



Love Will Always Have The Last Word Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29th, 2020
Sunday Worship at 10:30am



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Gathering

Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Join Jim and Family on YouTube here: https://youtu.be/2ye2_JKt0nc

Gathering Song- Your Grace Is Enough

Great is Your faithfulness, oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's heart
You lead us by still waters and to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Refrain: So remember Your people, remember Your children
Remember Your promise, oh God
Your grace is enough, your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice, God
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Refrain (Sung Twice)

Yeah, Your grace is enough heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me, God, I see Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love, Your grace is enough for me, for me

Welcome, River Source

No Longer Strangers Prayer

Jesus, our teacher, **you saw the image of God in all those you met along the lake side, in the vineyards, and on the road. Give us eyes to see your face in all the people we meet. Equip us to meet them right where they are at in their journey. Amen**

Meet Someone New – In this time of social isolation and quarantine we continue to need to have social contact. We can do that through old fashioned cards and letters – consider sending one to a nursing home near you as a way to meet someone new.

Greeting

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe that God meets you here. We gather in the name of God the eternal Creator – Jesus Christ, God's only Son and the Holy Spirit – who is with you always...

And also with you.

Confession and Forgiveness

We are God's people, sheep of the Spirit's fold, lambs of Christ's flock, sinners of God's redeeming. **Amen.**

Let us come together in a time of confession before God, who already knows our hearts and welcomes our humility.

Silence for reflection.

Loving God,

Our thoughts, our words, and our deeds are an open book to you. You have seen where we fall short. You know where we have strayed as individuals and as your church. In your mercy, forgive us and guide us into right ways of being –

Ways of welcome, paths of mercy, habits of grace – so that we may live renewed in the joy of our salvation, prepared, equipped, and ready to meet Christ in our neighbors and in your creation.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,
God's ways are not our ways and God's thoughts are not our thoughts. Before we were made, God brought creation out of nothing and peace out of chaos. In this same love, God unyokes you from sin and binds you to a new life and new living in Jesus Christ. Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the kingdom of God! **Amen!**

Prayer of the Day

○ Lord, **no one on earth knows the hour of your return. Only keep us watchful and awake, that we might always be at work in your kingdom, for the sake of Jesus, amen.**

THE STORY

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues today, with a reading from Mark 13:1-8; 24-37

Narrator: As he walked away from the Temple, one of his disciples said, "Teacher, look at that stonework! Those buildings!" Jesus said, "You're impressed by this grandiose architecture? There's not a stone in the whole works that is not going to end up in a heap of rubble."

Side 1: Later, as he was sitting on Mount Olives in full view of the Temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew got him off by himself and asked, "Tell us, when is this going to happen? What sign will we get that things are coming to a head?" Jesus began, "Watch out for doomsday deceivers.

Side 2: Many leaders are going to show up with forged identities claiming, 'I'm the One.' They will deceive a lot of people. When you hear of wars and rumored wars, keep your head and don't panic. This is routine history, and no sign of the end. Nation will fight nation and ruler fight ruler, over and over. Earthquakes will occur in various places. There will be famines. But these things are nothing compared to what's coming.

Narrator: "Following those hard times, sun will fade out, moon cloud over, cosmic powers tremble. "And then they'll see the Son of Man enter in grand style, his Arrival filling the sky—no one will miss it!

Side 1: He'll dispatch the angels; they will pull in the chosen from the four winds, from pole to pole. "Take a lesson from the fig tree. From the moment you notice its buds form, the merest hint of green, you know summer's just around the corner.

Side 2: And so it is with you. When you see all these things, you know he is at the door. Don't take this lightly. I'm not just saying this for some future generation, but for this one, too—these things will happen. Sky and earth will wear out; my words won't wear out.

Narrator: "But the exact day and hour? No one knows that, not even heaven's angels, not even the Son. Only the Father. So keep a sharp lookout, for you don't know the timetable.

Side 1: It's like a man who takes a trip, leaving home and putting his servants in charge, each assigned a task, and commanding the gatekeeper to stand watch.

Side 2: So, stay at your post, watching. You have no idea when the homeowner is returning, whether evening, midnight, cockcrow, or morning. You don't want him showing up unannounced, with you asleep on the job. I say it to you, and I'm saying it to all: Stay at your post. Keep watch."

Narrator: Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hymn – God of All My Days

I came to You with my heart in pieces
And found the God with healing in His hands
I turned to You, put everything behind me
And found the God who makes all things new

I looked to You, drowning in my questions
And found the God who holds all wisdom
And I trusted You and stepped out on the ocean
You caught my hand among the waves
'Cause You're the God of all my days

(Refrain) Each step I take, you make a way
And I will give You all my praise
My seasons change, you stay the same
You're the God of all my days

I ran from You, I wandered in the shadows
And found a God who relentlessly pursues
I hid from You, haunted by my failure
And found the God whose grace still covers me

I fell on You when I was at my weakest
And found the God, the lifter of my head
And I've worshiped You and felt You right beside me
You're the reason that I sing 'cause You're the God of all my days

Refrain

In my worry, God You are my stillness
In my searching, God You are my answers
In my blindness, God You are my vision
In my bondage, God You are my freedom
In my weakness, God You are my power
You're the reason that I sing 'cause You're the God of all my days

Refrain

In my blindness, God You are my vision
And in my bondage, God You are my freedom, all my days

Prayers of the People

As we continue to focus on Love Without Limits, let us focus our prayers on these three areas:

The people I struggle to love...

Where do I need love, and where do others need love...

Who taught me to love... and then will be prayed out loud, anonymously.

Reader: Hear us O God,

All: Your mercy is great.

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.**

Offering

Worship Leader: *We are grateful for your financial gifts; it's the only way churches are churches. Set up automatic giving by going to our website, riverofhopehutchinson.org and follow the directions to "give online".*

THE SENDING

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings

Worship Leader: There are many opportunities to serve God and our neighbor – this is the time to lift those up!

MILESTONES!

Final Blessing

May the God of love fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Sending Song – Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am never cease to worship You

Refrain: Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise I have In You

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath, all that I am never cease to worship You

Refrain (2X)

Go in peace – Jesus is with you! **Thanks be to God**

Music to Send you out

Join Jim and Family on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/c5MHuIDFmkU>