



GRACE

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GraceFallsChurchVA



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Grace Falls Church

May 24, 2020

"EAST TO WEST"

[Verse 1]

Here I am lord and I'm drowning
In your sea of forgetfulness.
The chains of yesterday surround me
I yearn for peace and rest
I don't want to end up where you found me
And it echoes in my mind
Keeps me awake tonight

[Verse 2]

I know you've cast my sin as far
As the east is from the west
And I stand before you now
As though I've never sinned
But today I feel like I'm just one mistake away
From you leaving me this way

[Chorus 1]

Jesus, can you show me
Just how far the east is from the west?
Cause I can't bear to see the man I've been
Rising up in me again
In the arms of your mercy I find rest
You know just how far the east is from the west
From one scarred hand to the other

[Verse 3]

I start the day, the war begins
Endless reminding of my sin
And time and time again
Your truth is drowned out by the storm I'm in
Today I feel like I'm just one mistake away
From you leaving me this way

[Chorus 1]

[Bridge]
I know you've washed me white
Turned my darkness into light
I need your peace to get me through—
To get me through this night
I can't live by what I feel
About the truth your word reveals
And I'm not holding onto you
But you're holding onto me—
You're holding onto me

[Chorus 2]

Jesus, you know
Just how far the east is from the west
And I don't have to see the man I've been
Come rising up in me again
In the arms of your mercy I find rest
Cause you know just how far
the east is from the west
From one scarred hand to the other

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CONFESSION OF SINS

Worship Leader: 1 John 3 says, “Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”

It is hard to know that we may face persecution—whether in the form of being rejected, ignored, verbal insults, or even for some, physical violence. It can tempt us to hide our identities as children of God. In that fear, we may conform to the way of the world—to sin. And sin creates guilt and doubt. Which is why we confess our shortcomings to our Heavenly Father. There was a man who did what we could not, who paid a debt he did not owe for people who owed a debt they could not pay. We are those people. The “man,”—the God-Man—is Jesus. We confess:

All: Loving Father, my thoughts, my words and my actions have shown my sin to you. I thought I knew better than you. I have been deceived by the world into pursuing happiness that does not come from you. But what I found was sin—my sin. I plead for your forgiveness. Have mercy on me because of your Son. Assure me of your love. Strengthen me to trust in you and live as you made me—as the salt of the earth and light of the world.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

WL: God, our Heavenly Father, is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in faithful love. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are named heirs of heaven’s eternal inheritance. May the God of hope fill you with the peace and joy that comes only through his forgiveness. Go now with the confidence found in the empty tomb. Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the

hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

SECOND LESSON

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"

⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

"IN CHRIST ALONE"

[Verse 1]

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all—
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

[Verse 2]

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—
Here in the death of Christ I live.

[Verse 3]

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine—
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

[Verse 4]

No guilt in life, no fear in death—
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home—
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

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CONVERSATIONS JESUS HAD AFTER HIS RESURRECTION:

WITH THE DISCIPLES AT HIS ASCENSION

based on Acts 1:1-11

COVID-19 has made us mindful of conversations. We miss occasions for conversations with others outside our homes. At the same time, we appreciate the conversations that modern technology makes possible.

Some of the most important and impactful conversations in the history of the world are between Jesus and people of long ago. Thankfully God has preserved those conversations for us on the pages of the Bible. And at the same time, Jesus speaks to us through his words recorded for us in Scripture.

On these Sundays after Easter, we are exploring several conversations that Jesus had after he rose from the dead. As we do so, we'll note that Jesus' words that enlightened and uplifted believers of old still encourage and inspire us today.

ACTS 1:1-11

¹ In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command:

“Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.

¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

PRAYER

Pastor Kevin will offer the Prayer. Following the prayer:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

“O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO”

[Verse 1]

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

[Verse 2]

O light that follow’est all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine’s blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be

[Verse 3]

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

[Verse 4]

O Cross that lift’est up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life’s glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

[Verse 1]

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

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BLESSING

WANT TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE MUSIC?

-NEW*- If you would like to know the songs that we are planning on using during the Easter Season, and listen to them on your own, in the car while commuting, or with your family, you can follow our playlist on Spotify.

----- *"Grace CREWW – Easter 2020"* -----

You can search for it there or you can scan this code in the app. To scan a Spotify Code, go to the search bar, tap the search bar and you will see a camera icon, tap the camera and then hover the camera over this code:



WANT TO LISTEN TO MORE?

This playlist contains nearly every one of the songs that we use for contemporary worship over the year:

**Also, feel free to send song suggestions or recommendations to Staff Minister Kyle Heise. =)*



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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