

## *A Year to Praise*

In Psalm 51 David asks God to open his mouth so that his mouth might declare God's praise. This year we are praying that same prayer. We need God to open our hearts and our mouths to fill the whole sanctuary and all of Avery County with his praise.

To help us learn to sing more freely and fully we are going to focus on singing one hymn or song for each month. The hope is that can learn these hymns by heart and sing them from our hearts.



Our hymn for February is *"It Is Well With My Soul"*, a hymn penned by Horatio Spafford and composed by Philip Bliss. This hymn was written after traumatic events in Spafford's life. The first two were the death of his two-year-old son and the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which ruined him financially. His business interests were further hit by the economic downturn of 1873, at which time he had planned to travel to Europe with his family on the SS Ville du Havre. In a late change of plan, he sent the family ahead while he was delayed on business. While crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship sank rapidly after a collision with a sea vessel, the Loch Earn, and all four of Spafford's daughters died. His wife Anna survived and sent him the now famous telegram, "Saved alone ...". Shortly afterwards, as Spafford traveled to meet his grieving wife, he was inspired to write these words as his ship passed near where his daughters had died.

## *Welcome!*

We are grateful that you joined us today and would love to keep in touch. We have a nursery for infants and toddlers. After the Passing of the Peace, Pre-K through 2nd grade continue to worship upstairs. After worship, please join us downstairs for refreshments provided by Arbor Dale's Joy Group.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Refreshments for next Sunday:** Peace Group.  
Contact Isabel Peterson 828-964-1402

**FAF needs you!** We are running short on volunteers almost every week, and would love to see you join us for this very important work. Visit our website to sign up online: [feedingaveryfamilies.org/volunteer/](https://feedingaveryfamilies.org/volunteer/)  
Please see Patty for more information.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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February 23, 2020

\* Congregation Stands

*Prayer of Preparation*

O Lord, open our lips  
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
Blessed are you, Sovereign God,  
creator of all;  
To you be glory and praise for ever!  
You founded the earth in the beginning and  
the heavens are the work of your hands.  
As we rejoice in the gift of your presence  
among us, let the light of your love  
always shine in our hearts  
and your praises ever be on our lips,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:  
Blessed be God for ever!

GREETING

Leader: The Lord be with You.

All: And also with you.

- \* CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 149
- \* OPENING HYMN #210 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
- \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.  
Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what

our hearts can no longer bear, and what has  
become for us a consuming fire of judgment.  
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your  
likeness and image; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- \* THE GLORIA PATRI and PASSING THE PEACE 

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and  
ever shall be, world without end, amen, amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

- \* HYMN OF PREPARATION #308 There Is a Redeemer

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON Matthew 5:21-26  
Anger and Reconciliation ~ Brandon Davis

- \* CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Therefore we join our voices with  
all the saints and angels and the  
whole creation to proclaim the glory  
of your name.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power  
and might, heaven and earth are  
full of your glory. Hosanna in the  
highest. Blessed is he who comes  
In the name of the Lord. Hosanna  
in the highest.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

- \* THE DOXOLOGY 

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed
- \* HYMN OF DEDICATION #705 It is Well with My Soul
- \* BENEDICTION

After the service, please join us  
downstairs for refreshments and  
fellowship, followed by Sunday School for  
both children and adults.