

**All our transgressions are swept away at once, carried off as by a flood, and so completely removed from us that no guilty trace of them remains. They are all gone!**

O ye believers, think of this, for the all is no little thing: sins against a holy God, sins against his loving Son, sins against gospel as well as against law, sins against man as well as against God, sins of the body as well as sins of the mind, sins as numerous as the sands on the sea shore, and as great as the sea itself: all, all are removed from us as far as the east is from the west. All this evil was rolled into one great mass, and laid upon Jesus, and having borne it all he has made an end of it for ever.

When the Lord forgave us he forgave us the whole debt. He did not take the bill and say, "I strike out this item and that," but the pen went through it all;—PAID. It was a receipt in full of all demands, Jesus took the handwriting which was against us and nailed it to his cross, to show before the entire universe that its power to condemn us had ceased forever. We have in him a full forgiveness.

— C. H. Spurgeon's sermon "Forgiveness Made Easy"

**bethel** *community*  
CHURCH

7601 W. Foster Ave. Chicago, IL 60656  
773. 775. 2355 | office@bethelcommunity.org

[bethelcommunity.org](http://bethelcommunity.org)

AS FAR AS THE

EAST

← IS FROM THE →

WEST



A WORSHIP EXPERIENCE BASED ON PSALM 103:12

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6 | 6:30PM**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 7 | 11AM**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP GATHERING



### Welcome

### Greeting

TO THE KING \*

HE IS OUR GOD \*

FOREVER (WE SING HALLELUJAH) \*

KING OF MY HEART

IT IS WELL \*

ALL GONE

WHAT LANGUAGE SHALL I BORROW

THE WORD OF GOD IS SPOKEN \*

ALMIGHTY \*

IT IS FINISHED

WORTHY IS THE LAMB \*

*\*with congregational singing*

## PSALM 103:12

**“As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.”**

What a beautiful thing this is to contemplate, that our sins are removed from us as far as the east is from the west. At the risk of stretching a metaphor too far, isn't it amazing that He tells us they are removed as far as the east is from the west, not as far as the north is from the south? If we travel north far enough, eventually we can go no further north. Standing on the north pole, there is nowhere to go but south. There is a fixed distance, then between the north and the south. It is a long distance, but a finite one.

Yet this is not true when we travel east. We never reach a point where eastward travel must end, and westward travel must start. Any line that we draw on the earth to separate the east and the west is completely arbitrary, whereas the points of ultimate north and ultimate south are determined by the axis of the earth. Hence, the eastward removal of our sins has an infinite quality to it, a permanence.

So then, when we remember sins we have already repented of and laid at the feet of Jesus; when we wallow in our guilt and are stifled by feelings of unworthiness and inadequacy, then we are remembering sins that God does not remember. He has removed them, as far as the east is from the west. He removed them at a great cost to Himself, and He wants us to move on in victory.

When sin is dealt with in God's perfect way we are free. We are free to serve Him, using all the strength and talents and wisdom He has given us, knowing that though we often stumble, He will always give us what we need to persevere. Praise be to God for removing our sins from us as far as the east is from the west!