

15th Sunday After Pentecost
September 21, 2025



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am



Gathering

Music to Prepare Us For Worship

(Nan): *Introduce yourself and pastor Elizabeth and invite people to stand for our opening song.*

Opening Song "This is Amazing Grace"

This Is Amazing Grace

(as published by Simpleville Music, Inc.)

Words and Music by
Phil Wickham, Jeremy Riddle
and Josh Farro

VERSE 1

$\text{♩} = 100$ G C2(no3)

1. Who breaks the pow - er of sin and dark - ness, whose love is might - y

4 Em D C2(no3)

and so much strong - er? The King of glo - ry, the King a - bove all kings.

VERSE 2

8 G C2(no3)

2. Who shakes the whole earth with ho - ly thun - der and leaves us breath - less

12 Em D C2(no3)

in awe and won - der? The King of glo - ry, the King a - bove all kings.

CHORUS

16 G C

This is a - maz - ing grace, this is un - fail - ing love,

20 Em D

that You would take my place, that You would bear my cross.

24 G C

You laid down Your life that I would be set free. Oh,

INSTRUMENTAL

29 Em 2nd time to Coda D N.C. G

Je - sus, I sing for all that You've done for me.

VERSE 3

33 C2(no3) G

3. Who brings our cha - os back in - to ord - er,

37 C2(no3) Em D

who makes the or - phan a son and daugh - ter? The King of glo - ry, the King of glo - ry.

VERSE 4

41 G C2(no3)

4. Who rules the na - tions with truth and jus - tice, shines like the sun in

44 Em D C2(no3)

all of its bril - liance? The King of glo - ry, the King a - bove all kings. Yeah,

48 *D.S. al Coda*

this is a - maz - ing grace,

49 D Coda G

all that You've done for me.

BRIDGE

G C2(no3)
 Wor - thy is the Lamb who was slain! Wor - thy is the King who con -

55 G C2(no3)
 quered the grave! Wor - thy is the Lamb who was slain! Wor - thy is the King who con -

59 G C2(no3)
 quered the grave! Wor - thy is the Lamb who was slain! Wor - thy is the King who con -

63 Em G
 quered the grave! Wor - thy is the Lamb who was slain! Wor - thy, wor -

CHORUS

C2(no3) G C
 66 thy, wor - thy! Oh, this is a - maz - ing grace, this is un - fail - ing love,

71 Em D
 that You would take my place, that You would bear my cross.

75 G C
 You laid down Your life that I would be set free. Oh,

ENDING

Em D G C2(no3)
 80 Je - sus, I sing for all that You've done for me,

85 G C2(no3)
 all that You've done for me.

Welcome * Welcome Pads * Post it Notes *

(Nan): *Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here. (Also include announcement here of the death of Marcella Hanson, friend of many at ROH and mother of Ronda Eckhart)*

Greeting

(Pastor Elizabeth): *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit is with you all. **And also with you.***

Confession

(Pastor Elizabeth): Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

(Pastor Elizabeth): Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

(Pastor Elizabeth): Merciful and loving God,

**we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.**

Forgiveness

(Pastor Elizabeth): Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

(Pastor Elizabeth): Let us pray,
God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Greet Someone New *Music to Bring Us Back Together:*
"This is Amazing Grace" Chorus

Children's Time (Pastor Elizabeth)

The Word

(Reader): *Our story and God's story continues today with two readings. You are invited to follow along in your Bibles for our first lesson from the book of Jeremiah 8:18-9:1.*

(Reader): My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people
from far and wide in the land:

"Is the Lord not in Zion?
Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?")

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved."

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?
Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people
not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water,
and my eyes a fountain of tears,

so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of my poor people!

(Reader): Our second reading comes from the Gospel of Luke 16: 1-13. You are invited to stand in body or in spirit as we sing to welcome the Gospel.

SERVICE MUSIC

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia

[U] 174

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A E D E A D E

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A E Bm E A D A

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(Reader): Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first,

(Side 1): 'How much do you owe my master?'

(Reader): He answered,

(Side 2): 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.'

(Reader): He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another,

(Side 1): 'And how much do you owe?'

(Reader): He replied,

(Side 2): 'A hundred containers of wheat.'

(Reader): He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?"

(ALL): No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

(Reader): *Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story*

(ALL): Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Pastor Elizabeth Becker

SONG OF THE DAY - "There is a Balm in Gilead"

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Prayers for the World

Pastor: Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Pastor or Lector: God of peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Thank you for this congregation of River of Hope. Guide us to fulfill our purpose in Your life.

God of Grace **Response: Hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, bless the United States and all elected leaders. We pray for peace and justice in all nations and communities. We pray for our armed forces, and for our enemies.

God of Grace **Response: Hear our prayer.**

Bless and strengthen all first responders and keep them close in your loving protection. God of Grace **Response: Hear our prayer.**

God of hope, be present with those whose names are on our prayer list especially **Intercessions:**

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud. (pause) We look for the signs of your resurrection power.

God of Grace **Response: Hear our prayer.**

We rejoice in thanksgiving for the many blessings from your hand, especially the beauty of creation, and those who celebrate a birthday or anniversary.

God of Grace **Response: Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died, especially **those we name in our hearts (Pause)** May they rest in peace and rise in glory. God of Grace **Response: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into your hands O Gracious God, we commend all the prayers of our hearts through Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. **Amen.**

Offering

(Nan): *Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for "simply giving" or give online or drop a check off at the church office. The watering can during August is for "House of Grace" in Montrose. Any children willing to help are Invited to meet in the back to bring forth the Communion elements.*

Offering Talk – Linda Pedersen

Offering Song "Lord of All Hopefulness"

Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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The Feast

Setting the Table (Pastor Elizabeth):

the children lead us as we say together:

**Gracious God, we thank you for the food before us;
the family beside us; the love between us;
and your presence among us.**

Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Table (Pastor Elizabeth):

The Lord is with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

As we gather in this place, 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 in heaven, hallowed be your name.

**Mystery beyond our knowing,
close to us as our breathing,
in humble awe we pray.**

Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven

**We pray for your vision of justice and mercy
to be made real in our world even now.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**We pray for your vision of enough;
enough sustenance, enough warmth,
enough healing for all of your children.**

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**We pray for the grace to let go of that which
is death dealing
as we embrace your vision for life,
that we might follow you safely through the
obstacle course.**

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.

Now and for ever.

**Giving thanks for presence that defies
Definition in this life and beyond.**

Amen.

Amen.

~ written by Katherine Hawker (2004), and posted on Liturgies Outside. <http://liturgyoutside.net/>

(Pastor Elizabeth): *This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth.*

So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing.

The gifts of God are...

(ALL): Free

Free indeed. And all are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Communion Songs: "Knowing You" and "Lead On, O King Eternal!"

Knowing You

Words and Music by
Graham Kendrick

♩=54

VERSE

C G/B Am F C F G C G/B Am F C

1. All I once held dear, built my life up - on, all this world re - veres, and
 (2.) heart's de - sire is to know You more, to be found in You, and
 (3.) know the power of Your ris - en life, and to know You in Your

4 Am G C F G C C/E F G C G/B Am F C

wars to own, all I once thought gain I have count - ed loss; Spent and worth - less now, com -
 known as Yours, to pos - sess by faith what I could not earn; All sur - pas - sing gift of
 suf - fer - ings, to be - come like You in Your death, my Lord; So with You to live, and

CHORUS

8 Am G^{SUS} G F C F/G G C Am G

-pared to this. Know - ing You, Je - sus, know - ing You, there is no great - er
 right - eous - ness.
 nev - er die.

13 F C/E F/A C/G F 1, 2.
C/E F/A

thing. You're my all, You're the best, You're my joy, my right-eous-ness, and I love You, Lord.

17 C/G G 3.
C/E F/A C/G F/G C

2. Now my love You, Lord, love You, Lord.
3. Oh to

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Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a melody of quarter notes and half notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows a melodic line with some chromaticism, and the bass staff maintains a steady harmonic support.

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

The third system includes a melodic flourish in the treble staff, with a half note followed by a quarter note and a half note. The bass staff continues with a similar accompaniment.

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

The final system concludes the piece with a melodic line in the treble staff that ends on a half note, and a final chord in the bass staff.

Blessing after Communion

(Pastor Elizabeth): Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

(Pastor Elizabeth): Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

The Sending

(Nan): Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings

MILESTONES! Sing "Love Lifted Me" Chorus

(Nan): *It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life.*

Love Lifted Me

Words by
James Rowe

Music by
Howard E. Smith

VERSE

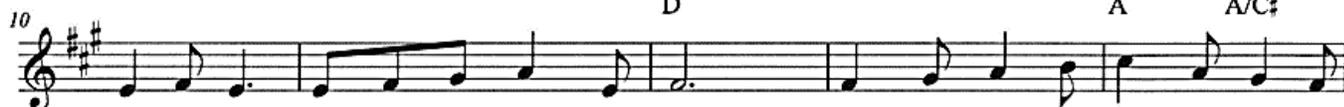
♩ = 86



1. I was sink - ing deep in sin, far from the peace - ful shore,
2. All my heart to Him I give, ev - er to Him I'll cling,
3. Souls in dan - ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com - plete - ly saves;



ver - y deep - ly stained with - in, sink - ing to rise no more; But the Mas - ter
in His bless - ed pres - ence live, ev - er His prais - es sing; Love so might - y
He will lift you by His love out of the an - gry waves; He's the Mas - ter

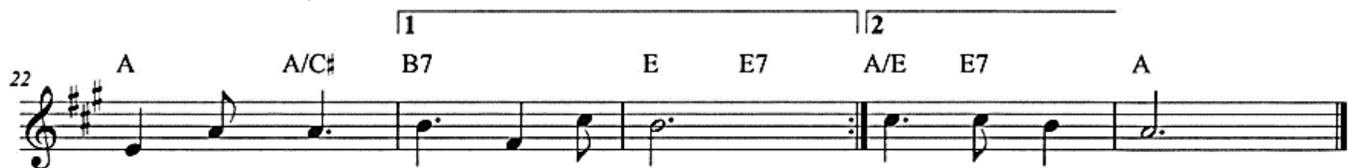


of the sea heard my de - spair - ing cry, from the wa - ters lift - ed me; now
and so true mer - its my soul's best songs; Faith - ful lov - ing serv - ice, too, to
of the sea, bil - lows His will o - bey; He your Sav - ior wants to be; be

CHORUS



safe am I. Love lift - ed me! Love lift - ed me! When noth - ing
Him be - longs.
saved to - day.



else could help, Love lift - ed me! Love lift - ed me!

CCLI Song # 66926

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Blessing

(Pastor Elizabeth): God bless you and keep you,

God smile on you and gift you,

God look you full in the face
and make you prosper.

Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

Sending Song: "Mourning into Dancing"

(Invite children of all ages to come forward and play percussion during the Sending Song)

Mourning Into Dancing

Words and Music by
Tommy Walker

♩ = 118

CHORUS 1

G² F#m^{7(b5)} B^{7sus} D/E Em⁷ D/F# G Am⁷ G²/B



He's turned my mourn - ing _ in - to danc - ing _ a - gain, He's

4

C C/D D G² F#m^{7(b5)} B^{7sus} D/E Em⁷ D/F# G



lift - ed _ my sor - rows; And I can't stay si - lent, _ I must

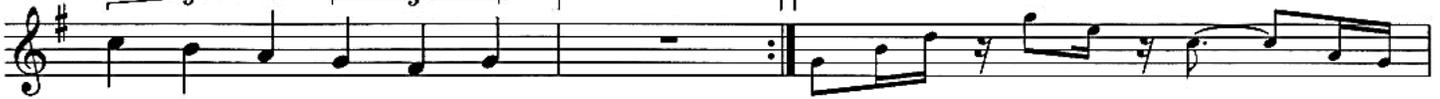
7

Am⁷ G/B C C/D D G

Last time to Coda

1. N.C.

2. **INSTRUMENTAL**
N.C.



sing for His joy has come.

10



1. Where there

VERSE 1

G² C² G² C² G² C² G² C²



once was on - ly _ hurt, _ _ He gave His heal - ing _ hand; _ _ Where there

17

G² C² G² C² G² C²



once was on - ly _ pain, _ _ He brought com - fort like a _ friend. .

20 G^2 F^2 C^2/E G^2 C^2

I feel the sweet - ness of His love pierc - ing my dark - ness;

24 G^2 F^2

I see the bright and morn - ing sun

26 C^2/E $F/E\flat$ C/D G/D C/D D D.C. al Coda

as it ush - ers in His joy - ful glad - ness.

CHORUS 2

29 \oplus Coda N.C. G^2 $F\#m^7(\flat 5)$ B^7sus D/E Em^7 $D/F\#$ G

Whoa You've turned my mourn - ing in - to

32 Am^7 G^2/B C C/D D G^2 $F\#m^7(\flat 5)$ B^7sus D/E

danc - ing a - gain, You've lift - ed my sor - rows; And I can't stay si -

INSTRUMENTAL

35 Em^7 $D/F\#$ G Am^7 G/B C C/D D G N.C.

- lent, I must sing for Your joy has come.

38

(Pastor Elizabeth): Go in peace, serve the Lord.. **Thanks be to God.**

Music to Send You Out

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*for the family of Marcella Hanson
upon her untimely death. Marcella
was friend to many at ROH and the
mother of Ronda Eckhart*