



How God Uses Our Afflictions



First Baptist Church

Shelbyville IN

July 26, 2026



*And we know that all things work together for good
to those who love God, to those who are called
according to His purpose.*

— Romans 8:28



Call to Worship:

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.”

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”

The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!”

And let him who thirsts come.

Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Hymn: #231 Jesus Shall Reign

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run,
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
and endless praises crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Let every creature rise and bring
Honor and glory to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.

You have called us to be your church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world.

Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active.

We are more isolated than involved.

We are more callous than compassionate.

We are more obstinate than obedient.

We are more judgmental than loving.

Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.

Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.

This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. Amen.

Hymn: None Other Lamb

None other Lamb, none other name,
None other hope in heaven or earth or sea,
None other hiding-place from guilt and shame,
None beside thee.

My faith burns low, my hope burns low;
Only my heart's desire cries out in me
By the deep thunder of its want and woe,
Cries out to thee.

None other Lamb, none other name,
None other hope in heaven or earth or sea,
None other hiding-place from guilt and shame,
None beside thee.

Lord, thou art life, though I be dead;
Love's fire thou art, however cold I be:
Nor heav'n have I, nor place to lay my head,
Nor home, but thee.

None other Lamb, none other name,
None other hope in heaven or earth or sea,
None other hiding-place from guilt and shame,
None beside thee.

None other Lamb, none other name,
None other hope in heaven or earth or sea,
None other hiding-place from guilt and shame,
None beside thee.

Assurance of Pardon:

The Lord heals the brokenhearted
And binds up their wounds.

**He counts the number of the stars;
He calls them all by name.**

Great *is* our Lord, and mighty in power;
His understanding *is* infinite.

**The Lord lifts up the humble;
He casts the wicked down to the ground.**

Hymn: #210 Jesus Paid it All

Hymn:#385 Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture: **Romans 8: 18-30**

Sermon: How God Uses Our Afflictions

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; ²¹ because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. ²³ Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. ²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Lamentations 3:19-21

¹⁹ Remember my affliction and roaming,
The wormwood and the gall.

²⁰ My soul still remembers

And sinks within me.

²¹ This I recall to my mind,
Therefore I have hope.

II Corinthians 7:10

¹⁰ For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Jonah 2:1-2

¹ Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the fish's belly. ² And he said:

"I cried out to the Lord because of my affliction,
And He answered me.

"Out of the belly of Sheol I cried,
And You heard my voice.

Psalms 54:1

¹ Save me, O God, by Your name,
And vindicate me by Your strength.

Psalms 57:1

¹ Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me!
For my soul trusts in You;
And in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge,
Until these calamities have passed by.

Psalms 61:1

¹ Hear my cry, O God;
Attend to my prayer.

Psalm 66:10-12

¹⁰ For You, O God, have tested us;
You have refined us as silver is refined.
¹¹ You brought us into the net;
You laid affliction on our backs.
¹² You have caused men to ride over our heads;
We went through fire and through water;
But You brought us out to [a]rich fulfillment.

Psalm 91:15

¹⁵ He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will deliver him and honor him.

Hebrews 12:5-6

⁵ And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:

“My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord,
Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;
⁶ For whom the Lord loves He chastens,
And scourges every son whom He receives.”

Revelation 3:19-20

¹⁹ As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.
²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

II Corinthians 4:17

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

Hymn: Praise You in the Storm

Benediction

A warm welcome to our visitors today! You will find visitor and prayer request cards on the back of each pew. Please complete a visitor card and place it in the offering plate on the corner of the sound booth. You may also submit prayer requests there or directly to the pastor or deacon, who are Roger, Jeff and Pastor Robert.

Upcoming Announcements

Oops, didn't quite get finished so the Women's Monday Bible Study, will finish up 'Relying on the Holy Spirit ' tomorrow. On Aug. 3rd, everyone from the Bible study group is getting together for lunch. If you would like to join us, just let the office know. On Aug. 10th we will begin 'James, The Relationship Between Faith and Works' by Dr. David Jeremiah. Join us at the Christian Center at 10 am.

Ephesians 4: 32

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.