

Morning Service

The problem of evil

Matthew 2:13-23

Rev Nathan Owens

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
our song of praise shall be;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in Three Persons, glorious Trinity!

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore You,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea,
cherubim and seraphim
falling down before You,
You were and are, and evermore shall be.**

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide You,
though the eye of sinful man
Your glory may not see,
You alone are holy;
there is none beside You,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Your works shall praise Your Name,
in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in Three Persons, glorious Trinity!**

Reginald Heber 1783-1826

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Prayer

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”

Matthew 2:13-23

¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Matthew 2:13-23

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

Matthew 2:13-23

17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

**18 “A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;**

Matthew 2:13-23

she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

¹⁹ But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

Matthew 2:13-23

²⁰ saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.”

²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

Matthew 2:13-23

22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.

Matthew 2:13-23

23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

Children's talk

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**The mountains are His, the rivers are His,
the stars are His handiwork too.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

**He's called you to live for Him every day,
in all that you say and you do.**

**My God is so big, so strong and so mighty,
there's nothing that He cannot do.**

Phil Burt © 1986 Phil Burt

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Prayer

**Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day;
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men,
torn and beaten, then
nailed to a cross of wood.**

**This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath –
we stand forgiven at the cross.**

**Oh, to see the pain written on Your face,
bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed
crowning Your blood-stained brow.**

**This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath –
we stand forgiven at the cross.**

**Now the daylight flees,
now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life;
'finished!' the vict'ry cry.**

**This, the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath –
we stand forgiven at the cross.**

**Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
for through Your suffering I am free.**

**Death is crushed to death,
life is mine to live,
won through Your selfless love.**

**This, the power of the cross:
Son of God – slain for us.
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.**

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

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The background of the slide is a light beige color. It features a decorative graphic of a thorny branch in a light green color, which is partially obscured by the text. A simple, light green cross is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the slide.

MATTHEW 2:13-23

THE PROBLEM OF EVIL

Prayer

**God of grace, amazing wonder,
irresistible and free.**

Oh, the miracle of mercy;

Jesus reaches down to me.

God of grace, I stand in wonder,

as my God restores my soul:

His own blood has paid my ransom;

awesome cost to make me whole.

**God of grace who loved and knew me
long before the world began;
sent my Saviour down from heaven:
perfect God and perfect man.**

**God of grace, I trust in Jesus,
I'm accepted as His own.**

**Ev'ry day new grace sustains me,
as I lean on Him alone.**

**God of grace, I stand astounded,
cleansed, forgiven and secure.
All my fears are now confounded
and my hope is ever sure.
God of grace, now crowned in glory,
where one day I'll see Your face;
and forever I'll adore You
in Your everlasting grace.**

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**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**

Evening Service

**Luther's horse
James 2:14-26**

Rev Nathan Owens

**By faith we see the hand of God;
in the light of creation's grand design
in the lives of those
who prove His faithfulness;
who walk by faith and not by sight.**

**By faith our fathers roamed the earth,
with the power of His promise in their hearts
of a Holy City built by God's own hand:
a place where peace and justice reign.**

**We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him,
our soul's reward.**

**Till the race is finished
and the work is done;
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.**

**By faith the prophets saw a day
when the longed for Messiah
would appear
with the power to break the chains
of sin and death
and rise triumphant from the grave.**

**By faith the church was called to go
in the power of the Spirit to the lost;
to deliver captives
and to preach good news,
in every corner of the earth.**

**We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him,
our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished
and the work is done;
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.**

**By faith this mountain shall be moved
and the power of the gospel shall prevail;
for we know in Christ all things are possible
for all who call upon His name.**

**We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him,
our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished
and the work is done;
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.**

Keith and Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend

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Prayer

**O great God of highest heav'n,
occupy my lowly heart.**

**Own it all and reign supreme,
conquer every rebel pow'r.**

**Let no vice or sin remain
that resists Your holy war.**

**You have loved and purchased me,
make me Yours forever more.**

**I was blinded by my sin,
had no ears to hear Your voice,
did not know Your love within,
had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life,
opened up Your Word to me
through the gospel of Your Son,
gave me endless hope and peace.**

**Help me now to live a life
that's dependent on Your grace,
keep my heart and guard my soul
from the evils that I face.**

**You are worthy to be praised
with my every thought and deed.**

**O great God of highest heav'n,
glorify Your Name through me.**

Bob Kauflin © 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise

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James 2:14-26

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food,

James 2:14-26

¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled”, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

James 2:14-26

**¹⁸ But someone will say,
“You have faith and I have
works.” Show me your
faith apart from your
works, and I will show you
my faith by my works.**

**¹⁹ You believe that God is
one; you do well. Even the
demons believe—and
shudder!**

James 2:14-26

²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?

James 2:14-26

**²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works;
²³ and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God.**

James 2:14-26

24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

James 2:14-26

26 For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

**Jesus, the name high over all
in hell or earth or sky;
angels and men before it fall
and devils fear and fly,
and devils fear and fly.**

**Jesus, the name to sinners dear,
the name to sinners given;
it scatters all their guilty fear,
it turns their hell to heaven,
it turns their hell to heaven.**

**Jesus the prisoner's fetters breaks
and bruises Satan's head;
power into strengthless souls He speaks
and life into the dead,
and life into the dead.**

**O that the world might taste and see
the riches of His grace!**

**The arms of love that welcome me
would all mankind embrace,
would all mankind embrace.**

**His righteousness alone I show,
His saving truth proclaim;
this is my work on earth below,
to cry, 'Behold the Lamb!'
to cry, 'Behold the Lamb!'**

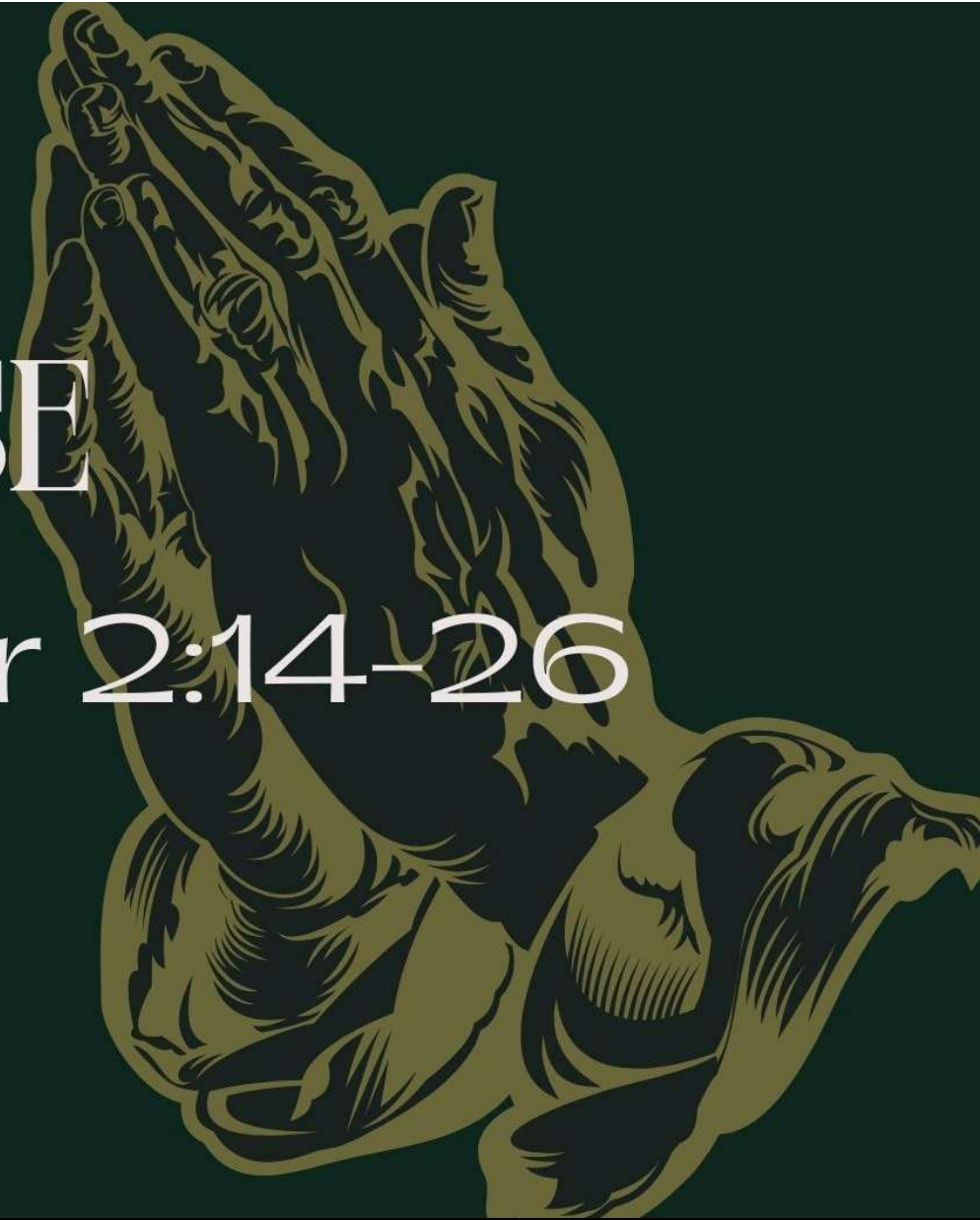
**Happy if with my final breath
I may but gasp His name,
preach Him to all, and cry in death,
'Behold, behold the Lamb!'
'Behold, behold the Lamb!'**

Charles Wesley 1707-88

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LUTHER'S HORSE

James Chapter 2:14-26



Prayer

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take;
proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour,
Lord and King,
that all the world
His worthy praise may sing.**

**Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;
He will in grace respond to all who call:
how shall they call
if they have never heard
the gracious invitation of His word?**

**Go forth and tell!
Where still the darkness lies;
in wealth or want, the sinner surely dies:
give us, O Lord,
concern of heart and mind,
a love like Yours
which cares for all mankind.**

**Go forth and tell! The doors are open wide;
share God's good gift
–let no one be denied;
live out your life
as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed powers
for His sole glory use.**

**Go forth and tell! O church of God arise.
Go in the strength
which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations His great name adore
and serve Him,
Lord and King for evermore.**

James Edward Seddon 1915-83

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**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all.
Amen.**