

Date: *July 12, 2020*

Prelude

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come in from the night.

People: It is a new day, and this is where love lives.

Leader: Let the weight fall off your shoulders;

People: For here, you are known. Here, you are loved.

Leader: Come in from the weather.

People: We can do anything together. We can survive together.

*Leader: When the world unravels from under your feet—
come in.*

People: Come in.

Leader: Come in.

People: God is here. You are home. You will never be alone.

Leader: Let us worship the God who weaves us together.

Amen.

***SONG GTG 835**

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Just a Closer Walk with Thee 835

Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it,
 1 I am weak, but thou art strong; Je - sus,
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for

Je - sus, is my plea, dai - ly walk - ing close to
 keep me from all wrong; I'll be sat - is - fied as
 fal - ter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my bur - den
 me will be no more; guide me gent - ly, safe - ly

thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
 long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*
 shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*
 o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. *Ref.*

The chromatic musical style of this anonymous short hymn suggests that it probably dates from the early 20th century. It also seems to owe much of its popularity to radio broadcasts and recordings as well as to evangelistic meetings and singing conventions of that era.

TEXT and MUSIC: Trad. North American hymn

CLOSER WALK
Irregular

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,

We have been angry because we see suffering and we don't understand.

We have been skeptical because we know heartbreak that doesn't seem fair. We have withheld love because sacrifice only feels real when it's our own. Forgive us for forgetting that you created the heavens and the earth. Forgive us for withholding our pain from you. Forgive us for thinking that we know everything.

When the world falls apart around us—

When love unravels and life slowly fails—

Draw us in.

Show us grace; for you gave the wind its weight and you gave our bodies life. Forgive us for forgetting that.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WORSHIP CONNECTION

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Job28:12-28

SERMON

“Suffering Blame”

Questions –

How do you seek to make meaning of your own pain? Other’s pain?

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*I believe in God, the Great Weaver—
Who weaves us together in community,
Collecting our loose ends and turning them into
belonging.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit—
Who hems us in before and behind,
Catching us when we fall and writing us into God’s holy
narrative.*

*And I believe in Jesus Christ—
Who loved and claimed the people society had thrown
out, refusing to disregard
anyone as scrap.*

I believe God has woven part of God's self into the fiber of our being, Making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.

*I believe the fabric of my life is weak,
That I am prone to error and need God's handiwork to remind me of love.*

I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics, She is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation.

*And I believe that when life unravels,
God is there to stitch my wounds together,
To hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love,
And to invite me into a new journey.
Amen.*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Consider the Ravens

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER¹

as together we pray, "Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name..."

***Song GTG 852, vs 1-3 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least**

¹ Brueggemann, Walter. Prayers for a Privileged People (pp. 69-70). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

852 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least



1 When the Lord re - deems the ver - y least,
 2 When the Lord re - stores the sick and weak, we will re -
 3 When the Lord re - vives the world from death, we will re-joyce, will re -
 4 When the Lord re - turns in vic - to - ry,

joyce. When the hun - gry gath - er for the feast,
 joyce, will re-joyce. When the earth is giv - en to the meek,
 When the word of God fills ev - ery breath,
 When we live in glo - rious lib - er - ty,

Refrain
 we will re-joyce. We will re-
 we will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce. We will re-joyce, will re-

What does it mean to pray "thy kingdom come"? This text (loosely modeled on Psalm 126) sketches out some of the features that help us to know when God's reign has truly come. The energy of the gospel song tune adds to the sense of rejoicing repeatedly promised in this text.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, c. 1991
 MUSIC: Albert E. Brumley, 1932; arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, c. 2001
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I'LL FLY AWAY
 9.4.9.4 with refrain

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION