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June 27, 2021

“LEAD ME TO THE CROSS”

[Verse 1]

Savior, I come.
Quiet my soul, remember:
Redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled
For my ransom.

[Pre-Chorus]

And everything I once held dear,
I count it all as loss

[Chorus 1]

Lead me to the cross,
Where Your love poured out.
Bring me to my knees, Lord I lay me down.
Rid me of myself, I belong to You.
Lead me--
Lead me to the cross.

[Verse 2]

You were as I,

Tempted and trialed: Human.
The word became flesh;
Bore my sin and death.
Now you're risen.

[Pre-Chorus]

[Chorus 2]

Lead me to the cross,
Where Your love poured out.
Bring me to my knees, Lord I lay me down.
Rid me of myself, I belong to You.
Lead me--
Lead me to your heart.
Lead me to your heart.
Lead me to your heart.
Lead me to your heart.

[Chorus 1]

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CONFESSION OF SINS

Worship Leader: Today in the message we will be hearing about the Parable of the Lost Son, also known as the *Prodigal Son*. 'Prodigal' is not a common word in our modern vocabulary. Today we would use words such as 'extravagant' or 'lavish.' When this word is applied to humans, it is not usually a compliment. In the Parable of the Prodigal Son, the son asks his father for his inheritance. At that time and in that culture this was like the son telling his father that he wishes he was dead so he could have the only thing that mattered to him—the only thing that his father was good for to him—money. He got what he wanted and lived life without restraint. Now, we might say we would never 'go that far,' but in some ways we do. We live in a world that says, "If it feels good, it must be good," and, "Do what makes you happy." What made the prodigal son happy didn't make him happy for long, or healthy. Neither do the sinful choices we make.

But know this: we have a prodigal God. This is not an insult. God is extravagant and lavish—particularly when it comes to his forgiveness. Led by the Holy Spirit to the cross, we confess our sins and we hear announced to us the true extent of just how lavish, just how extravagant, how reckless, how prodigal the love God has for us—we see this through Christ. Let us confess:

Congregation: Lord, 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, in thought, word, and deed. I plead for your forgiveness. Have mercy on me because of your Son. Assure me of you lavish and extravagant love. Strengthen me to trust in you and live so others may come to know your prodigal love.

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.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Lamentations 3:19-26

I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall.

²⁰ I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. ²¹ Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:

²² Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

²³ They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴ I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

²⁵ The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; ²⁶ it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

SECOND LESSON

1 John 4:7-21

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

¹³ This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.

¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.

²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

“YOU ARE MY KING”

[Verse] x2

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again

[Chorus]

Amazing love, how can it be?
That you, my king, would die for me
Amazing love, I know it's true
It's my joy to honor you
Amazing love how can it be?
That my king would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor you
In all I do –I honor you

[Verse]

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again

[Chorus]

[Bridge]

You are my king.
You are my king.
Jesus, You are my king.
Jesus, You are my king.
Jesus, You are my king.
Jesus, You are my king.

[Chorus]

AMAZING LOVE:

THE FATHER'S LOVE

Message based on Luke 15:11-32

LUKE 15:11-32

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

¹³ "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.

¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!

¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'

²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²² "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'

So they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

²⁸ "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

³¹ "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

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.

“COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING”

[Verse 1]

Come, thou fount of every blessing;
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy, never ceasing;
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet;
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it;
Mount of Thy unchanging love

[Verse 2]

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Here there by Thy help I've come
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure;
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger;
Wandering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger;
Interposed His precious blood

[Verse 3]

O to grace how great a debtor; Daily I'm constrained to be
Let that grace now, like a fetter; Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it; Seal it for Thy courts above

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & BLESSING

WANT TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE MUSIC?

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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