



Advance Memorial United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

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The Story Behind The Hymn “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Thomas Obadiah Chisolm (1866-1960) had a difficult early adult life. His health was so fragile that there were periods of time when he was confined to bed, unable to work. Between bouts of illness he would have to push himself to put in extra hours at various jobs in order to make ends meet. After coming to Christ at age 27, Thomas found great comfort in the Scriptures, and in the fact that God was faithful to be his strength in time of illness and weakness, and to provide his needs. Lamentations 3:22-23 was one of his favorite scriptures: “*It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness.*”

While away from home on a missions trip, Thomas often wrote to one of his good friends, William Runyan, a relatively unknown musician. Several poems were exchanged in these letters. Runyan found one of Williams’ poems so moving that he

decided to compose a musical score to accompany the lyrics. *Great is Thy Faithfulness* was published in 1923.

For several years, the hymn got very little recognition, until it was discovered by a Moody Bible Institute professor who loved it so much and requested it sung so often at chapel services, that the song became the unofficial theme song of the college.

It was not until 1945 when George Beverly Shea began to sing *Great is Thy Faithfulness* at the Billy Graham evangelistic crusades, that the hymn was heard around the world.

Thomas Chisolm died in 1960 at age 94. During his lifetime, he wrote more than 1,200 poems and hymns including *O To Be Like Thee* and *Living for Jesus*

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Verse 1
Great is Thy faithfulness

O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail
not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

Verse 2
Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love

Verse 3
Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for
tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Chorus
Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

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Special Point of Interests:

- *Sunday Worship Services*
- *Bible Study*
- *Children’s Ministry*
- *Youth Ministry*
- *Science and Religion*
- *Noah’s Ark*



Sunday Worship Services

Sunday Worship Services are **11:00 am** in the *Sanctuary* and **6:00 pm** in the *Family Life Center (Gym)*. We are asking people to: sit with members of your household, and practice the social distancing.

We also need *volunteers* to help us run the technology

equipment. If you are interested in learning to run any technology devices please contact the church office.

We could offer more morning services if we had more volunteers willing to be trained on technology.

In the event we need more seating in the Sanctuary, we do have seating available in the Laura Ward Sunday School Classroom, across the hallway from the Sanctuary.

Pastor Sean Shrall

Upcoming Events

Trustees will meet *Saturday, October 9th at 9:00 am.*

Lay Leadership will meet *Monday, October 11th at 7:00 pm.* (Zoom meeting!)

Fellowship, Nurture & Outreach Committee will meet *Tuesday, October 12th at 7:00 pm.* (Zoom meeting!)

S.P.R.C. will meet *Thursday, October 14th at 7:00 pm.* (Zoom meeting!)

Adult Bible Study: meets *Wednesdays at 7:00 pm* on the Church Website (advance church.net) & Facebook.

Children's Ministry: We meet *Sundays, 11:15 am* and *Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.* If you would like to volunteer, please call the church office.

Oakmont meets *Mondays. Singing 2:45 pm and service at 3:15 pm.*

Youth Group: meets *Wednesdays at 6:30 pm!*

***Facebook:** Advance SURGE Youth Group

***Instagram account:** SURGE Advance Youth Ministry (@surgeadvance)
REMIND: To join, **Text@advance you to 81010**



Science And Religion

He reveals profound mysteries beyond man's understanding. He knows all hidden things, for he is light . . .
—Daniel 2:22 (TLB)

The fact of the matter is that science and faith complement each other, and there is no conflict between true science and true religion. Together they give the best foundation for wholesome faith and courage for daily living. When Galileo, the father of modern science, discovered that the earth revolved, instead of the



sun moving around the earth, certain religious leaders were greatly disturbed, for they held another theory. But eventually they were reconciled.

Since that day we have happily found that true science is compatible with a deep religious faith. So Christianity is what we might term: supra-scientific. There are highways beyond science that lead to truth. Christ Jesus was the Master of spiritual

truth, and He imparts these truths to us-as we work out a working relationship with Him.

Prayer for the day

Thank You, Father, for the revelation of Your love when You gave Your beloved Son to die for me. Nothing science will ever discover will surpass this divine miracle!

from the Billy Graham Evangelist Association Daily Devotion

Excuse This House

Some houses try to hide the fact. That children shelter there. Our boasts it quite openly. The signs are everywhere.

For smears are on the windows. Little smudges on the door. I should apolo-

gize I guess. For the Toys strewn on the floor.

But I sat down with the children. And played, laughed and read. And if the door bell doesn't shine. Their eyes will shine instead.

For when I'm forced to choose. One job or the other. It's good to be a house wife. But I'd rather be a Mother.

Author Unknown

Noah's Ark

Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark.

Don't miss the boat.

Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you do to something really big.

Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Build your future on high ground.

For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

When you're stressed, float awhile.

Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

NO matter the storm, when you are with God there's always a rainbow waiting.

Author Unknown

Good Morning

As you got up I watched and hoped you would talk to me. Just a few words, such as thanking me for something good in your life yesterday or last week would do.

But I noticed you were busy selecting the right clothes for work. I waited again to hear from you. When you ran around the house collecting papers, I knew there would be a few minutes to stop and say hello, but you never slowed down.

I wanted to tell you that I could help you accomplish more than you ever

dreamed possible if you would just spend some of each day with me. At one point, you waited fifteen minutes in a chair with nothing to do. I waited to hear from you.

Then I saw you spring to your feet, I thought you wanted to talk to me, but you ran to the phone and called a friend. I watched as off to work you went and waited patiently all day long to hear from you. With all your activities you were too busy to talk with me.

I noticed at lunch you looked around; maybe you

just felt embarrassed to talk to me. You glanced three tables over and noticed some of your friends talking to me before they ate, but you wouldn't.

There was still more time left, and I hooped that we would talk. You went home and had many things to do. After they were done, you turned on the TV; just about anything goes there and you spend many hours watching. I waited as you continued watching TV and ate your meal but again you wouldn't talk to me.

At bedtime you were totally tired. After you said good night to your family you plopped into bed and fell asleep. I had so much wanted to be part of your day. We could have had so much fun and accomplished so much together.

I love you so much that I wait every day for a thought, prayer or thanks. Well, maybe tomorrow! I'll be waiting.

Your Friend,

God

ADVANCE MEMORIAL

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Psalms 9 (KJV)

¹ I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.

² I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.

³ When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence.

⁴ For thou hast maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right.

⁵ Thou hast rebuked the heathen, thou hast destroyed the wicked, thou hast put out their name for ever and ever.

⁶ O thou enemy, destructions are come to a perpetual end: and thou hast destroyed cities; their memorial is perished with them.

⁷ But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment.

⁸ And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister

judgment to the people in uprightness.

⁹ The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.

¹⁰ And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

¹¹ Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings.

¹² When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.

¹³ Have mercy upon me, O LORD; consider my trouble which I suffer of them that hate me, thou that liftest me up from the gates of death:

¹⁴ That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.

¹⁵ The heathen are sunk down in the pit that they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.

¹⁶ The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgaion. Selah.

¹⁷ The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

¹⁸ For the needy shall not always be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish for ever.

¹⁹ Arise, O LORD; let not man prevail: let the heathen be judged in thy sight.

²⁰ Put them in fear, O LORD: that the nations may know themselves to be but men. Selah.