

Elim Lutheran Church
Sunday, May 3, 2020
Recorded Worship

They are all acting
contrary to the decrees
of the emperor...
— Acts 17:7

Narrative Lectionary
May 3, 2020

Church at
Thessalonica

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Praise be to God,
All: **Who builds up the Church.**
Pastor: Praise be to God,
All: **Who heals our divisions.**
Pastor: Praise be to God,
All: **Who gathers us as one.**

OPENING SONG: AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes.

1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the

her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with

born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er; he o - pens
love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill
wide the heaven - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
ev - ery day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

TEXT: Marty Haugen, 1983, alt.

REJOICE, REJOICE

MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1983

9.8.9.8.8.7.8.9

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GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Your followers were faithful
even in the face of strong opposition.
Give us their courage and conviction
to be worthy proclaimers of the Gospel of grace,
in Jesus' name,
Amen.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 17:1-9; THESSALONIANS 1:1-10

Leader: A reading from the book of Acts and Thessalonians

^{17:1}After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, ³explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you." ⁴Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. ⁶When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, ⁷and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus." ⁸The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, ⁹and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

Thessalonians

^{1:1}Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel

came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: MARK 13:9-11

Leader: The holy gospel according to Mark

All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

⁹“As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. ¹⁰And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. ¹¹When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.”

Leader: The gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MEDITATION: Pastor Brian Claasen - *“I Always Give Thanks”*

HYMN OF THE DAY: NOT FOR A MOMENT (AFTER ALL)

Verse 1

**You were reaching through the storm
Walking on the water
Even when I could not see
In the middle of it all
When I thought You were a thousand miles away
Not for a moment did You forsake me
Not for a moment did You forsake me**

Chorus

**After all You are constant
After all You are only good
After all You are sov'reign
Not for a moment will You forsake me**

Verse 2

**You were singing in the dark
Whispering Your promise
Even when I could not hear
I was held in Your arms
Carried for a thousand miles to show
Not for a moment did You forsake me**

Chorus

**After all You are constant
After all You are only good
After all You are sov'reign
Not for a moment will You forsake me
Not for a moment will You forsake me**

Bridge

**And ev'ry step ev'ry breath You are there
Ev'ry tear ev'ry cry ev'ry prayer
In my hurt at my worst when my world falls down
Not for a moment will You forsake me
Even in the dark
Even when it's hard
You will never leave me**

Chorus

**After all You are constant
After all You are only good
After all You are sov'reign
Not for a moment will You forsake me
Not for a moment will You forsake me**

Ending

Not for a moment will You forsake me

CCLI Song # 6350268

Jacob Sooter | Meredith Andrews | Mia Fieldes

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APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LEADER: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

LEADER: We are quick to take offense, O Lord, and slow to listen when our assumptions are questioned. Open our minds to the transforming power of your word, new to us each day. Empowering God,

ALL: hear our prayer.

LEADER: Too often we use the resources of this planet for our own enjoyment, entertainment, and convenience, without thought of the damage we might be doing. With our current situation of quarantine we have seen the improvement of air quality, ecology, and even wildlife. Help us and turn us back to the one who created all things, that we might responsibly resume the role of your faithful stewards. Empowering God,

ALL: hear our prayer.

LEADER: Your early disciples relied heavily on the Spirit's power to guide them through every obstacle they faced. Give us a faith like theirs, which enables us to take bold risks for the sake of spreading the gospel. Empowering God,

ALL: hear our prayer.

LEADER: Give your tender care and healing to all who need it this day, especially, Athena, Karin, Robin, Ruth, Mercedes, Sue, Sigrun, Shirley, Gene, Nancy, Christina, Irene, Diane, Pat, Elinor, Dorine, Richard, those battling the coronavirus and those we name silently and aloud (*brief silence*). May they know that their lives are in your ever-healing hands. Empowering God,

ALL: hear our prayer.

LEADER: We stand in a long line of saints who dedicated their lives to spreading your truth and standing for mercy and grace. Inspire us by their witness and make us the kind of followers who encourage others to embrace your mission. Empowering God,

ALL: hear our prayer.

LEADER: O God, bless all those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations of all kinds, this week. Fill our hearts with love and acceptance. Empowering God,

ALL: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

LEADER: We offer these prayers to your safekeeping, and trust that you have heard us, for the sake of our risen savior Jesus Christ,

ALL: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

SPECIAL MUSIC: Kevin Hart - *"Is He Worthy"*

CCLI Song # 7108951

Andrew Peterson | Ben Shive

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BLESSING

Response after blessing: Amen

SENDING SONG: GO MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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SENDING

Leader: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Next Week: Sunday, May 10, 2020

Theme: Church at Corinth

Main Idea: Paul preached against “us vs. them” and for a united kingdom under Christ.

Read Ahead: Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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