

Gerasene Demoniac

Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 26, 2020 Sunday Worship at 10:30am



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Gathering

Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Gathering Songs

"Amazing Grace" & "Shout to the Lord"

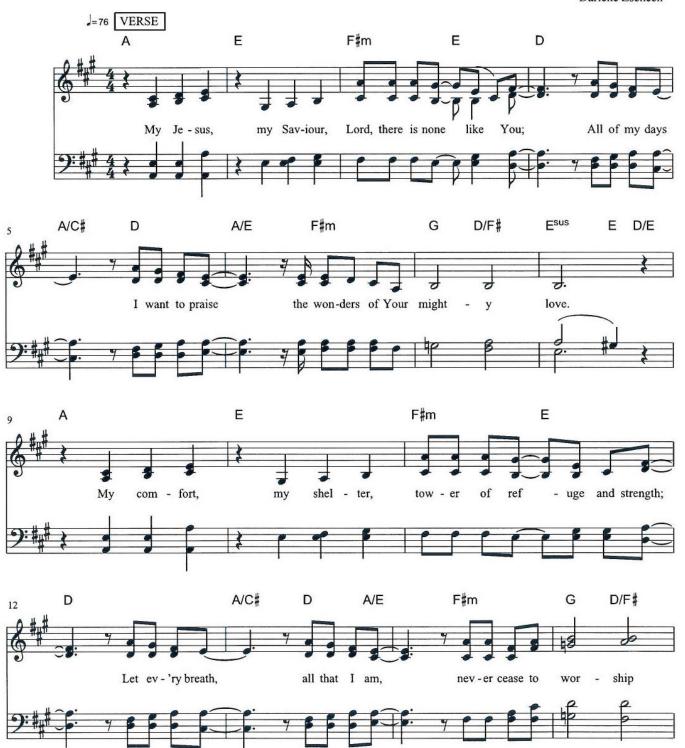
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

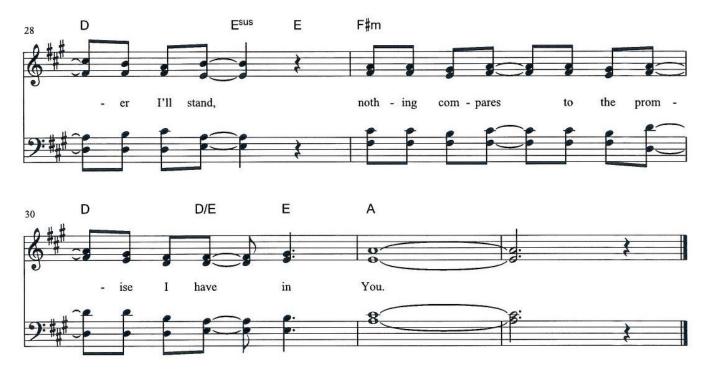
Shout To The Lord

Words and Music by Darlene Zschech



CCLI Song # 1406918
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Introduce the Theme with Kids

Welcome, River Source, Clipboards

No Longer Strangers Prayer

God of the Stranger, You created us and the world good. You created people in your image. Help us to see the miracle of your love and presence in strangers and friends. Amen.

Meet Someone New

Worship Leader: As followers of Jesus we believe that there are no strangers – only friends we have yet to meet! Now is an opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones! Feel free to move about and greet one another – or remain where you are, if you prefer.

"Shout to the Lord" to bring people back together.

Greeting

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe that God meets you here. We gather in the name of the infinite giving and receiving Triune God – God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. God is with you!

And also with you.

Let us confess that God is God and we are not. Silence for reflection.

Dear faithful God,

We have not loved you with all of our hearts.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

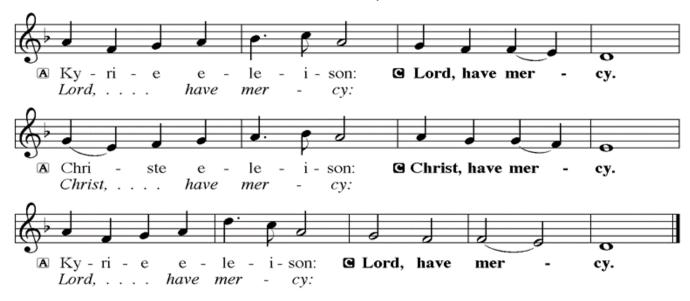
We deny your goodness, your presence, your light in others and ourselves.

We put distance between us when we fail to respond to someone who is hurting. We pretend that love is weak and that the little things don't matter. We are sure that someone else knows better or will take care of it. We don't treat creation as good but as something to use and abuse. We destroy your created beauty out of ignorance and greed. We act as if we are not responsible. We fail to respond to your call to do justice. We seek our own comfort. We live like your teaching doesn't matter compared to what the world teaches us. We are certain that we can save ourselves.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We believe in a God who is good and who created us good. Jesus Christ, the light of the world, is the one who makes us new, reminds us of our goodness from God. Children of God, you are loved, you are forgiven, today and every day. Let us rejoice in this good news! **Amen!**

KYRIE ELEISON – "Lord, Have Mercy"







Prayer of the Day

O Lord,

Your power is greater than evil. Shake us from complacent acceptance of all that doesn't work in our world, and visit us with your mighty healing spirit in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

THE STORY

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues today, with a reading from Mark 5:1-20

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

Narrator: Jesus and the disciples came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat,

immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him.

Side 1: He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke

in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him.

Side 2: Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; and he shouted at the

top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the

Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me."

Narrator: Jesus said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" Then He

> asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the

country.

Side 1: Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; and the

> unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the

sea.

Side 2: The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid.

Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the **Narrator:** swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been

possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him.

All: But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you." And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Sermon -

Hymn – "A Mighty Fortress is our God"

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



Prayers of the People

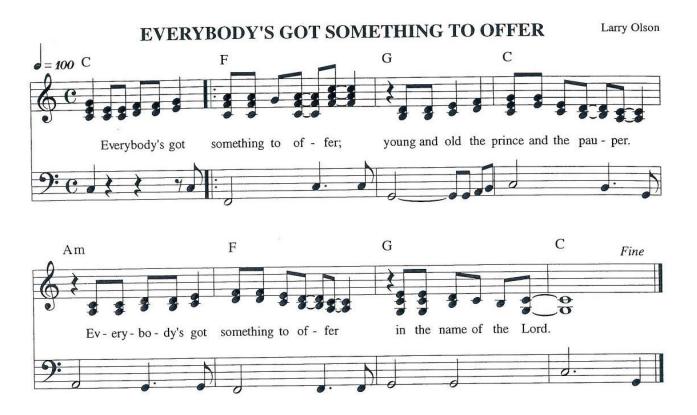
Reader: Lord, we are in need of your mercy.

All: hear our prayer

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 click "give" & go from there.

Offering Song "Everybody's Got Something to Offer"



THE FEAST

Setting the Table

As the kids help set the table, make a circle around the table and lead the congregation in the table prayer written by Martin Luther:

Let's pray: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. And let these gifts to us be blest. Blest be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

There is room for you at this table. So come, you that have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed;

In the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me."

The Lord's Prayer

You are invited to join hands with those around you in prayer. If you are not the hand-holding type, then simply fold your hands in front of you or hang onto this bulletin as you pray.

God so holy, full of grace, make the world a better place.

Give us the food we need for today.

Forgive us our wrongs when we go astray.

Help us always to do good, and love others, like we should.

God we love you; we are yours. Swing wide open heaven's doors.

Amen.

Invitation to the Meal

You are welcome to this meal. It is free and it is for you. If you hunger and thirst for grace and mercy that comes through Jesus Christ, then Christ has set this table just for you.

Communion Songs "We Come to you for Healing Lord" & "Healer of our Every III"

We Come to You for Healing, Lord



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923 Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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Healer of Our Every Ill



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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Blessing after Communion

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his peace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray, My past, O Lord, I entrust to your mercy. My presence to your love. My future to your faithfulness. Thank you for this good gift of life. Amen.

THE SENDING

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose? We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

(Please Be Seated)

Purpose Sightings

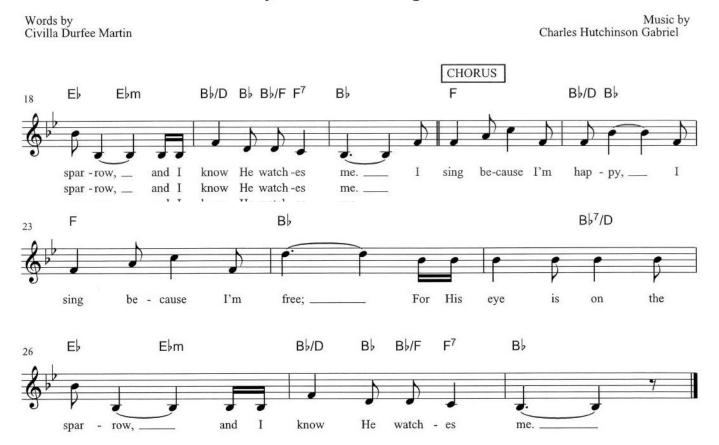
Worship Leader: There are many opportunities to serve God and our neighbor – this is the time to lift those up!

MILESTONES! "His Eye is on the Sparrow"

The congregation will sing before Milestones – CHORUS only.

If you've got a good or hard milestone in your life and can share it in a few sentences, meet me at the baptismal font and throw a water drop in as you share your milestone.

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

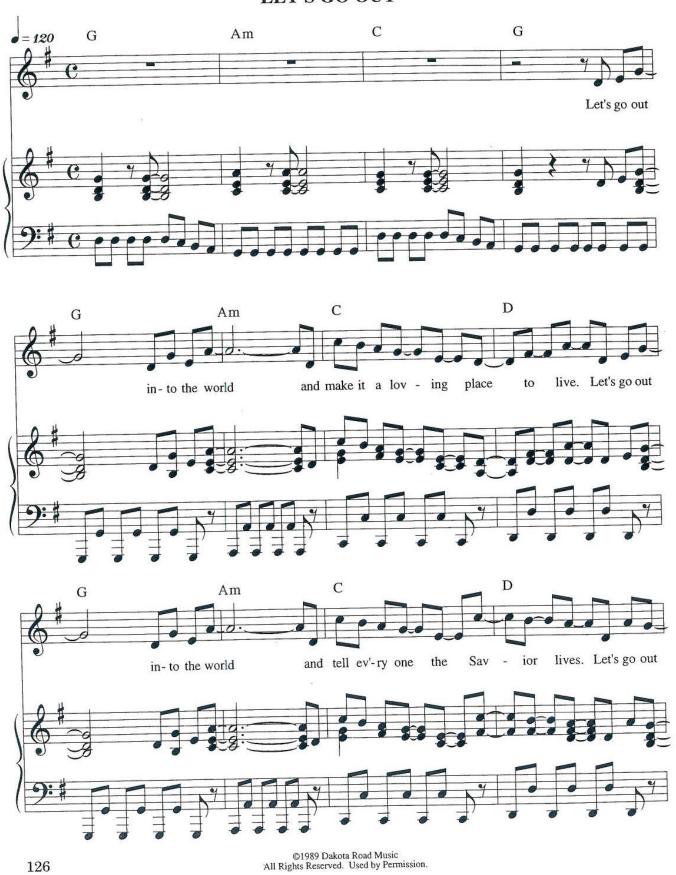


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Final Blessing

May the light of Jesus show you the way; may the goodness of God be found every step of the way, and may God's Holy Spirit renew and inspire you. Remember, you are loved. Live in the promise of this never-ending love.

Sending Song "Let's Go Out"



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Go in peace – serve the Lord! Thanks be to God

Music to Send You Out

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