

**6:30 – 6:40am: Praise Song**

*-During this time, we will learn a new praise song that invites us to open our hearts before God*

Give Me Faith – Elevation Worship

<https://youtu.be/dNwt7LQiyck?si=LofFzLna9uiqjDjt>

Writers: Chris Brown, Wade Joye, Mack Brock & London Gatch

I need You to soften my heart  
And break me apart  
I need You to open my eyes  
And see that You're shaping my life

And all I am  
I surrender

Give me faith to trust what You say  
That You're good and Your love is great  
I'm broken inside, I give You my life

I need You to soften my heart  
And break me apart  
I need You to pierce through the dark  
And cleanse every part of me

And all I am  
I surrender

Give me faith to trust what You say  
That You're good and Your love is great  
I'm broken inside, I give You my life

I may be weak  
Your spirit's strong in me  
My flesh may fail  
But my God, You never will

I may be weak  
Your spirit's strong in me  
My flesh may fail  
But my God, You never will

Give me faith to trust what You say  
That You're good and Your love is great  
I'm broken inside, I give You my life

Give me faith to trust what You say  
That You're good and Your love is great  
I'm broken inside, I give You my life

I may be weak  
Your Spirit's strong in me  
My flesh may fail  
But my God, You never will

I may be weak  
But Your Spirit's strong in me  
My flesh may fail  
But my God, You never will

I may be weak  
But Your Spirit's strong in me  
My flesh may fail  
But my God, You never will

I may be weak  
But Your Spirit's strong in me  
My flesh may fail  
But my God, You never will

**6:40 – 6:50am: Scripture Reading & Devotional**

Today's reading comes from John 18:1-9.

Today's scripture begins the Passion of Jesus with his arrest.

The Passion of Jesus means the suffering Jesus enduring as he died on the cross for our forgiveness and redemption.

The key detail to pay attention here is that this happens in a garden. Remember that the gospel author loves to write layers of connections and every detail is intentional. And the garden is one of the details that is rich in detail and meaning.

Why a garden? Because where does the story begin?

Not just with angels and shepherds in a manger. But in a garden, filled with trees for eating of every kind. Of animals all named by the one created in God's image, with a companion who came from his side and who was with him to aid him to victory.

And in that garden was the betrayal, when the two were deceived by a serpent and ate the forbidden fruit thinking they can become like God, forgetting that they had been created in God's image.

The Garden of Eden.

The story that began in the Garden, now ends in a Garden with the plan of salvation becoming fully realized. The garden that was meant to be where God and God's creation, humans and created nature were meant to live in delight, that had been filled with betrayal, now becomes the path towards redemption, as the Son of Man obeys instead of betrays. And he lays down his life for the forgiveness of sins, for the redemption of the world.

What an amazing God who can take our worst and bring about good.

That a garden of betrayal and tears, can now become the garden of redemption.

That a criminal's execution becomes the cross of salvation.

As we head into Holy Week, let us surrender to the amazing grace in Jesus. For by his grace we are saved. By his grace we are redeemed. By his grace we are set free. In this amazing grace is love, demonstrated by death on a cross in exchange for us and resurrection to new life.

### **6:50 – 7:10am: Prayer**

First, pray for peace across the world. Pray for the end of war and violence. For the end of bloodshed and conflict. For lasting peace and reconciliation. For the restoration and rebuilding of broken communities.

Secondly, pray for our country and community. That our country may turn back to the values of righteousness and justice. That the leaders of our country would make decision that serve the benefit of all. So that all may have all that they need to live.

Thirdly, pray for our church and all those on our prayer list. Let us pray for healing for those in need of healing. Let us pray for comfort for those who are grieving. Let us pray for strength for those who are struggling to hold on.

Lastly, pray that we might Jesus' prayer. For joy, for protection, to be sanctified and sent out into the world, for unity.

### **7:10 – to whenever: Personal prayer time**

*-During this time, there will be gentle instrumental music that will play in the background and all are invited to stay as long as they wish in prayerful posture, lifting up everything into God's hands.*