so Christ the Good Shepherd came to seek those sheep, to find those sheep, and to save them from their sin.

His search for His sheep is a consuming search. He said, *“I MUST be about my Father's business”* (Luke 2:49) Nothing could stop the Savior from going to find one of His lost sheep. That is why *“He must needs go through Samaria”* (John 4:4) because He had a lost sheep there.

His search for His sheep is a personal search. The shepherd didn't go into the wilderness to find any old sheep. He went out to find His one, particular sheep that was lost. (Matt 18:12) Christ the Good Shepherd of the Sheep came to seek and save only the sheep the Father gave Him in divine election. (John 17:6)

Christ's search for His sheep is always a successful search. He searches until He finds HIS sheep. He always finds His lost sheep and brings them home rejoicing. He may find His sheep early in life like Samuel. He may find His sheep in the midst of their rebellion like Saul of Tarsus. He may find His sheep at the very end of life like the thief on the cross, but rest assured He WILL find His sheep in His time and completely save them from their sin.

- Frank Tate (Ashland, KY)

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Most people believe that it is *more* important to escape cancer and heart failure than it is to escape *hell*.

- Scott Richardson

## PLEASE DON'T CALL ME REVEREND.

John the Baptist confessed, "I am not the Christ." "Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord..." John 1:20-23

I recently received a piece of mail that addressed me as Reverend David Eddmenson. There is nothing "reverend," about me. The definition of the word "reverend" is, "One deserving of deep respect or reverence." The gospel message that I preach is to be revered, because it proclaims the only man worthy of reverence, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We live in a day where religious leaders love titles. Like the Pharisees of old, they like to be seen, honored, respected, and made a fuss over as they walk through the streets of life. They desire to dress and act in a way that draws attention unto themselves, and Christ exposed them by saying, "Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity." (Matthew 23:28)

However, the true God-called servant (bond slave) will distance themselves from flowery titles and the praise of men. To the church at Rome, Paul introduced himself as simply, "Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God." (Romans 1:1) Like John the Baptist, preachers and pastors simply claim to be, "Voices crying in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord." (Matthew 3:3; Mark 1:3; Luke 3:4; John 1:23)

So please, don't call me "reverend." Call me David, call me a servant, a bond slave, a voice crying in this spiritual wilderness in which we live for sinners to make straight the way of the Lord, repent of their sins, and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- David Eddmenson (Madisonville, KY)

# San Diego Grace Fellowship

*"But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."  
1Cor 1v23-24*

**July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### Service Times

Sunday - 9:45 AM  
- 10:30 AM

Wednesday - 6:30 PM

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