



# Let's Worship!

September 20, 2020—10:30 AM

16th Sunday after Pentecost—WI2 WO28

A Hybrid Worship Experience, In-Person and Online

Today's worship team: Music Director Jayne McDonough, Worship Leader Barbara Cain, Worship Production Norris Clark; Transformation Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Kevin Yoho

## WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

Join us for Worship Online: [www.facebook.com/coldspringchurch](http://www.facebook.com/coldspringchurch). Or Call 929-205-6099. Enter Meeting ID: 875 2479. You may also join us for Worship In-person (Welcome back!). Protocols are required for everyone's safety, including no congregational singing, maintaining a six-foot distance, and face masks must be worn at all times. Words in **bold** and music may be spoken if in-person. Text is enlarged for a better viewing experience.

## WORSHIP AND MESSAGE THEME:

In the future, when we're asked to recall the worst year ever, there is no doubt that 2020 will be the #1 choice! In January, our annual meeting was filled with expressions of gratitude for God's blessings as we launched our "Brave New Year!" mission theme. Little did we know that as we were enjoying food and conversation in Price Hall, 7,570 miles away, the coronavirus was spreading. In our hyper-connected world, everything spreads. Within eight months, almost one million people around the world, including 200,000 in the United States, are dead. Besides COVID-19, hurricanes, fires, and everyday stressors and hardships have taken a tragic toll. Our Brave New Year has not turned out the way we had imagined. We say *Life isn't fair. God isn't fair*. This week, God is inviting us to embrace and lean into these *truths* as good news. Yes, that's right. We will explore how God's unfairness, life's unfairness, is good news because if we all received what we deserved, we'd be in big trouble! Instead of expecting or demanding *fairness*, we can expect God's grace and mercy. (Much better!)

Our response to *Life's Not Fair!* is this week's worship theme: *Living at the Corner of Grace and Mercy*. Our first in-person and online hybrid worship experience is September 20. In the new and improved *Worship Guide* you can read about Jonah. He shockingly responded to personal success by sulking and complaining that God wasn't fair when showing grace to people Jonah felt undeserving of mercy. Then consider Jesus' story in Matthew 20:1-16 about employees' angrily complaining about unfairness. As they picked up their paychecks at the end of the day, they compared theirs to others. Even though they worked more hours, everyone got the same amount. "Wait," they cried, "That's not fair!" Well, it isn't fair. It's not about fair, its about grace and mercy.

"What does God require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). We are to love mercy, not justice. We are to love mercy, not fairness. Get ready to explore why we don't seek a future of fairness, but a future of hope, depending on God's grace and mercy through Jesus Christ. Good news!

**MUSIC PREVIEW: (IN-PERSON WORSHIPPERS REFRAIN FROM SINGING.)**

Today's theme of God's grace and mercy are featured in our two musical selections. We begin with *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*. The popular song refers to Lamentations 3:22-23 but especially fits today's readings. Our sending hymn is *Grace Greater Than All Our Sin*. We are recipients of God's grace and also extenders of that same grace to others. The lyrics, "marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe," finds a scriptural basis in Paul's teaching about faith in Romans 5:1-2: "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

**5-MINUTE COUNTDOWN "WELCOME BACK" VIDEO: (01-10:25)**

**ONLINE WELCOME: REV. KEVIN YOHO, PASTOR: (10:30)**

**ONLINE MUSIC (VIDEO LYRICS): GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS (02-3:27)**

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness. Great is Thy faithfulness  
Morning by morning, New mercies I see  
All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness. Lord unto me

Verse 2

Summer and winter, And springtime and harvest  
Sun moon and stars, In their courses above  
Join with all nature. In manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness. Mercy and love

Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness. O God my Father  
There is no shadow. Of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not. Thy compassions they fail not  
As Thou hast been. Thou forever wilt be

Verse 3

Pardon for sin, And a peace that endureth  
Thy own dear presence, To cheer and to guide  
Strength for today, And bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine, With ten thousand beside

**PRELUDE JAYNE McDONOUGH (03)**

**CALL TO WORSHIP: BARBARA CAIN (10:35)**

**We joyfully worship God who inhabits our world, and  
indwells our lives. We are loved by God, Father, Son, and  
the Holy Spirit, right now and always! Let us worship God!**

**MUSIC: GOD WELCOMES ALL, (1X) (SPOKEN) (04-10:35)**

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:**

**Loving God, as we hear your word proclaimed, keep our hearts and minds open to the Good News as we learn, grow, and serve. AMEN.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: JONAH 3:10-4:11 (NIV)**

When God saw what (the people of Nineveh) did and how they turned from their evil ways, God relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened. But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord, "Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live."

But the Lord replied, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" "It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead."

But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

**MESSAGE FOR KIDS: “MORE THAN FAIR”**

**PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**

**GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 18:21-35 (CEB)**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’ Because no one has hired us,’ they answered “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and

you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

“But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

**MESSAGE— “LIFE IS UNFAIR. GOD IS UNFAIR. (AND WHY THAT’S GOOD NEWS!) LIVING AT THE CORNER OF GRACE AND MERCY”**

Rev. Kevin Yoho

**PRAYER**

**SILENT REFLECTION: (06)**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION:**

God loves you and nothing separates you from God’s love. In a spirit of gratitude and honesty, let us pray together:

**PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS:**

**Loving God, forgive us our sins, hurting or neglecting others, missing opportunities to serve. Help us turn around and live like Jesus, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**SILENT REFLECTION (07)**

**HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven to show real love, grace, mercy, joy, peace... the fruit of the Spirit!

**Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! AMEN.**

**THE GLORIA (SPOKEN) (08)**

**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.**



## GIFTS OF GRATITUDE:

Thank you for your financial support! Your gift may be mailed, given online through [tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly), text your gift, or visit our [giving page](#). If you'd prefer giving in-person, donation boxes are provided at both doors, one marked General Ministry, and one marked Deacons Ministry. Your financial gifts, generous acts of kindness, expressions of love, respect, and thoughtfulness are deeply appreciated.

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

### THE DOXOLOGY (SPOKEN) (09)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above the heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

09/20: We mourn the passing of Isabella Alves, keeping husband John, Louisa and the family in our prayers for God's comfort. 09/13: Relief from wildfires, gratitude for courageous firefighters; Peace in our nation; Marge MacVeigh, recovering from surgery; Praying for Kathleen and family in the passing of her mother, Peg Armand. 09/06: Rebecca and Jim's 3 nieces; for students and teachers as in-person classes resume; for safety in the community and our church family; Carol C. for cancer treatment, covid-19, community unrest. The Sparks family in the passing of Michael Sparks on August 30. 08/30: Anthony A, beginning Army service at Fort Jackson, SC. 08/23: Charles. 08/09: Julie, Dottie, and Glenn, cancer. Prayers for those suffering from COVID-19, disasters, economic stressors, racism, health concerns. 08/02: Praise: Helen L. at home. Marilyn G, at home. Bonnie M (hip); Mike L (staff infection) Parents and guardians as schools re-open in-person and online. Frontline caregivers. Our congregation, community, area church's and businesses. Those grieving lost loved ones, friends, and co-workers. Those in the military: Anthony A., Cpt. Laura C, Cpt. Sean C, Pvt. William C, US Army, 2nd Lt Michael C, USAF, S. Sgt. Richard E, head injury victims.



[coldspringchurch.com/prayer](https://coldspringchurch.com/prayer)

## 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 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.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY

Once we were strangers, **Now we are neighbors.**  
Once we were strangers, **Now we are friends.**

## BENEDICTION: REV. KEVIN YOHO 11:05

### ONLINE MUSIC (VIDEO LYRICS): GRACE THAT IS GREATER (10-3:26)

#### Verse 1

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord. Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt. Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured. There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

#### Chorus

Grace grace God's grace. Grace that will pardon and cleanse within. Grace grace God's grace. Grace that is greater than all our sin.

#### Verse 2

Sin and despair like the sea waves cold. Threaten the soul with infinite loss. Grace that is greater yes grace untold. Points to the refuge the mighty Cross.

#### Verse 3

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide. What can avail to wash it away. Look there is flowing a crimson tide. Whiter than snow you may be today.

#### Verse 4

Marvelous infinite matchless grace. Freely bestowed on all who believe. You that are longing to see His face. Will you this moment His grace receive.

## POSTLUDE

*So glad you've joined us online. Please share your joy and worship experience with your Facebook friends. Invite them to join you next week!*

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### Notes for Today's Worship Online:

Cold Spring Presbyterian Church

CCLI License #20561018

Streaming License #20561001

1. (01, 02) Worship Music Countdown CCLI #4662491
2. (02) Great Is Thy Faithfulness CCLI #18723
3. (04) God Welcomes All: CCLI #7102394
4. (08) Gloria- Public Domain.
5. (09) Doxology. CCLI #4255578
6. (10) Grace Greater Than Our Sin CCLI #31690