



El Mesias
Methodist Church



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024 8:45 a.m.

PRAISE THE LORD

Balderas 47, Centro Histórico, Mexico City, 06020
www.elmesiasbalderas.org/worship-service



ElMesiasChurch





Worship Service

GATHERING IN PRAISE AND PRAYER

INTRODUCTION

People of God, we have been saved by the Risen Christ, He is the life-giving Vine. We dwell in his Love. We are branches of the Vine: sustained, nourished and pruned by Love. We have no life apart from Love, the life-giving Vine summons us this day, let us rejoice and be glad in Him.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 22:25-31 (MSG)

25-26 Here in this great gathering for worship I have discovered this praise-life. And I'll do what I promised right here in front of the God-worshippers. Down-and-outers sit at God's table and eat their fill. Everyone on the hunt for God is here, praising him. "Live it up, from head to toe. Don't ever quit!"

27-28 From the four corners of the earth people are coming to their senses, are running back to God. Long-lost families are falling on their faces before him. God has taken charge; from now on he has the last word.

29 All the power-mongers are before him –worshipping! All the poor and powerless, too –worshipping! Along with those who never got it together –worshipping!

30-31 Our children and their children will get in on this as the word is passed along from parent to child. Babies not yet conceived will hear the good news—that God does what he says.

HYMN

Sweeter as the years go by | Lelia Morris

Of Jesus' love that sought me, when I was lost in sin;
Of wondrous grace that brought me, back to His fold again;
Of heights and depths of mercy, far deeper than the sea,
And higher than the heavens, my theme shall ever be.

Chorus: Sweeter as the years go by,
sweeter as the years go by;
Richer, fuller, deeper, Jesus' love is sweeter,
Sweeter as the years go by.

He trod in old Judea life's pathway long ago;
The people thronged about Him, His saving grace to know.
He healed the broken-hearted, and caused the blind to see;
And still His great heart yearned in love for even me.

'Twas wondrous love which led Him for us to suffer loss,
To bear without a murmur the anguish of the cross;
With saints redeemed in glory let us our voices raise,
Till heaven and earth re-echo with our Redeemer's praise.

OPENING PRAYER

Father God, we gather here today under your care and protection. Thank you for your lovingkindness that never fails us. We thank you for those with us, that you would guide our thoughts and actions to bring you glory. Strengthen us and fill us with your peace. May we love and serve each other as Jesus has shown us. Fill us with the Holy Spirit to do your good work on earth. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

READING OF THE BIBLE

ACTS 8:26-40 (MSG)

The Ethiopian Eunuch

26-28 Later God's angel spoke to Philip: "At noon today I want you to walk over to that desolate road that goes from Jerusalem down to Gaza." He got up and went. He met an Ethiopian eunuch coming down the road. The eunuch had been on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and was returning to Ethiopia, where he was minister in charge of all the finances of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. He was riding in a chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah.

29-30 The Spirit told Philip, "Climb into the chariot." Running up alongside, Philip heard the eunuch reading Isaiah and asked, "Do you understand what you're reading?"

31-33 He answered, "How can I without some help?" and invited Philip into the chariot with him. The passage he was reading was this: As a sheep led to slaughter, and quiet as a lamb being sheared, He was silent, saying nothing. He was mocked and put down, never got a fair trial. But who now can count his kin since he's been taken from the earth?

34-35 The eunuch said, "Tell me, who is the prophet talking about: himself or some other?" Philip grabbed his chance. Using this passage as his text, he preached Jesus to him.

36-39 As they continued down the road, they came to a stream of water. The eunuch said, "Here's water. Why can't I be baptized?" He ordered the chariot to stop. They both went down to the water, and Philip baptized him on the spot. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of God suddenly took Philip off, and that was the last the eunuch saw of him. But he didn't mind. He had what he'd come for and went on down the road as happy as he could be.

40 Philip showed up in Azotus and continued north, preaching the Message in all the villages along that route until he arrived at Caesarea.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAISE

HYMN

Amazing grace | John Newton

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!**

The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.**

HYMN

Yet not I but through Christ in me | City Alight

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

**To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing: All is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

**To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley, He will lead
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

**To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea**

**Oh, the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me**

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me

Until I stand with joy before the throne
//**To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus**

All the glory evermore to Him

**When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me! //**

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat

Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

»KNEELER PRAYER«

GREETINGS & NEWS

SCRIPTURE LESSON

JOHN 15: 1-8 (MSG)

The Vine and the branches

1-3 “I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. He cuts off every branch of me that doesn’t bear grapes. And every branch

that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken.

4 “Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can’t bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can’t bear fruit unless you are joined with me.

5-8 “I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you’re joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can’t produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Father shows who he is—when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples.

MESSAGE

“ In this the Father is glorified ”

OFFERTORY

LEVITICUS 27:30 (NIV)

A title of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, thank you for the blessings of this and all our days, we know that all belongs to you. Accept, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. In Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

HYMN

Draw me nearer | Fanny Crosby

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
And it told Thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of faith,

And be closer drawn to Thee.

Chorus: Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died;
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
To Thy precious, bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,
By the pow'r of grace divine;
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
And my will be lost in Thine.

Oh, the pure delight of a single hour
That before Thy throne I spend,
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend!

There are depths of love that I cannot know
Till I cross the narrow sea;
There are heights of joy that I may not reach
Till I rest in peace with Thee.

SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Message: Juan Carlos Muñoz

Worship Director: Sara Aguilar

Music: Israel Garduño, Susana Zapata, Jessica Contreras,
Adrian Ahedo, Enoc Aguilar

Church pastors: Rev. Edgar Gutierrez & Rev. Gabriel Solano