



**ENTER** God's presence

- <sup>5</sup> Yahweh, you alone are my portion and my cup;  
you make my lot secure.
- <sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
surely I have a delightful inheritance.
- <sup>7</sup> I will praise Yahweh, who counsels me;  
even at night my heart instructs me.
- <sup>8</sup> I keep my eyes always on the Yahweh.  
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad, and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest secure,
- <sup>10</sup> because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
- <sup>11</sup> You make known to me the path of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Psalm 16:5-11

Yahweh our God, there is no security except in you. You supply all our needs. You have set us in a place of provision and delight. Fill our hearts with joy and our mouths with praise. You make your paths known to us. Lead us Yahweh our God. Amen.



**SHARE** life together

### Sing A Mighty Fortress and contemplate its meaning

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| <p><sup>1</sup> A mighty fortress is our God,<br/>a bulwark never failing;<br/>our helper he, amid the flood<br/>of mortal ills prevailing.<br/>For still our ancient foe<br/>does seek to work us woe;<br/>his craft and power are great,<br/>and armed with cruel hate,<br/>on earth is not his equal.</p>                           | <p><sup>2</sup> Did we in our own strength confide,<br/>our striving would be losing,<br/>were not the right Man on our side,<br/>the Man of God's own choosing.<br/>You ask who that may be?<br/>Christ Jesus, it is he;<br/>Lord Sabaoth his name,<br/>from age to age the same;<br/>and he must win the battle.</p> |
| <p><sup>3</sup> And though this world, with devils filled,<br/>should threaten to undo us,<br/>we will not fear, for God has willed<br/>his truth to triumph through us.<br/>The prince of darkness grim,<br/>we tremble not for him;<br/>his rage we can endure,<br/>for lo! his doom is sure;<br/>one little word shall fell him</p> | <p><sup>4</sup> That Word above all earthly powers<br/>no thanks to them abideth;<br/>the Spirit and the gifts are ours<br/>through him who with us sideth.<br/>Let goods and kindred go,<br/>this mortal life also;<br/>the body they may kill:<br/>God's truth abideth still;<br/>his kingdom is forever!</p>        |

Week beginning:  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Worship series:  
**ANCIENT CREED: LIVING FAITH**  
I believe in God who Lives Forever  
(#7 - final in series)



**VERSE** for the week

**You will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.**

Psalm 16:10-11



**REMEMBER** this week

**Christianity is *not* an insurance policy, *but* an assurance lifestyle that has great coverage now and is guaranteed for eternity.**

Life is risky. That's why we have insurance. To cover against loss, uncertainty or other unforeseen calamities that can cause hardship in life. There's home insurance, contents Insurance, car insurance, CTP insurance, travel insurance, life insurance, income protection Insurance, business insurance, pet insurance, loan protection insurance, health insurance and of course life insurance. Each of these is there to provide a safety net when things go wrong. But none of these can give us an eternal security that enables us to live boldly in every circumstance. Today in the final week of *Ancient Creed / Living Faith*, we confess a belief in a God who lives forever, and who invites us into this forever life with him. Our personal broker, the Holy Spirit understands our needs, and signs us up for a policy where the premium is already paid, and the payout already made, while we are still alive. And there is no fine print! Join us as we unpack this policy that is guaranteed to bring freedom, certainty and joy to your life now and forever.

1. ***Where have you seen God's power at work in your life this last week?***
2. ***Share how you went with your living purposefully from last time?***
3. ***A Mighty Fortress has a rousing tune but be honest, where do you find your security and strength. Is it in your savings or superannuation? In your home and belongings? Is it in your own firm opinions and ideas?***
  - a. ***What do you think it would be like to trust in God in all things?***
  - b. ***What do you think it would be like to trust in God on the mission we have been given?***
4. ***Our earthly comforts offer a false sense of security but tomorrow, they could all be gone. Fire, flood, disease, death could destroy them all for us in a moment. What then? What would it take to make the shift from the insurance of surrounding ourselves with temporary comforts to living in the assurance of God's loving care for us – one day at a time?***



**LISTEN** attentively

#### Read Revelation 21:17

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” <sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup> Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

5. ***What do you hear this scripture saying to you right now?***
6. ***What do John's words say about Jesus?***
7. ***What does this text say about life today?***
8. ***What do they say about eternal life?***



**GROW** deeper

Take time to ‘paint a word picture’ of both verses

9. ***Each person shares their word pictures.***
10. ***Together:***
  - a. ***What is God doing in both verses?***
  - b. ***What do David and John feel and see as God works?***



## LIVE purposefully

**11. How will you respond to the Bible verses this week? What pattern can you begin to establish as a disciple of Jesus? How can you develop the Gospel impact of God's commands in a way that, may be challenging, and rewarding?**

### Roosevelt's "The Man in the Arena" Speech - April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1910

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

**Prayer:** Lord help me in my weakness. Help me to find strength, comfort, and certainty in you rather than in my distractions. May my ways be your ways. May your comfort and security be my assurance. Amen.

**12. Make a list of the help you need to take hold of life for today and the week ahead.**



## PRAY intentionally

- Praise God for his gift of eternal life – Life today and always.
- Invite Jesus, once more, to restore you along with all of his Church according to his original plans and fill you again with his Holy Spirit and His power to do the work he has called you to do.
- Ask the Father to give you some one (or two or three) to pray for, asking the Father to draw them to him. (John 6:44,45)
- Intercede for the peace of God and rest for all those who have put their own health and safety on the line during COVID.
- Pray for those who have lost loved ones in any circumstance. Ask that they would receive comfort and a deep knowledge of God's grace as he sits with them, sharing in their grief.
- Check the prayer list in LifeWay News and pray accordingly.
- Pray for wisdom, knowledge and understanding for leaders in every place.
- Thank God for all the gifts he has given you to share and to minister to others with love.
- Ask God to reveal the people of peace in our community that he wants us to go out to.
- Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.

*(This has become known as the Luke 10:2 prayer)*

### REMEMBER:

**Christianity *is not* an insurance policy,  
but an assurance lifestyle that has great coverage now  
and is guaranteed for eternity.**



## BLESS one another

You might like to address one person in your group and make the sign of the cross in the air as you say...

**[Name], in Christ, you will live forever and ever. Amen.**