

July 12-Written Service

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Special music- Delilah Thompson

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: The religious leaders came to Jesus, asking, "By what authority are you doing these things?"

All: We come today acknowledging that His authority comes from heaven, not from human hands.

Leader: The crowds were captivated by His teachings, and marveled at His words of grace.

All: Let our hearts be open to His truth and captivated by His unending love.

Leader: Come, let us bow before the One who holds all authority in heaven and on earth.

All: Let us worship the Lord our God with our whole hearts!

Song: Rejoice!

Rejoice in the Lord, now and always;

Sing it again, we rejoice.

Delight in the love He has shown us,

Gratefully lift up your voice.

His gentleness among us

Will join our hearts with praise.

We gather in His goodness;

A family of grace.

With each breath He's given,

Praise the Lord!

In these times we live in,

We will praise the Lord.

Throughout every season,

I am sure we have every reason

To praise the Lord.

Rejoice and be anxious for nothing,

Praying for all that you need.

Come with a song of thanksgiving;

Lay your requests at His feet.

His peace will fall upon us,
To guard our hearts and minds
In Christ, who reigns eternal;
The Shepherd of our lives.

With each breath He's given,
Praise the Lord!
In these times we live in,
We will praise the Lord.

Throughout every season,
I am sure we have every reason
To praise the Lord.

Rejoice in the Lord now and always;
Tell of the good He has done.
Worship the Lord to remember
All of the joy yet to come.

The hope that burns within us
The dark cannot destroy.
With praise that's never ending,
We say again, "Rejoice!"

With each breath He's given,
Praise the Lord!
In these times we live in,
We will praise the Lord.

Throughout every season,
I am sure we have every reason
To praise the Lord.
We have every reason
To praise the Lord.

Prayer

Song: Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain;
Holy, holy is He.

Sing a new song to Him who sits on
Heaven's mercy.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty;
Who was and is and is to come.
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of Kings;
You are my everything and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color,
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder.
Blessing and honor, strength and
Glory and power be
To You the only wise King.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty;
Who was and is and is to come.
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings;
You are my everything and I will adore You.

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder,
At the mention of Your name;
Jesus, Your name is power, breath and living water,
Such a marvelous mystery.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty;
Who was and is and is to come.
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of Kings;
You are my everything and I will adore You.

Announcements

Special Music- Christus Victor (Amen) sung by Delilah Thompson

Congregational Prayer

Song: #562- Be Thou My Vision (vs. 1,3,4)

VERSE 1

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;

Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

VERSE 2

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

VERSE 3

Be Thou my battle Shield, Sword for the fight;
Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;
Thou my soul's Shelter, Thou my high Tower:
Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

VERSE 4

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

VERSE 5

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Offering/Offertory

Offering Song: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Offering Prayer

Children's Message

Scripture: Luke 20: 1-8

One day as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple courts and proclaiming the good news, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, together with the elders, came up to him. ²“Tell us by what authority you are doing these things,” they said. “Who gave you this authority?”

³He replied, “I will also ask you a question. Tell me: ⁴John's baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

⁵They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Why didn't you believe him?' ⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' all the people will stone us, because they are persuaded that John was a prophet."

⁷So they answered, "We don't know where it was from."

⁸Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

Message

Intro-How get respect or who has authority?

Respect used to be given

To certain people because of age or position

Respect your elders

Respect your parents, teachers, police officers, government leaders, and pastors

More recently respect or authority is generally seen as something that must be earned

By someone's actions

It isn't hard to trace the reasons behind this shift

We've had too many people who abused that authority and didn't end up deserving the respect they were shown

Too many stories of abusers who were supposed to be there to protect the young and vulnerable or too many incompetent leaders who were not worthy of the trust placed in them

This change in how we view authority has made it difficult for those who grew up in different generations with different ways of viewing respect and authority to understand one another

Not saying one way is right and the other wrong

But anytime we talk about authority, like today's passage, we have to acknowledge that we will view it differently depending on how, where, and when we grew up

Scripture-Luke 20:1-8

Passage is easy to explain, pretty straightforward

Context

2 stories right before this

1. Palm Sunday entering Jerusalem
2. Flipping over temple tables

Verses at end of chapter 19

⁴⁷Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him. ⁴⁸Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

So the religious leaders are upset, the tension starts to build

That will continue throughout the following week in Jerusalem

The trap

Jesus was teaching in the temple and the "authorities" ask for His credentials

Not really interested in the answer, more want to trap and discredit Him

Because their belief is that Jesus doesn't have the authority to do and say what He has been

He certainly doesn't have the authority they hold on to

If Jesus responds that His authority is from God (or heaven) they'll arrest Him for blasphemy

If He says it's from people, then He loses credibility and is no longer speaking for God

Jesus' response

Instead He asks about John's baptism (by extension, John's authority to baptize)

We get an inside glimpse into their thought process and their avoidance of answering Jesus' trap

But He does give an eventual answer to this question, although not necessarily to the same people that asked it

Matthew 28

¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Why is it important that Jesus has all authority?

From heaven and earth?

Jesus has given authority

Given authority because He is God

There is no higher or greater authority

He did not need to do anything to merit our authority, as God He already deserves it

But He did anyway, because Jesus also has earned authority

After what He's done here on earth

This is especially evident when He says these words shortly after His death and resurrection

Here is someone worthy of respecting, listening to, and following

What it means for us

Because of Jesus' authority

His words do matter

They are something we should listen to

He is someone we should follow

We can trust that what He says and does is with our best interest in mind

He follows that statement about His authority with some instructions for us

Therefore (since I have all the authority to tell you this) go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

Song: #43- All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (vs. 1,3,4)

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all;
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all;
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all!

Benediction

Postlude