



Staff Notes

SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

Vol. XV No. 22

Rehearsal Order for Tonight

1. **Come, Thou Almighty King**
2. **Your God Will Come**
3. **Until Then**
4. **Children of the Light**
5. **What Grace Is Mine**

SERVICE MUSIC FOR SUNDAY

As this coming Sunday is Labor Day, I expect that many of you will be laboring away from the church. If you are here, please robe-up and sit in the choir loft to help me lead worship.

Thanks to Barry and Miriam for leading choir rehearsal tonight. I will be back from Asheville about 10 tonight. See you Sunday if you're in town.

- **We will begin work on Christmas music next Wednesday night, September 8. Invite someone to choir and BRING THEM WITH YOU.**
- **Our Christmas concert will be Sunday evening, December 12. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW.**

“After three weeks of enjoying the church’s services, prayer, fellowship and counseling, I still feel a deep spiritual yearning. So I’m going to sue your socks off.”

MATTERS OF THE HEART

About midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. (Acts 16:25)

Today’s verse is taken from the experience of Paul and Silas in prison, but only after they had been dragged to the marketplace, whipped, and then thrown in to prison. Yet, look at their response. They were praying and singing hymns. What a powerful witness to those who were observing them. I continue to be intrigued by this description. Amazing strength, phenomenal spirit - they were praying and singing hymns in spite of what was happening.

Did this strength come from a sound theology? After all, no one could ever accuse Paul of not being orthodox in his faith. Paul’s theology was very sound. Did it account for this unusual strength and hope, the obvious feeling that pervaded all he did? It certainly did not come from having all his theological t’s crossed. You can read every book ever written and know every word that Jesus spoke, but has he invaded your soul? Have you felt his presence? In the final analysis, head knowledge alone will not be enough. Faith involves more than just knowing facts.

The primary reason for Paul’s spirit was a faith that not only made sense but one that he felt. Faith is not just a matter of knowing the facts. It is a matter of the heart as well as a matter of the head. Hopefully you will not have to sing hymns in prison this week like Paul and Silas did, but those hymns may be needed somewhere else.

DTB