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HOURLY OF POWER OF 10.08.2008

PROGRAM OPENING/TRUMPET FANFARE/V.O.

From the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, join Robert Schuller in an Hour of Power now celebrating our 36th year as the face and voice of positive Christianity to the world.

HYMN - "Joyful, Joyful.."

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before You, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day. Amen! Amen! Amen!

GOOD MORNING/OPENING SENTENCE/INVOCATION

RAS: Good morning. And welcome to the Crystal Cathedral. It is a wonderful day to feel the Holy Spirit of God in this place and so I want to give you an opportunity right now to shake the hands of those who are standing next to you and behind you, please, go out of your way and shake at least three hands and say God loves you and so do I.

Well we have a wonderful worship service planned today. We have the daughter of evangelist Billy Graham, who will be sharing her book with us, "Legacy of Faith: Things I've learned from my father." Her name is Ruth Graham. Ruth, thank you for being here this morning. We're so honored you'd come here and join us for worship.

And so this is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. Dear Heavenly Father we thank You that You're a God who comes and restores life. You enter hearts and souls and minds with the power to perform miracles, to create healing and hope and joy and goodness and peace. And so allow us to invite You in, that You might come and that You may positively impact our lives today and tomorrow, forever and always, Amen.

HYMN - "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise;
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.

I sing the Wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; The moon shines full at His command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food;

He formed the creatures with His Word, and then pronounced them good. While all that borrows life from You is always in Your care and everywhere that we can be, Lord, You are present there.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

SCRIPTURE – Sel. Verses from Psalm 96 & 97 - Donna Schuller

DS: You may be seated, please. Good morning. Please hear these words of praise to God from selected verses of Psalms 96 and 97.

Oh sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name; proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples for the Lord is great and greatly to be praised. Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar in all of its fullness; let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice. The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of islands be glad.

And we know that the Lord will continue to add His blessings to this, the reading of His word.

SOLO – DANIEL RODRIGUEZ – “On Eagle’s Wings”

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life, say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock, in Whom I trust!" And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand.

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness, your shield. For to His angels He's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; Upon their hands they will raise you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you, and hold you, and hold you, hold you in the palm of His hand.

SOLO – NATALIE GRANT - "Breathe on Me”

In humble adoration I kneel before Your throne in brokenness I seek Your face alone. Above You there's no other Who's able to restore my soul, come and make me whole.

And breathe on me, power of God come in and change me. You are all I need, Holy Spirit, breathe on, breathe on me!

I will say of the Lord He is my strong tower, my rock and my fortress in whom I trust in times of the storm, and in tribulation, You are my source of help and my salvation! Breath of God, restore my soul.

I will say of the Lord He is my strong tower, my rock and my fortress in whom I trust. In times of the storm, and in tribulation, He is my help and my salvation! Breath of God, restore my soul. You are all I need, Holy Spirit. Breathe on me; You are all I need, restore me, Holy Spirit. Breath of God, breathe of life, breathe on me. I need you Jesus to breathe on, breathe on me.

RAS THANK YOU TO NATALIE GRANT

RAS: Thank you Natalie.

INTERVIEW – RUTH GRAHAM

RAS: ROBERT A. SCHULLER RG : RUTH GRAHAM

RAS: So this morning I'm very happy to welcome back to the Crystal Cathedral, the daughter of the reverend Billy Graham, Ruth Graham. Ruth was here about a year ago to share with us her testimony of faith through her joys and sorrows and today she's here to share with us from her latest book that she wrote entitled, "A Legacy of Faith: things I learned from My Father." Join me in welcoming Ruth Graham. Ruth, God loves you and so do I. The book is entitled, "A Legacy of Faith: things I learned from my Father."

RG: That's correct.

RAS: Terrific book.

RG: Thank you.

RAS: I was reading parts of it and first tell me how are your parents doing?

RG: They're doing remarkably well, thank you for asking. And let me thank your congregation and your viewers for praying for them, because we know it makes a difference. But my mother is very frail but her spirit is strong. We tell her that she commands her armies from her bed. And my father is slower, but I write in the book that I'm much more warmed by the embers than I ever was by the fire.

RAS: Wow.

RG: His gentleness and grace color my world and he is as I said, slower, the aging process has been difficult but he keeps on top of everything, he's very current and he still loves to preach. He preached in New Orleans last, about a couple of months ago and plans to preach in Baltimore later this year.

RAS: Do you think we'll see any more crusades?

RG: I don't believe so. You know we've said this is the last one, this is the last one, this is the last one, but I think New York was the last one.

RAS: Well I hope you're wrong.

RG: So do I, so do I.

RAS: But you're probably correct and we just thank God for giving him just the years and the ability to minister and to preach as he has.

RG: God's been very faithful.

RAS: And so we are very, very grateful for what he has done. Well what inspired you to write this book on "Legacy of Faith that I learned from my Father?"

RG: Well, when I wrote my first book "In Every Pew Sits a Broken Heart" that there were certain principles that kept coming back when I went through my struggles and through my difficult times and I thought, where did I learn these principles. And I realized I'd learned them from Mother and Daddy. So my first book was "Legacy of Love: things I learned from my mother" that I did last year and when I gave it to mother and daddy saw it, he sort of said, 'well where's mine?' So I wanted to write one about him and so this was a surprise for father's day this year and I just wanted, they have passed on so much to me and rather than hoard it, it was too good to hoard, I thought I would pass it onto others.

RAS: So what do you buy your father for father's day, what do you get him for father's day when he's got everything; well you write him a book and that's exactly what you did and it's the "Legacy of Faith: things I learned from my father." So what did you learn from your father?

RG: Oh I've learned how to depend on the Lord for every detail. Recently I was having a conversation with him because I've started my own ministry and I said daddy did you ever feel inadequate? And he said, oh all the time. And I said well how did you prepare, especially like when he was going to Oxford and Cambridge to talk with the students and he said I prayed. I said, well how did you pray? I wanted a formula and he said I would sit by the hour and just say Lord help me,

Holy Spirit fill me. And that was the secret to his life of dependence on God and he depends on God for everything and that's been a powerful legacy.

RAS: So here we have a man of tremendous faith.

RG: Yes.

RAS: A man that's been a leader of the Christian faith for decades and he prays simple prayers.

RG: He does, he does.

RAS: They're the prayers that you and I can pray and the prayers that anyone listening to us can pray.

RG: That's right.

RAS: Help me Lord, guide me Lord.

RG: Fill me Lord.

RAS: Fill me Lord, use me Lord.

RG: Yes.

RAS: Simple prayers, I think the simple prayers are what God wants to hear aren't they?

RG: I believe so and I think they're the most effective and Peter, when he was sinking in the water he said, Lord, help me and the Lord did.

RAS: Absolutely. Are there personal things in here of your father with you?

RG: Oh yes, indeed and there's a precious incident in my life. I gave my heart to Jesus when I was about seven kneeling beside my bed with my mother. And I mark that as the time I gave my heart to Christ. But when I was 11 I attended a revival, a church revival with my father. It was being conducted by a friend of his and he went to support and of course wherever we went with daddy there was sort of a stir and I was feeling a little self conscious and the preacher, Lee Fisher, preached and gave an altar call and I remember wanting to go forward and I thought oh no, I'm Billy Graham's daughter, everybody's going to see me and I don't want to do that I don't want to call attention to myself but the urge to do that was stronger than the urge to stay in my seat.

So I went forward and I stood at the altar with my head bowed and I could hear other people coming forward, the shuffling of feet and pretty soon I felt a hand on my shoulder and I looked over and it was my father's hand and my father who had called 1000's to the altar to receive Christ was now standing with his daughter doing the same and that has been a real meaningful experience in my life.

RAS: Wow brings a tear to my eye. I accepted Christ through a Billy Graham crusade in '63.

RG: Oh.

RAS: In Los Angeles and I know that you share in your book that your father would go to the crusades and he'd leave the family behind because he didn't believe it was right to take the family with him; he considered it like taking the family to battle.

RG: That's right, that's right.

RAS: You wouldn't take your family to Iraq with you if you were going to serve duty in Iraq. How did that make you feel?

RG: Well mother and daddy were very wise to let us grow up as normally as we possibly could and I remember the first crusade I did attend was the 1957 New York City Crusade in Madison Square Garden. And all I remember at the time was just a lot of people, a lot of crowds. And we really weren't put in the lime light which was very wise and I knew, we know, and mother and certainly underscored it that daddy was doing an important work and we could participate by prayer and by support and by loving him. In our kitchen sat a globe. We

always knew where he was on Sunday afternoon we would gather and listen to the Hour of Decision and it always originated from wherever he was, it may have been Africa or India or Asia and so we knew where daddy was and then of course when he came home we got to hear of stories of lives changed, people who had been changed because of the gospel of Jesus.

RAS: Wow. You said your parents tried to raise you as normal kids, I think is the word you used.

RG: That's right, that's right.

RAS: What does that mean? Did you go to a public school or a private school?

RG: I did, I did; part of the time it was part public, part private.

RAS: And so you were raised as normal children but in some ways you were or were not normal children, I suppose.

RG: Well I suppose you might look at it that way but fortunately we lived in an area where it was populated by retired missionaries so it was not unusual for people to have traveled the world preaching the gospel. And fortunately when they saw the Graham's kids misbehaving, they didn't gossip about us, they prayed for us, so. That made a difference.

RAS: Everyone knew it was the Graham's that were misbehaving.

RG: That's right.

RAS: And they were watching to make sure when you got out of line. Oh that's funny, I know the feeling well. Yes. You know, I didn't get away with anything here, nothing.

RG: I'm sure.

RAS: Nothing. So what do you think is your father's greatest legacy?

RG: I think for me it is his sticking to his call. He knew what his call was was to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ; his passion is that everyone should have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. And you know he was tempted sometimes, I mean they wanted him to run for president, they wanted him to be a movie star, but he stuck to the gospel and that has really passed on to me to stay dependant on God and to stay focused on what God has called me to do.

RAS: So what's next? What's the next step for Ruth Graham?

RG: Robert I'm very excited, out of the book "In Every Pew Sits a Broken Heart" has been birthed a ministry, Ruth Graham and Friends and we are putting on Get Real conferences; we are presenting a real God for real issues, to get real answers and to get real freedom. And we're excited because we're dealing with the things in the church that people don't want to acknowledge, much less talk about; things like pornography and homosexuality and addictions and depression and divorce. And we're dealing with these things and wanting people to be free, to set the captive free and that's what Jesus came to do.

RAS: Absolutely, He did.

RG: Yes.

RAS: And He uses people like you and me and everyone else who will allow Him into their spirit and into their heart and follow His call.

RG: That's right.

RAS: And you've done so and you're following a legacy of a man who did so. And so Ruth we just want to thank you..

RG: Thank you.

RAS: ..for being the spirit and the person that you are..

RG: Thank you.

RG: ..and for allowing the beauty of Jesus Christ to shine through your gorgeous face.

RG: You're very kind. Thank you.

RAS: God loves you and so do we.

RG: Thank you so much.

RAS: Bless you.

RAS INTRODUCES DON & THE CHOIR

RAS: So at this time we want to welcome the choir and Don Neuen. Would you please give the choir just a real applause and thanks for everything they continue to do, their dedication and their spirit.

DON NEUEN INTRODUCES CHOIR ANTHEM

DN: Thank you Robert. Before I introduce the anthem this morning, I would like to say to Robert, on behalf of our local congregation and the nearly 30 million people viewing world wide, on his recent television interview with Bill O'Reilly on Fox TV on the subject of the Da Vinci Code, you represented us with dignity, intelligence and wisdom, with positivity and common sense. You showed an incredible, strong, firm, solid faith: faith in your religion, faith in your church, faith in your own personal feelings and faith in Christians everywhere. We're all very, very proud of you and we're proud to be a part of this great ministry and we thank you for that. You know sometimes we take for granted and don't realize that when Robert and or his father are on national television, they represent us and they do it so beautifully.

Now the anthem this morning is the 23rd Psalm. I searched about a dozen anthems to try and find a setting of the 23rd Psalm that would even come close to the power and inspiration we've been hearing every Sunday morning in the messages. I found one with an exhilarating melody and harmonies and especially rhythms. Interestingly it was composed by Chuck Pennington, you don't realize you know him but you do, he's been here frequently as the keyboardist and conductor for the very highly respected and unique instrumental group, Mannheim Steamroller.

I called him in Omaha, Nebraska a couple weeks ago and telling him we were going to do his anthem. He was delighted, in fact this week, he re-wrote the last part of the anthem to give us a big powerful ending to match really the impact of the 23rd Psalm. We hope you'll enjoy it and find meaning in it.

ANTHEM – "Twenty-Third Psalm"

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me by the still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I fear no evil for Thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want, I shall not want, I shall not, I shall not, I shall not; The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want! I shall, I shall not want!

SOLO – MATT MAHER - “Welcome to Life”

Hello, good morning everyone underneath the glorious Son. I wrote a little song for you. Sometimes we forget we are the image of the Love of God. So please, if you don't mind, let me remind you that we were made to love each other as a sister and a brother, imitate perfection in this imperfect world.

Hey welcome to life: I hope you enjoy it in between yesterday and tomorrow.
Welcome to life: I hope that you get it right.

And on the way I do confess we stumble, fall and make a mess of everything we try to hold dear. So be honest when you pray, and maybe thank Him for today. Let go of the future so unclear. Listen for the voice of mercy, cast out all your fear and worry. Can't you see you've only got room for the cross?

Hey welcome to life: I hope you enjoy it in between yesterday and tomorrow.
Welcome to life: I hope that you get it right.

And you live and you'll die; You'll be honest and you'll lie. Put your trust where the truth is and your treasure where your heart is.

So welcome to life: I hope you enjoy it in between yesterday and tomorrow.
Welcome to life: I hope that you get it ... Hey welcome to life: I hope you enjoy it in between yesterday and tomorrow. Welcome to life: I hope that you get it right.
I hope that you get it right. I hope that I get it right.

RAS THANK YOU TO MATT MAHER

RAS: Thank you Matt. God bless you. We appreciate your music, we appreciate your spirit. The way you write these songs, they're wonderful songs with great words and catchy rhythms, I love it and so the name of the CD is Overflow and did you write all of these songs on here?

MM: Yes.

RAS: So he's got a bunch of songs, very talented composer and a musician, and it's a pleasure having you here. And God bless you, thank you very much. Thank you very much.

MESSAGE/PRAYER - ROBERT A. SCHULLER

"Release Your Guilt.. Revive Your Gratitude"

RAS: Well this past week I was on the East coast and I signed hundreds of books for people who came out to some different book signings and while I was there I was on the O'Reilly factor and what I was doing on the O'Reilly factor is talking about the Da Vinci Code. Some of you have heard that there's a movie out called the Da Vinci code and some of you are living under a rock. If you haven't heard about, all I mean by that is if you haven't heard about the Da Vinci Code I don't know where you've been because it's everywhere I turn. The Da Vinci Code this, the Da Vinci code that and yet Da Vinci had nothing to do with it. It's all about a novel, a fiction written by Dan Brown, current day. He wrote a fiction, a novel which is interesting, it's good enough to be the number one selling book in the fiction section of your bookstores because it's all about fiction and that's the Da Vinci Code. Well when I share with people what my calling is is not about a Da Vinci Code or about fiction, but my calling is about the divinity code and Jesus Christ, and that's what my calling is about.

The divinity code is real; the divinity code is that Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot, was crucified, dead and buried. He rose from the grave, he is alive today and lives in the hearts and the minds of people who call upon Him and invite Him into their being. He does miracles and He's real. You won't find the Bible in the fiction section.

Twelve men lived and died proclaiming the truth of who Jesus Christ was and is and I would die for the reality of the divinity code today and I believe in it with all of my heart. Part of the divinity code, we find that throughout the whole Bible is as preliminaries and projections of what we can expect in life. And one of those happens to be that beautiful piece of scripture called the 23rd Psalm. And what do we read in the 23rd Psalm? We read "The Lord is my Shepherd." What did Jesus say about Himself? He said "I am the Good Shepherd." And what does that mean if we go back and we look at this passage and this scripture we see that it says "The Lord is my Shepherd; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His namesake." I like the way the modern translation says it, it says, "He helps me do what honors Him the most." The 23rd psalm.

Today there are people who are really going through some tough times, who are really struggling with life and self dignity and respect. In fact I was with Dianne Feinstein, the Senator of California when I was in Washington and she asked me specifically she said, "Robert what's the, what's the biggest struggle that you see people have?" I said without question or without pause I said immediately "self-esteem." People struggle with self-esteem and when people do not have a firm understanding of who Jesus Christ is, they struggle with self-esteem and when we struggle with self-esteem behavior and attitudes and the way we treat people becomes distorted and manipulated and doesn't become what Jesus Christ told us to do.

What did Jesus tell us to do? It was very simple, He said "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. And then love others as you love yourself." And it starts by coming to a full realization of who we are as individuals and people; where we can look in the mirror and we can see the person that Christ sees and we can allow that beauty that we find through Christ to flow through us, to love others and to recognize and to love our God. "The Lord is my Shepherd; He leads me in the paths of righteousness." And what does that mean? He leads me in the paths of righteousness?

I used to struggle, I mean, I used to struggle with feelings of guilt like you can't imagine. Yeah, I couldn't get away from it. When I first entered the ministry, I didn't know how to balance my time, I didn't know how to feel comfortable balancing my family life with my work life so as a result of that, when I would go to the church and teach classes and do things in the evening and I knew my family was at home and my kids were working on their homework, I'd feel guilty for not being at home helping them with their homework. And then on Saturday's when they were doing things and I needed to prepare my messages, I felt guilty because I was preparing my messages and not spending time with them. And then when I would spend time with them I felt like I should be spending time writing and doing other things for the gospel of Jesus Christ, doing what God called me to do so I felt.. I always felt guilty whether I was spending time with my family and relaxing or I felt guilty if I was at church and if I was working. I couldn't get away from the guilt no matter what I did. I felt guilty. It was a horrible thing. It wasn't peace; it was just this gnawing guilt that followed me everywhere I went.

And I'll never forget the day that I sat down with Gerald Jampolsky and we were down, I met him at his hotel and we sat around the pool in Newport Beach and he explained how the grace of Jesus Christ comes in and He takes away the guilt and

you can allow the peace of Christ's forgiveness to flow through you. That you can never be perfect, that Christ doesn't expect you to be perfect, that you can just be and that Christ loves you just the way you are.

And it was the most freeing experience of my life. Guilt is something that has a way of manipulating itself into our minds and into our hearts and sometimes the guilt is justified. There are things we have done that we're ashamed of, there are things we should've done that we didn't. And there's justified shame and guilt.

Some of the things you don't know about my wife is she is very playful. She enjoys having a good time and when she returned from her trip from Shreveport, Louisiana, she decided to have some fun. She was a flight attendant for many years with Continental Airlines and they happened to be on Continental Airlines flying back from Shreveport Louisiana and she started talking to one of the flight attendants and decided that she was going to have some fun. And she said would you mind if I went and served some of the meals and some of the drinks and stuff to the ladies who are on our trip because there's a group of about 20 ladies; he thought it was funny, so he goes and he gives her her apron, so Donna is pushing the cart down the aisle, coffee, tea or milk; that's not exactly what she said but I don't know how to say it, I wasn't a flight attendant, what can I say.

She was offering them, she was offering their refreshments and their meals and they looked at her, what do you call it again, an apron and it said, "Mike" on it. So the ladies who were a part of the group, they thought it was funny and they had a good time but what was interesting, she said everybody else just looked at me and were just rude. They didn't think it was funny, they didn't say no thank you, they just said, uh uh. Most of the time they wouldn't even look at me, she said it was the difference that I've seen from when I was doing it to today is dramatic. I just can't believe how rude people were.

And I just wonder how many times we become so self-absorbed with our own problems and frustrations and hurts, we become rude to people who are serving us. It's easy for us to say well they're getting paid for it, that's their job they're supposed to be able to handle the rudeness. I don't think that's good enough. I think Christ wants us to be an example of who He is and to put a smile on our face and to allow His love to shine through us and uplift and motivate and inspire people who are serving us.

I have a dear friend who was actually a guest in this pulpit a few years ago his name is Foster Friess. And Foster is the epitome of the most beautiful example of uplifting and encouraging people who serve. I've traveled with him and I've seen him and watched him how he's.. the valet who comes to pick up his car, he reaches out with the biggest, warmest smile and says oh you're so good, I know you're terrific at this that and the other thing and he just makes them feel like a million bucks. And then he walks, when there's a hostess there to seat us and he just continues to exude about how beautiful her eyes are and what a nice person she is and oh she's the best hostess in the world and it just goes on and on and every single person we meet; it's absolutely the most beautiful testimony of Jesus Christ living in a human being that I've ever seen because He loves everybody.

And that's what Christ has called us to do, to love everybody. But what happens is we get self-absorbed with the tasks at hand, oh I've got to get these papers written, I've got to get these reports done and somebody says would you like, can I get you a glass of water, no, no thank you, don't bother me. Or don't even glance up to look. Are you feeling guilty yet?

The good news is that even though we consistently will do these things, that if we're cognizant of it that maybe we'll be a little better and in the process share a little more of God's love with people we meet and in the process help make this

world a little better. I like the words sincere. The history of the word comes from the Greek Sin cero which actually, literally means without wax. Here's the picture: picture ancient Greece 2000 years ago and here they are, they're carving one of these spectacular marble statues and they've gotten this goddess who is just absolutely done to perfection and all of a sudden the chisel slips and puts a scar right across her shin. Oh my goodness, now what am I going to do? I've spent a lifetime doing this sculpture and I've just put a scar across her shin. Oh my goodness, what am I going to do? Well do you know what they'd do? Simple: you get some wax and you fill it in with wax, they can't tell the difference between marble and wax anyway. And you take it to the market and you sell it quick. Now people buy it and they think it's perfect and they go and they stick it up in their home and they've got it in this great place and then the sun comes out and the wax melts and you come home from work and he sees his beautiful statue and he sees the scar across her shins and he gets mad at the gardener for destroying his statue. The word sincere, it means without wax. Just the way we are. Real. Sin cero. And God wants us to come before Him and say 'cleanse me Lord.' Take away the wax, the falsehoods. Allow me to see the failures that I have and cleanse me, oh Lord, and accept me just the way that I am and God and through Christ Jesus comes and He loves you and He accepts you just the way you are.

St. Paul in his letter to the Romans said it this way: "therefore since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us. And that's the grace, that's the promise, that's the reality, that's the divinity code of Jesus Christ who came that we might have life and have it abundantly.

Dear heavenly father we thank You that You're a God who continues to touch hearts and minds with the reality of Your goodness and Your love. That as we fall short of all of the beauty that You have in store for our lives, that we'll come to You as honest, open people and sincerely confess our sins, that You will come and wrap us with Your loving arms and accept us just the way we are. So we thank You that while we were yet sinners, You died for us. And today out of gratitude for all that You have done, we reach out and love others. So cleanse us Lord, and help us to see the beautiful face in everyone we meet this week. We love You. Amen.

HYMN - "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Your tender care;
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Your folds prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us, Yours we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us, Yours we are. Amen!

BENEDICTION - RAS

RAS: Next week we're going to go to that passage of scripture which shares with us "He leads us through the valleys;" He doesn't dump us in the valleys, He leads us through and so I want to invite you to pray with me the prayer: cleanse me Lord and be prepared to take the journey through the valleys to that promised land next week.

So with that let me give you this benediction. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit open our eyes to see the beauty within.

And may we come before Him always and give Him the scars and the sins and may we experience His cleansing grace and His love, today, tomorrow and always, Amen.

ANTHEM – “How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings”

How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts, O Lord of Hosts. Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts, O Lord of Hosts! How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord, how lovely are Thy dwellings O Lord of Hosts!

For my soul desireth and longeth, desireth and longeth, desireth and longeth, desireth and longeth, for the courts of the Lord. My soul and body sing with joy unto the living God. My soul and body sing with joy unto the living, unto the living God.

How lovely are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts, O Lord of Hosts, Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts! Blest are they! O blessed! They who in Thy house are dwelling; They praise – Thy Name evermore, they praise Thy Name evermore, they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thy Name – they praise Thy Name evermore. They praise Thy Name evermore, evermore, they praise Thy Name evermore; they praise Thy Name evermore; they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thee, they praise Thee forevermore!

How lovely, how lovely, how lovely, how lovely, how lovely, how lovely are Thy dwellings!