



WORSHIP

resources for worship

Warren Howell, Editor

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FAITHELEMENT

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August 8, 2021: 11th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B

Color: Green

Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at [Oremus Bible Browser](#)]

[2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33](#) (*David laments the death of his son, Absalom*)

[Psalm 130](#) (*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; There is forgiveness with you*)

[Ephesians 4:25-5:2](#) (*Be imitators of God; live in love*)

[John 6:35, 41-51](#) (*I am the living bread that came down from heaven*)

Alternate First Reading and Psalm:

[1 Kings 19:4-8](#) (*Elijah receives bread in the wilderness*)

[Psalm 34:1-8](#) (*O taste and see that the Lord is good*)

Themes: Grief and Lament, Forgiveness, Unity, Bread of Life, Communion

The FOCAL PASSAGE on Faithelement's podcast for this week is 2 Samuel 18:1-33

(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 scriptures or themes of this service.

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly (<i>HOLY MANNA</i>)	1 Kings, Psalm 34, John
Blest Be the Tie That Binds (<i>DENNIS</i>)	Ephesians
Brethren, We Have Met to Worship (<i>HOLY MANNA</i>)	1 Kings, Psalm 34, John
Christian Hearts, In Love United (<i>CASELL</i>)	Ephesians
Come, Every Soul, By Sin Oppressed (<i>STOCKTON</i>)	Psalm 34
Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive (<i>DETROIT; MORNING SONG</i>)	Ephesians
Gather Us In (<i>GATHER US IN</i>)	John
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (<i>CWM RHONDDA</i>)	1 Kings, John
Lord, I Want to Be a Christian (<i>I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN</i>)	Ephesians
Near to the Heart of God (<i>MCAFEE</i>)	1 Kings
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (<i>PRECIOUS LORD</i>)	Psalm 130
Rock of Ages (<i>TOPLADY</i>)	1 Kings
Take the Bread, Children, Take the Bread (<i>BREAD</i>)	1 Kings, Psalm 34, Ephesians, John, Communion
When Sorrow Floods the Troubled Heart (<i>RESIGNATION</i>)	2 Samuel, Psalm 130

ANTHEMS

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

Adoro Te (We Sing Your Praise) – E.....John, Comm.
Johann Michael Haydn/Richard Proulx, ed.
© 1994, GIA Publications, G-4058
SATB, Organ

David's Lamentation – ME 2 Samuel
William Billings/Theron Kirk, ed.
© 1964, H.W. Gray, (CPDL #00034)
SATB, a cappella

Gather Us In – ME Psalm 34, Ephesians, John
Marty Haugen/Lloyd Larson, arr.
© 2015, Lorenz Corp., 10/4668L
SATB, Keyboard, opt. Synth, Flute, Guitar, Percussion

I Will Bless the Lord – M Psalm 34
Victor C. Johnson
© 2017, Augsburg Fortress, 978-1-5064-2586-3
SATB, Descant/opt. Unison Choir, Piano

Jesus Is a Rock In a Weary Land – MD 1 Kings
African-American Spiritual/Glenn Burleigh, arr.
© 1993, GIA Publications, G-7754
SATB divisi, Piano

O Bread of Life From Heaven – M..... 1 Kings, John
Heinrich Isaac/Hal H. Hopson, ed.
© 1985, C. Fischer, CM8205
SATB, a cappella (opt. Keyboard)

O Taste and See – MD Psalm 34
Ralph Vaughan Williams
© 1953, Oxford University Press, 9780193535114
SATB, a cappella

Set Me As a Seal – M..... Ephesians
Richard Nance
© 2000, Walton Music, WJMS1020
SATB, Piano, Horn

Taste and See – E Psalm 34, Ephesians, John
Michael Helman
© 2005, Choristers Guild, CGA 1046
SATB (opt. solos), Piano and/or Handbells

– SMALLER CHOIRS/INTERGENERATIONAL–

Halle, Hallelujah – E 1 Kings
Traditional Caribbean/John Michniewicz, arr.
© 1992, Chorister's Guild, CGA711
Unison/2-Part, Piano, opt. Percussion

Out of the Depths – E..... Psalm 130
Joseph Genito/Sandra Eithun, arr.
from *Two Psalm Settings*
© 2016, Choristers Guild, CGA 1493
Unison (with opt. solos), Piano

Rain Down – ME 1 Kings
Jaime Cortez/John Carter, arr.
© 1998, Hope Publishing, A 717
SAB, Piano

Sing It Out! (Cántalo) – ME Psalm 34
Victor E. Jortack/Mark Sedio, arr.
© 1992, Chorister's Guild, CGA71052
Unison/2-Part, Piano

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

If I had to give up my life for anything, it would have to have the resilience of hope, the elation of new literacy, the brilliant life of a field of flowers, the elementary kindness of bread. Nothing short of that. It would have to be something as sure as love.

— BARBARA KINGSOLVER, *Small Wonder*, 2002

I shall look at the world through tears. Perhaps I shall see things that dry-eyed I could not see.

— NICHOLAS WOLTERSTORFF, *Lament for a Son*, 1987

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the affliction of isolation and the troubled sleep of deep loss, we wake.

From a place of quiet grief and lonely doubt, we rise.

Now like night watchmen, we wait.

Our eyes strain as we long for dawn's approach.

Draw near now to the coming of the light.

Hope glints in the distance.

Morning breaks on the far horizon.

Draw near for the light of day is here.

Let us worship this day, our God— our sustenance, our health.

Our salvation.

COME YE who hear— draw near

from your long pandemic-exile.

Hear our cries, O Lord.

Our cries from the brambled wilderness.

Praise God, thy health and thy salvation.

Behold, the Bread of Life.

Get up and eat for the journey has been long.

Behold, the Bread of Life.

Praise God who has sustained us.

Praise God who shall ever sustain us.

Come ye who hear— draw near.

Behold, our Savior, the Bread of Life.

— Greg Funderburk*

A RESPONSIVE PRAYER

(adapted from Psalm 130)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Lord, open my eyes to see that you are with me in the depths.

You hear my prayer.

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

Only you will stand, Lord. When all else have turned away, you remain.

You always remain.

The Lord is great in forgiveness and in power to redeem.

Therefore, I will wait, because God waits to forgive me.

Your nature is to forgive.

The Lord is great in forgiveness and in power to redeem.

Therefore, I will wait on God, because God waits on me.

You are hope of redemption. Amen.

— WH

PASTORAL PRAYER

God, hold us back from acting as if we can so quickly fix each other's griefs.
May we refrain from always pulling tidy lessons from our losses.
May we instead first breathe with one another, breathe without moving,
listening to one another's quiet sighs in near silence.
May we fast— hungry, thirsty for Your presence.
May we simply hold our sorrows upwards together—
hold them up to You with one another.
To tribulate here for a time in community. Together.
To absorb.
To lament.
To then rest and let go.
Now let us arise as Christ said to his friends and be going.
We pray humbly in this, His sacred name. Amen.

— GF

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

(after Ephesians 4)

If we seek truly to be imitators of God, we must give generously of ourselves,
living in love as an imitator of Christ, who loved and gave of himself for us.

— WH

+ + +

BENEDICTION

May we go now, our thirst quenched by music, our hunger satisfied in God's
presence in prayer. Strengthened in fellowship, we rise. Fed by worship, we move
along. Sustained by the Bread of Life, let us go now with God's blessings. Let us go
now with God's peace.

— GF

* Thanks to Greg Funderburk for his contribution to this week's liturgies. Greg is the Minister for Pastoral Care of [South Main Baptist Church](#), Houston, Texas. His book, [The Mourning Wave](#), a novel about the Galveston Storm of 1900, which was named one of the Best Books of 2020 and one of the best Indie Debut Novels of the year by Kirkus Reviews. His book, [Let It Be Said, We've Borne It Well: Following God in the Time of Covid-19](#) was released in spring 2021 by Smyth & Helwys.