



<sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup> Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

### **Psalm 145:8-14 (Responsive)**

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> **LORD, you are good to all,  
and your compassion is over all your works.**

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.  
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

### **2nd Reading: Romans 7:15-25a**

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

<sup>24</sup> Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:16-19**

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup> “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup> ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

<sup>18</sup> “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup> the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

Help us God, as we seek to interpret what this means for our lives.

## Message

## Reception of Tithes & Offerings

### Anthem:

*Make It Well*

Bart Millard, Ethan Hulse, Tim Timmons

Make it well with my soul. Don't let me face this loneliness alone.  
Make it well with my soul. I need a peace that only heaven knows.  
Jesus, could you please just sit and cry with me till I can sing, till I can sing.  
It is well with my soul. It is well with my soul.  
Whatever my lot, You are still my God.  
It is well, it is well with my soul.  
Make it well with my soul. When the storm is raging, please don't let me go.  
Oh, voice that calms the sea, keep whispering to me, so I can sing, so I can sing.  
It is well with my soul. It is well with my soul.  
Whatever my lot, You are still my God.  
It is well, it is well with my soul.  
Make it well with my soul. Woah, make it well with my soul.  
Make it well with my soul. Make it well with my soul.  
Keep this heart from hardening like stone.  
Show me through the pain there's reason still to praise so I can sing, so I can sing.  
It is well with my soul. It is well with my soul.  
Whatever my lot, You are still my God.  
Oh, whatever my lot, You are still my God.  
Oh, whatever my lot, You are still my God.  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

## Prayers of the Church

**Carolyn Raudenbush**

*After each petition:* Help us see your kingdom come; **help us hear your good news.**

Gloria Laub, Ellede D'Andrea, Dan Lasky, Dianne Diehl, Sandy Richard, Kathryn Achey, Violet, Sheila, Ron Weirbach, Nancy P, Paige, Beth Hinchliffe, Melissa Lamb, Wendy Ernst, Mel Jones, Elaine Rogers, Matthew Martin, Tiffany Weddle, Chris Kline, Leona, Richard, Mary Ann Kolumber, George Suarez, Bill Tone, Kyle

*Finally, and together:* **Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus, whom we love and follow. Amen.**

## Words of Institution

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body."

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for all."

We gather at this table and remember how on the night when Jesus was handed over, he gathered with his disciples in the upper room and together they shared in an ordinary meal that had extraordinary implications.

For at this table,

**Jesus broke bread and shared wine with one who betrayed him.**

At this table,

**Jesus broke bread and shared wine with one who denied him.**

At this table,

**Jesus broke bread and shared wine with those who fled in his time of need.**

At this table,

**Jesus broke bread and shared wine with people from all walks of life.**

And so whenever we gather at this table to share the bread and the cup in this community of faith, we proclaim Jesus' life, which affirms there is a place at the table for all people, for the love of God transcends every power that tries to contain it.

## The Lord's Prayer

**Preparation Hymn:** BALM IN GILEAD

INSTRUMENTAL

Come to the banquet where no one is turned away, and there is always enough for everyone.

**Distribution Hymns:** *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

**ELW #614**

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

**ELW #471**

## Communion Prayer

**Gracious God, as we received this bread and wine,  
we receive the presence and life of Christ within us  
so that the spirit of Christ might work through us. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:** *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

**ELW #841**

## Benediction

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude:** *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

Black American Spiritual  
arr. H.T. Burleigh