

#655 – HAPPY THE HOME

1

Happy the home when God is there,
and love fills every breast;
when one their wish, and one their prayer,
and one their heavenly rest.

2

Happy the home where Jesus' name
is sweet to every ear;
where children early speak his fame,
and parents hold him dear.

3

Happy the home where prayer is heard,
and praise is wont to rise;
where parents love the sacred Word
and all its wisdom prize.

4

Lord, let us in our homes agree
this blessed peace to gain;
unite our hearts in love to thee,
and love to all will reign.

SOUTHERN ASIA ADVENTIST ASSOCIATION, INC.
SABBATH SERVICES

"THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE"

SPEAKER

Elder Pratap Gopala Rao

MAY 13, 2017

Eglise Baptiste Du Calvaire
10002 Riggs Rd, Adelphi, MD 20783



SOUTHERN ASIA ADVENTIST ASSOCIATION, INC.

SABBATH SERVICES - MAY 13, 2017

PRAYER BREAKFAST

9:30 AM -10:25 AM

DR. CATHY AND NATHAN PURUSHOTHAMAN



COMBINED LESSON STUDY

10:30 AM -11:15 AM

DR. RAMAN RAO EPURI

Mother's Hands by Arthur S. Maxwell, adapted by Karen Flowers

A young mother laid her baby girl to sleep in her cradle. I'll just go to the neighbors for a minute to visit, she thought to herself. I haven't had time to talk to her for such a long time. But while she and the neighbor were chatting, the city fire alarm sent a chill through them both.

"Don't worry," said the neighbor. "Most likely it's only a grass fire. There are lots of them at this time of year. I'm sure the fire isn't anywhere near here."

"But listen," said the mother. "I think I hear the fire engine coming this way. Look! People are running down the street-running toward my house!"

Without another word she dashed into the street and ran with the gathering crowd. Then she saw it. Her own house was on fire! Smoke and flames were already pouring through the roof.

"My baby!" she cried frantically. "My baby!"

The crowd was thick around the house, but she pushed and shoved until she reached the door. A fireman stopped her and said, "You can't go in there! You will be burned!"

But the mother cried, "Let me go! Let me go!" as she broke free and dashed into the flaming house.

She knew just where to go. Running through the smoke and flames, she seized her precious baby, then turned to make her way out. But by now the smoke made it very

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DIVINE SERVICE

11:30 AM

Prelude		Shirlin Monickam
Doxology	"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"	Congregation
Invocation		Elder Pratap Gopala Rao
Welcome		Premi Rathan Raj
Opening Hymn	"Happy the Home" #655	Congregation
Prayer		Blossom Gantt
Special Music	Anita, Christine, Lovella, Sarika, Shamuli & Susie	
Mother's Day Tribute		Helen Charles
Special Music	Anita, Christine, Lovella, Sarika, Shamuli & Susie	
Scripture Reading	Proverbs 31:10-12 & 25-31	Shannon Injety
Special Music		Kevin Gopala Rao
Sermon	"The Hand that Rocks the Cradle"	Elder Pratap Gopala Rao
Call for Offering		Sivalingam Milton
Special Music		Dorrel McLaren
Benediction		Elder Pratap Gopala Rao
Postlude		Shirlin Monickam

Presiding Elder—Premi Rathan Raj

Pianist—Shirlin Monickam

Chorister—Ravi Pitta

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERINGS

The Offerings this morning are for general expenses. They help defray the costs of the rental of this facility and other related expenses in our worship and fellowship today, and the life of the association. Please be generous in your giving.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH TODAY

Food is a major part of our celebration of Mother's Day. The delicious food prepared for today is in honor of our mothers, the wives, the matrons and the ladies of our association. Please join us in the fellowship hall immediately following the service. ALL ARE INVITED.

Mother's Hands *continued from 2 . . .*

hard to see and breathe. Nearly overcome, she swayed and fell, and would not have made it out of the house safely if a fireman had not picked her up and carried her out.

What a cheer went up as they appeared! Baby Marjorie was not hurt at all! But the poor mother's hands were terribly burned. Kind friends took care of the baby while the ambulance took her to the hospital. The doctors did their best, but her hands were terribly scared.

Years later, when Marjorie had grown, she suddenly noticed something she had not noticed before. Her mother's hands were so ugly! "Why are your hands so ugly?" she asked her mother when they were alone.

Tears filled her mother's eyes as she remembered how frightened she was the day the house burned with Marjorie asleep and unaware of the danger. "Have I said something wrong?" Marjorie asked when she saw the tears. "No, my dear," replied her mother. "But there's a story I need to tell you." Then she told Marjorie the story of the fire. She told how the people tried to hold her back, how the fireman tried to stop her, how she battled the flames to rescue her, how she fell, and how they were rescued. Then she held out her scared hands for Marjorie to see.

"They are ugly, in a way, aren't they," Mother said softly. "For me, the only thing that mattered was to save your life."

Now it was Marjorie's turn to shed a few tears. "Oh, Mother," she cried, "You must love me so much! These are the most beautiful hands in all the world!" Do you know there are hands that were hurt for you? The hands of Jesus. Soldiers drove great nails through His hands and hung Him on a cross to die so you could go to heaven. Even when He comes again, the marks made by those nails will still be there. If you ask Him, He will show them to you. When you see them, you will know for sure how much Jesus loves you!

Pratap Gopala Rao

Pratap Gopala Rao is a third-generation Seventh-day Adventist, with a deep passion for God, a love for His word and a desire to lead others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

He graduated from Spicer Memorial College with majors in Chemistry and Religious Philosophy, and furthered his education with additional degrees from Pune University (India), Washington Adventist University, and Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary. A certified specialist in chemistry, he has worked as a clinical laboratory professional for over 30 years. But nothing gives him greater joy than making Jesus real to people through dynamic, relevant and Christ-centered preaching. His recent Week of Prayer at Lowry Adventist College, in Bangalore, India, where he presented stirring, riveting, and soul-searching sermons under the general theme, "Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives," was well-received by a student-body comprising a large number of Hindus, Muslims, and people of other faiths.

Pratap believes that the greatest challenge facing Adventism today is one of relevance: "People do not reject the gospel because they no longer believe it to be true; they reject it because it no longer resonates with them. Our task as pastors and lay people alike is to make Jesus real and relevant to people. Theology must be brought down from the ivory towers of learning, and into the everyday experience of ordinary people—people who are struggling to live redeemed lives in the midst of a broken and unredeemed world."

Pratap presently serves as an elder and main preacher at the Clarksburg Seventh-day Adventist Church. He continues to preach in many Adventist churches in the Allegany East, Chesapeake and Potomac Conferences. Speaking invitations have also taken him to Arkansas, California, New York, Texas, Canada, India and the United Kingdom. Over the years, he's also been invited to speak at church and association camps, graduation services, family life events, General Conference worships, prayer breakfasts, and weddings.

Pratap considers it a privilege to uplift Christ through the preaching of His word.