

WORSHIP SERVICE FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

Led by the Spirit, Jesus Is Tempted

As We Gather

Only weeks ago, Jesus was called out by John as the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Now Jesus reveals what He must do for us and our salvation. He must stand where Adam stood, tempted by the devil. This time, however, Jesus refuses to surrender His righteousness in the face of evil but preserves it so that He might give it to you and to me. With confidence in Christ's righteousness, which we wear by Baptism, and His forgiveness, which restores us when we fall, we know that the devil can harm us no more. We belong to Christ. In the power of Christ, we are made strong before the tempter's power, and in Him we are brought through death to life everlasting.

PREPARATION

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

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 32:5

- P I acknowledged my sin to You.
C **I did not cover up my iniquity.**
- P I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
C **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for meditation and reflection.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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 Son T and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
- P May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
C **Amen.**

WORD

Kyrie

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

YOU ARE MY KING (AMAZING LOVE)

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be
That You, my King, should die for me?
Amazing love and I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You, in all I do to honor You

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be
That You, my King, should die for me?
Amazing love and I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You, in all I do to honor You
In all I do to honor You

You are my King
You are my King
Jesus, You are my King
You are my King

Amazing love, how can it be
That You, my King, should die for me?
Amazing love and I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You
Amazing love, how can it be
That You, my King, should die for me?
Amazing love and I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You, in all I do to honor You
In all I do to honor You, in all I do, let me honor You

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Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with your spirit.**

Prayer of the Church

- P We give You thanks, O Lord, that You invite us to pray and have promised to hear and answer the prayers of Your people. By Your Holy Spirit enable us to plead for mercy in the name of Jesus and with confidence that whatever Your answer, it will be best for us.

That we stand firm in the face of temptation and be clothed with the strength of the Lord Jesus in time of trial, let us pray to the Lord.

- C **Lord, have mercy.**

- P That we neither be distracted nor enticed by the voice of the devil, the world, and the desires of our own flesh, but endure through the days of trouble through the Word of the Lord that endures forever, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That our nation and those who lead us be equipped with wisdom and faith, that we lead quiet and peaceable lives in Christ, that the nations learn pathways of peace, and that we not be overcome by fear or despair, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the sick and all who suffer know the healing and strength of the Spirit in their afflictions, that the dying abide in peace, and that the grieving be granted comfort, [*especially . . .*], let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the work of the Kingdom be prospered among us and through us, that those who have not heard rejoice to hear the Gospel, and that we be generous in supplying the poor and the homeless, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

Additional petitions may be inserted here.

P That daily we offer up prayers on behalf of the church, her ministers, and her ministries and for all according to their need, interceding on behalf of others even as Christ intercedes for us, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That we approach the Table of the Lord with humility and repentance, that we not commune in an unworthy manner, and that we keep what we receive there in holy hearts and holy lives, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the church would enjoy unity of doctrine and harmony in her work, that many be raised up for church work, and that we offer the Lord the sacrifice of praise from our lips and tithes and offerings from our hands, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Almighty and most merciful God, when Adam as parent of us all chose sin and its death, You did not condemn the people You had made but sent forth the promise of a new Adam, Jesus Christ, Your Son, to resist the lies of the evil one and earn a righteousness great enough to be given to all people in His name. Help us to abide in Christ and in His strength before the temptations of the devil; in the holy name of Jesus do we pray.

C **Amen.**

Handbells

Epistle

Romans 5:12–19

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Ephesians 6:11

- C **Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”

and

“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

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

Apostles’ Creed

Nicene Creed

- P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
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 T everlasting. Amen.**

Who You Say I Am

Verse 1

**Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me**

Chorus 1

**Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am**

Verse 2

**Free at last
He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me**

Chorus 2

**Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am
In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God
Yes I am**

Bridge

**I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am
(REPEAT)**

Chorus 2

**Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am
In my Father's house
There's a place for me**

I'm a child of God

Yes I am

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Sermon

Sermon Text

Genesis 3:1–21

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.
¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Offering

One Thing Remains

1. **Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains**

Chorus

**Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me
Your love**

2. **On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains
One thing remains**

Chorus

**Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me
Your love**

Bridge

**In death in life I'm confident and
Cover'd by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love**

Chorus

**Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me
Your love**

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Brief Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Benedicamus

- P Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

The Wonderful Cross

- 1) When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride
- 2) See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown

Chorus

**O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
Bids me come and die and find
That I may truly live
O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
All who gather here by grace
Draw near and bless Your name**

- 3) Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing so divine
Demands my soul my life my all

Chorus (2x)

**O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
Bids me come and die and find
That I may truly live
O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
All who gather here by grace
Draw near and bless Your name**

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