

First Sunday after the Epiphany

January 10, 2021

10 am

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

In Jesus Christ, God broke into our world to redeem us and make us whole.

Through the Holy Spirit, God breaks into our lives to call us

from darkness into light,

from death into life,

from sin into holiness,

and from selfishness into service.

Come, let us praise the Lord our God for God's amazing grace!

Opening Song

This Is Amazing Grace

NSC Praise Band

Jeremy Riddle | Josh Farro | Phil Wickham

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Verse 1

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness; Whose love is mighty and so much stronger

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

Verse 2

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder

And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder; The King of Glory, the King above all kings

Chorus

This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love

That You would take my place, that You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life that I would be set free

Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Verse 3

Who brings our chaos back into order; Who makes the orphan a son and daughter

The King of Glory, the King of Glory

Verse 4

Who rules the nations with truth and justice; Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance

Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance

Chorus

This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love

That You would take my place, that You would bear my cross

You laid down Your life that I would be set free

Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Bridge

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain; Worthy is the King who conquered the grave (x3)
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain; Worthy worthy worthy

Chorus

This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love
That You would take my place, that You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life that I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Opening Prayer

God of grace, in love You created us, and in love, You sent your Son to rescue us when we had gone astray. Through that same love, Your Spirit continues to work in our lives, shaping us and transforming us, so that we might be instruments of Your extraordinary purposes. Help us today to examine our lives in the light of Your grace, and in doing so, grant us the faith to commit ourselves to Your world-changing work. We pray this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Message for Young Disciples

Cara Norris

Proclamation and Response

Gospel Reading

Acts 9:1-22 (NRSV)

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Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named

Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem;¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.”¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel;¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”²¹ All who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?”²² Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Message

Origin Stories

Pastor Jen Eschliman

Response

Spirit of the Living God

UMH # 393- Adam O’Dell

Daniel Iverson

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Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayers of the People

Joys & Concerns

The Lord’s Prayer

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Closing Song

Redeemed

NSC Praise Band - video

Benji Cowart | Michael Weaver

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Verse 1

Seems like all I could see was the struggle; Haunted by ghosts that lived in my past
Bound up in shackles of all my failures; Wond'ring how long is this gonna last
Then You look at this prisoner and say to me
Child, stop fighting a fight that's already been won

Chorus

I am redeemed, You set me free; So I'll shake off these heavy chains
And wipe away ev'ry stain; Now I'm not who I used to be
(I am redeemed, I'm redeemed)

Verse 2

All my life I have been called unworthy; Named by the voice of my shame and regret
But when I hear You whisper, "Child, lift up your head"
I remember O God You're not done with me yet

Chorus

I am redeemed, You set me free; So I'll shake off these heavy chains
And wipe away ev'ry stain; Now I'm not who I used to be
(I am redeemed, I'm redeemed)

Bridge

Because I don't have to be the old man inside of me
'Cause his day is long dead and gone
Because I've got a new name, a new life, I'm not the same
And a hope that will carry me home

Chorus (x2)

I am redeemed, You set me free; So I'll shake off these heavy chains
And wipe away ev'ry stain; Now I'm not who I used to be
(I am redeemed, I'm redeemed)

I am redeemed, You set me free; So I'll shake off these heavy chains
And wipe away ev'ry stain; Now I'm not who I used to be
(I am redeemed, I'm redeemed)

Ending

O God, I'm not who I used to be; Jesus, I'm not who I used to be
I am redeemed; Thank God, redeemed

Sending Forth

Announcements

ROCK – Free on-line, February 5-6

Lenten Study - *The Good and Beautiful God* by James Bryan Smith

Benediction

Postlude

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