

THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

May 21, 2017
Six O'clock

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Heavenly Father, though things often seem completely out of control—in our world, families, and hearts - nothing could be farther from the truth. We may not always see your hand, discern your heart, or like your ways, but you are God, and there is no other god.

In Scripture, your children, in different sets of difficult circumstances, all affirm the same glorious truth: You are a good, good Father—our sovereign God and reigning King.

You were sovereign over King David's challenged rule, crazy family, and personal failures. You were sovereign over Isaiah's difficult ministry, fractured world, and the outlandish promises you gave him to proclaim. You were sovereign over Job's losses and betrayals, misery and waiting, health and faith struggles. Indeed, no purpose of yours can be (or will be) thwarted.

Father, help us, trust you with however you choose to work in our situations and write our stories. You give and you take away, but always to bring glory to yourself. You work in all things for your glory and our good—no exceptions. When you wound, ultimately it's to heal. When you enrich, it's to make us generous. When you delay, it's not to frustrate us, but to consecrate us to the bigger purpose you have planned. When you say, "No" to our "logical and good" requests, it's because a better "Yes" is waiting in the wings.

Father, continue to renew our thinking, gentle our hearts and deepen our worship. Until the Day Jesus returns to wipe our tears and make all things new, free us to rest in your faithfulness and sovereignty. Make the gospel bigger and sweeter, that we might vex less and trust more. So very Amen we pray, in Jesus' powerful and loving name. (Scotty Smith, *365 Everyday Prayers*)

Call to Worship Ephesians 2:11-22

MINISTER: Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

PEOPLE: **But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.**

MINISTER: For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

PEOPLE: **And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.**

MINISTER: So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

ALL: **In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.**

InvocationRev. Ben Griffith

Hymn 701..... Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It

Responsive Reading (Trinity Hymnal page 838) Psalm 145

Songbook 13 Before the Throne of God Above

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading..... Mark 7:24-30

SermonRev. Ben Griffith

"When Jesus Tapped Out"

Hymn 455 (verses 1, 4, and 5)And Can It Be That I Should Gain

Benediction

Postlude



May 21, 2017

6:00 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI