

Sermon Notes for 8/16:

How Can I Keep From Singing?

My life flows on in endless song;
Above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, tho' far-off hymn
That hails a new creation;
Thro' all the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul—
How can I keep from singing?

Acts 16:22-25—The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.

Great is Thy Faithfulness.

Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hast provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me.

"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted." (Psalm 34:18)

"Why, oh Lord, do you stand far off?" (Psalm 10:1)

"How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?" (Psalm 13:1)

"O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up." (Psalm 139:42)

"The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want." (Psalm 23:1)—trust

"The heavens declare the glory of God." (Psalm 19:1)—awe

"Out of the depths I cry to you." (Psalm 130:1)—pain

"This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!" (Psalm 118:24)—gratitude

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Psalm 22:1)—abandonment

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." (Psalm 150:6)—joy and solidarity w/ creation