

Order of Worship – March 7, 2021 – WOV Setting 4 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

If We are the Body

It's crowded in worship today
As she slips in
Trying to fade into the faces.
The girls teasing laughter is
Carrying farther than they know,
Farther than they know.

But if we are the body,
Why aren't His arms reaching?
Why aren't His hands healing?
Why aren't His words teaching?
And if we are the body,
Why aren't His feet going?
Why is His love not showing them
There is a way?

A trav'ler is far away from home.
He sheds his coat
And quietly sinks into the back row.
The weight of their judgmental
Glances tells him that his chances
Are better out on the road.

But if we are the body,
Why aren't His arms reaching?
Why aren't His hands healing?
Why aren't His words teaching?
And if we are the body,
Why aren't His feet going?
Why is His love not showing them
There is a way?
Jesus paid much too high a price
For us to pick and choose who should come;
And we are the body of Christ.

If we are the body,
Why aren't His arms reaching?
Why aren't His hands healing?
Why aren't His words teaching?
And if we are the body,
Why aren't His feet going?
Why is His love not showing them
There is a way?
Jesus is the way.

*By Mark Hall
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I Be, I Am

O Lord, I'm lost, lonely and tired,
Wanting for a friend.
Darkness seems to close in on me
On a path with no end;
And I'm looking for someone to lead me
along.
I wonder, I'm searching, Who are You?
I am hurting from the things that I've said,
Driving friends away
And my hopes that what they promise me
Unfulfilled today
And I'm longing for someone whose
promise is sure.
I wonder, I'm searching, Who are You?

"I am the Lord, that is my name.
I am God, I Be, I Am.
I can fill your life
In all things I provide.
I am the Lord, that is my name.
I am God, I Be, I Am.
All your needs I have fulfilled
Where I died."
When I've failed to love like You do,
Not sure where I stand
And by sin Your image broken
Driving nails into Your hand
And I want to return to the promise of
grace.
I wonder, I'm searching, Who are You?

“I am the Lord, that is my name.
I am God, I Be, I Am.
I can fill your life
In all things I provide.
I am the Lord, that is my name.
I am God, I Be, I Am.
All your needs I have fulfilled
Where I died.”

“I am the Lord, that is my name.
I am God, I Be, I Am.

I can fill your life
In all things I provide.

I am the Lord, that is my name.
I am God, I Be, I Am.
All your needs I have fulfilled
Where I died.
And I have been, I will be, I Am to the end.”

*By David Bakken & Rev. J. Patrick Fitzgerald
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Prayer

Gathering Song: **LBW 249 God Himself is Present**

God himself is present; let us now adore him
And with awe appear before him!
God is in his temple; all within keep silence,
Prostrate lie with deepest rev'rence.
Him alone God we own,
Him, our God and Savior;
Praise his name forever!

God himself is present; hear the harps
resounding;
See the hosts the throne resounding!
“Holy, holy, holy!” Hear the hymn
ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow your ear to us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That your Church now raises.

Light of light eternal, all things penetrating,
For your rays our soul is waiting.
As the tender flowers, willingly unfolding,
To the sun their faces holding:
Even so would we do,
Light from you obtaining,
Strength to serve you gaining.

Come, celestial Being, make our hearts your
dwelling,
Ev'ry carnal thought dispelling.
By your Holy Spirit sanctify us truly,
Teaching us to love you only.
Where we go here below,
Let us bow before you
And in truth adore you.

*Tune: Joachim Neander; Text: Gerhard Tersteegen
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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. Holy God,

C: through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Lessons

Exodus 20:1-17 (The Message)

GOD spoke all these words:

I am GOD, your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
out of a life of slavery.

³ No other gods, only me.

⁴⁻⁶ No carved gods of any size, shape, or form of anything whatever, whether of things that fly or walk or swim. Don't bow down to them and don't serve them because I am GOD, your God, and I'm a most jealous God, punishing the children for any sins their parents pass on to them to the third, and yes, even to the fourth generation of those who hate me. But I'm unswervingly loyal to the thousands who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ No using the name of GOD, your God, in curses or silly banter; GOD won't put up with the irreverent use of his name.

⁸⁻¹¹ Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Work six days and do everything you need to do. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to GOD, your God. Don't do any work—not you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your servant, nor your maid, nor your animals, not even the foreign guest visiting in your town. For in six days GOD made Heaven, Earth, and sea, and everything in them; he rested on the seventh day. Therefore GOD blessed the Sabbath day; he set it apart as a holy day.

¹² Honor your father and mother so that you'll live a long time in the land that God, your God, is giving you.

¹³ No murder.

¹⁴ No adultery.

¹⁵ No stealing.

¹⁶ No lies about your neighbor.

¹⁷ No lusting after your neighbor's house—or wife or servant or maid or ox or donkey. Don't set your heart on anything that is your neighbor's.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (The Message)

The Message that points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer silliness to those hell-bent on destruction, but for those on the way of salvation it makes perfect sense. This is the way God works, and most powerfully as it turns out. It's written,

I'll turn conventional wisdom on its head,

I'll expose so-called experts as crackpots.

So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn't God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in his wisdom took delight in using what the world considered dumb—*preaching*, of all things!—to bring those who trust him into the way of salvation.

²²⁻²⁵ While Jews clamor for miraculous demonstrations and Greeks go in for philosophical wisdom, we go right on proclaiming Christ, the Crucified. Jews treat this like an *anti*-miracle—and Greeks pass it off as absurd. But to us who are personally called by God himself—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God’s ultimate miracle and wisdom all wrapped up in one. Human wisdom is so tiny, so impotent, next to the seeming absurdity of God. Human strength can’t begin to compete with God’s “weakness.”

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 2:13-22 (The Message)**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When the Passover Feast, celebrated each spring by the Jews, was about to take place, Jesus traveled up to Jerusalem. He found the Temple teeming with people selling cattle and sheep and doves. The loan sharks were also there in full strength.

¹⁵⁻¹⁷ Jesus put together a whip out of strips of leather and chased them out of the Temple, stampeding the sheep and cattle, upending the tables of the loan sharks, spilling coins left and right. He told the dove merchants, “Get your things out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a shopping mall!” That’s when his disciples remembered the Scripture, “Zeal for your house consumes me.”

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ But the Jews were upset. They asked, “What credentials can you present to justify this?” Jesus answered, “Tear down this Temple and in three days I’ll put it back together.”

²⁰⁻²² They were indignant: “It took forty-six years to build this Temple, and you’re going to rebuild it in three days?” But Jesus was talking about his body as the Temple. Later, after he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered he had said this. They then put two and two together and believed both what was written in Scripture and what Jesus had said.

After the reading

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message: “God Brought You Out”

Message Hymn: **Your Grace Is Enough**

Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me
Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me

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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: Message Of The Cross

This is the message of the cross:
That we can be free
To live in the victory
And turn from our sin
My precious Lord Jesus,
With sinners You died.
For there You revealed Your love
And You laid down Your life.

This the message of the cross:
That we can be free
To lay all our burdens here
At the foot of the tree.
The cross was the shame of the world,
But the glory of God.
For Jesus, You conquered sin
And You gave us new life.

You set me free
When I came to the cross
Poured out Your blood
For I was broken and lost.
There I was healed
And You covered my sin.
It's there You saved me;
This is the message of the cross.

This is the message of the cross:
That we can be free
To hunger for heaven Lord,
To hunger for Thee.
The cross is such foolishness
To the perishing
But to us who are being saved
It is the power of God.

You set us free
When we came to the cross.
Poured out Your blood,
For we are broken and lost.
Here we are healed
And You cover our sin.
It's here You save us.

This is the message of the cross.
Let us rejoice
At the foot of the cross.
We can be free,
Glory to God!
Let us rejoice

At the foot of the cross.
We can be free,
Glory to God!

Thank You, Lord,
Thank You, Lord,
You've set us free,
Glory to God!
Thank You, Lord,
Thank You, Lord,
You've set us free,
Glory to God!

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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

Words of Institution

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

Agnus Dei – WOV – page 25

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, have mercy on us, have mercy. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, have mercy on us, have mercy. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

Post Communion Cantic: With One Voice, Setting 4; page 26

C: Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of all people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father and to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen, amen, 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: LBW 343 Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
Hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
Where the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
Shield me with your mighty arm,
Shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

*Tune: John Hughes; Text: William Williams, tr. Composite, alt.
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Sending

A: Go in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: Share the Good News.

C: Yes, Lord, we will!