



Christ • Community

gracefallschurch.org



[GraceFallsChurchVA](https://www.facebook.com/GraceFallsChurchVA)



[gracelutheranchurchva](https://www.instagram.com/gracelutheranchurchva)



[Search Grace Falls Church](#)

May 3, 2020

WELCOME

“RECKLESS LOVE”

[Verse 1]

Before I spoke a word,
You were singing over me.
You have been so, so good to me.
Before I took a breath,
You breathed Your life in me.
You have been so, so kind to me.

[Chorus]

Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending,
Reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down,
Fights 'til I'm found,
Leaves the ninety-nine.
I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it,
Still You give Yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, Reckless
love of God.

[Verse 2]

When I was Your foe,
Still Your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth,
You paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me.

[Chorus]

[Bridge] x4

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

[Chorus]

CCLI #7089641 | CALEB CULVER, CORY ASBURY, AND RAN JACKSON
© 2017 Watershed Publishing Group | Bethel Music Publishing | Richmond Park Publishing

CONFESSION OF SINS

Worship Leader: It can be easy to imagine the shattered spirits or disbelief of Jesus' followers in the time between his death and his resurrection. Even today the idea that a god could die seems illogical. The person they followed for the past three years is in a borrowed tomb and his followers are left wondering, "What's next?"—until they found the empty tomb.

Jesus appeared to many and that question was answered. What was next—what is still next, is telling everyone possible about who Jesus is, what he did, and why he did it. In our lessons for today we will hear how bold and courageous the Apostles were in proclaiming Christ. Some may even say they make it look easy.

Perhaps we feel we are still more like the disciples before the crucifixion—who were timid, afraid, who questioned Jesus, who denied Jesus! We let doubt creep in and cloud our faith. We let sin knock us off course. We let the devil and the world frighten us from doing the very thing that we know needs to be next. And that is why we still need Christ and why his resurrection matters. The fact that he rose from the dead is proof that all our sins have died with him and that we will rise with him on the last day. Let us confess:

Congregation: Lord, there have been times I have chosen my own ways over your ways. Following my own way, I have sinned by the choices I have made, sometimes knowingly and sometimes unknowingly. Sins of thought, sins of word and sins of action. Lord, I pray that you have mercy on me. Not because I have earned it or deserve it, but because of your unfailing love and your Son Jesus. Assure me of the forgiveness of my sin and take away my guilt.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

WL: Because Christ lives, so will you. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. He remembers your sins no more. Go in peace with the full assurance that your sins are forgiven. Go 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.

^{6:1} In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸ Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen.

^{7:2a} To this he replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

⁵¹ "You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! ⁵² Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him—⁵³ you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it."

⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” ²⁵ For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

“MY SAVIOR, MY GOD”

[Verse]

I am not skilled to understand:
 What God has willed,
 what God has planned.
 I only know at his right hand
 Stands one who is my savior

[Verse 2]

I take him at his word and deed.
 Christ died to save me this I read,
 And in my heart I find a need
 For him to be my savior.

[Pre-Chorus]

That he would leave his place on high,
 And come for sinful man to die.
 You count it strange, so once did I—
 Before I knew my savior

[Chorus]

My savior loves, my savior lives,
 My savior's always there for me.
 My God he was, my God he is,
 My God he's always gonna be.

[Verse 3]

Yes, living, dying; let me bring
 My strength, my solace from this spring.
 That he who lives to be my king,
 Once died to be my savior.

[Pre-Chorus]

[Chorus]

My savior lives, my savior loves,
 My savior lives, my savior loves,
 My savior li-----ves.

CONVERSATIONS JESUS HAD AFTER HIS RESURRECTION:

WITH THE DISCIPLES IN JERUSALEM

based on John 20:19-29

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.

JOHN 20:19-29

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

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.

"YES I WILL"

[Verse 1]

I count on one thing:
The same God that never fails
Will not fail me now;
You won't fail me now.
In the waiting,
the same God who's never late,
Is working all things out;
You're working all things out.

[Chorus 1]

Yes, I will—lift You high
in the lowest valley.
Yes, I will—bless Your name.
Yes, I will—sing for joy
when my heart is heavy.
All my days—yes, I will.

[Verse]

I count on one thing:
The same God that never fails
Will not fail me now;
You won't fail me now.
In the waiting,
the same God who's never late,
Is working all things out;

You're working all things out.

[Chorus 2]

Yes, I will—lift You high
in the lowest valley.
Yes, I will—bless Your name.
Yes, I will—sing for joy
when my heart is heavy.
All my days—yes, I will.
For all my days—yes, I will.

[Bridge] x3

And I choose to praise
To glorify, glorify
The name of all names
That nothing can stand against

[Chorus 2]

Yes, I will—lift You high
in the lowest valley.
Yes, I will—bless Your name.
Yes, I will—sing for joy
when my heart is heavy.
All my days—yes, I will.
For all my days—yes, I will.
For all my days—yes, I will.

CCLI #7105442 | Eddie Hoagland, Jonathan Smith, and Mia Fieldes
© All Essential Music(Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

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

Bible readings: Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.