

Order of service
February 28, 2021

Welcome and announcements
Concerns & celebrations

Warm-up song: I won't back down
By Tom Petty (Key of G)

1

Well, I won't back down
No, I won't back down
You can stand me up at the gates of hell
But I won't back down

2

No, I'll stand my ground
Won't be turned around
And I'll keep this world from draggin' me down
Gonna stand my ground

3

And I won't back down
(I won't back down)
Hey, baby, there ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down)
Hey, I will stand my ground
And I won't back down

4

Well I know what's right
I got just one life
In a world that keeps on pushin' me around
But I'll stand my ground

5

And I won't back down
(I won't back down)
Hey, baby, there ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down)
Hey, I will stand my ground
And I won't back down

6

Hey baby, there ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down)
Hey, I won't back down
(I won't back down)
Hey, baby, there ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down)

7

Hey, I will stand my ground
And I won't back down
No, I won't back down

Call to worship: The Ten Commandments

Our society talks about personal autonomy.
Newspapers and films are filled with the notion
that we don't need God to set us free—we are our own masters.

And God spoke all these words:
I am the Lord your God,
who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Always ask yourself, "What's in it for me?"
Remember, you're number one.
You shall have no other gods before me.

Try to make as much money as you can
and spend all of it on improving your standard of living.
You shall not make for yourself an idol
in the form of anything.
You shall not bow down to them or worship them,
for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.

Don't worry too much about swearing, because it's just a habit.
Swearing makes you look tough.
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God,
for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless
who misuses his name.

Sunday is just another day in which you can do whatever you want to.
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

Don't pay any attention to your parents.
They're old-fashioned and they spoil your fun.
Honour your father and your mother,
so that you may live long
in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

You are entitled to hate people who are nasty
or who in any way make life unpleasant for you.
You shall not murder.

When your marriage gets dull, it's OK to have an affair or two.
You're only human.
You shall not commit adultery.

If you have to take what doesn't belong to you,
make sure you don't get caught,
because then you have to face the music.
You shall not steal.

Don't miss out on any gossip about people.
When you put other people down you feel better about yourself.
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.

Try to keep up with the Joneses.
Why should other people have more than you do?
You shall not covet your neighbour's house.
You shall not covet your neighbour's spouse,
or their hired help, their car or their farm equipment,
or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.
The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous.
They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.
By them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

Prayer and confession

Assurance of pardon

The Lord's Prayer Song

Invitation to the offering

Dedication of the offering

Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness

(VU 288; Key of D [Chords found in Voices United])

1

Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
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, ever to 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. R

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 -
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide.

A time for All God's Children

Children's hymn: Sarah 'n Abraham had many kids

(Action song)

Sarah n' Abraham had many kids!
Many kids had Sarah n' Abraham
I am one of them.
And so are you!
So, let's just praise the Lord

Actions

Right Arm/Left Arm Right Foot/Left Foot
Chin Up/Chin Down Turn Around Sit Down

Scripture: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

May God Bless to our understanding this reading of Holy Scripture. Amen.

Gospel hymn: Just a closer walk with thee
(Key of G)

Refrain

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Precious Jesus, hear my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

1

I am weak, but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee. R

2

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. R

3

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore. R

Sermon: Enchantment under the stars

Pastoral prayer

Benediction

Hymn: Three things I promise

(MV 176; Key of Ab [G capo on 1st fret])

1

Three things I promise, Holy God,
in age and youth, in life and death:
to bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and listen for the Spirit's breath.

2

Your love unfolded time and space,
and life, and all that life became,
and so, with thankful heart and voice,
through good and ill, I bless your Name.

3

I follow, serve, and cling to Christ
amid our culture's tides and trends,
for here your Name is most revealed:
Majestic Love, and Best of Friends.

4

Enlivened as the Spirit moves
to cleanse, awaken, and renew,
I pray that justice, peace, and truth,
may seed and grow in all I do.

5

If I should live when vigour fades,
and family and friends are gone,
three acts of loving faith remain
when days are slow, and work is done.

6

Revive and guide me, Living God,
as day by day, until my death,
I bless your Name, and cling to Christ,

and listen for the Spirit's breath.