

JOSEPH: FROM SLAVE TO DEPUTY PHAROAH

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL The Wayfaring Stranger (Solo by Talia Neely)

I am a poor wayfaring stranger,
While traveling thro' this world below;
There is no sickness, toil, nor danger
In that bright world to which I go.
I'm going there to meet my father,
I'm going there no more to roam;
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather o'er me,
I know my pathway's rough and steep;
But golden fields lie out before me,
Where weary eyes no more shall weep.
I'm going there to see my mother,
She said she'd meet me when I come;
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

I want to sing salvation's story
In concert with the blood-washed band;
I want to wear a crown of glory,
When I get home to that good land.
I'm going there to see my class-mates,
Who passed before me one by one;
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

I'll soon be free from every trial,
This form will rest beneath the sod;
I'll drop the cross of self-denial,
And enter in my home with God.
I'm going there to see my Saviour,
Who shed for me His precious blood;
I am just going over Jordan,
I am just going over home.

OPENING SONGS

I Thank You, Jesus

I thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Jesus.
I thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Lord.
Oh, You brought, me, yes,
You brought me from a mighty,
a mighty long way, a mighty long way.
I thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Jesus.
I thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Lord.
Oh, You brought, me, yes,
You brought me from a mighty,
a mighty long way, a mighty long way.

You've been my mother, You've been
my father, You've been my sister,
my brother, too,
Oh, You brought me, yes,
You brought me from a mighty,
a mighty long way, a mighty long way.
You've been my doctor, You've been
my lawyer, teacher, my friend indeed,
Oh, You brought me, yes,
You brought me from a mighty,
a mighty long way, a mighty long way.

Thuma Mina

Thuma mina, Thuma mina,
Thuma mina Somandla.

Send me, Jesus, Send me, Jesus,
Send me, Jesus, send me, Lord.

Lead me, Jesus, Lead me, Jesus,
Lead me, Jesus, Lead me Lord.

Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus,
Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Lord.

CALLING ON GOD

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING PSALM

P: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

P: Though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

C: Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

P: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

C: The holy habitation of the Most High

P: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

C: God will help her when morning dawns.

P: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

ALL: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress!

OPENING UP TO GOD.....

P: As we begin this morning we focus on the times that we have crumbled under trials and temptations. Unlike, Joseph, we have failed to see our circumstances from God's perspective. We open up to God for forgiveness and renewed strength.

Silence for reflection

P: Let us confess together,

C: Lord, we confess our lack of faith. We see a glimpse of what we out to be and we know we fall short of the goal. We desire faith that is solid and unchanging, yet we crumble under trials and temptations. We want to be strong, but we know our own weakness. Our sinful condition strips us of any spiritual gain that we humanly devise. Lord, forgive us. Accept us as we are, unworthy for the task, yet gifted for Your purposes. Give us Your gift of faith.

P: Our God is a great God and knows our needs for all areas of our life. God knows our weakness and our unbelieving hearts, yet loves us enough to die on a cross and provide forgiveness of our sin. God has given us the gift of faith, faith for the moment, faith for every trial, faith for every temptation, faith for every difficult situation. I announce God's gift of grace and faith to you in the forgiveness of your sins, I do so in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you!

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. God show us where you have been at work shaping and forming, even in difficult times. Show us the lessons you are seeking to teach us that we might have missed. We ask for eyes to see them and a heart to receive and learn. We thank you for the hard times that shaped our character and driven us closer to you. We ask for your comfort and the courage to embrace it. We ask you, God, to help us understand the depth of your grace so that we can extend grace to others. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 37:2-8

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was pasturing the flock with his brothers. He was a boy with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. And Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.

Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed: Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf." His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Or are you indeed to rule over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

GOSPEL

Luke 6:35-38

Jesus said, "Love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN "Green Book" 448

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has bought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

SERMON

"Faithful in the Midst of Disappointment"

APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary,**

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life + everlasting. Amen

OFFERING

(Knowing that God has been good to us in giving us all that we need and knowing that God promises to continue to care for us, we respond with the giving of our gifts.)

OFFERTORY I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

I want Jesus to walk with me,
I want Jesus to walk with me,
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me,
In my trials, Lord, walk with me,
When the shades of life are falling,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

SONGS OF PRAISE

I Am Thine, O Lord

I am Thine, O Lord; I have heard Thy voice,
And it told Thy love to me,
But I long to rise in the arms of faith,
And be closer drawn to Thee.
Draw me near - er, near - er, blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died,
Draw me near - er, near - er, blessed Lord,
To Thy precious bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,
By the power of grace divine;
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
And my will be lost in Thine.
Draw me near - er, near - er, blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died,
Draw me near - er, near - er, blessed Lord,

To Thy precious bleeding side.

INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE (piano/guitar)

O the pure delight of a single hour
That before Thy throne I spend,
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend.

Draw me near - er, near - er, blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died,
Draw me near - er, near- er, near - er, blessed Lord,
To Thy precious bleeding side.

There are depths of love that I cannot know
Till I cross the narrow sea;
There are heights of joy that I may not reach
Till I rest in peace with Thee.

Draw me near - er, near - er, blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died,
Draw me near - er, near- er, near - er, blessed Lord,
To Thy precious bleeding side.

Steal Away to Jesus

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the thunder;
The trumpet sounds with - in my soul;
I ain't got long to stay here.
Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the lightning;
The trumpet sounds with - in my soul;
I ain't got long to stay here.
Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each portion of the prayers, these words are spoken:

P: Lord, in your mercy

C: **hear our prayer**

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN Oh, Freedom

Oh, freedom, oh, freedom, oh, freedom over me.
And before I'd be a slave I'll be buried in my grave,
And go home to my Lord and be free.

There'll be singing, there'll be singing,
 there'll be singing, over me.
And before I'd be a slave I'll be buried in my grave,
And go home to my Lord and be free.

Oh, freedom, oh, freedom, oh, freedom over me.
And before I'd be a slave I'll be buried in my grave,
And go home to my Lord and be free.

DISMISSAL