



Grace Pasadena

4th Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

Reflections

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”

— **Corrie ten Boom**

“The widest thing in the universe is not space; it is the potential capacity of the human heart. Being made in the image of God, it is capable of almost unlimited extension in all directions. And one of the world’s greatest tragedies is that we allow our hearts to shrink until there is room in them for little besides ourselves.”

— **A.W. Tozer**

“A God with whom we are on...easy terms and whose reality is little different from our own...who is merely there to satisfy our needs has no real authority to compel and will soon begin to bore us.”

— **David Wells**

Call to Worship

Leader I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**All He drew me up from the pit, set my feet upon a rock,
and made my steps secure.**

Leader He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

All Many will see and humble themselves, and put their trust in the Lord.

— based on Psalm 40 (NIV)

Song of Praise

A Mighty Fortress | Martin Luther

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing
Our helper He,
amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe
His craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate
On earth is not His equal

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God’s own choosing
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He
Lord Sabaoth His name,
from age to age the same
And He must win the battle

3. And though this world,
with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him
His rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure
One little word shall fell him

4. That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also
The body they may kill;
God’s truth abideth still
His kingdom is forever

Lenten Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

Gracious God,
we praise and thank you.
Out of your love and mercy,
you breathed into dust the breath of life,
creating us to serve you and our neighbors.
Call forth our prayers and acts of tenderness
and strengthen us to face our limits and mortality,
that we may reach with confidence for your mercy in Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Songs of Praise

Who You Say I Am | B. Fielding & R. Morgan

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*

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*

We Are Not Overcome | Bifrost Arts

1. Flesh will fail, bones will break
Thieves will steal, the earth will shake
Night will fall, light will fade
The Lord will give, and take away

2. Put no trust in the earth
In the ground you stand upon
Flowers fade into dust
The Lord will make a place for us

CHORUS

*Because of His great love
We are not overcome
Because of His great love
We are not overcome*

3. Have no fear, for your life
Turn your cheek, Turn your cheek
Bear the yoke, love in death
The Lord will give life and breath

Prayer of Confession

O Jesus Christ, our great shepherd,
you tenderly gather us as lambs,
carrying us with your all-embracing love.
Yet, like sheep, we wander from you:
following our own ways, ignoring your voice,
distrusting your gifts and care.
Forgive our stubborn rebellion,
our hardened hearts, our lack of trust.
Refresh us once again by your quiet waters of mercy
and restore us in body, mind and spirit by your redeeming love.
In your good and strong name we pray. **Amen.**

Song of Response & Assurance

Bonhoeffer's Prayer | Dietrich Bonhoeffer & Bifrost Arts

Lord, early in the morning
We cry unto You
In You there is light, when I cannot see
In You there is love, patience and peace

Lord, I do not understand Your ways
But You know the way for me

Words of Assurance & Passing of the Peace

Leader Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. *—from Mt. 11:28-30*
(NRSV)

All Thanks be to God!

Leader May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

Greetings & Announcements

The Offering & Offertory

Visit <https://gracepasadena.org/give> to give online.

A Reading from Psalm 4

4 Be angry, and do not sin;
ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*
5 Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.
6 There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?
Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!"
7 You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.
8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

A Reading from Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. 14 For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

The Morning Lesson - Hebrews 13:13-16

13 Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. 14 For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. 15 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. 16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Sermon - Brannin Pitre

Lenten Series: "Evangelism"

Sermon Title: "Loving a City that Can't Love You Back"

Prayers of the People

With the Good News of Jesus in our hearts and minds, let us sing and offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbor, Pasadena and the world. We will sing "Prayers of the People" by The Brilliance as we pray.

You hear us calling

You hear us calling

Abba Father

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Closing Song

Grace to You & Peace | Music: F. Ortega

Grace to you and peace

from God our Father

Grace to you and peace

from God our Father

And the Lord Jesus Christ

And the Lord Jesus Christ

And the Lord Jesus Christ

Benediction

Leader: Do not live by bread alone, but by the will of God. May God give the angels charge over you; may their hands bear you up and keep you from falling. Be filled with the peace of God and do not neglect to do good and share his kindness. *—from Mt. 4:4, 6, 11; Heb. 10:16*

All **Thanks be to God! Amen!**