

**WORSHIP SERVICE FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025  
9:00AM**

**BLESSED BE YOUR NAME**

1) Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name

2) Blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be Your name

*Pre-chorus*

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord, still I will say

*Chorus*

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

3) Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be  
Blessed be Your name

4) Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name

*Pre-chorus*

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord, still I will say

*Chorus*

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

*Chorus*

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

*BRIDGE*

You give and take away, You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say, Lord blessed be Your name

*BRIDGE*

You give and take away, You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say, Lord blessed be Your name

*Chorus*

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name

**Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name**

*Chorus*

**Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name**

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## **INVOCATION**

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

## **READING**

*John 20:19–29*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.  
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;  
C **death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.**

P Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.  
C **Alleluia, alleluia.**

P <sup>31</sup>these (words of scripture) are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (*John 20:31*)

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## **MIGHTY TO SAVE**

1. **Everyone needs compassion  
Love that's never failing  
Let mercy fall on me  
Everyone needs forgiveness  
The kindness of a Saviour  
The hope of nations**

*Chorus*

Saviour, He can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever, Author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave

2. So take me as You find me  
All my fears and failures  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow  
Everything I believe in  
Now I surrender

*Chorus*

Saviour, He can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever, Author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave

*(BRIDGE)*

Shine your light, and  
let the whole world see, we're singing  
For the glory, of the risen King; Jesus  
Shine your light, and  
let the whole world see, we're singing  
for the glory, of the risen King

*Chorus 2x*

Saviour, He can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save  
He is mighty to save  
Forever, Author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave  
Jesus conquered the grave

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## **SALUTATION**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*LSB 241*

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **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.**

## **READING**

*Acts 6*

L A reading from Acts, chapter 6.

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. <sup>10</sup>But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. <sup>11</sup>Then they secretly instigated men who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." <sup>12</sup>And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, <sup>13</sup>and they set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, <sup>14</sup>for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us." <sup>15</sup>And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **DEATH WAS ARRESTED**

### **Verse 1**

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin  
Lost without hope with no place to begin  
Your love made a way to let mercy come in  
When death was arrested and my life began

### **Verse 2**

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains  
My orphan heart was given a name  
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance  
When death was arrested and my life began

### **Chorus**

Oh Your grace so free washes over me  
You have made me new now life begins with You  
It's Your endless love pouring down on us  
You have made us new now life begins with You

### **Verse 3**

Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more  
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore  
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend  
When death was arrested and my life began

### **Chorus**

Verse 4  
Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross  
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost  
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand  
That's when death was arrested and my life began

### **Bridge**

Oh we're free free forever we're free  
Come join the song of all the redeemed  
Yes we're free free forever amen  
When death was arrested and my life began

### **Repeat Bridge**

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## **SERMON**

### **SERMON TEXT**

*Acts 7:1–2, 48–60*

<sup>1</sup>And the high priest said, “Are these things so?” <sup>2</sup>And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me.

<sup>48</sup>the Most High does not dwell in houses made by hands, as the prophet says,

<sup>49</sup>“Heaven is my throne,  
and the earth is my footstool.

What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord,  
or what is the place of my rest?

<sup>50</sup>Did not my hand make all these things?’

<sup>51</sup>“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Taking refuge in the mercy of the Lord, let us come before Him in prayer.

*A moment of silence to reflect on God’s Word and to examine our hearts before Him.*

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

C **We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. By the things we have done and by what we have failed to do, we have not honored You as we ought, nor have we served others in love. We deserve to be cast from Your presence forever. Yet in Your great mercy, You sent Your Son to die and rise again for us. Help us to know the power of His resurrection and to share in the joy that His forgiveness brings. Enable us to receive Your mercy and be renewed by Your Spirit that we may honor You as the Lord and God in whom we place our trust. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hears our prayers and answers them for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ. By faith, we stand at His cross and empty tomb. We find our refuge and sing for joy in the shadow of His wings. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)

1. **Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found  
Was blind but now I see**
2. **'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed**

*Chorus*

**My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love amazing grace**

3. **The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures**

*Chorus*

**My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love amazing grace**

*Chorus*

**My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love amazing grace**

4. **The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine  
Will be forever mine  
You are forever mine**

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## **PRAYER**

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faith to believe the resurrection of Christ and to trust the forgiving words of His servants, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church to receive again the Spirit of God and be renewed in faith and fellowship to stand as His holy army, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who have wandered from the household of faith, that faithful to His promises God would work all things in their lives to remind them of their need for His unending grace and steadfast love; and that they would return to the faith and delight in Christ, crucified and raised for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the testimony of Christ in His Word and Sacrament, that He would overcome the powers of this world, turn its evil to good and enliven many to follow Him in faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick and sorrowful, for those who mourn, and for all who stand in need of our prayers, *[especially \_\_\_\_\_]* let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For confidence in the mercy of Christ and glad hearts as He greets us with peace, that we would be forgiven, renewed and strengthened by His body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that out of Your indescribable grace, for the sake of Your Son, You have given us the Holy Gospel and instituted the blessed Sacraments, that through them we may have comfort and the forgiveness of sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, and through the Holy Sacraments establish our faith day by day, until at last we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
- C **Amen.**

## **EASTER ACCLAMATION**

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
- P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God!**

## **SOUL ON FIRE**

*Chorus 1*

**God I'm running for Your heart  
I'm running for Your heart  
'Til I am a soul on fire  
Lord I'm longing for Your ways  
I'm waiting for the day  
When I am a soul on fire  
(Til I am a soul on fire)**

*Verse 1*

**Lord restore the joy I had  
I have wandered bring me back  
In this darkness lead me through  
Until all I see is You yeah**

*(Bridge)*

**Lord let me burn for You again  
Let me return to You again  
And Lord let me burn for You again  
And let me return to You again**

*Chorus 2*

**God I'm running for Your heart  
I'm running for Your heart  
'Til I am a soul on fire  
'Til I am a soul on fire  
'Til I am a soul on fire**

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