

Sunday Service ~ August 10, 2025

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

Welcome & Prayer

So, join with us this morning to praise God, remembering David's words from Psalm 117:

*Praise the Lord, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.*

Prayer. Dear Father, From the time we wake in the morning, to the time we go to sleep at night we have so much to praise you for. We are surrounded by examples of your majesty, power and love. Your creation stares us in the face as we see the majesty of the sun and the rain, of plants and animals, the wonder of the bodies you have given us. You care for us, provide food and shelter, friends and family for us.

Yet, despite knowing all this, we don't always feel like acknowledging you. In times like this, as we struggle with sadness, we often think more about ourselves than about you. Forgive us, help us to return to you and remember your constant love, your promises to never leave us, to provide the best for us. We know that you will renew our hearts and souls, that through your Spirit we can have peace, that you will draw us close to you.

Help us this morning not to be distracted, but instead to have clear heads and humble hearts, ready to acknowledge you, to come close to you and to learn of your purposes for us. In Jesus' name. Amen

Song – Heavenly Father, Beautiful Son

[Heavenly Father, Beautiful Son - YouTube](#)

1. Father, You loved me
Sent Your Son to redeem
Jesus, You washed me
By Your blood I am clean
Spirit, You've opened these blinded eyes
And brought me to Christ

2. Father, You gave me to Jesus to keep
And Jesus, You love me
As a shepherd, his sheep
Spirit, You've given me faith in the Son
And made our hearts one

*Chorus: Heavenly Father, beautiful Son
Spirit of light and truth
Thank You for bringing sinners to come to You*

3. Father, You're waiting to hear my requests
Jesus, Your loving open hand is outstretched
Spirit, You're in me, You intercede
And help in my need

Bible Reading – Psalm 145:1-21 (NIV)

"I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. 2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. 3 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. 4 One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. 5 They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty— and I will meditate on your wonderful works. 6 They tell of the power of your awesome works— and I will proclaim your great deeds. 7 They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. 8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. 9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. 10 All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you. 11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,

12 so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendour of your kingdom. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. 14 The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to you and you give them their food at the proper time. 16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. 17 The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. 18 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. 19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. 20 The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. 21 My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever."

Announcements

Focus for Month: Worship. Worship is the highest calling of the church and the ultimate purpose of every redeemed life — to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Worship is not just a segment of the Christian life; it is the heart of our response to God's grace, flowing from a deep understanding of the gospel. When we gather, we don't come to be entertained or simply encouraged, but to ascribe worth to the triune God through Word, song, prayer, and sacrament. Focusing on worship reminds us that our lives are not about us, but about Him.

New City Catechism: Question 33. Should those who have faith in Christ seek their salvation through their own works, or anywhere else? No, they should not, as everything necessary to salvation is found in Christ. To seek salvation through good works is a denial that Christ is the only Redeemer and Savior. Bible Passage: Galatians 2:16 "Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified"

Recharge Men's Conference. We are looking forward to exploring 'The Church' with our speaker Roger Burgess on Saturday 13th September. This means, reminding ourselves of the community that leads us to "deep gems of joy, peace, and purpose that are unknown in the world." Location: Grace Evangelical Church. 7:30-1pm. Early Bird \$40 (Ends 23/8) Under 25, \$20.

Sermon Series for Term 3 (AM Services only). "God is...,"

17.8 God is love 1 John 4:7-12

Scots Kirk (Women). Games and Trivia with Afternoon Tea. 16th August 2-pm. RSVP 0421 643 350 (Kathy)

The John Drama, Aug 14-16. An immersive theatre-in-the-round presentation of the Gospel of John, performed by Newcastle Christian Students. Each evening includes the 90-minute drama followed by a light supper. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from www.newcastlechristianstudents.org/john-drama/.

Swansea Ladies morning Tea. Monday 10th August at Channel Cafe Swansea. All ladies welcome. Swansea Men's Morning Tea, same time Lake Macquarie Yacht Club.

Online Grandparents Conference: 23/8/25 <https://ngmlegacy.com.au/2025-conference/> Cost : \$28. See Karen & Ross Logan for more details. Seeks to equip grandparents to grab hold of their potential influence & instil in them a fresh vision in helping them share their love & faith in Christ with their grandchildren so they are able to leave a living faith legacy. Great speakers including Alistair Begg, Elizabeth Mackinlay & Simon Manchester.

Charlestown Redevelopment. Greg gave us an update last Sunday morning on how the redevelopment is going. The Current finish date is towards the end of November. Around that time, we are going to need lots of help with painting. The Construction Working Group continue to deal with the day-to-day issues, so please consider if you can help out. Also please keep all of these things in your prayers.

Pastoral Prayer

Pray for Nigeria (Population 130 million, Christians 77 million). The **political violence** over the past three years, along with recent conflicts in the Tigray, Amhara, and Oromia regions have made things worse for Christians. Many churches have been **attacked** and **destroyed**, and even those seeking refuge in churches

were **not safe** from violence. Pray for believers facing pressure when they leave Islam or the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. For believers living in areas where they are targeted for following Jesus. For unity among all Christians in Ethiopia, that they will remain dedicated to Jesus.

Pray for Webbs. (Kathryn O to provide)

Pray for our redevelopment. Gracious Father, You rule over the rain and the timing of all things, and we trust Your perfect purposes even in these construction delays. Strengthen our patience and perseverance, and help us to depend not on our plans but on Your sovereign will. May this project ultimately serve to glorify Christ and build up His church for gospel witness in our community.

Pray for those caught up in localised flooding. Sovereign God, we trust in Your providence even in disaster, and we pray for those affected by recent flooding in NSW — bring comfort to the anxious, strength to emergency workers and wisdom to leaders coordinating relief. Strengthen Your people to be instruments of mercy and hope, showing Christ's love in word and deed. May this hardship draw many to find their true refuge in You, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Song – Crown Him with many crowns.

https://youtu.be/_oyNbCiryFc

- Verse 1** Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His Throne;
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for me,
And hail Him as my matchless King through all eternity.
- Verse 2** Crown Him the Lord of Life, Who triumphed over the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died, and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
- Verse 3** Crown Him the Lord of Peace, Whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise
His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
- Verse 4** Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n, enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to Whom is giv'n the wondrous name of Love
Crown Him with many crowns, as thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, for He is King of all.
- Verse 5** Crown Him the Lord of Love, behold His hands and side,
Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou has died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Bible Reading – James 1:12-18 (NIV)

¹² "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. ¹³ When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴ but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. ¹⁶ Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created."

Sermon – God is ... Good! (Stephen T)

Sermon video link: <https://youtu.be/hQo6q8oIopQ>

Earlier this century Christianity was under attack by a tidal wave of criticism from what was called at the time, the New Atheism. Writers and intellectuals like Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, Christopher Hitchens and Daniel Dennett sought to discredit the Christian faith and to show the general public that belief in any God was some sort of intellectual madness. So, for example in 2007, Christopher Hitchens published his incredibly influential book entitled "God is not great: how religion poisons everything."

As Hitchen's interacts with the history of religion as well as his own experience of Christianity, he seeks to demonstrate the ways in which religion is man-made, dangerously sexually repressive, and distorts the very origins of the cosmos. Above all, Hitchens argues that the concept of an omniscient God has profoundly damaged humanity, and proposes that the world might be a great deal better off without "him." For God is not great.

Slide 2

Which means he would disagree with everything that King David wrote in Psalm 145. For this Psalm is all about how God is great, God is glorious, God is good and God is gracious. And because God is all these things and so, so much more, he alone is worthy of our praise. For that is what King David calls this Psalm. A Psalm of Praise.

Slide 3

In fact, you might even call it the a to z of praise. Because this is an acrostic psalm, a psalm that tells us how great God is by starting with the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, aleph, and ending with the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet Tav and in between each sentence starts by working its way through the whole Hebrew alphabet.

It's a poetic technique that helps us to consider praising God from virtually every angle but it also is a way of easily committing the Psalm to memory as each letter is a trigger to remind you of the need to keep praising the Lord. Now I am sure I am not going to shock you when I say, I don't always feel like praising the Lord. There are times when I am tired & cranky, upset or angry and I would prefer to whinge or complain or maybe pray but definitely not praise. But Psalm 145 helps us all to see that life may not always be great but God is always great.

Slide 4

1. For God is great (verses 1-7)

*"I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. 2 Every day I will raise you and extol your name for ever and ever. 3 **Great is the Lord** and most worthy of praise; **his greatness** no one can fathom."*

David himself is a King. A great King, maybe even the greatest king that Israel ever had. But he begins this Psalm by acknowledging that there is an even greater King. "My God the King". The King of King, the Lord of Lords over all people & all nations. The power & sovereignty of earthly kings is fleeting but the Lord's reign will last forever. In fact, God's greatness no one can really get to the bottom of it, no one is able to completely fathom it.

Slide 5

Now I wonder if that is a truth you & I need to grasp today? God greatness is beyond our comprehension. David will give it a go and try and give us the a to z of why God is great and why he is worthy of being praised but he admits he is still in kindergarten and realises there is so much more he has to learn about how great God really is. In fact, he will be learning more about God for the rest of his life and get this, even for the rest of eternity. For just as we learn more and more about our family as we spend time with them, so even eternity will not be enough time for our minds and our hearts to fully grasp the greatness of God.

And how about this thought. Praise is the only activity that we're called to do now that we'll continue doing in eternity. We pray now, but there will be a time when our prayers will no longer be needed. We believe, but there shall be a time when our faith will be lost in sight when we see Him face to face. We hope but a time is coming when what we hope for will come to glorious fruition. But we praise God now and will to continue praise Him for ever.

Slide 6

But in the meantime, we should make sure that what we know about the greatness of God, even if it is just a drop in the ocean, is passed onto the next generation. *"One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. 5 They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty— and I will meditate on your wonderful works."*

Slide 7

Listen to the words of John Piper, *"It is the Biblical duty of every generation of Christians to see to it that the next generation hears about the mighty acts of God. God does not drop a new Bible from heaven on every generation. He intends that the older generation will teach the newer generation to read and think and trust and obey and rejoice. It's true that God draws near personally to every new generation of believers but he does so through the biblical truth that they learn from the preceding generations."*

Friends I have lots of hopes and dreams for my kids and for the young people growing up in the Church. But praising God should be at the very top of my list. Not just that they know intellectually how great and good and glorious and gracious is our God but they would have a passion and zeal to live for & serve this incredible God. So that means I need to commend Him to them, speak of his majesty to them, meditate on his wonderful works & pray that my passion and my zeal for God is so self-evident in me that it is contagious to those around me.

Slide 8

6 "They tell of the power of your awesome works— and I will proclaim your great deeds. 7 They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness."

God's works are truly great. Last term we were remembering all he did in the book of Exodus, the plagues, the redemption, the Red Sea, the giving of the law, the desire to live amongst his people. Now how great is that? But then think about the creation of the world, the promises to Abraham, Noah, David, Ezekiel? The sending of Jesus.

Slide 9

Christopher Hitchens truly believed that the world would be better off without God but I have to respectfully disagree. The Lord is greater than mankind. Mankind is the one that is not great. Our world is a basket case. Our God helps us to lift our eyes away from the here and now and onto things that are good, noble, pure, lovely & admirable. What a wonderful corrective that is to us as we live in a mucked-up world!

Being in the presence of greatness leads us to great praise. Look at how wide David's praise is. It's not just singing with our hands up and our eyes closed. Its exalting, verse 1, extoling verse 2, its commending, verse 4, telling, verse 4, speaking, verse 5, meditating, verse 5, proclaiming, verse 6, celebrating, verse 7 and joyfully singing, verse 7. Its praising God every day, verse 2, as well as for ever and ever, verse 1. Friends a great God requires great praise.

So, do you see the connection? Our praise is tied to our view of who God is. If we believe that God is great, it moves us to great praise, but if our hearts have a low view of Him, if we lack appreciation of His greatness, it will lead to a lack of praise and worship.

Slide 10

Here at the start of Psalm 145, we find that David's praise is personal, *"I will exalt you, My God the King."* It's purposeful. *"I will praise your name for ever and ever"*. Its perpetual, it's not going to stop any time soon and its persistent *"Every day I will praise you."* And so, when we lift up our eyes and meditate on such

a great God, that will also raise our praise. It takes our eyes off our own problems and put them onto a great God, on a glorious God.

Slide 11

2. God is glorious (verses 8-13a)

8 *"The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. 9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. 10 All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you."*

Verse 8 & 9 are a quote from Exodus 34, where Moses has pleaded for his people who have forsaken the Lord and worshipped a golden calf. And after that he has asked God to show him God's glory. And in reply God opens up the curtain just a smidge to reveal his amazing character. His graciousness. His compassion. His restraint. His love.

What a glorious character our God has! How can Christopher Hitchens claim that this sort of God would be bad for the world. What's wrong with being gracious, compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love? If you found a king or a prime minister or a boss or a husband or a wife who had those qualities you would be over the moon, wouldn't you? And yet on top of God's glorious character, David talks about God's glorious kingdom.

Slide 12

11 *"They tell of the **glory of your kingdom** and speak of your might, 12 so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the **glorious splendour of your kingdom**. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations."*

Slide 13

There's a glorious splendour to God's kingdom. For it's not just the high and mighty that can be a part of it but also the lowly and needy. Not just the smart but the slow. Not just the Jew but the Gentile. Not just the men but the women and children. And whereas all the other kingdoms of this world, even the kingdom in the Barbie movie, has hierarchies, some higher than the other, this kingdom is a level playing field. We are all sinners saved by God's grace.

In the words of the apostle Paul in Galatians *"there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, **for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**"* We are all interconnected with each other & joined spiritually to our King, the Lord Jesus Christ. And this is an everlasting Kingdom, it will not get voted out in a few years' time or overtaken by some power-hungry individual. It is glorious kingdom run by a glorious God. Who is also a

Slide 14

3. God who is Good (verses 13b-16)

For David now expands on his statement in verse 9, that *"the Lord is good to all"* by sending wave upon wave of truths over us that show us exactly how God is so good. For example, verse 13b, *"The Lord is **trustworthy** in all he promises and **faithful** in all he does."* Channelling Scott Morrison, how good is God?

We can trust God to do what he says. We can rely upon God's word. We can know for sure that He is faithful in all that he does. Everyone here on earth will at some time let us down, no matter how much they love us. But God won't. Like a good parent, he may not give us everything we want, but he is always there for us to rely upon, to trust in, to find help from.

Slide 15

Allen Gardiner, was a mid-nineteenth century missionary who sought to tell the people of Patagonia, which is at the very bottom of South America, about the gospel of Jesus. He ended up dying at the age of 57 of disease and starvation while serving on Picton Island. When his body was found, his diary lay nearby. It bore the record of hunger, thirst, wounds, and loneliness. The last entry in his little book showed the struggle of his shaking hand as he tried to write legibly. It read, *"I am overwhelmed with a sense of the goodness of God."*

God is always good because he is trustworthy and faithful but also because he cares and provides and satisfies. 14 *"The Lord **upholds** all who fall and **lifts up** all who are bowed down.* 15 *The eyes of all look to you, and you **give them their food** at the proper time.* 16 *You open your hand and **satisfy the desires** of every living thing."*

God cares for those that others wouldn't be bothered with. Not all kings care for their subjects. Many of them love the trapping of the job such as the power they hold and the way that they can satisfy their greed as well as their needs. But our God is different. For if his people fall, he will pick them up. If they are down and out, he will lift them up. The Lord is not an absentee landlord charging the rent and forgetting about the repairs, instead he knows our needs and seeks to meet those needs.

Slide 17

Which means our lowliness, our weakness, even our failures are not a limitation for us but an opportunity to rest in God's strength, be surrounded by God's love, to experience God's grace. It doesn't remove us from His presence but allows us to come closer to the source of all that we need. For this God cares and also provides as well. God is not tight fisted. He is not hard hearted. But generous in all that he does. In fact, he doesn't just give us the bare minimum but he satisfies our desires. In fact, **he satisfies the desires** of every living thing.

Slide 18

There's a joy inside the Lord for his creation. There is a generosity that God has for his world. For God is good. In fact, when the rich young ruler comes to Jesus, he says to him *"Good teacher what must I do to receive eternal life?"* And Jesus says, *why do you call me good, there is **no one good except God.*** And in the words of James 1:17, ***"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."***

We are not good and we are certainly not saved by our goodness. But God is good. And it is only because of His kindness that the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ can come to us. It can lift us out of our sin. It can provide us with the spiritual food that we need and that gospel and that gospel alone will satisfy the desires of our hearts, fully.

Slide 19

Now when we share this wonderful gospel to others, sometimes they ask us about the problem of evil. They ask us *"How can a good God, a great God, a powerful God allow evil to exist."* And this is a good question that requires a thoughtful answer. But after we have answered that question, why don't we ask them the opposite question, *"How can a good God, a holy, God, a powerful God, ever let sinful people like you and me, people who are not good in themselves into his presence?"*

Instead of working through in your head the problem of evil, have a go at the problem of good! Why would a good God want to have anything to do with us? We don't deserve his grace. We don't deserve his forgiveness. So why do we take his goodness for granted. Why do we assume that he will do anything for us? Isn't the mere fact that God wants to have a relationship with his people a sign not just of his greatness, his glory, his goodness but also

Slide 20

4. God is gracious (verses 17-21)

17 *"The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.* 18 *The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."* You see there are two types of grace, common grace and saving grace. Common grace is the grace that God shows to all his creatures. He provides them with the breath of life; the sun comes up for them each day. There is food to eat, water to drink, friends to enjoy, family to live with. The Lord is near to all by his common grace and he is open to hearing their cries for help.

You see God gives gifts of beauty and helps to the whole human race. In fact, without God's gift of common grace, this world would be hell and total anarchy. It would be nothing but evil all the time. But do you know what? God's common grace to all human being stops when someone dies. And for grace to continue they need something even more important. They need not just God's common grace but God's saving grace.

Slide 21

*19 "He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; **he hears their cry and saves them.** 20 The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy."* There will come a time when there will be a dividing line drawn through all mankind. On one side will be those who will respond to God's grace, who will draw near to the good, glorious and great God and have their sins forgiven and their nature cleansed. And on the other side will be those who ignore this great God and they will unfortunately be still lost in sinfulness and wickedness.

Slide 22

Friends let us not turn our backs on God's grace. Let us praise him for his mercy, his kindness to us, his amazing grace. For it is beyond anything that we can ever imagine. I was reading this week the true story about a preacher who when he was about 11 or 12 was told that his dad wanted to reward him for his final exams by taking him to Kmart where he could buy whatever he wanted. Anything in the store is yours, just ask me for it.

Slide 23

The young boy could have chosen a huge stereo system, an expensive pushbike, a TV of his own but instead he chose a \$50 cassette tape recorder. He found out later that his dad had \$1,000 cash in his pocket and a cheque book for even more. But in his graciousness, he got what he asked for. The preacher's conclusion? *"Imagine how much God has in his pocket for you. You don't ask God for all the spiritual power you could because you forget that you are his child. Like me and my earthly father, you don't realize all he could do for you, in you, and through you."*

That's how gracious God is, how glorious, how good and great he is. But that is only half the story. And the New Testament completes the picture and gives it to us in technicolour! Because when Jesus Christ, the one and only Son of the father, comes to the world, he is full of God's glory, as well as being full of grace and truth. This Jesus reaches down to the poor and lowly, those lost in their sin and he forgives us, cleanses us and fills us with good things.

Slide 24

The greatness of Jesus is found especially in him dying on the cross. There he destroys the wisdom of the wise. There he frustrates the intelligence of the intelligent. There he makes foolish the arguments of the atheist, the self-made businessperson & all those who want to live their own lives here on earth without reference to their creator. At the cross, God's goodness meets his justice. His grace meets his holiness. Which means those who call on him, he comes near to & those who turn their back on him remain under his judgement.

Slide 25

Which is why the words that David ends this Psalm with become even more important to us. *"My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever."* For this Psalm starts with the words of David, "I will exalt you, I will praise you." It moves on to the next generation in verse 4, telling us that "one generation commends your works to another." But it ends with the words *"Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever."* The solution to the world's problems is found **when we all** lift up our eyes to the Lord and when we join with all people to praise him.

Slide 26

But let me point out to you something really important. For who is it that is writing this Psalm? It is King David, the forerunner of the Messiah, King Jesus, who will save his people. And in Hebrews 2, we read that Jesus is the one who fulfills the role of praise leader in the Psalms when he says *"I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises."*

Do you get what that means? As we read this Psalm we are not asked to come to the microphone and lead the praise, even the songs of praise. No, the person who is leading the praise is Jesus himself. We are called to become a part of the choir, to join with him and with each other in praising our good, our great, our glorious, our gracious God.

Slide 27

For as we meditate on God, as we hear from God's word, as we tell others about what God is truly like and as we raise our praise to Him, the spirit of God does something within us. He takes the direction of our heart away from ourselves. He changes our gaze away from our troubles. He lifts our spirits away from the problems all around us and He gets us to turn our eyes upon the God who is worthy of our praise.

Slide 28

One writer has put it this way, *"The constant buzz of TV, movies, magazines, videos, CDs, the radio, and the Internet is like a million tractor beams hitting me all at once, so that my little starship can never escape to some silent part of the galaxy where I could ponder the stars and the One who made them."* But the antidote to all this is Psalm 145. Read, contemplate, meditate on the Lord God. Praise Him. Not just now. Not just this week but for ever and ever.

Song – His glory and my good <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5nUTO4m9oA>

1. *I have seen my Father's glory
Revealed in Jesus Christ
And the more that I behold Him
The more He satisfies
When I gaze upon His beauty
When I see Him as I should
Then my eyes are lifted upward
For His glory and my good*

3. *See the open arms of Jesus
Upon the cross that day
What they understood as weakness
Deserves my every praise
For the charge that was against me
It was nailed into the wood
Yes, I know that He has saved me
For His glory and my good*

2. *There is hope in every trial
For I can trust the Lord
He will turn my heart towards Him
And help me bear the thorn
So in faith, I follow Jesus
On the road not understood
For I know that He is working
For His glory and my good*

Chorus

4. *Would I gladly be made nothing
That Christ would be made more?
Would I seek the only kingdom
That far outweighs them all?
I will stand before my Father
Where the faithful saints have stood
And with joy, my heart shall praise Him
For His glory and my good
And with joy, my heart shall praise Him
For His glory and my good*

Chorus

*To our God be the glory, to our God be praise
He alone, the name above all names
I will boast ever only in the Lord, my God
For I know His glory is my good*

Chorus x2

Benediction *"My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever."* (Psalm 145:21)