

June 4, 2023

There is no real joy in the text; for it is not the prodigal but the murderer who returns. And the father's kiss is not a prelude to celebration, but a cue for foreboding.

— Dale Ralph Davis

# The Father Who Truly Restores

## Scripture for Meditation

*Colossians 1:21, 22*

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And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him . . .

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## Hymn of Approach

### *Before the Throne*

Before the throne of God above,  
I have a strong, a perfect plea,  
A great High Priest whose name is "Love,"  
Who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on His hands,  
My name is written on His heart;  
I know that while in heav'n He stands,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart;  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look and see Him there,  
Who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died,  
My sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the Just, is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me,  
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb,  
My perfect, spotless Righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
The King of glory and of grace!  
One with Himself, I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased by His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,

With Christ, my Savior and my God,  
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Charitie Lees Bancroft and Vikki Cook  
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## **Offertory Hymn of Love**

### *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,  
That he should give his only son, to make a wretch his treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turned his face  
away  
As wounds which mar the chosen one bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished.  
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom,  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer,  
But this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my  
ransom.

Stuart Townend  
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## **Prayer of Blessing**

## Responsive Reading

*Luke 15:11–24*

And [Jesus] said, “There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father,

**‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’**

And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said,

**‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’**

And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him,

**‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’**

But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

## Hymn of Confession

### *Depth of Mercy*

Depth of mercy, can there be mercy still reserved for me?  
Can my God His wrath forbear, me the chief of sinners spare?

### *Refrain 1:*

*I have long withstood His grace, long provoked Him to His face,  
Would not hearken to His calls, grieved Him by a thousand falls.*

Now incline me to repent, let me now my sins lament.  
Now my foul revolt deplore, weep, believe, and sin no more.

### *Refrain 2:*

*There for me the Savior stands holding forth His wounded hands.  
God is love! I know; I feel. Jesus weeps and loves me still.*

Words by Charles Wesley  
Music by Bob Kauflin  
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## Prayer of Corporate Confession

### Silence for Personal Confession

Take a moment for self-reflection, and talk with God quietly about your sin and your need for a Savior.

### **Assurance of Pardon:** *Romans 3:26b*

He [is] just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

***Response: Thanks be to God.***

## **Hymn of Favor**

### *Father, How Sweet*

Father, how sweet must be the pleasure  
You find in Your eternal Son  
For long before You made the heavens  
Both You and He rejoiced as one  
And long before You formed the angels  
Before You made the day and night  
Jesus exulted in Your presence  
And He was all of Your delight!

Father, what love You've shown to rebels  
That You would send Your Son so dear  
Into this world of grief and trouble  
To bring unworthy sinners near  
We'll never fathom how it pained You  
When You supplied the offering  
To rescue those who had disdained You  
To watch Your dear Son suffering!

Jesus, it fills our hearts with wonder  
That You would leave Your heavenly place  
To take on flesh to thirst and hunger  
To save the ones who spurned Your grace  
You came to forfeit every mercy  
To die that mercy we would find  
And then You hung alone in darkness  
So in our hearts Your grace would shine!

Jesus, in glory You've ascended  
Never again to leave Your throne  
Because of You we are befriended  
Received and welcomed as God's own  
Father, how sweet now is Your pleasure  
In us, Your daughters and Your sons  
We will delight in You forever  
In Jesus You have made us one!

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## **Hymn of Restoration**

*There Was a Garden, Green and Fair\**



# There Was a Garden, Green and Fair



1. There was a gar - den, green and fair, The per - fect coup - le res - ted  
 2. There was an an - gel wrapped in light, But Lu - ci - fer's false words brought  
 3. There was, at last, a right - cious man Who lived and died, but rose a -  
 4. There is a cit - y, bright and fair, A gol - den realm, no dark - ness



there; A man and wo - man walked with God, The tree of life, im - mor - tal  
 night When our first pa - rents heed - ed him: For - bid - den fruit, their fate now  
 gain! God's Son, our Sa - vior, Jes - us Christ Un - rav - eled all the ser - pent's  
 there. The Bride-groom gath - ers with His Bride, And once a - gain man walks with



food. The world was good; the work was joy: to tend and keep, to mul - ti - ply. God made the  
 grim. A flam - ing sword, a ban - ished life, They bred for all an end - less death. And we their  
 lies. He broke the curse; He took our place; He died our death; He earned our grace. As - cend - ed  
 God. The Church, now washed and rad - iant stands, A count-less throng, like stars and sands, Be - fore the



earth and heav'n a - bove a glo - rious show - case of His love.  
 child - ren stum - ble still, God's earth we wreck; new life we kill.  
 to the Fa - ther's side, He left the Spir - it as our guide.  
 mar - riage, free from sin, The world re - stored, the feast be - gins!

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\*Children may leave during this song.

## Ministry of the Word



## **Sunday Service Times**

9:15 am          Corporate Prayer Service

10:30 am        Corporate Worship Service

\*A nursery is available for all services. Sunday sermons are available on our website or at [ebcupstate.sermonaudio.com](http://ebcupstate.sermonaudio.com).

**Emmanuel Bible Church** is a community of believers committed to glorifying God by applying the Gospel to every area of life and to making disciples who will love God with all their hearts and their neighbors as themselves.

We are thrilled to be a part of what God is doing in the Upstate. Few things are as exciting as seeing lives and relationships changed through the clear teaching of God's Word. After all, we are made expressly to be in a relationship with Him and to recognize Jesus as our Lord and Savior. At Emmanuel we strive to bring God glory through singing and praying together, hearing His Word preached, loving Him, and loving one another.

We would be delighted to have an opportunity to meet you. We are here to help and encourage you through the teaching of God's Word and through biblical fellowship.

—*Brad Baugham, teaching pastor*

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*Ministers*

The congregation at large

*Pastors*

Jonathan Bastoni  
Brad Baugham  
Jared Garcia  
Rhett Gieck  
David Schwingle

*Deacons*

Duel Deason, Facilities  
Norman Bunn, Facilities

*Minister of Worship*

Brian Pinner

*Administrative Assistant &  
Children's Ministries*

Margaret Bastoni

*Nursery Director*

Janine Gieck

*Welcome & Greeting  
Coordinator*

Sherry Ferguson