

TRUMPET CALL

WELCOME TO THE UPTOWN CHURCH!

1 THESSALONIANS 4:15-17

For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God.



1 THESSALONIANS 4:15-17

And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check your bulletin for more information.



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PRAYER OF INVOCATION

A pastoral prayer of adoration, thanksgiving, and illumination.

Psalm 67:1-2, 105:4

PASSING THE PEACE

Unity & Reconciliation

*Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:11-12;
1 Thessalonians 5:26; 1 Peter 5:14; Matthew 5:23-24, 18:15*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Corporate prayer of our covenantal commitment with our Heavenly Father through the Son of God, which encourages the confession of sin together.

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Our Father,
who is in heaven,
holy is Your Name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.



Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against
us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.



For Yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
forever and ever.

Amen.



PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS

Worshipping and praising the Lord in song together.

Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

READING OF SACRED SCRIPTURE

The Magnificat

John 6:26-58

LUKE 1:39-42

Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said,



LUKE 1:42-45

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”



LUKE 1:46-48

And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

For He has regarded the lowly state of His
maidservant;

For behold, henceforth all generations will call me
blessed.



LUKE 1:49-51

For He who is mighty has done great things for me,
And holy is His name.

And His mercy is on those who fear Him
From generation to generation.

He has shown strength with His arm;



LUKE 1:51-53

He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
And exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
And the rich He has sent away empty.



LUKE 1:54-55

He has helped His servant Israel,
In remembrance of His mercy,
As He spoke to our fathers,
To Abraham and to his seed forever.”



PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Pastoral & Congregational Prayer

Romans 10:13-17

PSALM 67:1-7

May God be gracious to us and bless us

and make his face to shine upon us,

that your way may be known on earth,

your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you!



PSALM 67:1-7

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!



PSALM 67:1-7

The earth has yielded its increase;

God, our God, shall bless us.

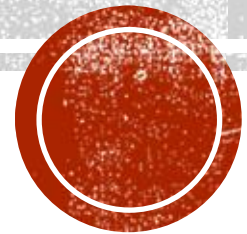
God shall bless us;

let all the ends of the earth fear him!



SHAWN, LYDIA, TEHILLAH & JOSIAH

Blessed to Be a Blessing to the Nations
Psalm 67:1-7







PROJECTS

- Primary schools in slums
- Primary Health Clinics
- Income generation & water wells for pastors
- Sewing training for the ultra-poor
- Rohingya and Bihari people groups in Refugee camps
- Training — Discipleship Training Schools, School of Worship, School of Intercessory Prayer, Leadership Training, Primary Healthcare
- Open Heaven Training Centre – New building











PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Pastoral & Congregational Prayer

Romans 10:13-17

BLESSING & DISMISSAL OF THE CHILDREN

Call children to the altar for prayer and blessing.

Matthew 18:1-14, 19:13-14

PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS

Worshipping and praising the Lord in song together.

Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

DECLARATION OF THE LAW

The Greatest Commandment with a supplementary passage.

*Mark 12:29-31; Matthew 22:35-40; Luke 10:25-28;
John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7-8,21; Romans 13:9-10; Galatians 5:14; Matthew 7:12
Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Leviticus 19:18*

‘Hear, O Israel!
The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
And you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your
strength.’



This is the first and great commandment.
And the second is like it:
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’
On these two commandments hang all
the Law and the Prophets.



And this is His commandment:
that we believe in the name of His Son
Jesus Christ and love one another, just as
He has commanded us.

Whoever keeps His commandments
abides in God, and God in him.



And by this we know that He abides in us,
by the Spirit whom He has given us.

For the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

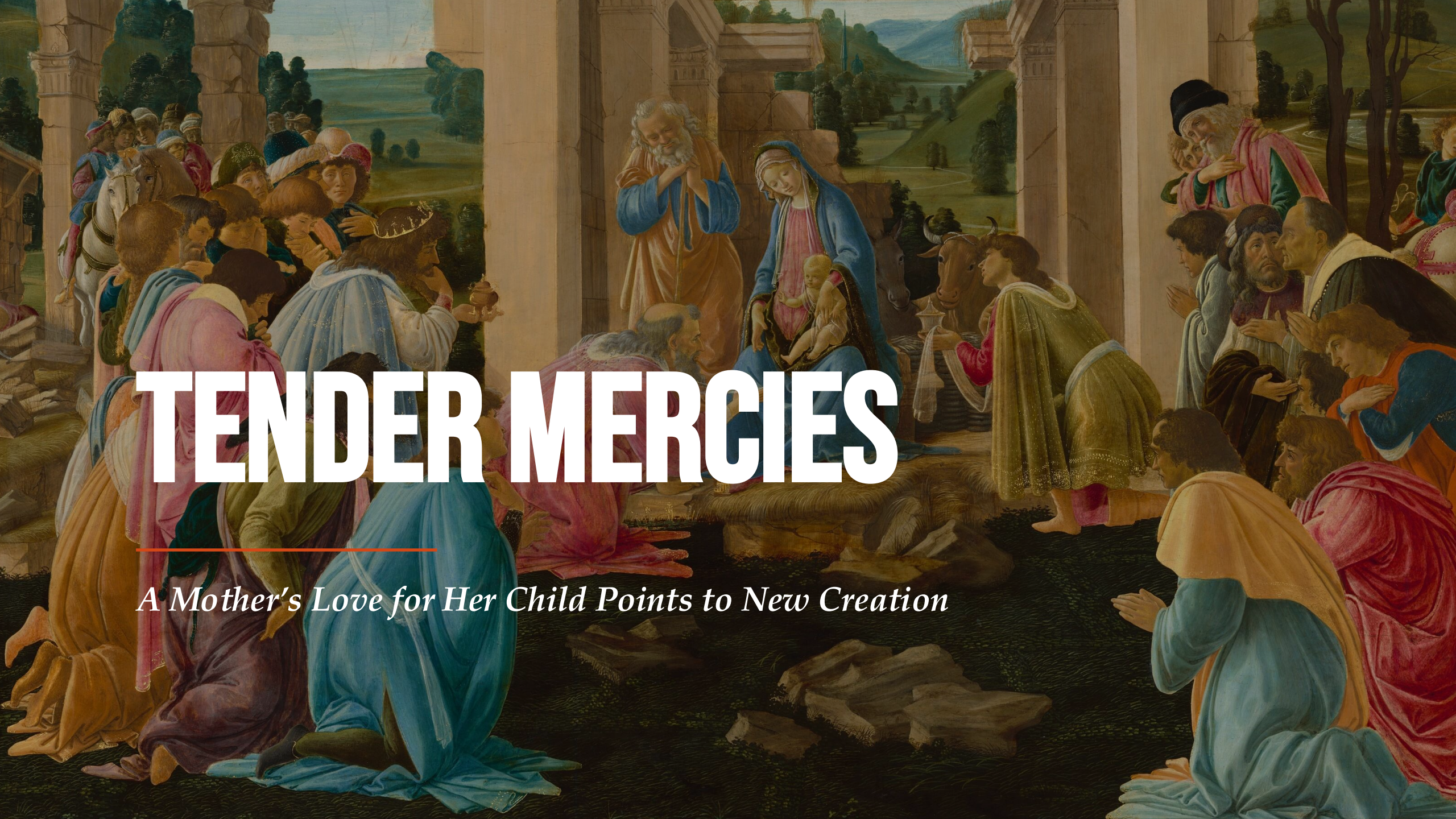
Against such things there is no law.

1 John 3:24; Galatians 5:22-23



SERMON

Pastoral Teaching from God's Word.



TENDER MERCIES

A Mother's Love for Her Child Points to New Creation



MATTHEW 23:37-39

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

(cf. **Psalm 91:4**)





MATTHEW 23:37-39

See, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”



MATTHEW 24:3-8

As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” And Jesus answered them, “See that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. **All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.**”



ROMANS 8:19-22

“For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.”



A MOTHER'S MERCY

1. A mother suffering through birth pains even unto death, in eager expectation of new life, all for the love of her child not yet seen. (cf. [1 John 4:20](#))
2. A mother longing for her children's return home from disobedience, to comfort them in her warm, tender, merciful embrace. (cf. [Romans 5:8](#))



A MOTHER'S MERCY

- This maternal love that a mother's has for her child is typological and emblematic of the love we ought to have for new creation, when God finally saves, heals, and restores all things!
- This is epitomized in the blessed Mother Mary.
- The sacrificial self-giving love a pregnant mother has for her long expectant child is the love we are supposed to have for new creation to come — for the revealing of God's children: glorification.
- You are born again spiritually first and will be revealed as God's child (like Christ) once for all at the end of birth pains.



A MOTHER'S MERCY

- *This means:*
Your sanctification — conforming to the image of Christ — will feel like birth pains in frequency and intensity.
- But no matter how painful, or how difficult, or how sorrowful, do not give up, push forward — look at the child being born before your eyes!!
- **YOU!!**
- You are the child being born into the likeness of Christ!





Mom is 88 and has
late stage dementia.
If you dont believe Jesus is real,
just watch and be amazed.





SHE HAD NOTHING LEFT BUT CHRIST

“But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

2 Corinthians 12:9



IS YOUR FAITH UNSHAKEABLE?

“To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel.”

Ephesians 6:18-19

PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION

Pastoral Prayer of Application of God's Word.

CALL THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH

Prayer in the aisles — confession of sin, anointing of the sick, and pastoral intercession alongside communal prayer, praise, and worship.

James 5:13-16; Psalm 103:2-5

PSALM 103:1-5

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless His holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits,



PSALM 103:1-5

who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.



JAMES 5:13-16

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.

Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.



JAMES 5:13-16

And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.
Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray
for one another, that you may be healed.

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it
is working.



THE SENDING SONG

The final song of service before the Lord sends us out.

Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:18-20; Psalm 103:1-5, 150:1-6

BENEDICTION

Priestly Blessing

BENEDICTION

May the glory and love of God the Father,
And the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the power and communion of the Holy Spirit,
Conform you into the image of His Son this week
Go in the joy that surpasses all understanding.
Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14, Philippians 4:7



