

LOVE LETTER TO A CHURCH

JULY 21

Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church | San Jose, CA | cgslc.org

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONG

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,
2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;
3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.
'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

5 They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.

6 In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home;
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683

Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Good morning and welcome to worship.

We proclaim that God's grace is greater than any sin. Let us practice this truth in our lives by acknowledging our failings and our own part in the suffering of the world, removing the power of sin to bring death and praising the new life that God brings.

Pastor Kyrie Eleison,

All For the right roads we avoided travelling, and the kindly words we refused to share; for the false gods who received our worship and the true selves we have starved of love, God by your grace, forgive us

For the hidden hurts we have held too tightly, and the promises which we never kept; for the careless use of our time and money, and the lame excuses we should never have made, God by your grace, forgive us.

For all we should be and all we can amend, God in your love, renew us.

For all you have in store for us and all you may desire for us, God, in your love, prepare us. For the life of the world and the love of its people, God, in your love, commit us.

KYRIE

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are distributed across six lines of music. The first line is for the Leader, and the subsequent lines alternate between the People and the Leader. The lyrics are: "In peace, let us pray to our God: Lord have mercy. For peace throughout the earth: Lord have mercy. For all who gather here: Lord, have mercy. We pray for your salvation, for all God's people on earth. Help, save, and forgive us, gracious Lord. Amen." The word "Amen" is written in a larger font than the other words.

Leader:
In peace, let us

People: pray to our God: _____ **Leader:** **Lord have mer - cy.** _____ For peace through -

People: out_ the earth: _____ **Leader:** **Lord have mer - cy.** _____ For all who

People: gath - er here: _____ **Lord, have mer - cy.** _____ **We pray for your sal -**

Leader: va - tion, for all God's peo-ple on earth. _____ Help, save, and for -

People: give us, gra - cious Lord. _____ **A - men.** _____

Pastor God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin – and made us alive together with Christ. By grace, and grace alone, you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May God strengthen you with the power through the Holy Spirit, that you may be the body of Christ in the world. Amen.

GLORIA



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Al - might - y God,



We give you thanks, we wor-ship you, we praise you



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of our God; Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of our God; re - ceive



our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's

peo-ple on earth. For you a - lone are the ho - ly one,
 - you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the most high
 Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it and God's
 glo - ry, A - men, A - men. Glo - ry to God
 - in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Deacon God who is parent of us all.... For the sake of your son, Jesus we pray,

All Amen.

MESSAGE

ACCLAMATION



SCRIPTURE

Reader A reading from the book of Hebrews

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

¹³And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again,

"Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader Word of God, Word of Life

All Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

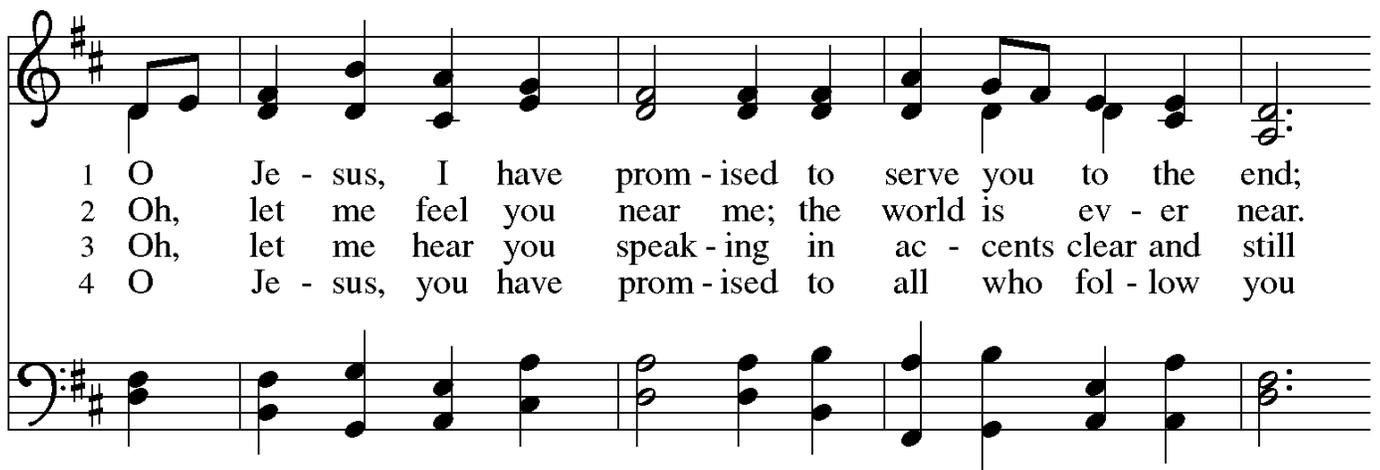


You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

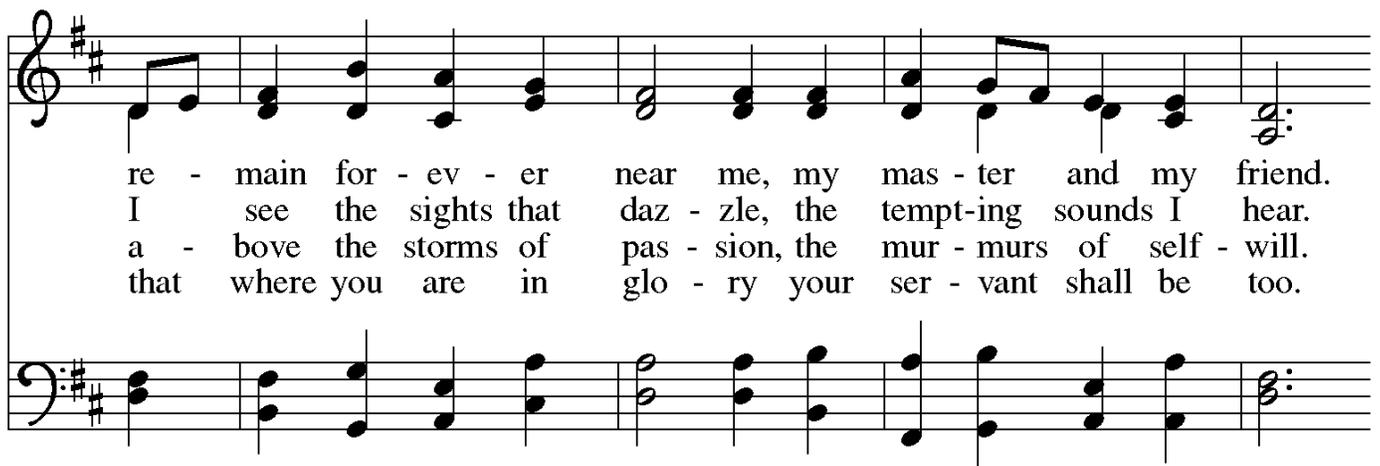
TESTIMONY

SONG OF THE DAY

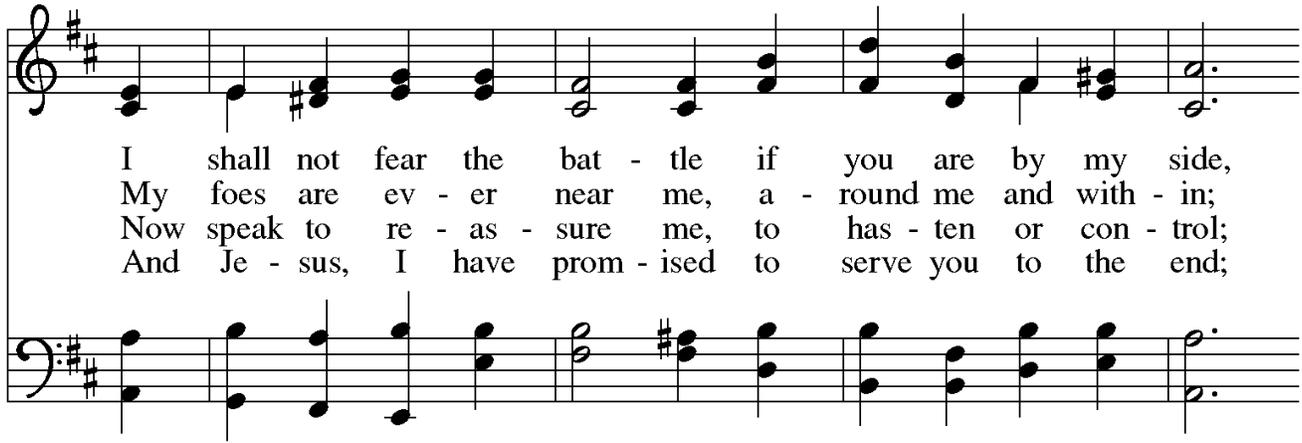
OH JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.
 Music: MUNICH, *Neuermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Joining our voices with God’s people around the world, let us offer our prayers for those in need.

Deacon ... God in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer

Deacon For what else do the people of God pray?

Here we invite you to offer prayers silently or aloud. When you pray aloud, end your prayer with “God, in your mercy” so that the rest of the community may join you with “Hear our prayer.”

Deacon Merciful God, you hear the prayers of your people even before they are spoken. We commend these and all our prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. God in your mercy,

All Amen

PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor May the peace of Christ be with you all

All And also with you

We encourage you to share a sign of peace with others. Often, people will say “peace be with you” while exchanging a handshake or a hug. Out of respect for the dignity and health of other bodies, we encourage you to ask permission for hugs and refraining from touch if you are ill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



COLLECTING AN OFFERING

God has dealt abundantly with us. We practice that abundance by relinquishing our gifts and wealth as a sign of trust that through relationship, God continues to deal abundantly with the whole human family. Our collected offerings proclaim that abundance through our shared mission. If you would like to join this community in mission, you can also give online at www.cgslc.org/donate.

OFFERTORY & PRAYER



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord;
fill to the brim our cup of bless - ings. Gath-er the
har - vest from the seeds that were sown and be fed with the bread of
life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres-ence, and give us a taste of the feast to come.

Deacon Holy One,

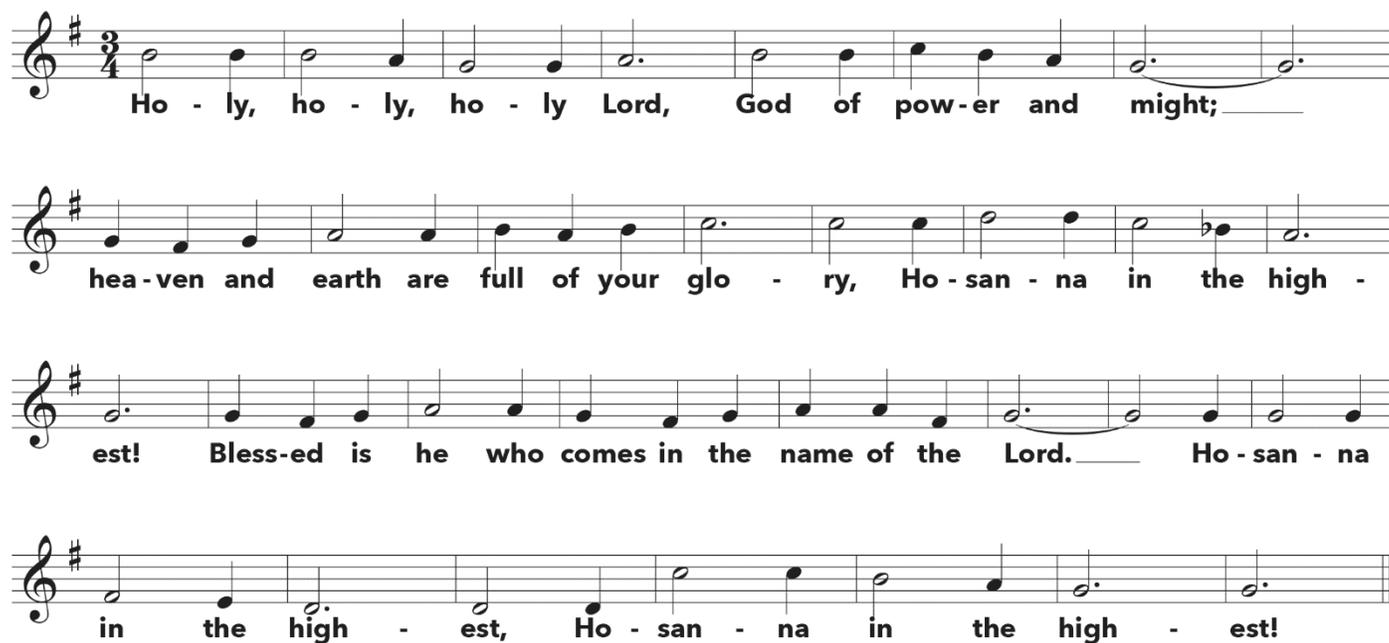
All you have given yourself to us in Creator, Redeemer, and Advocate. We now give back to you this money that seems so little; this worship that seems so small; these words that never quite get it right. Receive what we offer and transform it by the power of your Spirit into: enough money, sufficient praise, worthy words for proclaiming and enacting your love in the world. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.** Let us give thanks to the Lord_ our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor we praise your name and join the unending hymn of all creation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might; hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry, **Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est!**

Pastor *Words of Institution*

In this meal we are remembered and we remember:

All Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Pastor Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and this cup of your love. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit that we may be a living body, sharing your bounty with all the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus who is one with the Holy Spirit, now and forever



LORD'S PRAYER

We pray as Christ taught us, but each in our own language

**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.**

COMMUNION

Just as Christ welcomes all people, all people are welcome at Christ's table here at CGS. We invite you to share holy communion regardless of your age, race, creed, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, social status, physical ability or mental health. There are gluten free wafers for those who need them. The silver chalices contain red wine. The small cups contain red wine and white grape juice. If you wish to receive a blessing in lieu of grain and grape, let the pastor know when you come forward. They will be happy to give you a blessing.

COMMUNION SONGS

Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
God, you take a-way the sin of the world, grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

REFLECTION

Something that was meaningful to me in worship today was:

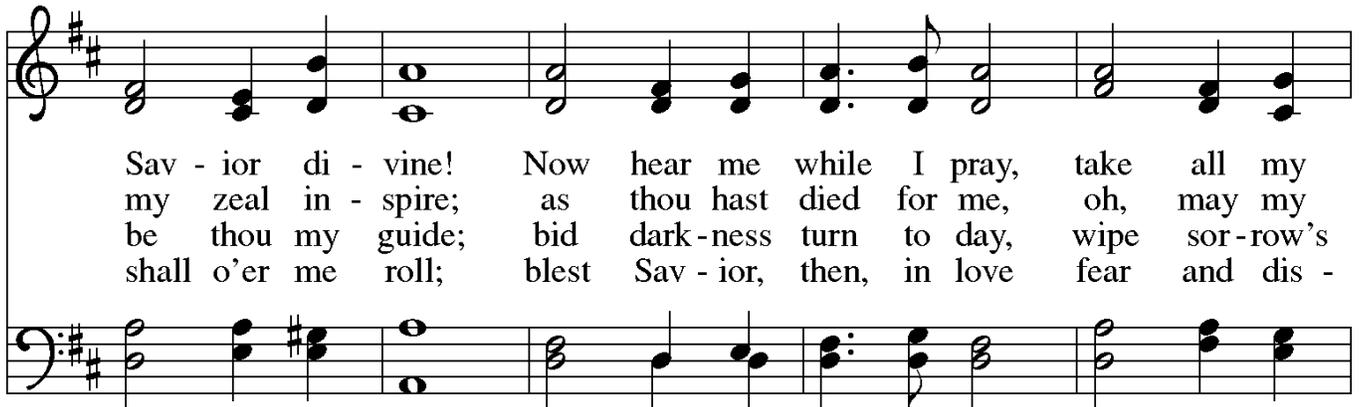
Something that was a struggle for me in worship today was:

I hope that in a future worship we can:

MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

OH LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

1 O Love that will not let me go, I rest my wea - ry soul in
 2 O Light that fol - lowest all my way, I yield my flick - 'ring torch to
 3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not close my heart to
 4 O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not ask to fly from

thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that
 thee; my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that
 thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain and
 thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.

Text: George Matheson, 1842–1906, alt.
 Music: ST. MARGARET, Albert L. Peace, 1844–1912

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE & PRAYER

Thank - ful hearts and voi - ces raise;
tell ev - 'ry - one what God has done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your
peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Deacon Let us pray,

Brief silence for reflection

Radiant God,

All We give you thanks that you have brought us to your table by the conviction of the Holy Spirit and fed us with the bread of life. Continue this work of grace in us as we leave this table so that the world might know your love. Amen.

SEND

BENEDICTION

Pastor May God bless you and keep you,
May God's face shine on you and be gracious to you
May God look upon you and give you peace,
In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, Amen.

SENDING SONG

I MUST TELL JESUS

1 I must tell Je - sus all of my tri - als; I can - not
2 I must tell Je - sus all of my trou - bles; he is a
3 Tempt-ed and tried, I need a great Sav - ior, one who can
4 Oh, how the world to e - vil al - lures me! oh, how my

bear these bur - dens a - lone; in my dis - tress he kind - ly will
kind, com - pas - sion - ate friend; if I but ask him, he will de -
help my bur - dens to bear; I must tell Je - sus, I must tell
heart is tempt - ed to sin; I must tell Je - sus, and he will

help me, he ev - er loves and cares for his own.
liv - er, make of my trou - bles quick - ly an end.
Je - sus; he all my cares and sor - rows will share.
help me o - ver the world the vic - t'ry to win.

Refrain

I must tell Je - sus, I must tell Je - sus! I can-not bear my bur-dens a - lone.

I must tell Je - sus, I must tell Je - sus! Je-sus can help me, Je-sus a - lone.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1919

Music: ORWIGSBURG, Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1919

DISMISSAL

Deacon Go from this place, God is with you.

All Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Language for the confession and forgiveness adapted from Sunday Morning Worship A, Iona Abbey Worship Book, 2017 Wild Goose Publications.

Liturgical music written by Daniel Thomas for the worshipping community of CGSLC 2019.

Prayer of the day, -adapted from a prayer written by Moira Laidlaw, and posted on Liturgies Online.

<http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/>

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