



Christ • Community

gracefallschurch.org GraceFallsChurchVA gracelutheranchurchva Grace Falls Church

December 13, 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: God calls us to faith and obedience. It is a constant struggle for us because what he asks, we cannot do: “Be holy, for I the Lord your God, am holy” (Leviticus 19:2; Matthew 5:48). Like sheep, we wander and find ourselves not living the way God has commanded us. Let us take a moment of silence to privately confess our sins to God:

(Silence for private confession and prayer)

Congregation: Heavenly Father, I have sinned against you in more ways than I can count. I have sinned in my thoughts, by my words and with my actions. There are times I have not forgiven as you have forgiven me. Forgive me for my sins, show mercy according to your unfailing love, and take away my guilt. Change my heart, oh God. Help me and give me strength to love like you.

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. May the God of hope fill you with the peace and joy that comes only through his forgiveness and give you his strength to live according to his will. 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.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,

³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes, the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord
for the display of his splendor.

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 15:1-20

Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to
Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, ² "Why do your
disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't
wash their hands before they eat!"

³ Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command
of God for the sake of your tradition? ⁴ For God said,
'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone who
curses their father or mother is to be put to death.'

⁵ But you say that if anyone declares that what might
have been used to help their father or mother is
'devoted to God,' ⁶ they are not to 'honor their father
or mother' with it. Thus, you nullify the word of God
for the sake of your tradition. ⁷ You hypocrites! Isaiah
was right when he prophesied about you:

⁸ "These people honor me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.

⁹ They worship me in vain;
their teachings are merely human rules."

¹⁰ Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and
understand. ¹¹ What goes into someone's mouth does

not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth,
that is what defiles them."

¹² Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you
know that the Pharisees were offended when they
heard this?"

¹³ He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father
has not planted will be pulled up by the roots.

¹⁴ Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead
the blind, both will fall into a pit."

¹⁵ Peter said, "Explain the parable to us."

¹⁶ "Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them. ¹⁷ "Don't
you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the
stomach and then out of the body? ¹⁸ But the things
that come out of a person's mouth come from the
heart, and these defile them. ¹⁹ For out of the heart
come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual
immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. ²⁰ These
are what defile a person; but eating with unwashed
hands does not defile them."

"WE HAVE A SAVIOR"

[Verse 1]

A child has been given,
The King of our freedom.
Sing for the light has come
This is Christmas.

[Verse 2]

Come and adore Him
And bring gifts before Him.
Joy to the world,
Worship the Son.
This is Christmas.

[Chorus]

This is Jesus, Emmanuel.
Here with us, tell all the world:
"We have a Savior; We have a Savior!"

We are no longer lost,
'Cause He has come down for us.
We have a Savior! We have a Savior!

[Verse 3]

Sing with the angels
And lift up your voices.
Join in the song of hope;
This is Christmas

[Bridge] x2

His love will reign forever
His love will reign forever
His love will reign forever

[Chorus]

[Chorus]

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MESSAGE:

ADVENT
amid
COVID-19

“HEART SANITIZER”
Today we continue with the message series for this Advent season—“Advent Amid COVID-19,” with the particular focus of, “Heart Sanitizer.”

1 JOHN 1

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

⁴ We write this to make our joy complete.

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us

PRAYER

Vicar David 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.

“ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST”

[Verse 1]

Should nothing of our efforts stand
No legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house
In vain its builders strive

[Verse 2]

To you who boast tomorrow's gain
Tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn
All glory be to Christ

[Chorus]

All glory be to Christ our king
All glory be to Christ
His rule and reign we'll ever sing
All glory be to Christ

[Verse 3]

His will be done; His kingdom come
On earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread
Praise Him the Lord of love

[Verse 4]

Let living water satisfy
The thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
All glory be to Christ.

[Chorus]

All glory be to Christ our king
All glory be to Christ
His rule and reign we'll ever sing
All glory be to Christ

[Verse 5]

When on the day the great I Am
The faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain,
Is making all things new!

[Verse 6]

Behold our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast light
And we shall e'er his people be
All glory be to Christ

[Chorus] x2

All glory be to Christ our king
All glory be to Christ
His rule and reign we'll ever sing
All glory be to Christ.

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WANT TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE MUSIC?

-*UPDATED*- If you would like to know the songs that we are planning on using during the this series, and listen to them on your own, in the car while commuting, or with your family, you can follow our playlist on Spotify. This playlist will be updated throughout the series.

----- *“Grace CREWW – Advent / Christmas 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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