

Isaiah 55:1–5

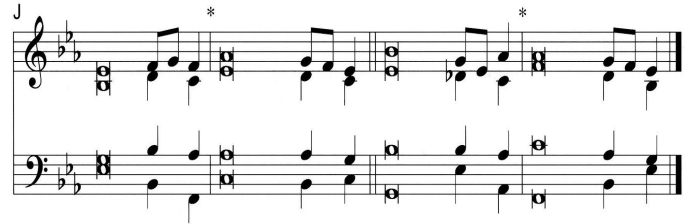
1 “Come, everyone who thirsts,
 come to the waters;
 and he who has no money,
 come, buy and eat!
 Come, buy wine and milk
 without money and without price.

2 Why do you spend your money for that
 which is not bread, and your labor for that
 which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to
 me, and eat what is good, and delight
 yourselves in rich food.

3 Incline your ear, and come to me; hear,
 that your soul may live; and I will make
 with you an everlasting covenant, my
 steadfast, sure love for David.

4 Behold, I made him a witness to the
 peoples, a leader and commander for the
 peoples.

5 Behold, you shall call a nation that you do
 not know, and a nation that did not know
 you shall run to you, because of the Lord
 your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
 for he has glorified you.”

**Psalm 136:1–9****His Steadfast Love Endures Forever**

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for | he is good,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.

2 Give thanks to the | God of gods,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever.

3 Give thanks to the | Lord of lords,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;

4 to him who alone does great | wonders,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;

5 to him who by understanding made the |
 heavens,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;

6 to him who spread out the earth above the |
 waters,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;

7 to him who made the | great lights,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;

8 the sun to rule o- | ver the day,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;

9 the moon and stars to rule o- | ver the night,*
 for his steadfast love endures for- | ever;

Romans 9:1–13

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

⁶But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁹For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁰And not only so, but also when Rebecca had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, ¹¹though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of his call—¹²she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

Matthew 14:13–21

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the death of John], he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They said to him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.” ¹⁸And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.