

March 29, 2020: Lent 5A

Color: Purple
Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at Oremus Bible Browser]
[Ezekiel 37:1-14](#) (In a vision, the dry bones of Israel brought to life and hope is restored)
[Psalm 130](#) (With the Lord there is mercy and plenteous redemption)
[Romans 8:6-11](#) (Life in the Spirit)
[John 11:1-45](#) (Lazarus is raised from the dead by Jesus)

Themes: New Creation, Return, Repentance, Healing, Resurrection

FOCAL Faithelement PASSAGE: Ezekiel 37:1-14
(Podcast will be ready 2 weeks before date of use)

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Hymn Suggestions link to Hymnary.org, a searchable resource with a wealth of information. The tunes listed here are the ones most commonly associated with the texts, and the biblical/thematic references suggest the hymn's association with the morning's scriptures or themes.

[Abide With Me](#) (EVENTIDE) John
[Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed](#) (MARTYRDOM; HUDSON) Romans
[Breathe On Me, Breath of God](#) (TRENTHAM) Ezekiel, Romans
[Christ Be My Leader](#) (SLANE) John
[Every Time I Feel the Spirit](#) (UPON THE MOUNTAIN WHEN MY LORD SPOKE) Romans
[Holy Spirit, Truth Divine](#) (MERCY [GOTTSCHALK], SONG 13) Romans
[I Danced In the Morning \(Lord of the Dance\)](#) (SIMPLE GIFTS) John, Lent
[Just a Closer Walk With Thee](#) (CLOSER WALK) John, Lent
[O Christ, the Healer](#) (ERHALT UNS HERR, ANGELUS, ROCKINGHAM) John
[O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing](#) (AZMON) Romans
[Out of the Depths I Cry to You](#) (AUS TIEFER NOT) Psalms
[Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness](#) (NETTLETON, BEACH SPRING, JULIBEE) John
[Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers](#) (GRAFENBERG, ST. AGNES) Ezekiel, Romans
[The Great Physician](#) (GREAT PHYSICIAN) John
[This Is a Day of New Beginnings](#) (BEGINNINGS) Ezekiel, John
[We Cannot Measure How You Heal](#) (YE BANKS AND BRAES) Ezekiel, John
[When Jesus Wept](#) (WHEN JESUS WEPT) John

Before/During Prayer

Out of the Depths, from [Two Canticles for Lent](#), Thomas Keesecker © 2015, MorningStar Music, MSM-50-3089

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult

Children Of the Heavenly Father - ERomans
TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA; Dan Forrest, arr.
© 2011 Beckenhorst Press, ISBN: BP1920
2 Part Mixed, Piano, opt. Flute, Cello, Handbells

God's Son Has Made Me Free - MD.....Romans/John
Edward Grieg/Oscar Overby, arr.
© 1973, Augsburg Fortress, 978-0-8006-4556-4
SATB, a cappella

I Am the Resurrection - E John
K. Lee Scott
© 2003 Concordia Publishing, 98-3735
SATB, Organ, opt. Brass, Handbells, Timpani

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus - E.....Lent/John
RESTORATION; Austin Lovelace, arr.
© 1990 Hope Publishing, PP 118
SATB, Organ, opt. Brass, Handbells, Timpani

I Will Wait for You - M Psalm
Getty & Townend/Victor C. Johnson, arr.
© 2018, Choristers Guild, CGA 1607
SATB, Piano (*ideal for combining youth with adult*)

Lord, It Belongs Not to My Care - E Lent, Romans
Carl Schalk
© 1978 Augsburg Fortress, 978-0-8006-4590-1
SATB, Organ

Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land - M John
Traditional Spiritual/Neil A. Johnson, arr.
© 2014, MorningStar Music, MSM-50-6104
SATB, Soloist, Piano

Psalm 130: Out of the Depths - MD..... Psalm
John Ferguson, quoting *AUS TIEFER NOT*
© 1996, Augsburg Fortress, 978-0-8006-5607-2
SATB, Organ

When Jesus Wept (A New England Round)- M.. John
William Billings (1746-1800)
Public Domain, CPDL #35730
4 Equal Voices, a cappella

-- youth and children --

Oh, Mary, Don't You Weep - M John
Traditional Spiritual/Neil A. Johnson, arr.
© 1999, Heritage Music Press, 15/1479H-3
SAB, Piano

Dry Bones - EEzekiel
Traditional Spiritual/Becki Slagle Mayo and Lynn
Shaw Bailey, arr.
© 2007, Choristers Guild, CGA 1112
Unison, Piano

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

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It is beyond our present abilities to formulate these ideas more precisely, but it seems an intelligible and coherent hope that God will remember the pattern that is me and re-create it in a new environment of God's choosing, by a great act of final resurrection.

— JOHN POLKINGHORNE, Theoretical Physicist, Theologian
from *Quarks, Chaos, & Christianity*

You write new stories with old sentences.

— PETER TRABEN HAAS, from *Centering Prayers*

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*From time to time, face the challenge that comes
when cherished ways no longer give you life. . .*

*Let go into a new deep end.
Be stripped of what you once held dear.
Enter a trackless waste, a formless mess,
such as is always 'in the beginning.'*

And let the Spirit, as always, brood.

*One day that will include
your disintegrating flesh and blood,
your decaying corpse, your bleached bones.
Simply trust that again and again
a dying is a prelude to a new life.*

-- JIM COTTER, from *Waymarks*

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CALL TO WORSHIP

(Adapted from Psalm 130, Common English Bible)

One: Lord, we cry out to you from the depths of our soul.

All: Lord, listen to our voices and our requests for mercy.

One: Lord, our whole being longs to be filled with hope.

All: We wait with expectation to see the fulfillment of your promises.

One: Lord, our hope is in your faithful love.

All: Lord, redeem us from our failures. Redeem us from our sins.

One: Lord, we cry out to you from the depths of our soul.

All: Lord, listen to our voices and requests for mercy.

-- SCOTT WAGONER

GATHERING PRAYER

Loving and Gracious God, as you breathed life into the first human,
may Your Spirit breathe life into our souls today. Breathe into the dead
and hopeless places of our souls a renewed sense of aliveness. In the places we
we have chosen deadness, may we live again. Amen.

(SW)

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RESPONSIVE PRAYER AFTER PSALM 130

Out of the depths, I cry to you, O Lord.

How else could I ever expect to be raised?

Feeling empty, I come, O Lord.

How else could I ever be filled?

Feeling broken, I turn to you.

How else could I be healed?

Feeling estranged --

How reconciled?

Feeling lost --

How found?

Have mercy on me, O Lord.

Hear my cry, O God.

Because if you were to keep count of my sins,
I would not be able to survive your judgment.

But you do forgive.

You keep on forgiving me.

Therefore, I will trust in you.

I will wait and keep watch for you.

I will hope and wait on you, Lord --

that I might be found,

that I might be reconciled

that I might be healed

be filled

and be raised up. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Be assured that in the Lord is our hope, for with the Lord
there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem. Your sins
are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Loving God, awaken our souls to the life-giving power of your Word.
Heal us of our self-centeredness and open the way
for Your Spirit to speak to our conditions.
May our attitude be one of humility and receptivity. Amen.

(SW)

BENEDICTION

May we leave this place in the newness and power of Your Spirit.
May we walk forth in the aliveness and power of Your resurrection.
May we live confidently in the faithfulness of Your love and promises.
May we breathe life into every circumstance that greets us. Amen.

(SW)

*Thanks to Scott Wagoner, Pastoral Minister
[Deep River Friends Meeting](#) , High Point, North Carolina
for his contributions to this week's prayers.