

PRELUDE

I Vow To Thee, My Country

Gustav Holst

CALL to WORSHIP

One: Faith can be like a shelter for a small boat in the midst of a storm,

Many: Faith can be a great adventure where we set sail in new directions and destinations.

One: Faith can plateau or feel like we are the sail of a ship on a windless day.

Many: Faith can be like a child pulling a sled up a hill who slips on the snow sliding all the way to bottom.

One: Faith can expand and contract, can grow and become stagnate.

Many: Faith can search, yearn, each day long to encounter the embrace of the Eternal.

One: We gather in this sacred space to worship whether our faith is sure and strong or like a cell phone that has lost the signal.

Many: We gather as God's people whoever we are and wherever we on life's journey.

*OPENING HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

#403

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;**I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.****On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.****When shadows veil my Savior's face, I rest upon unchanging grace;****In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.****On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.****Christ's oath and covenant and blood support me in the rising flood;****When all around my soul gives way, Christ then is all my hope and stay.****On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.****When Christ shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Love be found,****Dressed in God's righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.****On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.**

*OPENING PRAYER

God who is there from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same. God who sings out, "Morning has broken" in four-part harmony to soothe us. God who knows the midnight of our souls when we are tangled and twisted, turning endlessly with a pillow of rocks. We know the truth of Jacob wrestling, because we have been awake at two a.m., unable to sleep, and watching our clocks slowly turn from one minute to the next. We've composed countless emails and texts; held conversations when we give *that* person a piece

of our mind; but in the morning our certainty feels fuzzy. Meet us here this morning, especially for those who don't know if they can keep on keeping on. Grant us a renewed Spirit, restore our soul's connection to You, and wash over us with a blessing as we stumble forward rejoicing in You. Alleluia and Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

Jesus, Lover of My Soul
vs. 1 & 3 only

#546

**Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to your bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high;
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last!**

**Plenteous grace in you is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within.
Fount of life, your love impart, fill my cup abundantly;
Spring up now within my heart, rise to all eternity.**

ENGAGING SCRIPTURE

Genesis 32:22-32

²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

SERMON

The Blessings We Get

ANTHEM

My Soul Doth Bless the Lord

Joseph Martin

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER in SPANISH

Led by Julia Detloff

ECHOED in ENGLISH

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Blessed Assurance

#473

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a fore-taste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's 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 blessed;
Watching and waiting looking above, filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love.**

Refrain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Sovereign's Fanfare

Arthur Bliss