



**Theme: Jesus Loves People THIS Much**  
***"Women Who Were Seen as Less Than"***

Sermon preached by Jeff Huber, May 16-17, 2026, at Summit Church, Durango

**Weekly Memory Verse:**

***<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, "I've seen the Lord." Then she told them what he said to her. – John 20:18***

**SLIDE      Jesus Loves People THIS Much:**

***Women Who Were Seen as Less Than***

Today we begin a new series of sermons looking at how Jesus loved people and the kind of people that he loved. By looking at some of these beautiful stories we find in the gospels we can find ourselves and see how it is God meets us during times and spaces in our lives where there is brokenness and hurt. Jesus began his public ministry by proclaiming that he had come to release the captive and to heal the broken and reached the lost. He wanted to let people know that they were made by God to be loved by God which is why we talk about that almost every week. Yes, Jesus came to give his life and during his life he showed us what it looked like to sacrificially love people. I want to start with the question that I think applies to every one of us.

## **SLIDE**

### **When have you felt broken or less than?**

Notice that I didn't ask "if" you have ever felt broken or less than, but when you have felt that way. The scripture texts in Isaiah says when we walk through difficulties and troubles God will be with us. It doesn't say "if", but "when", we walk through fire and flood. Have you ever felt forgotten or so small that no one noticed you? These are the people that Jesus loved and he spent time with.

The first person we're going to look at this week really represents a whole group of people that Jesus loved and that is Mary Magdala, one of the women disciples. Mary went from a woman that was seen as less than because she was afflicted by 7 demons to being the first person to proclaim the resurrection of Jesus, which would launch the Christian faith into the world. We first heard about Mary in Luke 8.

## **BIBLE**

**1 Soon afterward Jesus began a tour of the nearby towns and villages, preaching and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom of God. He took his twelve disciples with him, <sup>2</sup> along with some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases. Among them were Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons; <sup>3</sup> Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's business manager; Susanna; and many others who were contributing from their own resources to support Jesus and his disciples.**

Her story is one that we sometimes overlook because it begins as a footnote. We don't hear the exact story about how the seven demons were cast out of her, but clearly it changed her as she became one of the female disciples who followed Jesus. We learned that she and many of these women that were following Jesus are the ones who did the financial management and gave their own resources to support Jesus and the disciples as they ministered to others. But what's really profound about her story is what happens after the death of Jesus on the cross,

when he has been buried and placed in a borrowed tomb. While the men are hiding for fear, the women are the ones who go to the tomb to prepare the body of Jesus for burial. They find the tomb is empty and they tell the disciples who don't believe them and think they are just hysterical women. A few of the disciples go and see the tomb is empty but then they go back and lock themselves in the upper room. It's Mary who returns and this happens in John 20.

## **BIBLE**

**<sup>11</sup> Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. <sup>12</sup> She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. <sup>13</sup> “Dear woman, why are you crying?” the angels asked her.**

**“Because they have taken away my Lord,” she replied, “and I don’t know where they have put him.”**

**<sup>14</sup> She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn’t recognize him. <sup>15</sup> “Dear woman, why are you crying?” Jesus asked her. “Who are you looking for?”**

**She thought he was the gardener. “Sir,” she said, “if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him.”**

**<sup>16</sup> “Mary!” Jesus said.**

**She turned to him and cried out, “Rabboni!” (which is Hebrew for “Teacher”).**

**<sup>17</sup> “Don’t cling to me,” Jesus said, “for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”**

**<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, “I have seen the Lord!” Then she gave them his message.**

Let that sink in for just a minute. Mary goes from being an unseen woman afflicted by demons who was not valued enough to be able to own property or to vote or to have any power, to the first person who sees the risen Lord and then proclaims his resurrection. I often wonder if it's because of her struggle with demons that she is open to something like a resurrection which is both deeply spiritual and mysterious and otherworldly. It is a reminder to each of us that for God, there is no such thing as lost causes.

As we look deeper into her story, it might be helpful to have a better idea of who Mary Magdalene was. Her last name comes from the town in which she was born, Magdala. It is a fishing village on the northwest sea of Galilee. I thought it might help us to see it on a map together. This is a map of the Holy Land during the time of Jesus with the Mediterranean Sea on the left. The Sea of Galilee is up above, and the Jordan river flows down into the Dead Sea. The lower part of Israel contains Jerusalem, and the upper part is the Galilee. It's roughly 90 miles from the top to the bottom of this map.

**GRAPHIC            Map of Holy Land in Jesus Day**

**GRAPHIC            Map of Magdala**

We're going to zoom in on the area of the Galilee, and we find Magdala as a fishing village on the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee. You notice Nazareth which is the hometown of Jesus on the lower left, and you will see Bethsaida on the upper right of the sea of Galilee along with Capernaum at the top of this map which was the home base of Jesus and the disciples. The mount of beatitudes at the top of the Sea of Galilee is where Jesus would preach the Sermon on the Mount. You can walk easily around this North Shore of the Sea of Galilee. It may be that when Jesus left his hometown of Nazareth and walked to the sea of Galilee he went through Magdala and it started that he met Mary and cast out the seven demons because she seems to have been with him from very early on in his public ministry.

Excavations at Magdala have revealed a 1st-century Jewish fishing village and a major archaeological site known as “Mary Magdalene's hometown.” Key discoveries include two 1st-century synagogues, a unique carved stone representing the Temple, ritual baths known as mikvaots, a bustling market, and a harbor, confirming its status as a prosperous town that was destroyed in 67 A.D. during the First Jewish Revolt.

**GRAPHIC            Magdala Aerial View**

**GRAPHIC            Magdala Aerial View 2**

**GRAPHIC            Magdala Synagogue**

**GRAPHIC            Magdala Stone**

**GRAPHIC            Magdala Shops**

**GRAPHIC            Mikvaots in Magdala**

The First-Century Synagogue was discovered in 2009. It is well-preserved, dating from 50 BC to 100 A.D., making it one of the oldest in Galilee and likely a place where Jesus taught. The Magdala Stone was found within the 2009 synagogue. This stone contains some of the earliest Jewish symbols, including a seven-branched menorah, which is thought to be a miniature representation of the Second Temple.

A second 1st-century synagogue was discovered nearby in 2021, suggesting a high level of religious life and suggesting that many such buildings existed in towns at that time. Excavators also revealed a market area with shops, water channels, and a harbor, offering insights into the economic life of the town. Four unique, groundwater-fed ritual baths provide evidence of high purity standards among the residents. This was a precursor to baptism for Christians in the first century.

When you see these photos, you can imagine that this is what it looked like to live in the 1st century and to follow Jesus through these villages. We learned in the gospels that Mary has become a disciple very early on in the ministry of Jesus. She becomes a follower and devoted to

him after 7 demons have been cast out, and no, we are not talking about 7 Durango High School students who graduated! While we hear this word demon quite a bit here in our community because it is one of the school mascots, it is important we understand this idea of demon as we find it in the scriptures and in the life of Mary.

**SLIDE                      What is a demon in the Bible?**

We do find demons mentioned in the Old Testament, or the Hebrew Bible, on a few occasions. One instance is when King Saul is struggling with depression and it said an evil spirit was afflicting him. King David would play his harp, and the evil spirit would leave King Saul. King Saul would then repay David by trying to kill him later so clearly, he had some demons he was struggling with. There are a couple of other quick references to demons in the Hebrew Bible but when we get to the New Testament we find demons mentioned everywhere.

Jesus is constantly speaking to demons and casting them out of others. When Jesus tells a demon to jump, they jump. This is an important idea in the gospels because we sometimes have the mistaken notion that demons and demon possessions are things like we find in books and movies like the exorcist, but in the gospels, the demons have no power compared to Jesus. Jesus speaks and the demons are terrified. When he tells the demons to leave they must leave. They sometimes even beg him for mercy and ask him to leave them alone.

We also know that things that couldn't be explained were often thought of as demons in the 1st century. Illnesses like epilepsy that were hard to explain physically because people didn't understand how our bodies worked like we do today scientifically, would often assume that was a demon that had possessed someone. People attributed other sorts of illnesses that today we might know of as schizophrenia as an evil spirit or a demon. Sometimes it may have been depression or anxiety or a dissociative personality disorder, but what we know is that Jesus came to liberate people from all demons.

One thing is consistent in the New Testament stories about demons and that is that they all have voices. In our lives, those demons might be voices that are tapes that play in the back of our heads from when we were young or experienced trauma. Maybe it's the names that we were called by others or times when we were told by important people in our lives that we didn't have value or worth. There are many things from our past which sit in our minds and memories and sometimes we hear those voices speaking to us in times of stress or fear.

Sometimes there are voices that we hear because we're watching too much social media or commentary online and those voices become demonic. Sometimes there are actions which those voices encourage us to take, and they are demonic because those actions are evil or hurtful to others. Demons are addictions that control us and lead us to self-destruction. All these ideas have been considered demonic within the Christian faith over the centuries.

## **GRAPHIC            Map of Gerasene**

It's interesting that we learned that Mary had seven demons that Jesus evicted from her heart and spirit. The only other time we find someone with more than one demon is the story of the Gerasene demoniac which would have been on the southwestern shoreline of the Sea of Galilee. In Mark 5, we read about this man who is living among the tombs, and he is so scary and violent that the people in town have locked him up in chains in a cemetery. He howls and he breaks the chains and tries to hurt himself with stones. When Jesus shows up, the demons are terrified. Jesus asks their name and they are required to tell him and so they say they are "legion, for we are many." He sends the demons into the pigs, and the poor pigs end up going over the Cliff and drowning in the Sea of Galilee.

This is a picture of the power of Jesus and his ability to drive out demons, but it also gives us a picture of the pain inflicted by those demons and so as we read about Mary having seven of these, we

recognize that she was broken and painful and probably outcast. We can begin to picture that she was broken in the same way as this man who lived among the tombs as her soul and her mind were wracked by these demons.

What we remember in scripture is that God is more powerful than any of these kinds of demons that we might experience in today's world. I would suggest that many of the demonic things we experience are the voices we choose to listen to in today's world that lead us to hate or to be bitter or resentful. We can listen to voices that encourage vengeance and power over others. We can listen to voices that encourage us to be prideful or arrogant. We can listen to voices which lead us to a lack of compassion for others and turning other people into objects by judging them instead of seeing them as people created in the image of God. The question we must ask is which voice are we listening to?

**SLIDE                      Jesus is the voice that leads to life.**

When we listen to God's word in the scriptures or in worship or in song, we are meant to hear the voice of Jesus which leads to life. When we join with other believers in prayer and encouragement, we are meant to hear the voice that leads to love and goodness. I found myself thinking about Cole Thomas Allen, a 31-year-old from Torrance, California. He is a highly educated tutor and amateur video game developer. Allen is accused of trying to assassinate President Donald Trump at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner last month and he was arraigned this week. In a message sent to family members minutes before the attack, he described himself as "Friendly Federal Assassin" and railed against recent actions taken by the U.S. government. He is not unlike persons who have tried to assassinate past presidents as they are shaped and formed by voices of extremists on both sides of the aisle.

Mohamed Sabry Soliman threw two Molotov cocktails at demonstrators who had gathered in a pedestrian mall in support of

Israeli hostages in 2025 and he was sentenced this week to life in prison. Investigators allege he planned the attack for a year and was driven by a desire “to kill all Zionist people.” Investigators allege Soliman told them he intended to kill the roughly 20 participants at the weekly demonstration at Boulder’s Pearl Street pedestrian mall. He threw two of more than two dozen Molotov cocktails he had with him while yelling, “Free Palestine!” Police said he told them he got scared because he had never hurt anyone before. What's clear is that he was listening to voices that drove him to murder because of his political views.

When we listen to the wrong voices, they become demonic in our lives. We can find story after story of people who have been military heroes and faithful spouses and parents who start listening to the wrong voices and their minds get twisted. I read several stories of people who had committed bombings or shootings, and they talked about needing to be “cleansed from their demons.”

However, we understand demons, whether it's the thoughts that come into our minds to convince us to do hurtful things, or the streaming, podcast, radio, or news feeds we listened to, we can find voices which leads us to destruction. We can begin to believe we are not worthless or not loved unless we do some horrible thing or lash out in some horrible way. When we feel like we have no hope because of the news we're listening to, those voices can lead us down a path that is one that takes life instead of giving it. Jesus says these words in John 10 about being a Good Shepherd.

## **BIBLE**

**<sup>10</sup> The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.**

We see this lived out as Mary chooses to listen to the voice of Jesus and the demons are cast out. His voice tells us that we have value and worth and that we are loved more than we can ever imagine. His voice tells us that we can't do anything to deserve that love or earn that love,

it's just a gift and we simply listen to the voice and say, "yes." Jesus was able to set Mary free as she listened to his voice, the voice of the Good Shepherd that comes to give a rich and satisfying life. Here is the question Mary's story begs of each one of us.

**SLIDE**                    **What voices are we listening to?**

What voice do we listen to as we drive in our car with the radio on? What songs fill our heart and mind and soul through our ear buds? What news do we watch and how much of it do we consume? Do we listen to the news that brings life or that makes us anxious and fearful? What are the voices that we play on the tapes from our past? What voices are we listening to and are they telling us that we are worthless, or that we should have no hope, or that we should be bitter, or that we should blame everyone else? Are we listening to voices that make us angry and resentful?

Or are we listening to the voice that tells us we are made by God to be loved by God? Are we listening to the voice of Jesus which tells us there is hope and there is light and there is life? Are we listening to that voice that tells us to live like the light and push back the darkness by how we live? Are we listening to the voice that tells us to love fearlessly and relentlessly by giving to others and showing compassion? Are we listening to the voice that tells us to love God and love others and share that good news that is meant to bring great joy for all people?

Mary's story is so powerful because she goes from one who listens to the voices of the demons to one that shares with everyone that will listen that the Lord is risen and death has been conquered. Her experience of the resurrection is captured in the beautiful old hymn, "In the Garden."

**SLIDE**

**He speaks, and the sound of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;  
And the melody that He gave to me**

**Within my heart is ringing.**

**SLIDE**

**And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.**

That hymn describes the voice that we are invited to hear and to listen to every moment of our lives. Mary experienced this on the morning of the resurrection and she in many ways sings this song to us because of the life given to her after the demons had been cast out and she now hears a new voice. Jesus appears to Mary who is weeping over his death, and she becomes the first person to proclaim the resurrection. The disciples are still hiding, and they won't know for another day what Mary has experienced because they are listening to the voices of fear instead of the voice that will set them free. Mary is in many ways a profound figure in the early church and a powerful leader who has experienced demons and been liberated to share the gospel truth that the worst thing is never the last thing.

One of the challenges in the Christian faith is that we have these places in the gospel where it's clear that women are leading the way and yet we also have some of the writings of the apostle Paul in which he is addressing some very specific situations in some early churches and giving guidance that women should be silent and not be leading men. Many churches see those writings as superseding what Jesus actually does which is appear first to the women at the tomb. In John 4, Jesus also makes a woman who has been married four times and is now living with a man the first preacher of the gospel as she goes and shares the good news with her community. There also are many stories in Paul's letters where women are given leadership roles and so we must be careful about pulling a few verses out of Paul's letters that were written during a time when 1st century Judaism was clear that women were inferior to

men.

There is a picture here at the end of the gospel which I think we cannot ignore and it's one of the reasons why, in our United Methodist tradition we have women who are bishops and district superintendents and pastors. We have women on our staff who lead and feel called to ministry and are looking at ordination. We will have a summer intern with us this year who is finishing up her seminary degree and beginning the ordination process here in the mountain sky region. The person who acts as my boss here in this congregation is a woman and men and women share leadership in this church regularly.

I mentioned that because we have churches in our community who won't allow women to preach or to be pastors or priests. They will not allow women to have any leadership role over men and are not allowed to serve in key executive leadership positions. Some of them have been critical of the women in leadership in our church simply because they are female and it is painful. Yes, the writings of Paul do have some places that people turn to and used to exclude women from leadership, but I don't think that was his intent and it certainly was not the intent of Jesus when you look at what he did with Mary Magdalene, sending her out to proclaim the news that Christ is risen.

Mary's role is in many ways elevated, and she finds a mission that's given to her by Jesus. Her story I believe is the one that should inspire us as we wrestle with demons in our lives, knowing that when we are set free from those demons, God has a mission for us.

On Monday, May 18, at 5:00 PM, I have been asked to speak at the annual gathering for MAPDA, Mothers for Awareness and Prevention of Drug Abuse. Former U.S. House representative Mary bono leads this organization and lives here in Durango and has become connected with our church. I want to read to you a bit about this organization that's on their website because I found myself thinking about Mary Magdalene as I was reading about their mission.

## GRAPHIC      MAPDA

*Dear Friend, I want to be straight with you about what MAPDA is — and what it isn't.*

- *We are not a public service announcement.*
- *We are not a pamphlet.*
- *We are not a website with tips for talking to your kids.*

*There are hundreds of organizations doing that work. We respect them. We are doing something different.*

*“MAPDA is an organization of fighting-mad moms.”*

*We identify the specific forces putting children at risk — the social media platforms algorithmically serving drug content to teenagers, the THC retailers marketing gummies to kids, the counterfeit pill networks operating through Instagram and Snapchat, the legislative gaps that give bad actors cover — and we organize mothers to go after them.*

*Specifically. Relentlessly. Until something changes.*

*Today, our children are growing up in a world very different from the one many of us knew. Drugs are reaching them earlier, more quietly, and more easily than ever before.*

- *Counterfeit pills are sold through social media.*
- *THC products are marketed like candy.*
- *Fentanyl is showing up in places no parent would ever expect.*

*This is not a distant crisis. It is in our homes. In our schools. In our children's phones.*

*And the forces driving it are not invisible. They are organized. They are sophisticated. And they are winning far too often. Together, we can make it harder for drugs to reach our children. Together, we can force accountability where there is none. Together, we can make it safer to grow up in our country again. And together, we can prove something every mother already knows:*

*“There is nothing more powerful than a mother's love. But organized love is unstoppable.”*

I'm honored to be able to speak at their annual event because the demons of drug abuse are personal for our family. I watched my stepfather wrestling with the demon of alcoholism until it took his life; after it had taken his family and his job and everything else. I have seen many in our congregation over the years deal with demons of drug and alcohol abuse. And last week we remembered the 10th anniversary of our son's death who had demons that he carried with him from the trauma of childhood in Ukraine and the easy access to drugs here in our community.

What I've learned over the years is that many of our demons are our way of self-medicating because life has become so painful. When people ask me what the solution is to the many kinds of addictions that we find ourselves drawn into and act as demons in our lives and in our hearts, I know that we need good mental health care and recovery centers and medical care. But I also know that we need to find a way to listen to a different voice.

I was visiting someone recently who had just been released from a recovery center and is trying to put their life back together. She asked me if I thought that God Still loved her after everything she had done which had caused pain to her family and to her children. “Could Jesus possibly still love me after being consumed by all these demons?”

**SLIDE                    “Yes, God made you to love you.”**

My hope is that we all know the answer to that question if we ever ask it in our head or if someone asks us. God did not make us to be consumed by demons or to listen to the demon's voice. God did not make us to be overcome by addiction or any other evil spirit that might come our way. God loves you fearlessly and relentlessly and will never let you go. The apostle Paul said it profoundly in Romans 8 when he said that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.

No matter what horrible things we have done, God still loves us. God wants us and God wants us to be free from the demons that consume our lives.

**SLIDE      Yes, Jesus loves me because the Bible tells me so.**

Jesus loved Mary Magdalene and he set her free from her brokenness and the demonic. Jesus set her free from the pain of her past and not only loved her, but he called her to follow him and to be one of his disciples. Jesus showed himself first to Mary Magdalene and then invited her to declare the power of the resurrection.

Wherever you're sitting either in our sanctuary or listening in your car or watching online, "Yes, Jesus loves you, the Bible tells you so." This story tells us that Jesus knows your name and he loves you. We see this picture beautifully in the first season of a series that many of you have watched, even if you're not a Follower of Jesus. The Chosen was released in 2019, and the writers use their creative imagination to depict the people that Jesus loved and how much he must have loved them. They show flashbacks to the early life of Mary Magdalene where they imagined her mother died in childbirth and she was being raised by her father. Her father loves her fiercely but then he becomes ill and dies when she is young. They imagined that her father told Mary a scripture repeatedly that she carried with her and it was a competing voice with all the demons. It would have been a verse that many young people would have memorized in 1st century Judaism from the prophet Isaiah, chapter 43.

## **BIBLE**

**1 But now, O Jacob, listen to the Lord who created you.**

**O Israel, the one who formed you says,**

**"Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you.**

**I have called you by name; you are mine.**

That voice competes with the other voices in her head as she is orphaned as a young child. You're left to imagine that she is taken

advantage of or sexually assaulted. She has new voices in her head that tell her she is not worth anything and that no one could possibly love her. She believes there is no hope for her because of those voices and she becomes a prostitute. The gospels don't tell us that she was a prostitute but it's possible. She sometimes has been identified with a prostitute in Luke 7. This is how she is portrayed in The Chosen.

She is depicted as someone who is out of her mind as she screams and turns furniture upside down. People are terrified of what she has become and the demons that are living inside of her. The only place she can go where she can find any comfort is the local bar. The owner of the bar tries to encourage her but it's also here where she finds her customers and makes a living. You feel pain for her as you watch this story unfold. We find that she is no longer called Mary at this point in her story and she instead has taken upon her the name of Lilith.

#### **SLIDE                      Lillith**

This word in Hebrew is a wild bird that cries out as if it is in pain. She is like a bird who was wounded. That word Lilith was also used to describe or name a female demon. All that know her only know her by this name which means demon. She finds herself sitting at the bar with pain in her head and her heart because she just wants these demons out of her. The barkeeper gives her some soup to drink but what she really wants is alcohol. He tries to convince her to drink something good for her, but she keeps insisting on alcohol and during this interaction men keep coming up to try to hire her and proposition her. Finally, one more man comes and places his hand on hers.

#### **VIDEO                      Jesus and Mary**

I have watched that scene many times this week and when it was first released and each time it brings me to tears when I see that this is how much Jesus loves Mary, and each one of us who feel like we've been afflicted by some sort of demon. We see the beauty of Jesus who loved people that were broken and felt unloved and unseen. People

who felt like they were hopeless causes found life in light in the voice and the touch of Jesus. He simply says, “Don't be afraid. I have redeemed you. I have purchased you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” Jesus doesn't call her by a demon name, but he calls her Mary.

This is how I picture Jesus receiving our loved ones who have been overwhelmed by demons. If Jesus can do this for Mary, he can do it for each one of us. The truth is that we all struggle with demons in our own way. For some of us it has to do with mental health or physical health or an addiction or past voices in our head. Some of us do wrestle with spiritual entities that we are not sure anybody will believe when we share our story, but I hope you will share them because the scriptures tell us they are real.

The invitation is for us to listen to the voice of Jesus. It is the voice that leads us to light and love and mercy and compassion and hope and peace. I pray we will listen to that voice instead of the voice of darkness. Sometimes the world will speak to us that we should be lowly and below others. It has said that to women or people that often are seen as less than. But let's remember that Jesus didn't look at people this way, but he lifted them up, especially women like Mary who were the lowest of the low in the 1st century. We remember that Paul also said that in Christ there is neither male nor female, slave or free, but all are one in Jesus. God can do amazing things with you as you tell this story of what God has done in you and we each have that voice we must listen to.

I believe what the scriptures long for us to hear is that God has redeemed each one of us and we belong to God. You were made by God to be loved by God, and I pray you would listen to his voice and hear that message every single moment of every single day so you might then share that message with the world. Mary did and as a result we again read these words, which is our memory verse for the week, and I invite you to stay together with me out loud.

**BIBLE**

***18 Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, "I've seen the Lord." Then she told them what he said to her. – John 20:18***

Would you whisper this prayer after me?

**SLIDE                  Prayer**

*Jesus, I accept your love...*

*Thank you that you made me to love me...*

*Help me to listen for your voice...*

*Exercise from me any demons... any voices of darkness...*

*Use me gracious God to share the good news of light and love...*

*In Jesus' name. Amen.*

## **May 16-17 Order**

1. Countdown
2. Ryan welcomes people and invites them to stand in body or spirit.
3. Song – “Fill My Cup”
4. Song – “Made for More”
5. Jeff welcomes and shares:
  - A. QR Code
  - B. Invites people to greet each other
6. Announcement Video
7. Sermon Video Intro
8. Sermon
9. Prayer
10. Offering
11. Med Moments
12. Song – “Amazing Grace – My Chains Are Gone”
13. Prayer and Lord’s Prayer
14. Care Ministers
15. The Bridge
16. Closing Prayer