

Good Morning!

# *North Bend Church*

*a Global Methodist Congregation*

Sunday, February 23, 2025

*Because God is worthy we worship*

## **GATHERING AND WELCOME**

### **Prelude**

### **Announcements**

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** Samaritan's Purse has shared a 2024 special report on Operation Christmas Child, noting 11.9 million shoeboxes were prayerfully packed and collected from 11 countries. You can read it at the address listed in your bulletin.

Last Sunday, we noted some of the stories of "answered prayers" fulfilled by the shoeboxes. Today, we're sharing a video of an especially inspiring story about 11-year-old Epiphani who gave away the items from her shoebox to a more impoverished family. She ministered to Daniel, telling him about Christ, praying over him and inviting him to church. Daniel accepted and, ultimately, repented his sins and gave his life to Christ. This is their story:

Video: <https://youtu.be/JlT0aDYRgVo?si=GuNt-mjJZyaXiYcv>

**SPRING FAMILY LUNCHEON:** Invite your family, friends and neighbors to our church service and spring family luncheon Sunday, March 30. After our morning service, we will gather for lunch and fellowship. The church will supply the main dish – pulled pork – along with lemonade, tea and water. If you wish, you can sign up to bring side items or desserts on the sheet at the back of the church. Please text Lisa Gebhart at 513-203-3587 to RSVP.

*(Are there any other Announcements?)*

## COME BEFORE THE LORD

### **\*Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>**

Leader: Come, let us praise the Lord!

**People: We praise God with our whole heart!**

Leader: God's works are great!

**People: Open our hearts and spirits to see your works, O Lord!**

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who has saved us!

**People: May our lives reflect the wondrous love of God that all may see and know of God's greatness. Amen.**

### **\*Singing**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

UMH #140

(vs. 1, 2, 3)

**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.**

*Refrain:*

**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!**

**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.**

*Refrain:*

**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!**

**3. Pardon for sin and a  
peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence  
to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today  
and bright hope  
for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine,  
with ten thousand beside!**

*Refrain:*

**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!**

**PRAY UNTO THE LORD**

**\*Praying Together<sup>1</sup>**

**Open our hearts and spirits this day to hear the great good news of your power and presence with all your people. Enliven us and remind us that you are with us, through the pillar of fire, through the magnificent words of the prophets, through the ministry and love of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Joys & Concerns**

**Silent & Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD**

**Anthem**

**Blessing of Offerings**

**\*Singing**      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*      UMH #95

**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.**

**Reading the Scripture**

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 (NIV)

45:3 Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt!

5 And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.

6 For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years, there will be no plowing and reaping.

7 But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me

father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.

9 Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay.

10 You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me — you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have.

11 I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise, you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Proclaiming the Gospel**

*The Ordinary Man*

**RESPOND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD**

**\*Singing**

*God Will Take Care of You*

UMH #130

(1, 2, 4)



**1. Be not dismayed,  
whate'er betide,  
God will take care of you;  
beneath his wings  
of love abide,  
God will take care of you.**

*Refrain:*

**God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.**

**2. Through days of toil  
when heart doth fail,  
God will take care of you;  
when dangers fierce  
your path assail,  
God will take care of you.**

*Refrain:*

**God will take care of you,**

through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.

4. No matter what  
may be the test,  
God will take care of you;  
lean, weary one,  
upon his breast,  
God will take care of you.

*Refrain:*

God will take care of you,  
through every day,  
o'er all the way;  
he will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.

**GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD**

**\*Receiving the Blessing**

**Postlude**

**\*Singing**

*What A Beautiful Name*

Hillsong Worship

**You were the Word at the beginning  
One with God, the Lord Most High  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You, our Christ**

**What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King  
What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus**

**Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You  
You silenced the boast of sin and grave  
The Heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory  
For You are raised to life again**

**You have no rival, You have no equal  
Now and forever, God, You reign  
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the Glory  
Yours is the Name above all names**

**What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is**

**The Name of Jesus Christ, my King**  
**What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against**  
**What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus**

*<sup>1</sup>From "Worship Connection: January 28, 2024" by Nancy C. Townley, [ministrymatters.com](http://ministrymatters.com)*