

Creating the space for all people to ENCOUNTER the person of Jesus through the transforming study of His Word, EXPERIENCE the love of Jesus through the love of His people, and ENGAGE the work of Jesus through mission and discipleship.



LONGVIEW PARK

JULY 3RD, 2022

A LITURGY FOR FEASTING WITH FRIENDS

Kolburt (italic text):
To gather joyfully is indeed a serious affair,
for feasting and all enjoyments gratefully taken are,

at their heart, acts of war.

People (bold text):
In celebrating this feast
we declare that
evil and death,
suffering and loss,
sorrow and tears,
will not have the final word.

But the joy of fellowship, and the welcome and comfort of friends new and old and the celebration of these blessings of food and drink and conversation and laughter are the true evidences of things eternal, and are the first fruits of that great glad joy that is to come and that will be unending

So let our feast this day be joined to those sure victories secured by Christ,

Let it be to us now a delight, and a glad foretaste of his eternal kingdom.

Bless us, O Lord, in this feast.

Bless us, O Lord, as we linger over our cups, and over this table laden with good things, as we relish the delights of varied texture and flavor, of aromas and savory spices, of dishes prepared as acts of love and blessing, of sweet delights made sweeter by the communion of the saints.

May this shared meal and time of recreation, and our pleasure in them, bear witness against the artifice and deceptions of the prince of the darkness that would blind this world to hope.

May they strike at the root of the lie that would drain life of meaning, and the world of joy, and suffering of redemption.

May this our feast fall like a great hammer blow against that brittle night, shattering the gloom, reawakening our hearts, stirring our imaginations, focusing our vision

on the kingdom of heaven that is to come,

on the kingdom that is promised,

on the kingdom that is already, indeed, among us,

For the resurrection of all go things has already joyfully begun.

May this feast be an echo of that great Supper of the Lamb,

a foreshadowing of the great celebration that awaits the children of God.

Where two or more of us are gathered, O Lord, there you have promised to be.

And here we are.

As so, here are you. Take joy, O King, in this our feast.

Take joy, O King! Take Joy!

All will be well!

All will be well!

Nothing good and right and true will be lost forever. All good things will be restored.

Feast and be reminded! Take joy, little flock.

Take joy! Let the battle be joined!

Let the battle be joined!

HOW GREAT THOU ART

Oh Lord, my God
When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Chorus:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin

Chorus

When Christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art

Chorus

GOODNESS OF GOD

I love You, Lord
For Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus:

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In the darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

Chorus

'Cause Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
'Cause Your goodness is running after
It's running after me (repeat)

Chorus

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen

Stick around and join us for softball and a cookout! We'll plan to begin eating around noon.