

Warren Howell, Editor

OCTOBER 24, 2021

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October 24, 2021: 22nd Sunday after Pentecost, Year B

Color: Green

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

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 (The Lord restores Job)

Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22) (The Lord redeems the life of his servants)

<u>Hebrews 7:23-28</u> (Christ is the high priest forever) <u>Mark 10:46-52</u> (Jesus restores sight to Bartimaeus)

Alternate First Reading and Psalm:

<u>Jeremiah 31:7-9</u> (The remnant of Israel is gathered by the Lord)
<u>Psalm 126</u> (Restore our fortunes, O Lord; We shall give shouts of joy)

Themes: Wisdom, Restoration, Jesus our Savior, Healing, Sin and Forgiveness

The FOCAL PASSAGE on Faithelement's podcast for this week is Job 42:1-17

(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 scriptures or themes of this service.

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus (HYFRYDOL)	Hebrews
All People That on Earth Do Dwell (OLD HUNDREDTH)	Jeremiah, Psalm 126
Amazing Grace (New Britain)	Mark
Be Thou My Vision (SLANE)	Hebrews, Mark
Bless the Lord, O My Soul (BLESS HIS HOLY NAME)	Job, Psalm 34
Gather Us In (GATHER US IN)	Jeremiah, Psalm 126
Give Thanks (GIVE THANKS)	Job, Hebrews, Mark
God Moves In a Mysterious Way (DUNDEE; RIDGECREST)	Job
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (DUKE STREET)	Hebrews
<u>I'll Praise My Maker</u> (OLD 113тн)	Job, Mark
It Is Well With My Soul (VILLE DU HAVRE)	Job
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (AZMON)	Mark
<u>Open My Eyes That I May See</u> (Scoττ)	Mark
To God Be the Glory (To GOD BE THE GLORY)	Psalm 126, Hebrews
What a Friend We Have In Jesus (CONVERSE)	Hebrews. Mark

ANTHEMS

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

Arise, My Soul, Arise! – MHebrews Finnish Folksong/Dale Wood, arr. © 1976, Sacred Music Press, S-181 SATB, Organ, opt. Brass	Hark, the Glad Sound! – MD
Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus – M Psalm 34 Carl Schalk © 1995, Concordia Publishing, 98-3202 SATB, Treble Choir, Organ, Brass (4), Timpani	I Know That My Redeemer Lives – MEHebrews SHOUT ON/Hal H. Hopson, arr. © 2014, H.W. Gray, 00-44251 SATB, a cappella
Blind Man Stood on the Road and Cried – M Mark African-American Spiritual/Salone Clary, arr. © 2005, GIA Publications, G-6245 SSAATB, a cappella	We Gather Together – E Psalm 126 KREMSER/John Ness Beck, arr. © 1977, Beckenhorst Press, BP 1047 SATB, opt. Solo, Keyboard
God Will Wipe Away the Tears – MEJob, Jeremiah Stephen Pishner © 2006, GIA Publications, G-6838 SATB, Solo, Keyboard, 2 C-Instruments	Lay Your Healing Hands On Me – M Mark African-American Spiritual/Rollo Dilworth, arr. © 2002, Hal Leonard, 8711370 SATB, Solos, Piano (available also in SSA and SAB)
Great Is Thy Faithfulness – MEJob, Psalm 126 FAITHFULNESS/Michael Burkhardt, arr. © 2015, MorningStar Music, 50-5311 SATB, 2-Part Treble, Congregation, Piano, opt. Handbells, Brass, Timpani, Organ	- CHILDREN and YOUTH CHOIRS - Amazing Grace with Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord -
opt. nanubens, brass, rimpani, Organ	E Psalm 19
It Is Well With My Soul – EJob, Hebrews Gary Matheny © 1987, GIA Publications, G-2987 2-Part Mixed, Keyboard	NEW BRITAIN and Cameroon Trad. /Becki Slagle Mayo © 2020, Choristers Guild, CGA1631 Unison/2-Part, Piano, opt. Percussion Broken Yet Chosen – E
O Taste and See – M	Mark A. Miller © 2017, Choristers Guild, CGA1537 SATB, Piano

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

O eternal wisdom instruct me,
O eternal light illuminate me,
O eternal purity cleanse me,
O thou omnipresent power strengthen me,
O infinite holiness sanctify me,
Immutable love establish me,
Eternal mercy have mercy on me.

- THOMAS TRAHERNE (1637-1674)

CALL TO WORSHIP

There are certain words, certain concepts, certain ideas which strike a resonant chord inside us, awakening us, deepening our breath, stirring us toward a renewed sense of whole-heartedness. The notion of 'Restoration' is just such a thing. The thought, the picture, the image of 'Restoration' captures what's been lost and what's been found all at once. It's the feeling of sunlight falling upon us after an endless night. Like the awakening from a bad dream. A return from exile. A release from captivity. A redemptive navigation home again. Job was restored in ancient times. Israel was restored to Jerusalem. The blind, in Jesus' day, were made to see again. What restoration means is there's been a visitation of grace. As we approach God today in reverence and in gratitude for this grace, let us feel the full power, the weight, and the beauty of restoration — remembering that God still does this very thing today.

— Greg Funderburk *

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Open thou mine eyes that I may see Incline my heart that I may desire Order my steps that I may follow The way of thy commandments.

- LANCELOT ANDREWES (1555-1626)

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LITANY

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

People: Let us arise, now fully awake.

Leader: And the Lord restored Job — blessing his latter days more than his beginning.

People: Dreamers awake to restoration.

Leader: Sight was given to the blind in Jesus' day.

People: Awake to vision restored.

Leader: Praise God who has restored us.

People: Praise God who shall ever restore us.

Leader: Like the light of the sun after an endless night.

All: Visit us with the grace of restoration. Amen.

— GF

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Hope of renewal and restoration is found in the merciful fibrillating heart of the world.

—ANNE LAMOTT, Hallelujah Anyway, 2017

PRAYER

God of Restoration, gather us up from the farthest parts of the earth—
the blind, the lame, the sick, the sorrowing.

Bring us in from the dark—those in doubt, those in uncertainty,
those who are broken, those who are lost.

May those who sow in tears, reap with shouts of joy,
a great company restored.

Let us feel the cascade of gratitude in the potential of catastrophe sidestepped.

Open our eyes to walk anew along a straight path on which we shall neither stumble nor fall — all obstacles which before seemed insurmountable, intractable, and existential — now gone.

Lead us by your pleasant brooks to the beauty of still waters to feel the relief and the grace of Your presence with us now.

In the name of Christ who restores and shall ever restore us. Amen.

— GF

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When all you see will be God, all you will want will be God.

—FLANNERY O'CONNOR
The Habit of Being: Letters of Flannery O'Connor, 1979

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BENEDICTION

The Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning. May we now go as Job, full of days. "Take heart, get up," Christ said to the blind. "For your faith has made you well." So let us therefore arise and be going, restored, visited by grace. May we go now with the blessings of restoration. May we 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, 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.