

Order of Worship – March 14, 2021 – WOV Setting 4

4th Sunday in Lent

Welcome

I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever

Over the mountains and the sea
Your river runs with love for me.
And I will open up my heart
And let the healer set me free.
I'm happy to be in the truth,
And I will daily lift my hands
For I will always sing
Of when Your love came down.

I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever.
I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever.

Over the mountains and the sea
Your river runs with love for me.
And I will open up my heart

And let the healer set me free.
I'm happy to be in the truth,
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For I will always sing
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I could sing of Your love forever.

I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever.
I could sing of Your love forever,
I could sing of Your love forever.

By Martin Smith

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Ancient Words

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Words of life words of hope
Give us strength help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice
O heed the faithful words of Christ

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

Martyr's blood stains each page
They have died for this faith
Hear them cry through the years
Heed these words and hold them dear

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart
O let the ancient words impart

by Lynn DeShazo

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Prayer

Gathering Song: You are My King

I'm forgiven Because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
I'm alive and well.
Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again.

I'm forgiven Because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
I'm alive and well.
Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again.

Amazing love, How can it be.
That You, my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true.
It's my joy to honor You.

Amazing love, How can it be.
That You, my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true.
It's my joy to honor You.
In all I do, I honor You.

You are my King.
You are my King.
Jesus, You are my King.
Jesus, You are my King.

I'm forgiven Because You were forsaken.
I'm accepted, You were condemned.
I'm alive and well.
Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again.

Amazing love, How can it be.
That You, my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true.
It's my joy to honor You.
In all I do, I honor You.
In all I do, I honor You.
In all I do let me honor You.

By Billy James Foote

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Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ, Let us return to the One who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Fountain of living water,

C: pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.

Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen

P: Beloved, God's Word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C: Amen

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie – With One Voice, Setting 4; page 12

A: In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen

Hymn of Praise, With One Voice, Setting 4; page 15

C: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord, Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the

Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God, rich in mercy,

C: by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen

Lessons

Numbers 21:4-9 (GWT God's Word Translation)

Then they moved from Mount Hor, following the road that goes to the Red Sea, in order to get around Edom. The people became impatient on the trip ⁵ and criticized God and Moses. They said, "Why did you make us leave Egypt—just to let us die in the desert? There's no bread or water, and we can't stand this awful food!"

⁶ So the LORD sent poisonous snakes among the people. They bit the people, and many of the Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we criticized the LORD and you. Pray to the Lord so that he will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake, and put it on a pole. Anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it on a pole. People looked at the bronze snake after they were bitten, and they lived.

Ephesians 2:1-10 (GWT)

¹You were once dead because of your failures and sins. ²You followed the ways of this present world and its spiritual ruler. This ruler continues to work in people who refuse to obey God. ³All of us once lived among these people, and followed the desires of our corrupt nature. We did what our corrupt desires and thoughts wanted us to do. So, because of our nature, we deserved God's anger just like everyone else.

⁴But God is rich in mercy because of his great love for us. ⁵We were dead because of our failures, but he made us alive together with Christ. (It is God's kindness that saved you.) ⁶God has brought us back to life together with Christ Jesus and has given us a position in heaven with him. ⁷He did this through Christ Jesus out of his generosity to us in order to show his extremely rich kindness in the world to come. ⁸God saved you through faith as an act of kindness. You had nothing to do with it. Being saved is a gift from God. ⁹It's

not the result of anything you've done, so no one can brag about it. ¹⁰God has made us what we are. He has created us in Christ Jesus to live lives filled with good works that he has prepared for us to do.

Gospel Acclamation: WOV setting 4, page 17

C: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

P: The Gospel according to... **John 3:1-21 (GWT)**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a member of the Jewish council. ²He came to Jesus one night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that God has sent you as a teacher. No one can perform the miracles you perform unless God is with him."

³Jesus replied to Nicodemus, "I can guarantee this truth: No one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

⁴Nicodemus asked him, "How can anyone be born when he's an old man? He can't go back inside his mother a second time to be born, can he?"

⁵Jesus answered Nicodemus, "I can guarantee this truth: No one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh and blood give birth to flesh and blood, but the Spirit gives birth to things that are spiritual. ⁷Don't be surprised when I tell you that all of you must be born from above. ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you don't know where the wind comes from or where it's going. That's the way it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus replied, "How can that be?"

¹⁰Jesus told Nicodemus, "You're a well-known teacher of Israel. Can't you understand this? ¹¹I can guarantee this truth: We know what we're talking about, and we confirm what we've seen. Yet, you don't accept our message. ¹²If you don't believe me when I tell you about things on earth, how will you believe me when I tell you about things in heaven? ¹³No one has gone to heaven except the Son of Man, who came from heaven.

¹⁴"As Moses lifted up the snake [on a pole] in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up. ¹⁵Then everyone who believes in him will have eternal life."

¹⁶God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. ¹⁷God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but to save the world. ¹⁸Those who believe in him won't be condemned. But those who don't believe are already condemned because they don't believe in God's only Son.

¹⁹This is why people are condemned: The light came into the world. Yet, people loved the dark rather than the light because their actions were evil. ²⁰People who do what is wrong hate the light and don't come to the light. They don't

want their actions to be exposed. ²¹But people who do what is true come to the light so that the things they do for God may be clearly seen.

After the reading

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message: "Look To Jesus"

Message Hymn: **You Led Me to the Cross**

You led me to the cross
And I saw the face of mercy
In that place of love
You opened up my eyes
To believe your sweet salvation
Where I'd been so blind
Now that I'm living
In your all forgiving love
My every road leads to the cross

Jesus, keep me near the cross
I won't forget the love you've shown
Savior, teach me of the cross
I won't forget the love
I won't forget the love you've shown

And there's an empty tomb
That tells me of your resurrection
And my life in you
The stone lies rolled away
Nothing but those folded grave clothes
Where your body lay
Now that I'm living
As a risen child of God
My every road leads to the cross

Jesus, keep me near the cross
I won't forget the love you've shown
Savior, teach me of the cross
I won't forget the love
I won't forget the love you've shown

By Matt Redman

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Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

Praise Song: **At the Cross**

I know a place, a wonderful place

Where accused and condemned

Find mercy and grace,
Where the wrongs we have done
And the wrongs done to us
Were nailed there with Him,
There on the cross.
At the cross, He died for our sin.
At the cross, He gave us life again.

I know a place, a wonderful place
Where accused and condemned
Find mercy and grace,
Where the wrongs we have done
And the wrongs done to us
Were nailed there with Him,
There on the cross.
At the cross, He died for our sin.

At the cross, He gave us life again.
At the cross, He died for our sin.
At the cross, He gave us life again.

At the cross, He died for our sin.
At the cross, He gave us life again.
At the cross, You died for our sin.
At the cross, You gave us life again.

I know a place, a wonderful place
Where accused and condemned
Find mercy and grace,
Where the wrongs we have done
And the wrongs done to us
Were nailed there with Him,
There on the cross.

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Passing the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offertory – With One Voice, Setting 4, Page 21

C: Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Prayers of the Church

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A: ...Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

Prayers are concluded with

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in

heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Keep us from falling into sin when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen

Closing Song: We Want To See Jesus Lifted High

We want to see Jesus lifted high,
A banner that flies across the land,
That we all might see
The truth and know
He is the way to heaven.

We're gonna see, we're gonna see,
We're gonna see Jesus lifted high.
We're gonna see, we're gonna see,
We're gonna see Jesus lifted high.

We want to see Jesus lifted high,
A banner that flies across the land,
That we all might see
The truth and know
He is the way to heaven.

Step by step we're moving forward,
Little by little taking ground.
Every prayer a powerful weapon,
Strongholds come tumbling down
And down, and down, and down.

We want to see, we want to see,
We want to see Jesus lifted high.
We want to see, we want to see
We want to see Jesus lifted high.

We want to see Jesus lifted high,
A banner that flies across the land,
That we all might see
The truth and know
He is the way to heaven.
He is the way to heaven.
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Sending

A: Go in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: Share the Good News.

C: Yes, Lord, we will!