

Warren Howell, Editor

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## 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 <u>Hymnary.org</u>, 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 (EVERY TIME I FEEL THE SPIRIT)	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	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	
God's Son Has Made Me Free - MDRomans/John Edward Grieg/Oscar Overby, arr. © 1973, Augsburg Fortress, 978-0-8006-4556-4 SATB, a cappella	Psalm 130: Out of the Depths - MD	
I Am the Resurrection - E	When Jesus Wept (A New England Round) - M John William Billings (1746-1800) Public Domain, CPDL #35730 4 Equal Voices, a cappella	
I Will Arise and Go to Jesus - ELent/John RESTORATION; Austin Lovelace, arr.	youth and children	
© 1990 Hope Publishing, PP 118	Oh, Mary, Don't You Weep - M John	
SATB, Organ, opt. Brass, Handbells, Timpani	Traditional Spiritual/Neil A. Johnson, arr.	
SATB, Organ, opt. Brass, Handbells, Timpani	Traditional Spiritual/Neil A. Johnson, arr. © 1999, Heritage Music Press, 15/1479H-3	
I Will Wait for You - M		
I Will Wait for You - M	© 1999, Heritage Music Press, 15/1479H-3 SAB, Piano	
I Will Wait for You - M	© 1999, Heritage Music Press, 15/1479H-3 SAB, Piano  Dry Bones - E Ezekiel	
I Will Wait for You - M	© 1999, Heritage Music Press, 15/1479H-3 SAB, Piano	
I Will Wait for You - M	© 1999, Heritage Music Press, 15/1479H-3 SAB, Piano  Dry Bones - E	

## **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

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for his contributions to this week's prayers.