

Saturday Morning Prayer
New Beginnings - *Nueva Vida* Prison Ministry



Worship Team:
Pastor Terry Schjang
Pastor Quirino Cornejo
Tangled Blue

PT: O Lord open my lips.
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Q: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Alabada sea la Santísima Trinidad, un solo Dios, [Praise to the blest and
holy Trinity, one God,]
que nos da vida, salvación, y resurrección. [who gives us life, salvation, and
resurrection.]
Alleluiah.

Stand to sing - Cristo Rompe Las Cadenas

***Cristo rompe las cadenas
Cristo rompe las cadenas del pecado
Cristo rompe las cadenas y nos da su libertad***

*¿Como es posible yo vivir sin mi Jesus,
Si el fundamento de mi vida es eres Tu?
¡Tu me libraste del pecado y de la muerte!*

***Cristo rompe las cadenas
Cristo rompe las cadenas del pecado
Cristo rompe las cadenas y nos da su libertad***

Please be seated

A Reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Praise to you, Holy Spirit, for your winds that swept over the tumultuous seas of prisons and called into the ears of a pastor developer with no prison experience to take a chance and plant a congregation inside two Maryland prisons. Gracious thanks to this pastor developer and a prison warden at Denver Women's Correctional Facility in 1999 for the vision and faith to plant another congregation inside a prison—this time for women.

We give thanks for all the pastors who have served you, Jesus, walking beside the brokenhearted and often hopeless incarcerated women at DW, just as you walked with the least of these. Continue to bless the many courageous women who over almost twenty years have attended New

Beginnings worship services on Friday nights before stepping through a gate into an outside world as Returning Citizens.

Silence for reflection

**You have been born anew
through the living and abiding word of God.**

Creator God, hear our thanksgiving for the courage of these women to finally believe they too are beloved children of God. Thanks to these women for seeing your face in the new arrivals at prison and for receiving these new arrivals into the community with the words, *“We invite you to come worship with us this Friday night. You belong. You are not alone.”*

Silence for reflection

**You have been born anew
through the living and abiding word of God.**

Bless the almost 400 visitors who came last year to share their gifts with women behind bars, and left feeling they were the ones who had been gifted.

Bless the dance troupe that has come for five years to encourage prisoners to love their embodied spirit.

Bless the yoga studio that has visited when told that Jesus was inviting all to the yoga mat.

Bless the individuals and groups who have come to worship with the women of New Beginnings on Friday nights, and left saying, *“They could be my sister.”*

Bless the congregations who have partnered with New Beginnings in so many ways—from accepting an invitation to dinner, to hosting Fellowship Hour at special services, to contributing to our financial support. May they be blessed to be a blessing.

Silence for reflection

**You have been born anew
through the living and abiding word of God.**

We pray that the women who are alone waiting for weeks to be processed in solitary cells upon their arrival may feel your comfort. May we be your loving voice to them as they struggle to make it through those scary first weeks. Help them to persevere, to trust in you when you call their name, to answer your call to come and hear your word, to be fed at your table, and to find hope through your promise of grace.

Silence for reflection

**You have been born anew
through the living and abiding word of God.**

Thanks to you, Holy Creator, for all your daughters and sons behind bars, created in your image, who are turning around to see themselves as you intend. May they come to know and believe they are each beloved.

Silence for reflection

**You have been born anew
through the living and abiding word of God.**

Psalm 139:13-18

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.

**My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

Silence for reflection

**You have been born anew
through the living and abiding word of God.**

Nueva Vida, para mí, significa la oportunidad de acercarme a Dios y aprender a cambiar mi vida de acuerdo con lo que Cristo espera de mí. Significa la oportunidad de conocer a Dios en mi idioma para comprender las lecciones de la Biblia y para poder vivir de buena manera todo lo que manda Dios~Tina

New Beginnings is just that for me. My faith, my relationship with Christ, wasn't a priority until I started coming to New Beginnings. The pastor has a way of connecting with all of us so that we each leave feeling so loved and important to God. I was born into the Lutheran faith, but it meant nothing to me until I met Christ in prison. I now know I can face all things today because I have Christ beside me. ~Jake

If I could describe our ministry in one word, I'd choose INSPIRE. It inspires me to be a better follower of Christ, to help others in need, to share the word and to try and make life different for me and for others wherever I am. New Beginnings gives me hope and a purpose. We had Vacation Bible Camp in January. We met camp people. This summer, my oldest son will go to a place called Rainbow Trail. My whole family now has hope.
~Nadine

Closing Prayer

Father, we're open to carry out your will for our lives, and the lives of others. Thank you for being our provider, healer, deliverer, advocate, lover, friend and confidant. Lead people to us so that we can share you with them. Lead people on the outside to come meet us too. Help us to build healthy relationships as we continue to allow you to mold us in your image. Hear

our voices of thanksgiving for all the gifts you bring us through your children who hear your call. Help them to learn from our witness; we are freed by YOU. In your holy name we pray. ~Demika

Stand to sing - Take the Shackles Off My Feet So I Can Dance

***Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance
I just wanna praise you
I just wanna praise you
You broke the chains, now I can lift my hands
And I'm gonna praise you
I'm gonna praise you***

In the corners of my mind, I just can't seem to find a reason to believe that I can break free. 'Cause you see, I have been down for so long, I feel like all hope is gone, but as I lift my hand, I understand that I should praise you through my circumstance

***Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance
I just wanna praise you
I just wanna praise you
You broke the chains, now I can lift my hands
And I'm gonna praise you
I'm gonna praise you***

Everything that could go wrong all went wrong at one time. So much pressure fell on me, I thought I was gonna lose my mind. But I know you wanna see if I will hold on through these trials. But I need you to lift this load, 'cause I can't take it no more.

***Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance
I just wanna praise you
I just wanna praise you
You broke the chains, now I can lift my hands
And I'm gonna praise you
I'm gonna praise you***

*Bum badum bum bum ba,
Bum ba, bum bum bum
Bum badum bum bum ba,
Bum ba, bum bum bum*

*Been through the fire and the rain bound in every kind of way. But God has
broken every chain, So Let me Go!*

***Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance
I just wanna praise you
I just wanna praise you
You broke the chains, now I can lift my hands
And I'm gonna praise you
I'm gonna praise you***

***Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance
You broke my chains, now I can lift my, lift my hands***