

## Words for Worship Sunday, September 20, 2020

(recorded September 9, 2020)

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

We confess to You our self-centeredness and pride, our fear and sin. May Your Word break into our hearts and breathe into our souls Your forgiving Spirit. Amen.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Strong God, my strength has its limits. I grow tired, weary, even discouraged at times. I long for a new day. Your strength has no limits. The hope and promise You give are life-giving and eternal. From this worship may I arise anew, transformed by Your word and presence. Amen.

### OPENING HYMN

*Will You Come and Follow Me*  
The Summons

#798, verses 1, 2 & 5

1 "Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?

2 "Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare,  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray'r  
in you and you in me?

5 Lord, Your summons echoes true  
when You but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow You  
and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go  
where Your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in You and you in me.

*Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949*

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### SCRIPTURE

Lector: Cindy Sleeman

#### Be Rooted in God's Word - Psalm 119:10-11 ESV

"With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

#### Be Transformed by God's Word - 2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

#### It's Okay that You are Still a Work In Progress - Philippians 1:6 ESV

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

### SERMON

"Medicine for Our Souls"

Pastor Luther Swenson

## The Hymn of Old

Brandon Rockstroh

Ascension CCLI 349454

Adapted for use at Ascension for worship services only.

Father, forgive me, I have sinned, I have wronged  
Father, save me, with Your grace and Your love  
Father, hear me, for to You, I sing  
Father, I love You, You're my Savior and my King

I am lost and You are found  
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound

You are more than all I need and more than I deserve  
You are more than all I need and more than I deserve

Father, have mercy, I'm not worthy to be saved  
Father, I need You; You have called me by name  
Father, I thank You for Your Son and His story  
Father, the Kingdom, it is Yours and all the glory

I took Your love for granted  
Your word I have abandoned  
So breathe new life into me  
And by Your love, renew me

## OFFERING PRAYER

Trustworthy Lord, You have abundantly shared with us so that we may share with others. Accept these our offerings by which Your good work is done through our ministries and beyond. Amen.

## PRAYERS

We pray using the response, "**C: May we be rooted in Christ.**"

## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name,  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,  
On earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and forever.  
Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*How Firm a Foundation*

#796, verses 1-3

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."
- 3 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

*Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.*