

Sunday Morning Worship January 11

Jan 13, 2026

Summary

For My Holy Name's Sake

Scripture References

Psalm 95; Deuteronomy 4:9-10; Psalm 127:1-2; Exodus 20:1-17, 20:12; Daniel 9:4-6; Isaiah 43:1-3; Ezekiel 36:22-38; Genesis 12; 15; 15:17-18; 17; 28; Deuteronomy 6:7; Matthew 5:3-11; John 4:35; Romans 12:1-2; Acts 2:42; Ephesians 1:13-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7, 3:8-12; Titus 1:6-9

Introduction

- Service framed as a “Covenant Sunday” celebrating God's past faithfulness, present mercy, and a congregational recommitment.
- Call to worship from Psalms emphasized joyful, thankful praise to “the Rock of our salvation.”
- Reading of Ten Commandments reminded the body of God's holiness and human inability to keep covenant apart from Christ.
- Central text: Ezekiel 36:22-38—God promises to act “not for your sake… but for the sake of My holy name,” gathering, cleansing, and renewing His people.

Key Points / Exposition

1. God's Motive for Grace (Ez 36:22-23)

- Israel repeatedly violated covenant, profaning God's name among the nations.
- “For My holy name” = God's reputation for faithfulness, justice, and power.
- Covenantal backdrop: Abrahamic promise of land, Sinai stipulations, exile as curse for disobedience.
- When the church fails to mirror God's character, the watching world questions His power; therefore, God intervenes to vindicate Himself.

2. God's Grace Given—The “I Will” Declarations (Ez 36:24-27)

- Gathering: “I will take you… and bring you into your own land” – reversal of exile.
- Cleansing: “I will sprinkle clean water” – ceremonial purity pointing to judicial justification in Christ.

- New nature: “I will give you a new heart and a new spirit” – regeneration that replaces the stone-like, sin-bent will.
- Indwelling: “I will put My Spirit within you” – seal and guarantee (Eph 1:13-14) enabling obedience.
- Link to Genesis 15 covenant-cutting: God alone passed through the pieces, foreshadowing His unilateral fulfillment of the covenant of grace.

3. The Blessings of Grace & the Already/Not-Yet (Ez 36:28-32)

- Land, abundance, freedom from famine symbolize ultimate restoration in the new heavens and earth.
- Beatitudes (Mt 5) echo: poverty of spirit, mourning, hunger for righteousness correspond to loathing former sins and receiving divine satisfaction.
- Church age = foretaste: fields “white unto harvest” (Jn 4:35) illustrate spiritual abundance and mission.
- God's action produces humble remembrance—saved people hate their sin and magnify divine mercy.

4. Covenant Renewal Among God's People

- Membership Covenant: believers pledge mutual love, discipline, gospel advancement, family worship, generosity, unity protection.
- Elder Covenant: shepherds vow doctrinal faithfulness, qualified lives (1 Tim 3; Titus 1), accountability, and servant leadership.
- Deacon Covenant: qualified servants commit to meet physical needs, guard unity, and model service.
- Congregational Covenant to Leaders: submission to biblical oversight, prayer, material support, and restoration processes when needed.

Major Lessons & Revelations

- God's ultimate concern is His glory; grace flows from His commitment to His own holiness.
- Salvation is wholly God's work—He gathers, cleanses, regenerates, indwells, and secures.
- Covenantal structure moves from works-based shadows to Christ-fulfilled substance.
- The church is a visible preview of future restoration; our corporate life proclaims or profanes His name.

Practical Application

1. Examine personal and corporate witness: Does my life cause outsiders to revere or dismiss God?
2. Nurture the “new heart” by daily Scripture intake and Spirit-dependent obedience (Rom 12:1-2).
3. Actively uphold the membership covenant—pray, serve, forgive, give, reconcile quickly.
4. Support and hold leaders accountable through prayer, encouragement, and biblical confrontation when necessary.
5. Engage the harvest: view neighborhoods and nations as fields prepared by God's abundant grace (Jn 4:35).

Conclusion & Call to Response

The Lord of the covenant has staked His own name on our transformation. Having heard His promises and renewed our vows, we are summoned to live so that “the nations will know that I am the LORD” (Ez 36:23). Let us walk in joyful, Spirit-powered obedience, trusting that the God who began this good work will surely complete it.

Prayer

“Most holy, merciful Father, we confess we have broken covenant, yet You have kept us for Your name's sake. Thank You for sprinkling us clean, giving us new hearts, and sealing us with Your Spirit. Equip us to honor You in unity, service, and mission until the whole earth sees Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.”

References & Resources

- Hymns sung: “Immortal, Invisible” ; “Only a Holy God” ; “Come Thou Fount” ; “His Mercy Is More” ; “Holy, Holy, Holy” ; “Jesus Paid It All” ; “The Solid Rock.”
- Corporate documents: Membership Covenant; Elder & Deacon Covenants (based on 1 Tim 3; Titus 1).