

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19 | NEHEMIAH 2.1-16

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the name of God forever and ever;
to whom belong wisdom and might.
He changes times and seasons;
he removes kings and sets up kings;
he gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to those who have understanding;
he reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what is in the darkness,
and the light dwells with him.

Daniel 2.20-22

We bless your name today, God most high.
To you belong wisdom and might,
knowledge, power, and strength.
You sit enthroned over all things,
and nothing is hidden from your sight.

We worship you as God,
possessor of heaven and earth.

We come into your presence with song,
with praise, and with thanksgiving.

We bless your name, God most high.

CONFESSION OF SIN

O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules.

To you, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us open shame.

O Lord, according to all your righteous acts, let your anger and your wrath turn away.

Make your face to shine upon us. Incline your ear and hear.

O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, listen and act. Delay not, for your own sake. Amen

Based on Daniel 9

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the truth of the gospel:

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1.9*

And again:

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins. *1 John 2.2*

Christians — Take heart. God the Father has made known his steadfast love and faithfulness in the life, death, and resurrection of his Son, Jesus. If you confess your sins before him, he is faithful to forgive you. He no longer deals with you according to your sin and shame, but in accordance with his love and mercy.

Thanks be to God!

BENEDICTION

People of God — Go now from this place in the love of the Father, in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Amen.