

Job's Lament and Loss

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9th, 2020 Sunday Virtual Worship at 10:30am



Call to Worship

One: Come in from the night.

All: It is a new day, and this is where love lives.

One: Take off your coat, let the weight fall off your shoulders;

All: For here, you are known. Here, you are loved.

One: Come in from the rain.

All: We can do anything together. We can survive together.

One: When the world unravels from under your feet—come in.

All: Come in. One: Come in.

All: God is here. You are home. You will never be alone.
One: Let us worship the God who weaves us together. Amen.

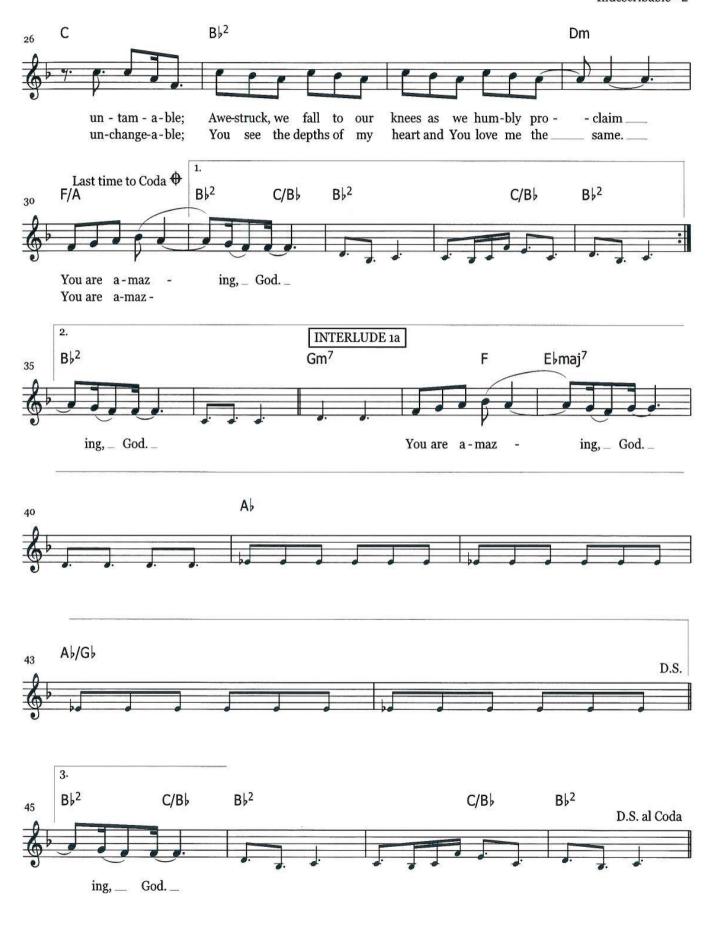
Gathering Song – Indescribable & Ancient of Days

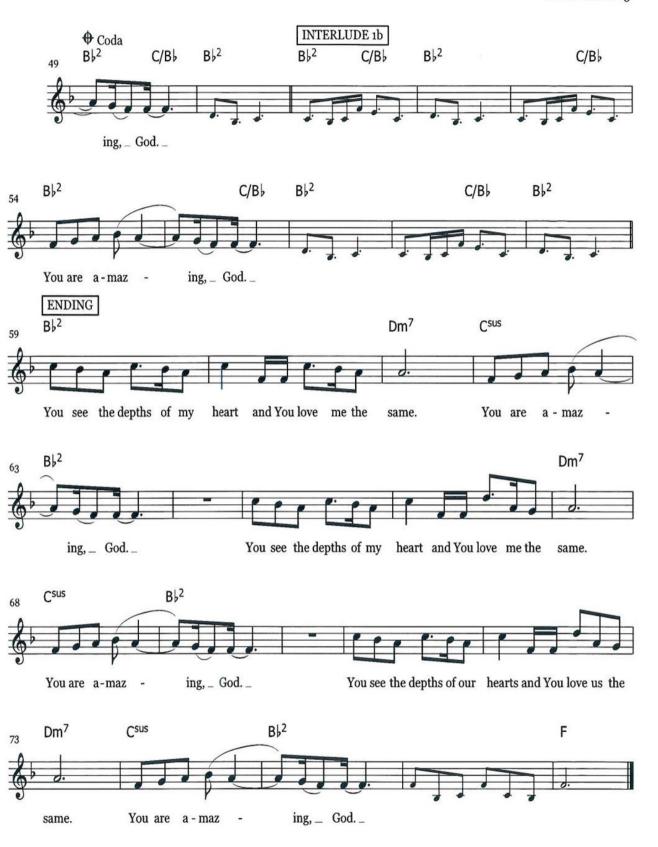
Indescribable

Words and Music by Laura Story and Jesse Reeves



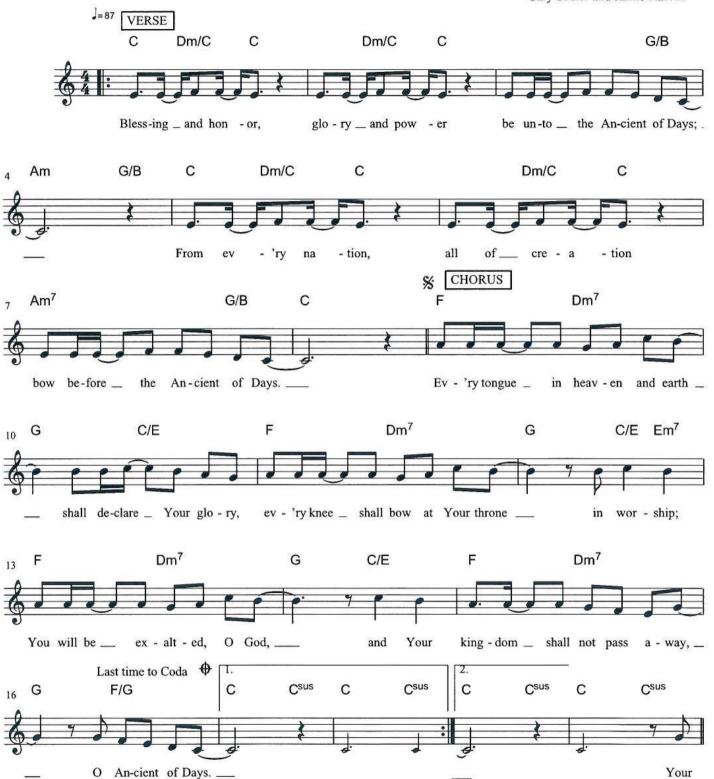
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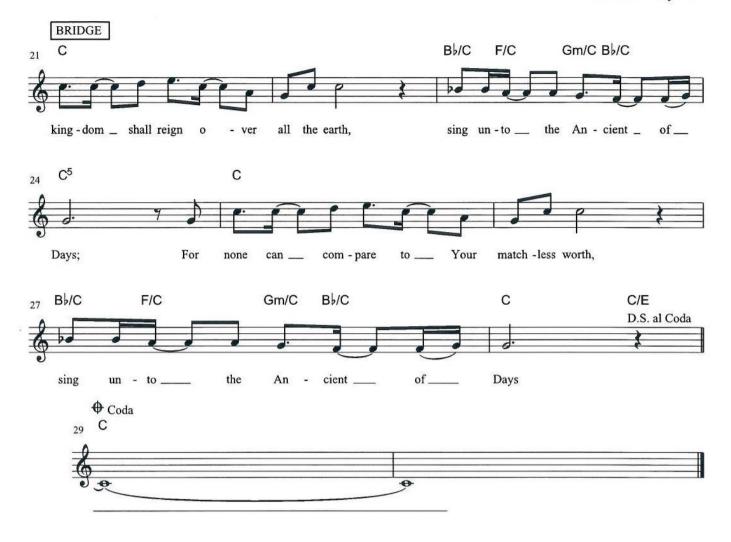




Ancient Of Days

Words and Music by Gary Sadler and Jamie Harvill





Introduce the Theme with Kids

Welcome, RiverSource and Keyboards

No Longer Strangers Prayer

Holy Spirit of God,

You blow into our lives and send us in directions we never would have gone on our own. Send us into the lives of people we don't know, people we would call 'stranger' and reveal yourself right there to us. We are no longer strangers to each other – you make us brother and sister. Amen.

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

Let us confess that God is God and we are not.

Silence for prayer and contemplation.

Faithful and Merciful God, you know us. You know our lives. Clean up our hearts and minds. By your Holy Spirit, make us new.

All: Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

God we confess—we are loose ends. You give us the gift of wisdom and we seek our answers in all the wrong places.

You give us the gift of community, and we waste that gift unraveling relationships to build individual identities.

You give us the gift of time, and we spend it seeking our own interests.

Forgive us for our frayed ends and self-centered hearts.

Give us the wisdom we need to seek you when life falls apart.

Unravel the sin in us and replace it with love. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God,

As everything around us seems to be unraveling, draw us into your grace and mercy, remind us that you alone hold the wisdom we need for each day. Equip us by your Holy Spirit so that we can go out and share the wisdom and love we receive from You. Use us to weave your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

THE STORY

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues with a reading from Job 28: 12-28

Narrator: Do people know where to find wisdom? Where can they find

understanding? No one knows where to find it, for it is not found among the

living.

Congregation: 'It is not here,' says the ocean. 'Nor is it here,' says the sea. It cannot be bought with gold. It cannot be purchased with silver. It's worth more than all the gold of Ophir, greater than precious onyx or lapis lazuli.

Narrator: Wisdom is more valuable than gold and crystal. It cannot be purchased with jewels mounted in fine gold. Coral and jasper are worthless in trying to get it. The price of wisdom is far above rubies. Precious peridot from Ethiopia cannot be exchanged for it. It's worth more than the purest gold.

Congregation: "But do people know where to find wisdom? Where can they find understanding? It is hidden from the eyes of all humanity. Even the sharp-eyed birds in the sky cannot discover it. Destruction and Death say, 'We've heard only rumors of where wisdom can be found.'

Narrator: "God alone understands the way to wisdom; God knows where it can be found, for God looks throughout the whole earth and sees everything under the heavens.

Congregation: God decided how hard the winds should blow and how much rain should fall. He made the laws for the rain and laid out a path for the lightning.

Then God saw wisdom and evaluated it. God set it in place and examined it thoroughly.

All: And this is what God says to all humanity: 'The fear of the Lord is true wisdom; to forsake evil is real understanding.'"

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

Thanks be to God.

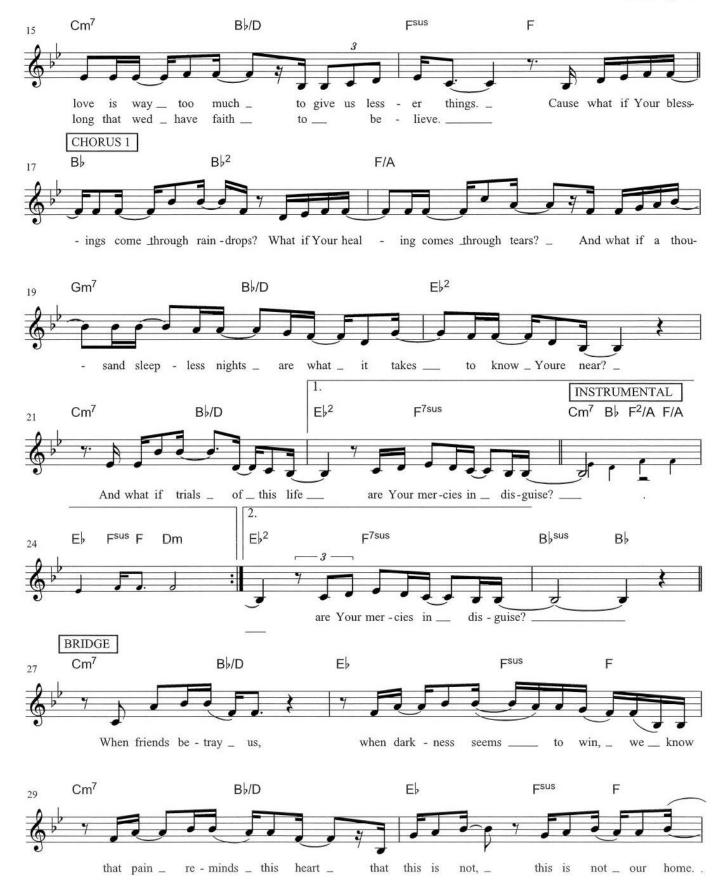
Sermon

Hymn - Blessings

Blessings

Words and Music by Laura Story







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, <u>riverofhopehutchinson.org</u> and follow the directions to "give online".

Prayers of the People

Each petition will end with the words: Lord in your mercy.

You will respond: Hear our prayers.

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

As we are gathered into one body by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us gather at the table, prepared and given for you by Christ. Taste of God's goodness and mercy.

When we come to this table, we bring all of ourselves.

We bring joy and hope, dreams and prayers, grief and doubt, memories and heartache.

God meets us here. God hears our cries and sees our scars.

With open hearts and authenticity, we gather at the table of Christ.

We remember that 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

Divine Source of Love and Life, Holy is your unspeakable name. May your Way of Love resound through earth, heaven in our midst. All we need to live and thrive we receive from you, Creator; forgive us when we turn away, as we forgive each other.

Keep us on the path of Wisdom, away from wicked tyranny; Spirit ever breathe through us, empower us with hope.

From you, through you and in you, are all things, now and always; to you be all honor and praise. 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/Hymns – Precious Lord, Take My Hand



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, Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE SENDING

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

Purpose Sightings

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 endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sending Song – What A Fellowship



Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1919 Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924