

Devotion on Sexagesima (2nd Sunday before passion-tide) on 7th of February 2021

vocal ensemble

EG 295: Wohl denen, die da wandeln

Wohl denen, die da wandeln vor Gott in Heiligkeit,
Blessed are, who walk before God in holiness
nach seinem Worte handeln und leben allezeit;
acting and living in his word at all times;
die recht von Herzen suchen Gott und seine Zeugnis' halten,
right heartily searching God and bear his witness
sind stets bei ihm in Gnad.
are always in his grace.

Von Herzensgrund ich spreche: dir sei Dank allezeit,
From heartily ground I say: thank to you at all time,
weil du mich lehrst die Rechte deiner Gerechtigkeit.
'course you teach me the rights of your righteousness.
Die Gnad auch ferner mir gewähr; ich will dein Rechte halten,
Keep assure the grace further on me; I want to hold your rights,
verlass mich nimmermehr.
don't leave me anymore.

Mein Herz hängt treu und feste an dem, was dein Wort lehrt.
My heart trails trusty and strong on what your word is teaching.
Herr, tu bei mir das Beste, sonst ich zuschanden werd.
Lord, do your best on me, although I become wrecked.
Wenn du mich leitest, treuer Gott, so kann ich richtig laufen
When you are leading me, faithful God, I can walk right
den Weg deiner Gebot.
the way of your commandment.

Dein Wort, Herr, nicht vergehet, es bleibet ewiglich,
Your word, Lord, does not go by, it remains forever,
so weit der Himmel gehet, der stets beweget sich;
so far the heaven is going, always flowing;
dein Wahrheit bleibt zu aller Zeit gleichwie der Grund der Erden,
your truth stays at all times, just like the ground of earth,
durch deine Hand bereit'.
made from your hand.

Pastor Wolfgang Knopp

"Dear parish, today's preaching-text is written in the eighth chapter of Luca's gospel and therein Jesus is talking to his disciples in a parable about the meaning of the divine word, the word, that brings life. And he says, the word, which is told to the people, is similar to a sower. The sower walks over his field and strews seed; some of the seed falls under stones and doesn't grow, some under spines and gets stifled, some falls on the road and gets eaten by the birds or squelched by people. But some grains even fall on fertile ground and bring plenty benefit.

I always thought: How bad has to be that farmer, who strews his seed that way, so much falls under the stones, under the spines or gets eaten by the birds or squelched by people? A farmer, who knows his craft, might strew his seeds the way, so 98 % of the grains fall on fertile ground and bring benefit. Although his family has to starve and he has nothing to eat. A farmer who can do his job, won't throw it under the stones and on the road, but strews it on the fertile ground.

And when we have to do with religion, there is often the question: What have I done wrong yet again? Am I the stone, that won't let it grow? Have I been thrown under the spines and get stifled? Do I see the word totally wrong, do not grasp it anyway?

I trust the sower. The word falls up to 98 % on fertile ground. This word reaches the people up to 98 %.

I worry about my church, because the figures obviously recede and we have got economical problems, we have got the responsibility for many coworkers, for many churches and buildings, which have to be maintained – there I am very very worried. But I don't worry about the religion. This sower is as smart to put his word into the people, I have absolutely no doubt.

There are many decidedly atheists in my circle of acquaintances, that do not want to have to do anything with religion. Those are the most devoted people I know. Always comes the question for "Where do we come from?", "Where do we go?", "What is the good and the evil in life?" Such questions are consistently in those people, because it is laid inside those people, this religion.

I don't worry about the religion. This word will fall on fertile ground. It will reach people, it will touch people, it will make people to true humans, even after us and without our support, because the farmer, that strews the seed, is a smart farmer and he will let 98 % of his grains fall on fertile ground.

I wish you exactly this confidence, that God laid inside of us. The confidence, we can trust in this sower, this God knows, what he is doing and it will be for our own good. I wish you and us this confidence in a very strong time of crisis, that demands many to us. So we do not lose the confidence in this God, but put our trust totally in him – in who else? Good luck."

vocal ensemble

Max Reger: Herr, ich habe lieb die Stätte deines Hauses

Dein Wort, o Herr, wohnt weit und ewig im Himmel.

Your word, o Lord, lives wide and forever in heaven.

Dein Wort ist eine Leuchte meinem Fuß und ein Licht meinem Weg.

Your word is a lamp for my food and a light on my way.

Herr, ich habe lieb die Stätte deines Hauses

Lord, I love the site of your house

und den Ort, da deine Ehre wohnt.

and the place, where your glory lives.

Selig sind, die Gottes Wort hören und bewahren.

Blessed are, who hear and conserve God's word.

Herr, ich habe lieb die Stätte deines Hauses

Lord, I love the site of your house

und den Ort, da deine Ehre wohnt.

and the place, where your glory lives.

Ehre sei dem Vater und dem Sohn und dem Heiligen Geist.

Glory to God-father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Herr, ich habe lieb die Stätte deines Hauses

Lord, I love the site of your house

und den Ort, da deine Ehre wohnt.

and the place, where your glory lives.

Pastor Wolfgang Knopp

"Some of you have written me and told me: We watch this devotion on youtube every Sunday, but we miss the Lord's Prayer.

And they are right. Let us pray together the Lord's Prayer."

Vater unser im Himmel. Our Father in heaven.

Geheiligt werde dein Name. Hallowed be your name.

Dein Reich komme. Your kingdom come.

Dein Wille geschehe,
wie im Himmel, so auf Erden. Your will be done,
as in heaven, so on earth.

Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute. Give us today our daily bread.

Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
wie auch wir vergeben unsern Schuldigern. And forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sins against us.

Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,
sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen. Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Denn dein ist das Reich und die Kraft
und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit. For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen. Amen.

vocal ensemble

May the Lord send angels / Geh in Gottes Frieden

Geh in Gottes Frieden, fest an seiner Hand

Walk in God's peace, tight on his hand
und mit seinem Segen in ein neues Land.
and with his blessings in a new land.

Geh von seiner Liebe fest und warm umhüllt

Walk tightly and warm surrounded by his love
und mit Mut und Hoffnung neu erfüllt.
and complied new with bravery and hope.

Touch me, Lord, I need to feel your love.

Touch me with your blessings from above.

When my mind gets tired and weary and I seem to loose my sight,
help my heart believe, that you're still by my side.

May the Lord send angels, guide you on your way,
may his love surround you day by day.

May the Lord send angels, save you from the night,
wrap his arms surround you, hold you tight.

Touch me, Lord, I need your helping hand.

Touch me, Lord, I need to understand
why my feed get tired and weary and I seem to loose my way,
send your angels down, don't let me go astray.

Geh in Gottes Frieden, fest an seiner Hand

Walk in God's peace, tight on his hand
und mit seinem Segen in ein neues Land.
and with his blessings in a new land.

Geh von seiner Liebe fest und warm umhüllt

Walk tightly and warm surrounded by his love
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