

Sunday, October 17, 2021

**We'd like to thank all who are joining us virtually on YouTube, Facebook, or our website. We welcome our radio audience on WCBC where this service will air next week at 9am. We also welcome those joining us in the Parking lot via 92.3 FM.**

Welcome to worship.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sunday School for all ages. Join us for breakfast at 9:30 a.m. [Register your kids here](#). Download the [Parent Cue](#) app for more involvement. \*\*\*NEW\*\*\* High School class is now available on Sunday morning. Join the youth on Sunday evening @ 6:30.
- October Mission Project – [Operation Christmas Child](#) You can help cover mailing costs for your Shoebox. Give online.
- Local mission opportunity: [Maryland Poor People's Campaign: Western Region](#). Join us! "God helps those who can't help themselves," Rev. Frankie.
- Thanks for your help to alleviate hunger at the CROP Walk 5K walk on October 10. It's not too late to join the team! Donations being accepted until November 10. [LaVale United Team](#).

Questions? Call the church office (301) 722-6800.

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Please rise)**

##### **Lord, I Thought I Knew**

Lord, you know how many times I *thought* I knew ...

How to run my life

How to fix *their* problems, and

How *you* should answer prayer.

But each time, through trauma or tragedy, hardship or hard times, you remind me how much I *don't* know about your will. Though I may not like it at the time, please remind me that you are God, and I am not. Ask me questions I can't answer. Give me answers I can't comprehend. Remind me that *you* laid the earth's foundation. That *you* speak and the winds obey.

That *you* squeeze the clouds 'til rain falls. Then give me the good sense to hold my peace and meditate on what you've just said.

*Kwasi I. Kena, The Africana Worship Book for Year B, Discipleship Resources, 2007, 40.*

#### **PRELUDE/LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

##### **OPENING PRAYER**

Lord, you laid the earth's foundations;  
you placed its cornerstone;  
while the morning stars sang together  
and all the angels shouted for joy

you set limits for the sea and said,  
“This far and no further!”  
You gave orders to the morning and showed the dawn its place;  
you molded the earth until it took shape.  
You alone know the springs of the sea;  
you alone comprehend the vastness of the universe;  
you alone know the laws of heaven:

**Lord, give wisdom to our hearts  
and understanding to our minds. Amen.**

*Written by Michael Perry and posted on the Jubilate Group  
website. <http://www.jubilate.co.uk/> Reposted: [https://re-  
worship.blogspot.com/2012/10/prayer-for-wisdom-job-38.html](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/10/prayer-for-wisdom-job-38.html).*

**\*OPENING HYMN** – God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale (1, 3, 5, 6)

Verse 1

God of the sparrow God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise

Verse 3

God of the rainbow God of the cross  
God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks

Verse 5

God of the neighbor God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace

Verse 6

God of the ages God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Job 38:1-7, (34-41)**

38:1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

38:2 "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?  
38:3 Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.  
38:4 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.  
38:5 Who determined its measurements--surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?  
38:6 On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone  
38:7 when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?  
38:34 "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you?  
38:35 Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'?  
38:36 Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind?  
38:37 Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,  
38:38 when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together?  
38:39 "Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,  
38:40 when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert?  
38:41 Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?

**SERMON** – “Out of the Whirlwind” Rev. Frankie Revell

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

P: God of thundering glory and wondrous love,  
C: You laid the earth's foundation.  
P: You marked off its dimensions.  
C: You laid its cornerstone.  
P: You shut the sea behind doors.  
C: And so to you we lay bare the thoughts and desires of our hearts;  
P: We have been foolish in our secret desires.  
C: We are bound to fatal enchantments that lead us into lies and deceit.  
P: Hear our broken cries.  
C: For we have no other hope.  
P: The God who wraps himself in a storm and speaks to Job is the same God who wrapped himself in a human body to die on a cross, bleed for your sins and hang forsaken by his Father. Because of Jesus you are cleansed, healed, forgiven and made new.  
ALL: I know that my Redeemer lives!

### **OFFERING/OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of great blessing, but even greater lessons, remind us again who gives life and who receives it. Sometimes, like Job, we need to have our questioning answered with a lesson – we need to learn that we are not the ones in charge in the universe. The gifts we bring this morning are not a down payment toward future favor, but a token of a debt we will never be able to repay. May we

gain wisdom in the giving, and may these gifts be blessed for your glory, not ours. In Christ, we pray. Amen. (Job 38:1-7, 34-41)

**\*CLOSING HYMN** – Joy Comes With the Dawn

Refrain:

Joy comes with the dawn;  
joy comes with the morning sun;  
joy springs from the tomb  
and scatters the night with her song,  
joy comes with the dawn.

Verse 1

Weeping may come;  
weeping may come in the night,  
when dark shadows cloud our sight.

Verse 2

Sorrow will turn,  
sorrow will turn into song,  
and God's laughter make us strong.

Verse 3

We will rejoice,  
we will rejoice, and give praise,  
to the One who brings us grace.

**\*BENEDICTION (Please Rise)**

TRUST ME, I GOT THIS

A Responsive Reading, Inspired by Job 38 1-7

If I created the universe with all its stars and planets, can't I fix your brokenness? Trust me, I got this! Lord, help us to trust you.

If I laid the very foundation of the earth, measured its dimensions, placed my Son, its cornerstone, as a protector of my creation, then surely I can fix your broken marriage. Trust me, I got this! Lord, help us to trust you.

If I created the sky, the sea, the moon, the sun, then surely I have the cure for all your diseases. Trust me, my child, I got this! Lord, help us to trust you.

If I took clay and molded you into being, if I gave you my breath to live, if I gave you my word as a compass, then surely I can take you back from the clutches of sin and death. Trust me, my creation, I got this! Lord, help us to trust you.

Lord, you have shown us countless times that you are here for us, yet we are slow to trust. We turn to worldly providers and hope things will work out. We resort to vices and devices to numb our pain, but the pain still exists. Help us, O God, to place all of hope, dreams, fears, plans, and doubts in your capable hands.  
Amen.

Stephen Carlisle Void, Africana Writers Project, Pentecost Package 2, edited by Safiyah Fosua.

**\*POSTLUDE**

**\*DISMISSAL**