

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025



PRELUDE *“Thank God For Sunday Morning”* Cochran & Company

Verse 1

Neon lights and stained glass windows
Old bar stools and back row pews
I ran to one more than the other
But I couldn't outrun You
Trying to fill up all the empty
Trying to numb the pain inside
Thinking You'd never forgive me
For all those Saturday nights

Chorus

(But) thank God for Sunday morning
Thank God for three sixteen
And the words in red that say You bled
And gave Your life for me
Thank God for the choir singing
And the voice saying come back home
Saturday night looked like the end of the story
(But thank God for Sunday morning)

Verse 2

Now I know that You're no stranger
To the broken hearts like mine
It's what You do yeah somehow You
Bring dead things back to life
And it might look like it's as over
As a stone over a grave
But I've seen You move I'm living proof
You still roll stones away

Verse 3

Sunlight through the stained glass window
Feels like freedom on my face
Really is a new beginning
It really is amazing grace

Ending

Saturday night looked like the end of the story
But thank God for Sunday morning
Thank God for Sunday morning

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WELCOME STATEMENT

Verse 1

Do you feel the world is broken
 We do
 Do you feel the shadows deepen
 We do
 But do you know that all the dark
 Won't stop the light from getting through
 We do
 Do you wish that you could see it all made new
 We do

Verse 2

Is all creation groaning
 It is
 Is a new creation coming
 It is
 Is the glory of the Lord
 To be the light within our midst
 It is
 Is it good that we remind ourselves of this
 It is

Chorus 1

Is anyone worthy
 Is anyone whole
 Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
 The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
 He is David's Root
 And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
 Is He worthy
 Is He worthy
 Of all blessing and honor and glory
 Is He worthy of this
 He is

Verse 3

Does the Father truly love us
 He does
 Does the Spirit move among us
 He does
 And does Jesus our Messiah
 Hold forever those He loves
 He does
 Does our God intend to dwell again with us
 He does

Chorus 2

Is anyone worthy
 Is anyone whole
 Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll
 The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
 He is David's Root
 And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
 From ev'ry people and tribe every nation and tongue
 He has made us a kingdom and priests
 To God to reign with the Son
 Is He worthy
 Is He worthy
 Of all blessing and honor and glory
 Is He worthy
 Is He worthy
 Is He worthy of this
 He is

Ending

Is He worthy
 Is He worthy
 He is
 He is

GREETING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our creator,
our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

(Assembly is seated.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people.

Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your

promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus

Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

A reading from Nehemiah.

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 19

Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.

How priceless is your love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

**They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

**Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING*1 Corinthians 12:12-31a*

A reading from First Corinthians.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:14-21

The gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

(The Assembly is seated)

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Phillip Potaczek

SERMON

Rev. Phillip Potaczek

SONG OF THE DAY

“I Lift My Hands”

Chris Tomlin

Verse 1

Be still there is a healer
His love is deeper than the sea
His mercy is unfailing
His arms a fortress for the weak
Let faith arise
Let faith arise

Chorus

I lift my hands to believe again
You are my refuge
You are my strength
As I pour out my heart
These things I remember
You are faithful God (You’re faithful God)
Forever

Verse 2

Be still there is a river
That flows from Calvary's tree
A fountain for the thirsty
Your grace that washes over me
Let faith arise
Let faith arise

Bridge

Let faith arise let faith arise
Open my eyes open my eyes
Let faith arise let faith arise
Open my eyes open my eyes

Ending

Let faith arise
Let faith arise

PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;**

he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;

**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each prayer petition, please respond:

Lord in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

May the peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

OFFERING

"Gratitude"

Brandon Lake

Verse 1

All my words fall short

I got nothing new

How could I express

All my gratitude

Verse 2

I could sing these songs

As I often do

But every song must end

And You never do

Chorus

So I throw up my hands

And praise You again and again

'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah

And I know it's not much

But I've nothing else fit for a king

Except for a heart singing hallelujah

Hallelujah

Verse 3

I've got one response

I've got just one move

With my arms stretched wide

I will worship You

Bridge

Come on my soul

Oh don't you get shy on me

Lift up your song

'Cause you've got a lion

inside of those lungs

Get up and praise the Lord

OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Modern Version

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as our Savior taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who wish to know the love of God in Jesus Christ are invited to Holy Communion. Inform a communion assistant if you need a gluten-free host. Grape juice is located in the center ring of the tray. If you are not receiving the sacrament today, please come forward with your arms crossed over your chest for a blessing.

COMMUNION MUSIC

“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Chris Tomlin

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG*“The Plans”*

Ed Cash

Verse 1

When I am anxious
 When I am afraid
 I take it to God
 I call on His Name
 If the mover of mountains
 Is listening to me
 Why should I worry
 Why should I fear anything

Chorus 1

For I know the plans He has for me
 Yes I know the plans He has for me
 For my good
 To give me a hope and a future

Verse 2

When I am waiting
 For His promise to come
 Sometimes He's silent
 But I'm never alone
 He walks in the valley
 And He quiets the storm
 He stands in the fire
 So why should I fear anymore

Chorus 2

For I know the plans He has for me
 Yes I know He's working everything
 For my good
 To give me a hope and a future

Bridge 1

All my life
 All I've seen
 Your endless love
 Surrounding me
 With every breath
 I will be found by You

Bridge 2

If I set sail
 Or spread my wings
 And find myself
 On the farthest sea
 You're waiting there
 I will be found by You
 I will be found by You

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SENDING

Siblings in Christ, our Eucharist has ended. **Now, it must be lived.**
After our annual meeting... Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

Sunday, January 26, 2025

Crucifer/Acolyte: *Pearl*
 Ushers:
 Lector: *LouAnn Gayan*
 Communion Assistants: *Anne Lauterjung*
 Brad Gromm
 Altar Guild: *Becky Glaser and Annette Bruce*
 Video Tech: *Cara Manning*
 Music Directors: *Matt Makeever & Mary Heider*

Sunday, February 2, 2025

Crucifer/Acolyte: *Elle*
 Ushers:
 Lector: *Jane Goetz*
 Communion Assistants: *Jane Goetz*

 Altar Guild: *Linda Scott*
 Video Tech: *Cara Manning*
 Music Directors: *Matt Makeever & Mary Heider*