



Jonah and God's Mercy

November 8th, 2020
Sunday Worship at 10:30am



Call to Worship

One: Our God is gracious!

All: Our God is merciful!

One: Our Lord doesn't easily anger,

All: But abounds in love and mercy.

One: God is ready to relent from punishing.

All: Let us praise our God!

Gathering Songs –

Oceans & I Could Sing of Your Love Forever

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)

Words and Music by
Matt Crocker, Joel Houston
and Salomon Ligthelm

$\text{♩} = 60$ VERSE

Bm A/C# D

1. You call me out up - on the wa - ters, the great un -
2. Your grace a-bounds in deep - est wa - ters, Your sov - 'reign .

3 A G Bm A/C#

- known where feet may _ fail. And there I find You in the
_ hand will be my _ guide. Where feet may fail and fear sur -

6 D A G

mys - t'ry, in o - ceans _ deep, my faith _ will _ stand.
-rounds me, You've nev - er _ failed and You won't _ start _ now.

CHORUS 1

9 G D A G D

And I will call up - on _ Your _ name and keep my eyes a - bove _ the .

12 A G D A

_ waves. When o - ceans _ rise, my soul will rest in Your _ em - brace _ for I am

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15 **INSTRUMENTAL 1**
 G A Bm A/C# D D/F# A A/C#
 Yours and You are — mine.

19 **INTERLUDE 1**
 G⁶ G⁶/A G A Bm A/C# D D/F# A
 Yours and You are — mine. — Oh. —

24 G⁶ G⁶/A Bm A/C# D D/F# A G⁶
 And You are — mine. — Oh. —

29 **INSTRUMENTAL 2** **BRIDGE 1a**
 Bm G D A Bm
 Spir-it lead — me where — my trust .

34 G D A
 — is with - out bor - ders, let me walk — up-on — the wa - ters wher - ev - er You — would call me.

37 Bm G
 Take me deep - er than — my feet — could ev - er wan - der and my faith .

39 D **1, 2.** A **3.** A
 — will be — made strong - er — in the pres - ence of — my Sav - iour. — ence of — my Sav - iour.

INTERLUDE 2

59 Bm A D A Em

Yeah, _ yeah, yeah, _ yeah.

63 Bm A D A Em

Oh, Je - sus, yeah. _ My _ God. _

CHORUS 2

67 G D A G D A

I will call up-on _ Your _ name, keep my eyes a - bove _ the _ waves.

71 G D A G A

My soul will rest in Your _ em - brace. I am Yours and You are _

ENDING

74 Bm A/C# D A G⁶ Bm D

_ mine.

I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever

Words and Music by
Martin Smith

♩=92

VERSE

E♭²

Fm¹¹



O - ver the moun - tains and _ the sea Your riv - er runs _ with love _ for me,

3

A♭²

B♭^{sus}



and I will o - pen up my heart, _ and let the Heal - er set _ me free.

5

E♭²

Fm¹¹



I'm hap - py to _ be in _ the truth, and I will dai - ly lift _ my hands,

7

A♭²

B♭^{sus}

§

CHORUS

E♭²



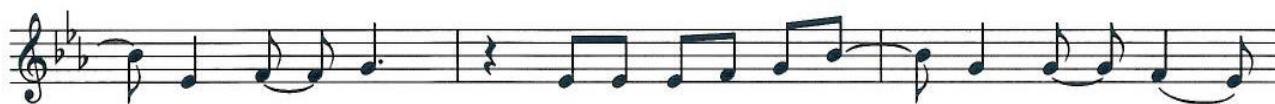
for I will _ al - ways sing of when Your love came down, yeah. _ I could sing of Your love _

10

Fm¹¹

A♭²

B♭^{sus}



_ for - ev - er, I could sing of Your love _ for - ev - er, _

13

E♭²

Fm¹¹

A♭²

Last time to Coda ⊕



I could sing of Your love _ for - ev - er, I could sing of Your love _

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BRIDGE

16 $B\flat^{sus}$ Fm^7 $E\flat/G$

for - ev - er. Oh, I feel like danc - ing;

19 $A\flat$ $B\flat^{sus}$ $B\flat$ Fm^7

it's fool-ish-ness, I know. But when the world has

22 $E\flat/G$ $A\flat$ $B\flat^{sus}$ D.S. al Coda

seen the light, they will dance with joy like we're danc - ing now.

25 \oplus Coda $B\flat^{sus}$ $E\flat^2$

for - ev - er.

The Story with the kids

Welcome

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.

God of the covenant,

You have never failed in your promises to us, but we often fail to be your faithful people. We waste our time and resources on things which do not give life. We doubt our abilities and hide our light away from the world. We flee from your call when it doesn't appeal to us. Forgive us and call us back to your sustaining love.

God hears us when we repent and is quick to pardon our failures. Hear the words of your forgiveness and believe that you have been restored by your creator's great ✝ mercy and compassion. Rejoice!

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God,

You show abundant mercy even when we cannot see the purpose of it. Give us your heart for compassion and love for all of your children, regardless of who or where they may be, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE STORY

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues with a reading from Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10; 4:1-4

Narrator: Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying,

Woman: Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.

Narrator: But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord. But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. The captain came and said to him,

Men: What are you doing sound asleep? Get up; call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish. The sailors said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.

Men: So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?"

Women: Jonah replied: I am a Hebrew, I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.

Narrator: Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him,

Men: What is this that you have done! For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them so. Then they said to him, What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?

Narrator: For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. He said to them,

Woman: For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you."

Men: Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. Then they cried out to the Lord, "Please, O Lord, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you."

Woman: So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the Lord even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows. But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you."

Narrator: So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across.

Woman: Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

Narrator: And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh:

All: By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water.

Women: But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

Narrator: And the Lord said, Is it right for you to be angry?

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hymn –Softly and Tenderly *Please Stand*

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain
 watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Each petition will end with the words: *Lord in your mercy.*
You will respond: ***Hear our prayers.***

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".*

Offering Hymn – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

THE FEAST

Setting the Table

Children will lead us 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

You give us every good thing for food, O Lord, including yourself in the bread and cup which we share in this meal. Feed us on your goodness and mercy, that we might be living compassion to all whom we encounter.

As we gather 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

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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and forever. Amen. 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.

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! Just A Closer Walk with Thee – Chorus Only

Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;
1 I am weak but thou art strong; Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. Ref.
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. Ref.
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. Ref.

Text: North American traditional
Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

Final Blessing

May the LORD bless you and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you his favor and give you peace.

Sending Song – Lord I Lift Your Name on High

Words and Music by
Rick Founds

$\text{♩} = 86$ **VERSE**

G C/G D/G C/G G C/G

Lord, I lift Your name _ on high; Lord, I love to sing _ Your

4 D/G C/G G C/G D/G C/G

prais - es. _ I'm so glad You're in _ my life;

CHORUS

7 G C/G D D^{sus} D C G C

I'm so glad You came _ to save _ us. _ You came from heav - en to earth .

10 D C/D G C D C

_ to show the way, _ from the earth _ to the cross _ my debt to pay; .

13 G C D Em⁷

_ From the cross _ to the grave, _ from the grave _ to the sky; .

15 Am⁷ D G

_ Lord, I lift Your name _ on high.

Go in peace – Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God**