

# Living Water Fellowship

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Easter – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022

## COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION    A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD (MATT BOSWELL)

**SONGS:**                    *Even So Come*  
                                  *Before the Throne of God*

**WELCOME & PRAYER:**

## GROW IN HIS GRACE

**BIBLE READING:**                    Revelation 4:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven, & the same voice I had heard before spoke to me like a trumpet blast. The voice said, “Come up here, & I will show you what must happen after this.” <sup>2</sup> Instantly I was in the Spirit, & I saw a throne in heaven & someone sitting on it. <sup>3</sup> The one sitting on the throne was as brilliant as gemstones—like jasper & carnelian. The glow of an emerald circled his throne like a rainbow. <sup>4</sup> Twenty-four thrones surrounded him, & twenty-four elders sat on them. They were all clothed in white & had gold crowns on their heads. <sup>5</sup> From the throne came flashes of lightning & the rumble of thunder. In front of the throne were seven torches with burning flames. This is the sevenfold Spirit of God. <sup>6</sup> In front of the throne was a shiny sea of glass, sparkling like crystal.

In the centre & around the throne were four living beings, each covered with eyes, front & back. <sup>7</sup> The first of these living beings was like a lion; the second was like an ox; the third had a human face; & the fourth was like an eagle in flight. <sup>8</sup> Each of these living beings had six wings, & their wings were covered all over with eyes, inside & out. Day after day & night after night they keep on saying,

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty—  
the one who always was, who is, & who is still to come.”

<sup>9</sup> Whenever the living beings give glory & honour & thanks to the one sitting on the throne (the one who lives forever & ever), <sup>10</sup> the twenty-four elders fall down & worship the one sitting on the throne (the one who lives forever & ever). They lay their crowns before the throne & say,

<sup>11</sup> “You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory & honour & power.

For you created all things, & they exist because you created what you pleased.”

**FIRST CENTURY NEWS:**

**FAITH CHAT:**

1. What part of the created world best demonstrates God’s glory, power & majesty?
2. How might this glimpse into heaven effect how you think about, talk about, & respond to God the Father who intends for you to join him there?

**THE MESSAGE:** *IN CHRIST'S HANDS: OPEN ACCESS*

**OFFERING SONG:** *Night Song*

**PRAYERS:**

**THE COMMUNION:**

*Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Worship Video during Communion: ALL BECAUSE OF THE CROSS (PAUL BALOCHE)*

*GO IN HIS POWER*

**THE BLESSING:**

**(Name), † child of God,  
Jesus takes you into his relationship with the Father!  
Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SONG:** *Hear Our Praises*

*SHOW HIS LOVE*

**Group Bible Study/Discussion:**

1. Read Revelation 4:1-11. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging? Why? Read also Rev 2:8-11. How do these two texts relate?
2. What does it mean to you that you have unrestricted access to God the Father & are part of his plan for redemption? What do you do with that?
3. If someone asked you the question – “Why do you worship God?” – how would you answer? Is worship a “can’t miss” value in your life & that of your family? Why?
4. Read Colossians 3:1-4 in the context of this text. How does John’s vision of the throne in heaven differ from the “thrones” of the nations here on earth? Why do earthly “thrones, powers & dominions” conquer so much of our attention, anxiety & effort?
5. The sea John sees is described as “of glass.” How does the Bible often describe the seas on earth? What do you make of the contrast? (Note also Isaiah 11:9)
6. Read vs 2 again. What’s the central image of this view into heaven? Everything else in the vision revolves around that central image in concentric circles of worship extending outward with humans on the periphery. How do we usually picture human life, or our own lives, in relationship to God?
7. Why does the Church exist? Why does Living Water exist? How do we reverse a trend in churches becoming chaplaincies for the already convinced & transforming them into witnesses to our heavenly destiny & our relationship with our Heavenly Father? What would that require of you? How does this text help you discern a way forward?
8. What would help you & your church better live from the understanding that all creation exists under God's supremacy & rule AND that He already has the victory? How can this assurance fuel your hope to persevere at those times when you have failed or feel like you've failed?
9. Why does God alone deserve our wholehearted worship, reverence, & praise? How has God earned the right to be the central focus, object & goal of all we are & do? Why does God have the right to rule & direct our lives & all creation? How will this affect your obedience to what you already know to be your call as God's child?
10. How would you react if God were preparing to give a command to you? He has. What does this text call you to do?