

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

March 24, 2021 Lenten Wednesday Worship

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor

Sandra Bohlken, Director of Contemporary Worship

Bill Porter, Assistant Director of Contemporary Worship

OPENING SONG: *Give Me Jesus*

Verse 1

In the morning when I rise

In the morning when I rise

In the morning when I rise

Give me Jesus

Chorus

Give me Jesus

Give me Jesus

You can have all this world

Just give me Jesus

Verse 2

When I am alone

When I am alone

Oh when I am alone

Give me Jesus

Interlude

Jesus give me Jesus

Verse 3

When I come to die

When I come to die

Oh when I come to die

Give me Jesus

CCLI Song # 4874344

Jeremy Camp

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WELCOME

OPENING DIALOGUE: Romans 7:14-20

from The Message translation

L: *I can anticipate the response that is coming: "I know that all God's commands are spiritual, but I'm not. Isn't this also your experience?"*

C: **Yes. I'm full of myself—after all, I've spent a long time in sin's prison. What I don't understand about myself is that I decide one way, but then I act another, doing things I absolutely despise. So if I can't be trusted to figure out what is best for myself and then do it, it becomes obvious that God's command is necessary.**

L: *But I need something more! For if I know the law but still can't keep it, and if the power of sin within me keeps sabotaging my best intentions, I obviously need help!*

C: **I realize that I don't have what it takes. I can will it, but I can't do it. I decide to do good, but I don't really do it; I decide not to do bad, but then I do it anyway. My decisions, such as they are, don't result in actions. Something has gone wrong deep within me and gets the better of me every time.**

MEDITATION

Bill Porter

CLOSING DIALOGUE: Romans 7:21-25

from The Message translation

L: *It happens so regularly that it's predictable. The moment I decide to do good, sin is there to trip me up.*

C: I truly delight in God's commands, but it's pretty obvious that not all of me joins in that delight. Parts of me covertly rebel, and just when I least expect it, they take charge. I've tried everything and nothing helps. I'm at the end of my rope. Is there no one who can do anything for me? Isn't that the real question?

L: The answer, thank God, is that Jesus Christ can and does.

C: He acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind, but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different.

PRAYER

CLOSING SONG: *Shackles (Praise You)*

Chorus

Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance
I just want to praise you
I just want to praise you
You broke the chains now I can lift my hands
And I'm gonna praise you
I'm gonna praise you

Verse 1

In the corners of mind
I just can't seem to find a reason to believe
That I can break free
Cause you see I have been down for so long
Feel like the hope is gone
But as I lift my hands, I understand
That I should praise you through my circumstance

Verse 2

Everything that could go wrong
All went wrong at one time

So much pressure fell on me
I thought I was gon lose my mind
But I know you want to see
If I will hold on through these trials
But I need you to lift this load
Cause I can't take it anymore

Bridge

Been through the fire and the rain
Bound in every kind of way
But God has broken every chain
So let me go right now

As recorded by Mary Mary.

Words and music by Warrryn Campbell, Erica Atkins, Trecina Atkins.
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