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September 13, 2020

WELCOME

CONFESSION OF SINS: "O COME TO THE ALTAR"

[Verse 1]

Are you hurting and broken within,
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling.
Have you come to the end of yourself,
Do you thirst for a drink from the well,
Jesus is calling.

[Chorus]

O come to—the altar
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness—was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

[Verse 2]

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes.
Come today there's no reason to wait.
Jesus is calling.
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy,
From the ashes a new life is born.
Jesus is calling.

[Chorus]x2

O come to—the altar
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness—was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

WL: God calls us to faith and obedience—to be living sacrifices. It is a constant struggle for us because what he asks, we cannot do: "Be holy, for I the Lord your God, am holy." And we struggle with his command, "Pick up your cross and follow me." We are like sheep, we wander and find ourselves not living the way God has asked us. Yet, he invites us to come to him and lay our sin on his Son so we might be heirs of heaven. Let us publicly confess our sins to God and be reminded of his forgiveness.

Congregation: Heavenly Father, I struggle with the same sins. I think about things I should not think, I say things I should not say, and I do things I should not do. There are times I do not even recognize that I have sinned. On my own I cannot earn your forgiveness and I know I do not deserve it. But please have mercy on me, assure me that I am forgiven, and strengthen me to produce fruit in keeping with repentance.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

WL: Our heavenly Father is loving, patient, and kind. He sees you are blameless and holy because of the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Every sin you have ever committed has been wiped away and completely forgotten. Because you have been made holy you no longer need to be afraid. You can find delight and joy in Jesus' death that brings you eternal life:

[Bridge]x2

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

[Chorus]x2

O come to—the altar
The Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness—was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

CCLI # 7051511 | Chris Brown | Mack Brock | Steven Furtick | Wade Joye
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WL: May the God of hope fill you with the peace and joy that come only through his forgiveness. May his love drive out all fear and doubt, and overflow as you pour out that love on those around you, as a Christian looking forward to heaven. 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

Judges 16:22-31

²² But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

²³ Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate, saying, "Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands."

²⁴ When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying, "Our god has delivered our enemy into our hands, the one who laid waste our land and multiplied our slain."

²⁵ While they were in high spirits, they shouted, "Bring out Samson to entertain us."

So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them. When they stood him among the pillars, ²⁶ Samson said to the servant who held his hand, "Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them."

²⁷ Now the temple was crowded with men and women; all the rulers of the Philistines were there,

and on the roof were about three thousand men and women watching Samson perform.

²⁸ Then Samson prayed to the LORD, "Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes."

²⁹ Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other, ³⁰ Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines!"

Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived.

³¹ Then his brothers and his father's whole family went down to get him. They brought him back and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had led y Israel twenty years.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.

⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

⁷ if it is serving, then serve;

if it is teaching, then teach;

⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement;

if it is giving, then give generously;

if it is to lead, do it diligently;

if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

"MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD"

[Verse 1]

When sorrows come and hope seems gone
You're the Rock I rest upon
When waters rise and I can't breathe
You're the love that rescues me

[Bridge]

Out of the darkness, I lift up my eyes
Unto the hills, I feel my faith rise

[Chorus 1]

Maker of heaven, giver of life
You are my strength, my song in the night
My refuge, my shelter
Now and forevermore
My help comes from the Lord

[Verse 2]

When I'm broken, scarred by sin
Death gives way to life again
When I suffer, when I'm bound
In You I'm free, in You I'm found

[Bridge]

Out of the darkness, I lift up my eyes
Unto the hills, I feel my faith rise—

[Chorus 1]

Maker of heaven, giver of life
You are my strength, my song in the night
My refuge, my shelter
Now and forevermore
My help comes from the Lord

[Chorus 2]

Maker of heaven, giver of life
You are my strength, my song in the night
My refuge, my shelter
Now and forevermore

[Chorus]

Maker of heaven, giver of life
You are my strength, my song in the night
My refuge, my shelter
Now and forevermore
My help comes from the Lord

My help comes from the Lord
My help comes from the Lord

CCLI #5471928 | John Abel, Bryan Brown,
Bryan Higgins Brown, Barry Weeks, and Tony Wood.

MESSAGE:

DEATH THAT BRINGS LIFE

*Today Jesus tells us that for him and for us,
going God's way means death must come before life.*

*Jesus calls on us to deny ourselves and follow him on the way of the cross.
Those words offend our sinful nature and make our Old Self cry with Peter, "Never!"*

*So today the Church prays for the never-failing mercy of Jesus that we might avoid such
wicked and harmful thoughts and instead be guided on the cross-laden path to salvation.
Then, and only then, do these words of Jesus cease offending our flesh and become a joy
and delight for our hearts!*

MATTHEW 16:21-26

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you

do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

²⁵ "For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

²⁶ "What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"

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.

“THIS ROAD”

[Verse 1]

All heavy laden acquainted with sorrow
May Christ in our marrow carry us home
From alabaster come blessings of laughter
A fragrance of passion and joy from the truth

[Verse 2]

Grant the unbroken tears ever flowing
From hearts of contrition only for You
May sin never hold true that love never broke through
For God's mercy holds us and we are His own

[Chorus]

This road that we travel may it be the straight and narrow
God, give us peace and grace from You, all the day
Shelter with fire, our voices we raise still higher
God, give us peace and grace from You, all the day through

[Chorus x2]

CCLI #3428894 | Charlie Lowell Dan Haseltine Matt Odmark Stephen Mason
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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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