



TO BE HIS LIGHT THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
June 27, 2021

THOUGHTS OF PREPARATION

His [Jesus'] passion was the kingdom of God, what life would be like on earth if God were king, and the rulers, domination systems, and empires of this world were not. It is the world that the prophets dreamed of—a world of distributive justice in which everybody has enough and systems are fair. And it is not simply a political dream. It is God's dream, a dream that can only be realized by being grounded ever more deeply in the reality of God, whose heart is justice.
-- Marcus J. Borg, John Dominic Crossan: *The Last Week* (Kindle Locations 3165-3169).

Welcome

Prelude *“He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought”* (Arr. by Mark Hayes)
(Dobin Park – Piano)

Tower Bell

Responsive Call to Worship

ONE: Glorious the grace that refuses to wait until we deserve or earn it;
Glorious the grace that refuses to be rejected and that remains
always available, always inviting; Glorious the grace that refuses
to be confined to places of privilege or dignity, civility or
decency.

**ALL: Glorious the grace that reaches where law cannot go,
Glorious the grace that embraces the comfortable and the
untouchable, Glorious the grace that is equally at home in
palaces and shacks,**

ONE: Glorious the grace that is undiminished and undeterred
by the variety of need, the diversity of the needy, or the myriad
languages in which its message must be spoken.

**ALL: Living Christ, Grace-Giver, we are in awe of you and the
grace which you offer to all whoever we may be--and we
worship the Source of your power and love! Amen.**

Prayer of Invocation and Confession

ONE: We hear about the terrible things that happen to others, God,
and we are so glad that it wasn't us;

**ALL: But, secretly, we wonder what they did to deserve it, and
beneath our concerned expressions, we smugly applaud
ourselves for the goodness that we believe keeps us safe.**

ONE: But, we're really not that different from these others, God.
We may speak a different language,

ALL: or wear different clothes,

ONE: or practice different religions,

ALL: and believe different things,

ONE: but we love and worry as they do, and we struggle and doubt as
they do, and we even fail and sin as they do.

**ALL: The truth is, no one – not even our enemies –deserves disaster
any more than we do.**

ONE: And so we pray for all the places in our world where people
suffer, where terrible things are happening, and where all that is
needed is grace and compassion.

**ALL: and we pray that we may find in ourselves the grace that
brings comfort and healing to these hurting ones, and to the
corner of the world we live in. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

ONE: GRACE: She travels outside of karma; Grace makes beauty out of ugly things; Grace finds beauty in everything. Grace finds goodness in everything. Grace fills our lives like the very air we breathe, and the blood in our veins.

ALL: Praise be to God for such a miraculous and wondrous power, and freely-given power! Praise God for Grace! Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

(Creatorex)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Scripture Lesson From the Hebrew Bible -- Lamentations 3:22-33

²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,^[a]
his mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

²⁴ "The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."

²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.

²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.

²⁷ It is good for one to bear
the yoke in youth,

²⁸ to sit alone in silence

when the Lord has imposed it,
²⁹ to put one's mouth to the dust
(there may yet be hope),
³⁰ to give one's cheek to the smiter,
and be filled with insults.

³¹ For the Lord will not
reject forever.

³² Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
³³ for he does not willingly afflict
or grieve anyone.

Anthem

“Gentle Shepherd”

(Dresie)

Gentle Shepherd, be my guide; I have wandered far from home.
I can find no place to hide, no shelter from the storm.
It has been too long a night for a lamb alone.
Gentle Shepherd be my guide; lead me safely home.

Gentle Shepherd, comfort me, for I am a soul unsure.
In Your arms I long to be evermore secure.
As You wait so patiently for my faith in You,
Gentle Shepherd, comfort me; I will trust in You.

O Lord, I come to You in faith and gratitude;
Humbly now all I do, I will follow You. I will, follow You.

Gentle Shepherd by my side, You will keep me safe and warm.
Now I need no place to hide; You will calm the storm.
I will never fear the night or feel alone.
Gentle Shepherd by my side, I am safely home.

Scripture Lesson

From the Psalter - Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

² Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

⁶ my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸ It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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, 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.

Trust and Obey

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1 When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word, what a
 2 Not a bur - den we bear, not a sor - row we share, but our
 3 But we nev - er can prove the de - lights of his love un - til
 4 Then in fel - low - ship sweet we will sit at his feet, or we'll

glo - ry he sheds on our way! While we do his good will, he a - bides with us
 toil he will rich - ly re - pay; not a grief nor a loss, not a frown nor a
 all on the al - tar we lay; for the fa - vor he shows and the joy he be -
 walk by his side in the way; what he says we will do, where he sends we will

Refrain

still, and with all who will trust and o - bey.
 cross, but is blest if we trust and o - bey. Trust and o - bey, for there's
 stows are for them who will trust and o - bey.
 go - nev - er fear, on - ly trust and o - bey.

no oth - er way to be hap - py in Je - sus, but to trust and o - bey.

WORDS: John H. Sammis (1846-1919)
 MUSIC: Daniel B. Towner (1850-1919)

TRUST AND OBEY
 6.6.9.D.Ref.