Grace Church Stamford welcomes you
to our church, where our vision is
to grow and connect gospel-proclaiming communities

April 29, 2018 AD

Called Together

Come, let us bow down in worship, **let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;** for he is our God **and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Singing Together ***You Alone Can Rescue*** Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman| 2008 Atlas Mountan Songs| CCLI # 11280377

Who O Lord could save themselves
Their own soul could heal
Our shame was deeper than the sea
Your grace is deeper still (2x)

Chorus *And You alone can rescue, You alone can save*
You alone can lift us from the grave
You came down to find us led us out of death
To You alone belongs the highest praise

You O Lord have made a way
The great divide You healed
For when our hearts were far away
Your love went further still
Yes Your love goes further still (Chorus 2x)

Bridge We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes
You're the giver of life
We lift up our eyes lift up our eyes
You're the giver of life (2x) (Chorus)

Glorious Day Jason Ingram | Jonathan Smith | Kristian Stanfill | Sean Curran|Sixsteps 2017| CCLI # 11280377

I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight
It was my tomb 'til I met You

I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Chorus *You called my name (and) I ran out of that grave*
Out of the darkness into Your glorious day (2x)

Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all that I know
The old made new Jesus when I met You (Chorus)

Bridge *I needed rescue my sin was heavy*
But chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter I was an orphan
Now You call me a citizen of Heaven
When I was broken You were my healing
Now Your love is the air that I'm breathing
I have a future my eyes are open
When You called my name (Chorus)

Hearing God's Word Psalm 29

Confessing Together

Have mercy on me, O God, in your faithful love, in your great tenderness wipe away my offences; wash me thoroughly from my guilt, purify me from my sin. God, create in me a clean heart, renew within me a resolute spirit, do not thrust me away from your presence, do not take away from me your spirit of holiness. Give me back the joy of your salvation, sustain in me a generous spirit. Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will speak out your praise. Sacrifice gives you no pleasure, burnt offering you do not desire. Sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken, contrite heart you never scorn.

May Almighty God, who caused light to shine out of darkness, shine in our hearts, cleansing us from all our sins, and restoring us to the light of the knowledge of God's glory, in the face of Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Singing Together ***Not What My Hands Have Done*** Buddy Greene | Horatius Bonar| 2001 Thank You Music | CCLI # 11280377

Not what my hands have done can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne, can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my awful load.

Chorus *These guilty hands are raised, filthy rags are all I bring*
And I have come to hide beneath Your wings
These holy hands are raised, washed in the fountain of Your grace
And now I wear Your righteousness

Thy work alone oh Christ can ease this weight of sin
Thy blood alone, oh Lamb of God can give me peace within
Thy love to me, oh God not mine oh Lord to Thee
Can rid me of this dark unrest and set my spirit free (Chorus)

Bridge *We are broken but we are Yours! (4x)*

I praise the God of grace; I trust His truth and might
He calls me his, I call him mine, my God, my joy, my light
My Lord has saved my life and freely pardon gives;
I love because he first loved me, I live because He lives! (Chorus 2x)

The Collection

Praying Together

Hearing God's Word Proclaimed Acts 23:23 – 24:27

Communing Together

*Invitation **
Hear the words of our Savior: 'Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.' **We come not because we ought, but because we may; not because we are righteous, but because we are repentant; not because we are strong, but because we are weak; not because we are whole, but because we are broken.** Come then, for all his ready. Christ was raised to life, death is swallowed up, victory is won. Alleluia! **Therefore, I shall receive the bread of heaven. I shall drink the cup of salvation.**

Communion
The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread and after giving thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord until he comes.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works, and be a living sacrifice, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** Prayer for those searching for truth**
Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. While I find that hard to believe, help me to believe your claims. Guide me, teach me, open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

*** Prayer of belief**
Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn away from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Singing Together ***It Is Well With My Soul*** Horatio Gates Spafford, Philip Paul Bliss, Todd Fields| 2008Music at North Pt. | CCLI # 11280377

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot You have taught me to say
It is well it is well with my soul

Chorus 1 *It is well it is well*
Through the storm I am held
It is well it is well with my soul

My sin oh the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin not in part but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord praise the Lord oh my soul

Chorus 2 *It is well it is well through the storm I am held*
It is well it is well with my soul
It is well it is well God has won Christ prevailed
It is well it is well with my soul

And Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend
Even so it is well with my soul (Chorus 2)

Blessed For Mission Together

Please return or stay for the congregational meeting!

There are 'resources' available for parents who have their young kids sitting in the service

Work and Faith Seminar
Saturday, May 19
9am-2pm

<u>Save the date!</u>
Kids Church Overnight Camp
Island Beach, Greenwich
Thurs-Fri June 21
Fri-Sat June 22

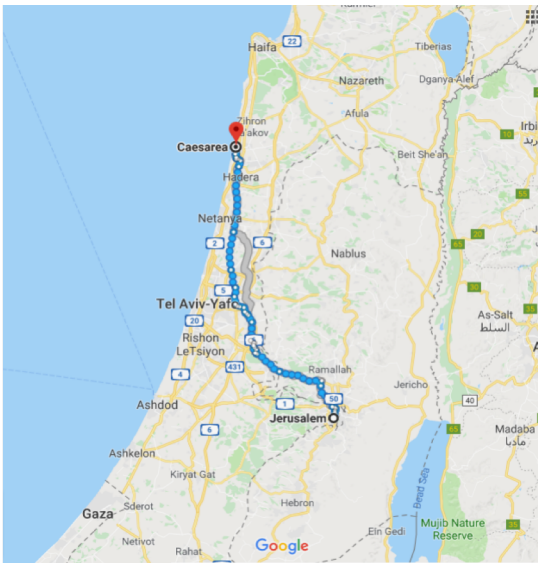
GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED **April 29, 2018 AD**

Stuck in Life?
Acts 23:23 – 24:27

Introduction: How to handle life when you are stuck?

1. Paul's citizenship (The starting point)

2. Paul's testimony (The truth asserted)

3. Paul's waiting (The response)

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