



# GRACE

Christ • Community

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GraceFallsChurchVA



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Grace Falls Church

September 27, 2020

## WELCOME

### "10,000 REASONS"

#### [Verse 1]

The sun comes up,  
It's a new day dawning.  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

#### [Chorus]

Bless the Lord  
Oh my soul, oh my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before, Oh my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

#### [Verse 2]

You're rich in love and  
You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

#### [Chorus]

#### [Verse 3]

And on that day,  
when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near, and my time has come;  
Still my soul will sing your praise unending:  
Ten thousand years and then fore-*ver*more!

#### [Chorus]

I'll worship Your holy name,  
I'll worship Your holy name.  
Yes, I'll worship Your holy name

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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." But like sheep, we wander and find ourselves not living the way God has asked 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.

## **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

Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?"

<sup>16</sup> So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died:

<sup>17</sup> *'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.'*

"Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father."

When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

<sup>18</sup> His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

<sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. <sup>21</sup> So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children."

And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

## SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4:29-5:2

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

<sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

<sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. <sup>5:1</sup> Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup> and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

## "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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**MESSAGE:**  
**STORIES OF FORGIVENESS**

*William Willimon has written, "The human animal is not...good at forgiveness. Forgiveness is not some innate, natural human emotion. It is natural for the human animal to defend itself, to snarl and crouch into a defensive position when attacked, to howl when wronged, to bite back when bitten. Forgiveness is not natural."*

*Forgiveness must be learned. Jesus' disciple Peter thought he had figured it out. From the leaders of first-century Judaism Peter had heard: "If a man transgresses one time, forgive him. If a man transgresses two times, forgive him. If a man transgresses three times, forgive him. If a man transgresses four times, do not forgive him."*

*Three times, the elders said, was the limit of forgiveness for a "good" Jew. Peter, however, was willing to go much further; not three times, but seven times, Peter thought with a smile. Until Jesus said, "Not seven times, Peter, seventy times seven— what the elders say doesn't matter. I say to you that your forgiveness should have no limit, but be like God's."*

*Jesus' parable contrasts the forgiveness of God and our own unforgiving nature. The servant's debt— by any measure of calculation—was impossibly high. Who could have accrued debt such as this? Who could ever hope to repay? What an arresting picture of our debt of sin before God! The greatness of the debt magnifies the compassion of the king who wipes the debt away. Who can comprehend the forgiveness of God? Certainly not unmerciful servants like us, who refuse to forgive the small debts owed to us, and instead, inflict on our fellow servants the punishments that God should rightly have given us. Have mercy on us, Lord, and teach us to forgive like you!*

**MATTHEW 18:21-35**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup> "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver

coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

<sup>29</sup> "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

<sup>30</sup> "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

<sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

<sup>32</sup> "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?'

<sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

<sup>35</sup> "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

## 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.**

## “MIGHT TO SAVE”

### **[Verse 1]**

Ev'ryone needs compassion,  
A love that's never failing.  
Let mercy fall on me.  
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness,  
The kindness of a Savior,  
The hope of nations.

### **[Chorus]**

Savior, he can move the mountains.  
Our God is mighty to save,  
he is mighty to save.  
Forever, Author of Salvation,  
He rose and conquered the grave,  
Jesus conquered the grave.

### **[Verse 2]**

You've searched me and you know me,  
All my fears and failures  
With love you draw me in.  
So, with my life I'll follow  
Everything you have taught me  
Till I'm home in heaven.

### **[Chorus x2]**

Savior, he can move the mountains.  
Our God is mighty to save,  
he is mighty to save.  
Forever, Author of Salvation,  
He rose and conquered the grave,  
Jesus conquered the grave.

### **[Bridge]**

Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.  
Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

### **[Chorus]**

Savior, he can move the mountains.  
Our God is mighty to save,  
he is mighty to save.  
Forever, Author of Salvation,  
He rose and conquered the grave,  
Jesus conquered the grave.

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## BLESSING

## 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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