



ONE VOICE

FELLOWSHIP

Worship Service

April 4, 2021

Call to Worship | Isaiah 53:1-9

Matt Kasowski • Uyghur Team | *English*

1 Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

2 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;

and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?

9 And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Opening Prayer

Jill Kasowski • Uyghur Team | *English*

Songs of Praise | Here I am to worship & I give myself away

Praise Team | *English*

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Bridge

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

(Repeat Chorus)

I give myself away.

I give myself away
I give myself away
So You can use me

I give myself away
I give myself away
So You can use me

And here I am to worship

Scripture Reading | John 19:1-7;16-24

Kashif & Sana • Urdu/Punjabi Team | *Urdu*

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ² And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³ They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. ⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." ⁵ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold



the man!" ⁶ When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." ⁷ The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." ... ¹⁶ So Pilate delivered Jesus over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, ¹⁷ and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴ so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

"They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots."

So the soldiers did these things.

Praying Together as a Family

Yaovi Kodjo • French Team | *All Languages*

Songs of Praise | Jesus, I lift Your name Higher

Praise Team | *English*

Chorus

Jesus, I lift your name higher

All: I lift Your name higher

Jesus, I lift your name higher

All: I lift Your name higher

Jesus, I lift your name higher

All: I lift Your name **higher**

All: For you're worthy of my praise

Jesus, I lift Your name higher

- 1 -

When I look back through the years

There is nothing I can compare

To the grace and mercy I've been shown

Except to sing of your greatness
You are my Redeemer, my all in all

(Repeat Chorus)

I lift your name higher

Sermon | It is Finished, So I am Sending You

Chris Sicks • pastor | *English*

A transcript of the sermon will be in your language on page 4.

Respond in Song | Multilingual Grace

Praise Team | *Many Languages*

Shucran شڪرا

Gam-sa-hae 감사해

Gracias

Asante

For everything you give us | **Thank you, Lord**
For people who surround us | **Thank you, Lord**
For everlasting kindness | **Thank you, Lord**
And for your faithful presence | **Thank you, Lord**

(Spanish)

Por nuestro pan diario | **Gracias, Dios**

Por los que nos rodean | **Gracias, Dios**

Por Tu misericordia | **Gracias, Dios**

Y por Tu fiel presencia | **Gracias, Dios**

(French)

Pour tout ce que Tu nous donne | **Merci, Dieu**

Pour les gens qui nous entourent | **Merci, Dieu**

Pour Ton amour précieux | **Merci, Dieu**

Et pour Ta présence fidèle | **Merci, Dieu**

(Kiswahili)

Kwa Kila unacho tupa | **Asante**

Kwa wanaotuzunguka | **Asante**

Wema Wako wa milele | **Asante**

Uwepo Wako waminifu | **Asante**

(Urdu)

خداوند تراشکریا ہر: چیز کئے

Khu-da-wand tayra har cheez kay-lia | **Shukria**

Tayra shukria har fard kay-lia | **Shukria**

Khu-da-wand tayra shukria taayra raham kay-lia | **Shukria**

Khu-da-wand tayra shukria haa-zoo-ree kay-lia | **Shukria**

(Uyghur)

سەن ئاتا قىلغانلارغا، رەھمەت (Sen Ata Kil-ghan-lar-gha) | **Reh - met**



قبرینداشلریمزغا، رهمهت (Kirin-dash-liri-miz-gha) | **Reh - met**
 مېهری-شه پښتنگگه، رهمهت (Mëhri-shep-ki-ting-ge) | **Reh - met**
 چه کسر ساداقتنگگه، رهمهت (Chek-siz Sa-da-ki-ting-ge) | **Reh - met**

Songs of Praise | Psalm 27

Praise Team | *English*

- 1 -

Of this I am sure
 I will see God's goodness
 My soul will rest in
 the land of the living
 Be strong in the Lord

Chorus

The Lord is my light and my salvation
 Whom shall I fear? Shall I be afraid?
 The Lord is my light and my salvation
 Whom shall I fear? Shall I be afraid?
 The Lord is my life

- 2 -

One thing I need
 One thing I ask you
 To dwell in your house
 Each day of my life
 Delighting in you

- 3 -

In troubled times
 He keeps me secure
 He covers me
 He lifts my head
 Above the storm

Prayer of Thanks

Patricia Kodjo • French Team | *Ewe*

We Respond, Rejoice, and Reach Our promise as a church

Chris Sicks • pastor | *English*

**ALL: By the power of the Holy Spirit,
 we live in harmony with our brothers and sisters in Christ's Body.
 We worship and glorify God the Father together with one voice.
 And we welcome our neighbors as Christ welcomed us, for the
 glory of God.**

Benediction

Chris Sicks • pastor | *English*

Dismissal Song | Hakuna Mungu Kama Wewe

Praise Team | *Swahili*

Hakuna Mungu kama wewe
 Hakuna Mungu kama wewe
 Kakuna Mungu kama wewe,
 Hakuna na hatakuweko

Nimezunguka pote pote
 Nimetafuta pote pote
 Nimezunguka pote pote
 hakuna na hatakuweko

(English)

There is no one, there is no one like Jesus
 There is no one, there is no one like Him
 There is no one, there is no one like Jesus
 There is no one, there is no one like Him



Easter Sermon: It is Finished, So I am Sending You

Sermon for: Sunday, April 4, 2021

by pastor Chris Sicks

Introduction

We heard earlier today a reading from John chapter 19, about the crucifixion of Jesus. That happened on Friday. We often call it "Good Friday." But on the day that Jesus died, his family and followers did not think the day was good. It was a terrible day. It was the end of all of their hopes and dreams. But it was not the end of God's plan. His plan was much better than anything that the followers and family of Jesus ever imagined. Today we are going to look at the rest of John chapter 19 and a little part of chapter 20. I am going to read all the verses now, and then I will share some thoughts about each verse.

Note: If you don't have a bulletin, please raise your hand. We have provided translation of the sermon in these languages: Amharic, Arabic, French, Spanish, Mandarin, Urdu, and Uyghur. If you are reading the sermon in one of these languages, I want to help you follow along as I preach in English. I will preach through the verses one at a time. The verse numbers on the slides will help you follow as you listen.

John 19: 28-30

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst."

²⁹ A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

John 19: 41-42

⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.

⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

John 20: 1

¹ Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been

taken away from the tomb.

John 20: 19-22

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Outline

Point 1—It is Finished. John 19:28–30

Point 2—The Empty Tomb. John 19:41-20:1

Point 3— Your Resurrected Savior is Sending You. John 20:19–22

Point 1—It is Finished. John 19:28–30

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst."

God the Father sent God the Son to do many things. Jesus came to heal the sick and to teach the truth. Jesus came to live an obedient life, obeying God's law perfectly. This was something no one had ever done. But now his physical life on earth was finished. That was the plan, because the most important thing that Jesus came to do was to die as a sacrifice for your sins.

Why? Is sin a big enough problem that the Son of God had to die? Look around the world today, my friend. Think about the pain and brokenness in the world. In some of your home countries, the government is persecuting innocent people. All around the world adults and children are kept as slaves, sold like property. In this country, people hate each other because of the color of their skin, or who they vote for.



It is in our homes, too. We are unkind to the people we live with. We lie to each other. We get angry and impatient. We disrespect our parents, our husbands and wives. We all have a guilty conscience, don't we? We know our relationships are broken, with each other and with God. And it is because of our many sins.

Someone has to pay the penalty for all of my sins, and the sins of millions of other people. It's either us or Jesus. God the Father loves us so much that He sent His son to die for our sin, to save us from death. But because our sin problem is so terrible, the punishment for it was also terrible. Crucifixion is one of the most painful ways to kill someone. That is why the Romans used it. They wanted to scare people so they would not rebel against Caesar or break the laws of Rome. This form of execution was really a long slow torture. Sometimes a person hanging on the cross would take days to die.

Jesus was hanging on the cross for about six hours. The weight of your body hanging from your arms makes it very hard to breathe. You have to push up with your legs to catch your breath, but that hurts. So then you would hang from your arms again, until you needed a breath. All of this is very hard work, and very painful. It is not surprising that he was thirsty. Verse 28 says that Jesus' words were fulfillment of scripture.

Psalms 69: 21

²¹ They gave me poison for food, and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.

²⁹ **A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.**

The Roman executioners gave Jesus one last drink before he died. He sucked some bad sour wine from a sponge. The night before this, Jesus was gathered with his best friends on earth, drinking good wine. He told them in Matthew 26:28

Matthew 26: 28

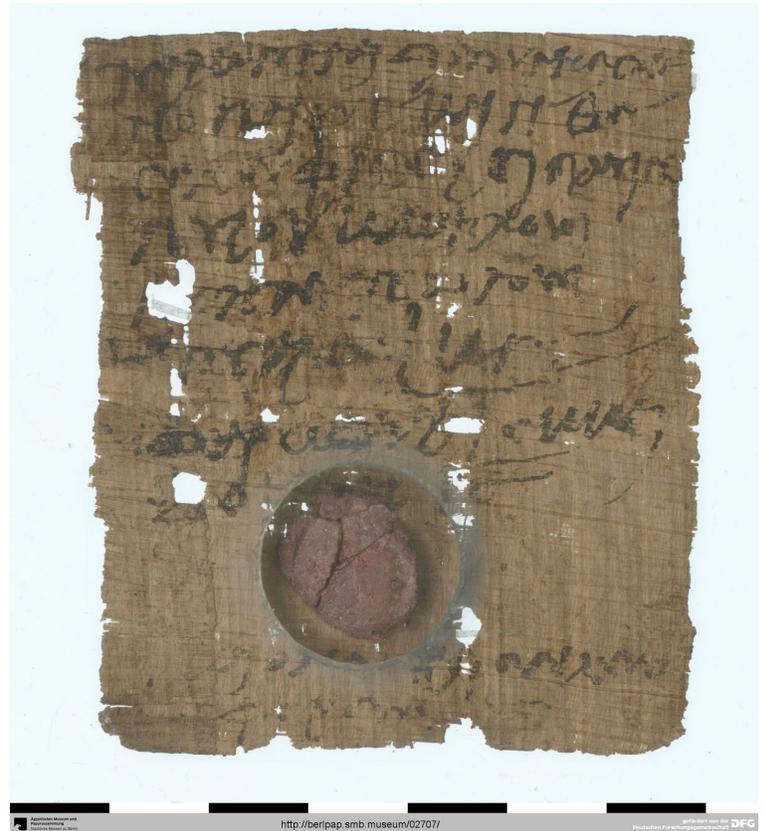
²⁸ this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

God makes a covenant promise throughout the Bible. He says, "I will be your God and you will be my people." God is the promise maker. We are promise breakers. He promises to be our God, but we chase after so many other false gods. We break the covenant, and we break God's heart. On the cross, Jesus drank the cup of God's wrath, so that we could drink the cup of blessing when we take communion.

Another reason that Jesus asked for a drink was because his mouth was so dry that it was hard to speak. Crucifixion dehydrates the human body in a terrible way. But Jesus had something very important to say and he wanted people to hear him. So he asked for a drink.

³⁰ **When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.**

This is the important thing Jesus had to say. "It is finished" is one word in Greek: TETELESTAI. This is a picture of a receipt from the year 215. It says that the transportation taxes were paid for some human passengers, and five camels. And because the tax was fully paid, the first word on the receipt is: "TETELESTAI." The payment is complete, finished.



So when Jesus said TETELESTAI on the cross, what was finished? A few things.

1) The suffering of Christ was finished

He was born to a poor woman in a borrowed stable. He lived a life of rejection and opposition. And on the last day of his life on earth, he was whipped cruelly, crowned with thorns, and nailed to a cross. But now his suffering was done.

2) The mission of Christ was finished



John 3:16-17 says:

John 3: 16-17

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Jesus was sent by the Father, on a mission to give you eternal life and salvation through his death. When a soldier has done what his commander told him to do, he comes back and says “Sir, mission complete!” On the cross, Jesus was saying to his Father: “It is finished. You sent me here with a mission. And I have completed it!”

3) Our debt for sin was finished

Have any of you ever paid off a loan from a bank? Raise your hand. After you finish paying off the loan, do you keep sending payments to the bank? Of course not. The bank would send the money back to you and say: “your debt is paid.” Did you know that Jesus has paid all of your debt? Romans 6:23 says:

Romans 6: 23

²³ the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Our sin is a debt that we cannot pay with our good works. When your conscience feels guilty, the Holy Spirit whispers to you: “It is finished! Salvation is a free gift, because Jesus did it all. Your debt is paid!”

It is true that God wants us to do good works. We will talk about that in Point 3. But even the most holy and devoted follower of Jesus adds nothing to her salvation. Nothing you do or fail to do will change the Father’s love for you. Because his love for you is based on the finished work of Jesus.

I have an invitation to you who are trusting in Christ alone for your salvation through faith alone in his finished work. I have made these stamps that say “TETELESTAI—It is Finished.” I want you to come up here and stamp this on your hand. Or your arm. If you understand and believe that the penalty and debt for your sin was paid by Jesus, then come up here now. Do you believe that your guilt and shame were transferred onto Him on the cross? Do you believe that His perfect record and righteousness were transferred to you, because you are trusting in Him alone for salvation? Then come.

If you don’t understand or believe these things yet, that is OK. You don’t have to participate in this. But if you are trusting in Jesus and

believe that he lived, died, and rose from the dead to save you, then put this stamp on your hand or arm as a reminder.

We need to be reminded of this, because we forget the gospel every day. The devil whispers to our guilty conscience, “you are still in debt!” Satan wants us to believe that God cannot love us. That other people can never really love us, because our sins are too ugly. But here is what you need to say to the devil, or your own anxious heart, when you feel condemned: “The loan is paid off! I am forgiven! I am a child of God and no one can take that away from me!”

Romans 8:34 says:

Romans 8: 34

³⁴ ...Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Hebrews 7:25 says that Jesus “always lives to make intercession for us.”

It is the resurrected, living Jesus who gives us hope and help. So let’s look at the resurrection now.

Point 2—The Empty Tomb. John 19:41-20:1

⁴¹ **Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.**

⁴² **So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.**

Remember that Jesus was crucified on Friday. The Sabbath begins on Friday at sunset, and they did not want to be dealing with dead bodies on the Sabbath. That’s why they buried him in a nearby tomb. Now let’s look at John chapter 20, verse 1.

¹ **Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.**

The first day of the week is Sunday. Jesus has been in the tomb since Friday. And Mary, one of his closest friends and followers, came before sunrise to visit the tomb. We know from reading Matthew chapter 28 and Luke chapter 24 that there was an earthquake, and an angel came and rolled away the stone that was in front of the entrance to the tomb.



Mary and the other ladies went into the tomb and found that it was empty! Jesus was not there! The ladies went and told the disciples, but they did not believe them. And I can understand that. It is very hard to believe that a dead person can be alive again. However, every one of his followers had seen a resurrection before. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, just one week before this. Lazarus walked out of a tomb, alive, just as Jesus did on Easter morning. But Jesus understood that his resurrection was hard to believe. That's why he came to visit his disciples on Sunday night.

Point 3— Your Resurrected Savior is Sending You. John 20:19–22

19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

“Peace be with you” in Hebrew is shalom aleichem. Our Muslim neighbors say something very similar to one another: salaam 'alaykum. Peace be with you. It is an interesting thing to say to people who are hiding behind closed doors because they are terrified. But Jesus could say this to them, because he could make peace real for them. He was saying, “Peace be with you, because I am with you. And whenever I am with you, peace is with you.” Do you know that? Do you believe that? Never forget it. Through all of the storms and challenges of life, when we are afraid and doubtful, we need the peace of the living Christ to make it through.

20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

They were glad! Of course they were. Jesus was alive! He let them see and touch the wounds in his body. He gave them confidence that his resurrection really happened. They will need that confidence, because most of them will be executed in terrible and painful ways in the years ahead. They will go to their death proclaiming the truth about the resurrection of Jesus. They were honest men.

You know that when criminals work together to commit a crime, they promise to each other that they will lie to the police, to protect each other. But when they are caught, and the police separate them to ask them questions, the criminals always betray each other. They do not want to go to jail based on a lie. Criminals tell the truth, they betray their friends, to save themselves.

That is one of the reasons I have confidence that the resurrection really happened. The followers of Jesus were executed in painful terrible ways. But every one of them died holding tight to the fact of the resurrection. They would not be willing to die for a lie. But

they were willing to die for the truth about their Savior, who had died to save them.

21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”

The Father sent Jesus here with a mission: to live a perfect life and die a sacrificial death. Jesus accomplished that mission. It is finished! But God is not done helping this broken world, saving lost sinners like us, and restoring the creation that we have done so much destroy. That is why Jesus is sending us.

Our small church family has a big mission. We come from 12 different countries, speaking many different languages. I don't speak all those languages, and I don't understand all the cultures we find in our community. I am your pastor, but you are all leaders. I'm not being sent to our Pakistani or Ethiopian or Uyghur neighbors. You are! We need each other to do this mission. Each of you has an opportunity to reach people who share your language and culture. You children, also, are being sent. To bring your friends from school or your sports team. Invite them to visit us here. I know that can be scary. We are afraid we will invite someone and they will say no, or criticize us for what we believe. Remember that Jesus endured great persecution on His mission. Even Jesus had to depend upon the Father and the Holy Spirit every day. Our mission will sometimes be hard, too. So we must depend on God to do what God asks. Look at verse 22:

22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

The physical body of Jesus is in heaven right now. He is there with the Father, praying for us constantly. Here on earth we are the body of Christ. We are sent to continue his mission. But we do not go alone. The night before He died, Jesus said:

John 14: 26-27

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, gives us peace for the mission. He is sending you and me into this community to share the gospel with our neighbors, so they will know this peace, too. And we do not go alone. We have received the Holy Spirit, and He goes with us, within each of us.



Let's pray together now

Father in heaven, we pray to you by the power of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus, who saved us and sends us. We pray for the hope and courage we need to do this mission. We want our neighbors, our friends, our families to know the peace of being forgiven. To know the joy of being called the sons and daughters of God, for that is what we are. So bind us together as a church family in your love, and send us out to share

that love by the power of the Holy Spirit. We pray in the name of our resurrected Savior, Jesus. AMEN!!

Respond | Rejoice | Reach

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