

Celebrate



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Connecting Faith to Everyday Life.

Contemporary Worship Service

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ♦ SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2021

WEEK 2: RELEASE



GATHERING

Gathering Song – “Dawn,” Luke Smallbone, Rebecca St. James, Seth Mosley, and Tedd Tjornhom

1. Lord I'm so tired in this fight
Tired of waking up with no end in sight
I feel I've got so little left
I know that I've come to the end of myself

Pre-Chorus: Help me hold on
I'll cling to You till I see the sun

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Chorus: Held by Your love
I sing alleluia
You're lifting my heart as I lift my hands
Safe in Your love
I sing alleluia
You're healing my heart as I lift my hands

2. Water the garden of my life
With every sorrow every tear that I've cried
Redeem this winter for Your good
Lord show Your power as only You could (*pre-chorus, chorus*)

Bridge: Even in the trials
Even when it's hardest
You are faithful and You bring the dawn
On every mountain
I'll sing it even louder
You are faithful and You bring the dawn (*repeat, then chorus*)

Welcome to Worship

Gathering Song – “Again and Again,” Claire Cloninger and Robert Sterling

1. Lord of the manger, Lord of the cross,
we gained our freedom with the life that you lost.
You lived among us, our Savior and Friend.
And we praise you, Lord Jesus, again and again.

2. Lord of all mercy, Lord of all joy,
you claimed the vict'ry death can never destroy.
You give us new life that never will end.
And we praise you, Lord Jesus, again and again.

Chorus: Glory to the One who walks beside us.
Glory to the One who always will.
We praise you for your awesome love that guides us.
And when your kingdom comes, we will praise you still.

3. Lord of all ages, Lord of all days, we stand before you forever amazed.
At how you have loved us and called us your friend.
And we praise you, Lord Jesus, Yes, we praise you, Lord Jesus,
Yes, we praise you, Lord Jesus, again and again.

Confession and Forgiveness

Song of Praise – “Salt and Light,” Jan and John L'Ecuyer

Verse: You make me want to be like you; Your holiness I will pursue.
I want the heart of Jesus. Show me the meaning of your grace;
I want to give the world a taste of the love of Jesus.

Chorus: Make me salt; make me light. Let your holy fire ignite.
Reveal your glory in my life.
I am not ashamed to lift up your holy name.
Make me salt; make me light. (*verse, then chorus*)

Interlude: Set me as a city on a hill, a lamp on a stand.
Mold me in your image, the work of your hand. (*chorus*)

Prayer of the Day

WORD

Faith Milestone – Three-Year-Olds’ Bible

Reading – Deuteronomy 15:1–11

Gospel – Matthew 19:16–22

Sermon

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.**

Song of the Day – “Offer Your Heart,” Dennis Gale

Chorus: Offer your heart, give as you’ve been given.

Give of your first fruits, the best you can give.

Offer your life; love, love God completely.

May God bless the life you live.

1. We don’t deserve such loving grace.
We cannot earn the love God’s giving.
With humble hearts, our sacrifice:
We offer God the lives we’re living. (*chorus*)
2. We give our love, we give our lives,
We’re grateful that our sins are forgiven.
Use us, oh Lord, to work your will.
We offer You the lives we’re living. (*chorus*)

Prayers of the People

MEAL

Offering

Invitation

Offering Song – “Confidence,” Chris Rohman, Dustin Lolli, Ethan Hulse, and Matthew Armstrong

1. I’m not a warrior, I’m too afraid to lose.
I feel unqualified for what You’re calling me to.
But Lord, with Your strength, I’ve got no excuse,
'cause broken people are exactly who You use.

Chorus: So give me faith like Daniel in the lion's den,
give me hope like Moses in the wilderness.
Give me a heart like David, Lord be my defense,
so I can face my giants with confidence.

2. You took a shepherd boy and made him a king,
so I'm gonna trust You and give You ev'rything.
I'll be a conqueror 'cause You fight for me.
I'll be a champion claiming Your victory. (*chorus*)

Bridge: I'm gonna sing and shout and shake the walls.
Won't stop until I see 'em fall.
Gonna stand up, step out when You call, Jesus, Jesus
I'm gonna sing and shout and shake the walls.
Won't stop until I see 'em fall.
Gonna stand up, step out when You call, Jesus

Final chorus: Give me faith like Daniel in the lion's den,
give me hope like Moses in the wilderness.
Give me a heart like David, Lord be my defense,
so I can face my giants with confidence.
so I can face my giants with confidence.

Offering Prayer

Holy Communion

The Price of Grace

Words of Institution – The Greatest Gift

Lord's Prayer

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 he glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

Invitation to Eat

Prayer after the Meal

SENDING

Announcements

Sending

Sending Song – “What a Friend,” Abbie Parker, Adam Palmer, Matt Maher,
and Matthew Hein

1. Everybody has trials and temptations
Everybody knows heart break isolation
But we can lay our burdens down
Lay our burdens down

Chorus: What a friend we have in Jesus
East to west my sins are gone
I see grace on every horizon
And forever and ever His heart is my home

2. Everybody has fears everybody has worries
Everybody knows sorrow, devastation
But we can lay our burdens down
Lay our burdens down (*chorus*)

Bridge: No more betrayal for He is faithful
He fills me up and my cup runneth over
No more betrayal for He is faithful
How He has proven it over and over (*repeat, chorus*)

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister: Pastor Randy Gehring

Preaching Minister: Pastor Shelly Gehring

Celebrate Band: Stacie Soderstrom, Toni LeVasseur, Gene LeVasseur,
Jake Lemme, and Steve Kuper

Reader: Dean Mertz

Communion Server: Shawn Wells

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Sound: Matt Steinhouse

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WEEK TWO RELEASE

FINDING RELEASE

BY LAUREN WRIGHT PITTMAN

INSPIRED BY MATTHEW 19:16-22 (*A wealthy man seeks eternal life*)

ACRYLIC, INK, & WATERCOLOR ON CANVAS

As I write this in the midst of a global pandemic,¹ we are collectively grieving countless losses and desperately seeking answers to quell our fears of what's to come. The economy is nosediving and many face grave illness or even death. Some can't see past the fog of new living restrictions and are calling to reopen

the economy because they believe it will save us. Others are choosing to stay home, risking economic fallout, to protect the lives of the vulnerable.

When afraid, we turn inward. I see fear and loneliness in the rich man. He's focused on an individual path, leading to his personal salvation, while missing the full picture. The man's wealth may cause him comfort, but it does not exist in a vacuum. His wealth affects the lives of others—particularly those at the margins of society.

Jesus offers the rich man spiritual grounding that completely threatens his financial stability, but it's good news just the same. Jesus reveals to the rich man the truth that we are all connected. Jesus chooses to name commandments concerning interpersonal relationships and community (v. 18-19). Jesus offers the rich man freedom from his entanglement with wealth, and gifts him belonging and a way forward (v. 21). The rich man feels the weight of this truth. To “enter this life” he must recognize his responsibility for his neighbor, because our lives are interwoven.

Instead of grasping to Jesus' lifeline, the rich man turns away because he cannot fathom losing everything. His grief feels palpable in this time of upheaval. I meditated on his grief, layering dusty purples, muted greens, and chalky blacks. I imagine the rich man isn't turning away from Jesus altogether. Perhaps he's taking space to feel his grief, processing all he will lose so he can truly find release.

—LAUREN WRIGHT PITTMAN

¹ Written in April 2020, in the surge of the global pandemic caused by COVID-19.



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