

Welcome

Give Me Jesus (verse 1-2, 4-5)

1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,

in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain

Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.

You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Confession and Forgiveness

Call to Confession

In our scripture passage from this week, Zechariah, a new father, speaks to his newborn son, John the Baptist, for the very first time. I want you to imagine yourself in his shoes...

It's impossible not to speak words of love when you're holding a baby, and yet as we grow up, that skill tends to become harder for us to practice. So let us return to our foundation—to words of love, starting with love for ourselves. Let us pray the prayer of confession together.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God,

When John was Born, Zechariah leaned down
and whispered words of love into his ear.

We know that you do the same for us,
day in and day out, yet we fail to hear it.

We forget that in the beginning we were made good.

We doubt that we could possibly be enough.

We hustle for our self-worth and
wear ourselves out aiming for perfection.

We deflect words of praise.

We hide behind shiny first impressions.

Forgive us. Trusting our worth is the hardest job.

Open our ears as you open our hearts,
so that we might rest on the foundation of goodness you have laid for us.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness

No matter how old we get, God continues to say to us:

“You are loved; you are forgiven.”

That is the foundation of our lives.

That is the truth upon which we build our home.

So breathe deeply. There is grace and peace here.

There is good news here:

You are loved. You are forgiven.

We are claimed. This is our foundation.

Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

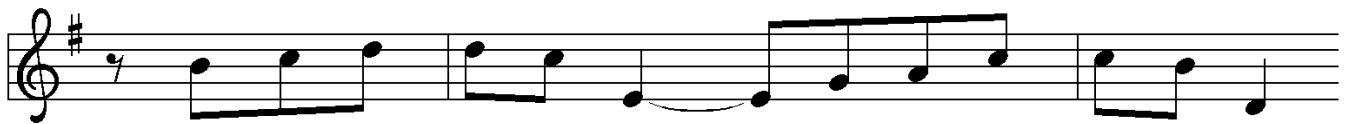


Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Reading – Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Experiential Worship - Week 2: Laying the Foundation (Peace)

Think about the people who you have contacted over the past 18 months. Scroll through the last 10-20 people that you have called on your phone.

You are invited to pray for them, even reach out to text them "I thank God for you", during this song:

Dear Theodosia from Hamilton

Words & Music by Lin-Manuel Miranda

*Dear Theodosia, what to say to you?
You have my eyes. You have your mother's name.
When you came into the world, you cried
and it broke my heart.*

*I'm dedicating every day to you.
Domestic life was never quite my style. When you smile,
You knock me out, I fall apart.
And I thought I was so smart.*

*You will come of age with our young nation.
We'll bleed and fight for you,
we'll make it right for you.
If we lay a strong enough foundation
We'll pass it on to you,
We'll give the world to you, and you'll blow us all away...
Someday, some day.
Yeah, you'll blow us all away,
Someday, someday.*

*Oh, Philip, when you smile, I am undone. My son.
Look at my son. Pride is not the word I'm looking for.
There is so much more inside me now.
Oh, Philip, you outshine the morning sun.
My son. When you smile, I fall apart,
and I thought I was so smart.*

*My father wasn't around.
I swear that I'll be around for you.
I'll do whatever it takes. I'll make a million mistakes.
I'll make the world safe and sound for you*

*Will come of age with our young nation.
We'll bleed and fight for you,
we'll make it right for you.
If we lay a strong enough foundation
We'll pass it on to you,
We'll give the world to you, and you'll blow us all away.
Someday, someday.
Yeah, you'll blow us all away,
Someday, someday.*

Receive the prayers we place before you tonight. By your tender mercy, guide us to make space in our lives, in our homes, and in our hearts for your blessings to break through as you teach us to pray...

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing: As you leave *this* service, *your* service begins:

Comfort the homesick. Seek sanctuary. Have hope.

And remember that here in God's house,
all are welcomed—so come back soon.

God grant you a quiet night.

In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son— go in peace.

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