



“[Music] doesn’t see our superiority or inferiority complexes, it doesn’t care how rich or poor we are. It just sings to the soul in our humanity.”

by Pastor Bruce Benson, host

“So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha’s house.”

2 Kings 5:9

That Bible verse is from the story of Elisha the prophet healing Naaman, a military leader of his people’s enemy, ancient Aram; a story many people will hear in church mid-February. If you imagine storylines as stems of fruit, this account of Naaman makes its point not so much like one large apple at the end, but like a cluster of grapes picked one by one as the story unfolds. The story’s ego-bursting points do what Mary’s Magnificat describes; they “bring down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree.”

- The best care and counsel money can buy in the land of Aram does Naaman no good; it is a slave girl, captured from Israel, who has the information Naaman needs to find healing.
- Pride of nationality will have to be given up, it is an impediment to healing; help is across the border in the land of the Israelites.
- Money — between Naaman and his king they have plenty — does no good. Gold, silver and fine garments are presented to the King of Israel, but nothing more than worry comes of it.
- That’s because it is not the King of Israel who can help when Naaman comes calling; the king of Israel is as helpless as the king of Aram. It is the simple prophet Elisha that Naaman must seek.
- Then we come to the verse above. And guess what: “all the king’s horses and all the king’s men” are useless when it comes to putting either humpty dumpty or Naaman together

again. The horses and chariots of military do not impress Elisha or do any good. No, poor Naaman has to take off all his armour, get down from his chariot, leave his precious horses, and enter — just the bare humanity of him — into the waters of the Jordan to be healed. He is offended. And aren’t we all when we feel “cast down from our thrones?”

- Thus, it is not finally Naaman’s wisdom or bravery that leads him into the healing waters, but once again it is the advice and encouragement of a servant, convincing him to do what Elisha has prescribed.

I have taken note of that one particular verse above because it seems to me that music does to listeners what Elisha’s instruction does to Naaman. Both look for, and call out, the humanity in people who often hide behind some image they create for themselves. In Naaman’s case it was the mighty warrior. Why should a mighty warrior have to stoop to the indignity of setting down all his hard-earned military accoutrements and weapons and bathe like just another ordinary human in the waters of the Jordan? Elisha sees through the image to the human being who needs to be healed. Doesn’t music regularly do that same thing? It doesn’t see our superiority or inferiority complexes, it doesn’t care how rich or poor we are. It just sings to the soul in our humanity. That, I think, is why the “Good Word” is such a good friend of good music. It is not the ego but the soul that truly sings for joy.

Peace be with you,



FEBRUARY 1, 2015

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY –
LECTIONARY 4 (YEAR B)

- (1R) Deuteronomy 18:15–20
(PS) Psalm 111
(2R) 1 Corinthians 8:1–13
(G) Mark 1:21–28

The Creation: A New Created World Springs Up at God's Command – Franz Joseph Haydn / Robert Shaw, arranger / Alice Parker, translator / Robert Shaw, translator (G)
Atlanta Symphony Chorus: Atlanta, GA / Atlanta Symphony Orchestra / Jon Humphrey, tenor / Robert Shaw
(CD) *The Creation* / TELARC / CD-80298-A
© 1992 Telarc, Concord Music Group telarc.com

Verbum patris hodie (Today the Word of the Father Has Been Born) – 12th Century (1R, G)
Purcell Consort of Voices / Frank L. Harrison / Eric J. Dobson
(CD) *Now Make We Merthe* / BOSTON SKYLINE / BSD 121
© 1970 Boston Skyline, Boston Skyline Records bostonskylinerecords.com

Prelude on "CWM RHONDDA" – Paul Manz (1R)
John Ferguson, organ
(CD) *Great Hymns of Faith: Volume III* / ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-3386
© 2011 St. Olaf Records stolafrecords.com

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer (CWM RHONDDA) – John Hughes / William Williams, lyricist / William Williams, translator / Peter Williams, translator (1R)
The St. Olaf Choir: Northfield, MN / John Ferguson, organ / Anton Armstrong
(CD) *Great Hymns of Faith: Volume III* / ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-3386
© 2011 St. Olaf Records stolafrecords.com

Psalm 111: I Will Give Thanks – Richard Lloyd (PS)
Durham Cathedral Choir / James Lancelot
(CD) *The Earth is the Lord's: The Psalms of David – Volume 3* / PRIORY RECORDS, LTD. / PRCD 343
© 1991 Priory Records, Ltd. priory.org.uk

St. Paul: How Lovely Are the Messengers – Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (G)
The Westminster Choir: Princeton, NJ / Joan Lippincott, accompanist / Joseph Flummerfelt
(CD) *Favorite Hymns And Anthems* / GOTHIC / G 49044
© 1990 Gothic, Gothic Records, Inc. gothicrecords.com

Thou Whose Almighty Word (MOSCOW) – Felice de Giardini / John Marriot, lyricist / Richard Marlow, arranger (G)
The Choir of Trinity College: Cambridge, United Kingdom / Andrew Lamb, accompanist / Richard Marlow
(CD) *Descants from Trinity* / CONIFER CLASSICS / 75605 51281 2
© 1996 Conifer Classics

FEBRUARY 8, 2015

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – LECTIONARY 5 (YEAR B)

- (1R) Isaiah 40:21–31
(PS) Psalm 147:1–11, 20c
(2R) 1 Corinthians 9:16–23
(G) Mark 1:29–39

O Worship the King (HANOVER) – William Croft / Robert Grant, lyricist (1R)
Huddersfield Choral Society / David Bell, accompanist / Owain Arwel Hughes
(CD) *The Hymns Album* / EMI (ANGEL, EMI CLASSICS, EMI RECORDS, LTD) / CDP 7 46202 2

© 1986 EMI (Angel, EMI Classics, EMI Records, Ltd) emiclassics.com

You Can Tell The World – African American Spiritual / Margaret Bonds, arranger (2R, G)
James Levine
(CD) *Spirituals in Concert* / DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON / 429 790-2
© 1991 Deutsche Grammophon, PolyGram Records, Inc.

How Great Thou Art (O STORE GUD) – Swedish Folk Tune / Carl Boberg, lyricist / Stuart K. Hine, arranger / Stuart K. Hine, translator (1R)
The Augustana Choir: Rock Island, IL / Bruce Bengtson, accompanist / Jon Hurty
(CD) *Favorite Hymns from Augustana* / DELTA RECORDINGS / DRCD98-85454
© Delta Recordings

The Lord is the Everlasting God (Excerpt) – Kenneth Jennings (1R)
The St. Olaf Choir: Northfield, MN / Anton Armstrong
(CD) *My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord* / ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-2396
© 2001 St. Olaf Records stolafrecords.com

Melodious Accord: Come, Ye Disconsolate – American Traditional / Alice Parker, arranger (G)
Musicians of Melodious Accord / Alice Parker
(CD) *Transformations* / MUSICAL HERITAGE SOCIETY / 512895F
© 1991 Musical Heritage Society

The Peaceable Kingdom: Have Ye Not Known? and Ye Shall Have a Song – Randall Thompson (1R)
American Repertory Singers: Washington, DC / Leo Nestor
(CD) *Ye Shall Have a Song: Choral Music by Randall Thompson* / ARSIS AUDIO / CD 103
© 1996 Arsis Audio arsisaudio.com

"Epiphanies don't have the ordinary sensation of learning something new, they have the stirring experience of discovering something new."
- Pastor Bruce Benson

FEBRUARY 15, 2015

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD –
LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY (YEAR B)

- (1R) 2 Kings 2:1–12
(PS) Psalm 50:1–6
(2R) 2 Corinthians 4:3–6
(G) Mark 9:2–9

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot – African American Spiritual / Dale Adelman, arranger (1R)
VocalEssence Ensemble Singers: Minneapolis, MN / Philip Brunelle
(CD) *What a Mighty God: Spirituals and Gospels for Chorus* / CLARION / CLR904CD
© 2004 Clarion, Loft Recordings, LLC, gothic-catalog.com

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (HYFRYDOL) – Rowland Hugh Prichard / Charles Wesley, lyricist (2R)
The Choir of the Cathedral Church of St. Mark: Minneapolis, MN / Howard Don Small, accompanist / Howard Don Small
(CD) *A Little Church Music* / ST. MARK'S – MINNEAPOLIS / 9501
© 1995 St. Mark's – Minneapolis, Cathedral Church of St. Mark ourcathedral.org

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (PICARDY) – French Traditional /
Liturgy of St. James, lyricist / S. Campbell, arranger /
Gerard Moultrie, translator (G)
The Choir of St. John's College / Allan Walker, accompanist /
Christopher Robinson
(CD) *Let All The World in Every Corner Sing: Hymns for Many Occasions*
/ LINDENBERG / LBCD 58
© 1996 Lindenberg

Beautiful Savior (CRUSADER'S HYMN) – Silesian Folk Tune (G)
Sing For Joy 50th Anniversary Massed Choir and Congregation /
John Ferguson, organ
(CD) *Through the Church the Song Goes On!*
ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-2801
© 2005 St. Olaf Records stolafrecords.com

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence – Sir Edward C. Bairstow /
Liturgy of St. James, lyricist / Gerard Moultrie, translator (G)
The Cambridge Singers / John Rutter
(CD) *Images of Christ* / COLLEGIUM RECORDS / COLCD 124
© 1995 Collegium Records, Naxos of America, Inc., collegium.co.uk

Christ on the Mount of Olives: Hallelujah – Ludwig Van Beethoven /
Franz Xavier Huber, lyricist (G)
Atlanta Symphony Chorus: Atlanta, GA / Atlanta Symphony Orchestra,
ensemble / Robert Shaw
(CD) *Choral Masterpieces* / TELARC / CD-80119
© 1985 Telarc, Concord Music Group telarc.com

Jay E. Hartzler
(CD) *God Of All People* / EMHS / EMHS 00096
© 1996 EMHS emhs.net

**Cantata 4: Christ lag in Todesbanden: Lord Jesus Christ God's Only Son,
BWV 4** (CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN) – Johann Walther /
Johann Sebastian Bach, arranger (G)
The Holy Trinity Bach Choir: New York, NY / Richard Erickson
(CD) *Bach For All Seasons* / AUGSBURG FORTRESS / 3-5855
© 1999 Augsburg Fortress augsbuurgfortress.com

Thy Holy Wings (BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR) – Swedish Folk Tune /
Carolina V. Sandell-Berg, lyricist / John Ferguson, arranger /
Gracia Grindal, translator (G)
The St. Olaf Cantorei: Northfield, MN / Colleen Rooney, accompanist /
John Ferguson
(CD) *Te Deum: A Celebration in Song* / GIA PUBLICATIONS /
GIA CD-321
© 1994 GIA Publications giamusic.com

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (AGINCOURT CAROL or DEO
GRACIAS) – English Traditional / Thomas á Kempis, lyricist / Jeffrey Smith,
arranger / Benjamin Webb, translator (L)
Parish Choirs of St. Paul's Parish, K Street: Washington, DC / Jeffrey Smith
(CD) *Praise to the Holiest* / PRO ORGANO / CD 7090
© 1998 Pro Organo proorgano.com

*The season of Lent does two things at once.
It holds up a mirror in which people see a need for
repentance. But it also takes attention away from
the self and celebrates a word of grace.*
- Pastor Bruce Benson

FEBRUARY 22, 2015
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT (YEAR B)

(1R) Genesis 9:8–17
(PS) Psalm 25:1–10
(2R) 1 Peter 3:18–22
(G) Mark 1:9–15
(L) Season of Lent

Jesus, Still Lead On (SEELENBRÄUTIGAM) – Adam Drese /
Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, lyricist (G)
The Kapelle of Concordia University: River Forest, IL / Thomas Geischen
(CD) *Favorite German Hymns* / DELTA RECORDINGS / DRCD88-837
© Delta Recordings

I Need Thee Every Hour (DEPENDENCE) – Robert Lowry /
Annie Sherwood Hawks, lyricist (G)
Choir of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church / Catherine M. Palmer
(CD) *The Joy of God* / MARQUIS CLASSICS / ERAD 175
© 1996 Marquis Classics marquisclassics.com

**Ich gehe einher in der Kraft des Herrn (I will Go in the Strength of the
Lord)** – Johannes Herbst (G)
The Boston Baroque Orchestra, ensemble / Martin Pearlman
(CD) *Lost Music of Early America* / TELARC / CD-80482
© 1998 Telarc, Concord Music Group telarc.com

Stayed On Jesus – African American Spiritual / Alice Parker, arranger (G)
Eastern Mennonite High School Touring Choir: Harrisonburg, VA /

LISTENERS' CORNER

Thanks to our generous listeners who fuel us with
gifts and praise. Your contributions and kind
words are a blessing.

"Keep singing!"
- Dawson, Minnesota

*"The miracle of grace is no miracle to love. Trust God to
keep us safe. Greetings to those who attended James Russell
Lowell's high school in San Francisco."*
- Chapel Hill, North Carolina

*"I cannot describe the joy and peace your words and music
afford me at this time in my life."*
- Tetonia, Idaho

*"We continue to enjoy the Sing For Joy program heard each
week. We love the music and readings."*
- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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me!"*
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like you.

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Thank you for your gifts!

In Honor Of:

*The Christian faith of my son, Peter Bunge
My Husband, Amare Gizaw
Dr. Charles Hogan, on Christmas
Carolyn and Kenneth Jennings
Reverend Kimmy Meinecke
Tom Steele, Jr.
The Gift Of Music*

In Memory Of:

*John R. "Jack" McCartan
Edna Helen Carroll
Ruth Ferguson
Pastor Robert N. Hansen
Pastor Jennifer Anderson Koenig
Kathryn "Chalmers" Longley
Pastor Lauren Lundblad
M. Louise Milliken, my mother-in-law
Enid Marie Moore, 2 years of missing her
Dorothea Polovina
David and LaVonne Prieb
Mrs. Iris Robinson and Leslie M. Camm
Mr. and Mrs. Grover Poole and Timothy Sigmon
John Winter Truitt
My Parents*

FEBRUARY 2015 / YEAR B



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