

Fill My Cup with Grace

The Economy of Jesus

SIX

STONE

JARS



7th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025



Ascension Lutheran Church
1105 N. Washington Blvd.
Ogden, UT 84404
801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion and commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

Children are always welcome in worship services;
however please know the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is
available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

Introduction

We live in a time of anxiety... especially about our wellbeing and sustenance.

The rhetoric of late has highlighted that fear reigns and many are living in an attitude of "taking care of our own."

But time and again we are reminded that in the Kingdom of God, who we should consider "our own" crosses many perceived boundaries.

We are called by Jesus to take care of ***all in need, especially those most vulnerable.***

The Gospel readings for this season after the Epiphany point to the topsy-turvy way that Jesus proclaims an "economy" in which wealth is redistributed for the good of all.

Fill My Cup with Grace

P For six weeks Jesus has been guiding us to reframe the four pillars of economics: earning, spending, saving, and investing. We have been reminded that our yearn to earn can become misplaced as fear of scarcity ravages our energy and keeps us only mindful of caring for “our own.”

We have been reminded that when we spend the true commodities of hope, purpose, healing, meaning, and grace at the center of God’s vision of the future, we will never run out.

Savings becomes redemptive when we offer gratitude and store up the will for generosity spurred by the gifts we are given by God every day. And investing our interest in the wellbeing of all is the way of freedom from fear.

Today we hear that the measure of goodness will overflow into our laps when we dip from the stone jars of God’s grace.

Opening Song

Come Now Is The Time To Worship Words and Music by Brian Doerksen

Come, now is the time to wor - ship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart. Come,

just as you are to wor - ship. Come,

Last time to Coda ☩



just as you are _____ be - fore _____ your ___ God. _____ Come.

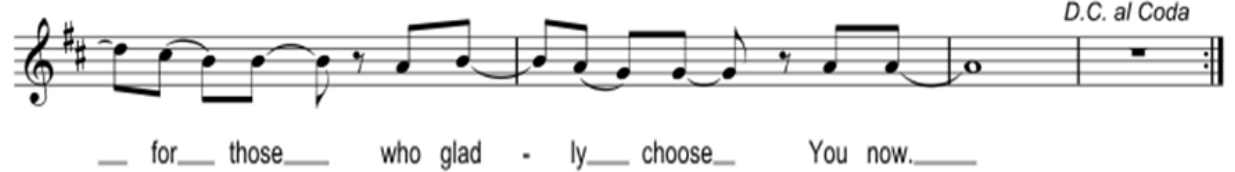


One day ev - 'ry tongue will con - fess _____ You are God. _____



One day ev - 'ry knee _____ will bow. _____ Still, the great - est treas - ure re - mains _____

D.C. al Coda



_____ for _____ those _____ who glad - ly _____ choose _____ You now. _____

☩ *Coda*



Come. Come. Come,



just as you are, _____ come. _____ Come.

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Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life

***All* Amen.**

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts,
let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection

Merciful God,

***All* you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;**

we assume the worst about one another.

**Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P God proclaims these words of assurance:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine."

In ✚ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

***All* Amen.**

You may be Seated

Prayer for This Day

P God of Everlasting Love,
we come to you today, knowing that our earnings
can never fulfill our deepest human yearnings for
security, peace, and connection.

**All In the midst of our greed, remind us of your grace and the calling
to love one another with extravagant generosity,
giving freely to others just a piece of what you
so selflessly have given us. Amen.**

A Reading from Genesis, the 45th chapter

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to

come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

WA The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 37

- ¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- ² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- ⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.
- ⁶ **The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers,
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- ⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**
- ⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.
- ¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**
- ¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

39 **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

40 You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because in you they seek refuge.

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.

O - pen the eyes___ of my heart,___ Lord,___

o - pen the eyes___ of my heart;___ I want to see You,___

I want to see You.___

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone

who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Luke 6:27-38

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Children's Sermon & Noisy Offering

Message

Pr. Debra Jimenez



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Installation of Church Council

Nicole Shane - President

Sherry Fritschle

Cynthia Day - Vice President

James Jimenez

Katie Young - Secretary

Stef Rhees

Edith Cryts

Joanna Wolf

David Filanda

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

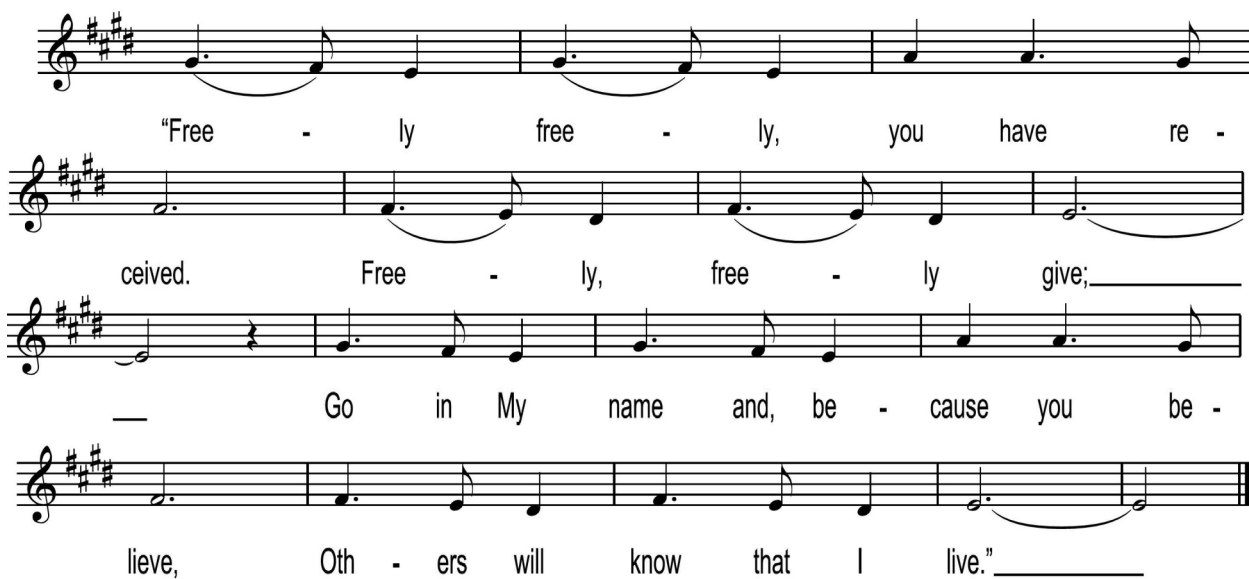
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

[You may be Seated](#)

Prayers of the People

WA In the economy of Jesus, we find abundance in the most unlikely places. We ask for God's guidance to discern when we need to change direction or try things differently. We find abundant meaning in the midst of life's uncertainties when we look to Jesus.



"Free - ly free - ly, you have re -
 ceived. Free - ly, free - ly give;
 Go in My name and, be - cause you be -
 lieve, Oth - ers will know that I live."

WA In this pause, O God, we ponder the many gifts you have given us.
 Our gratitude seems never enough for the plenty you provide.
 We call to mind the gifts of creation, of relationships, of sustenance.

Silence for reflection

In this pause, Christ Jesus, we ponder the ways your love is
 still at work in the world.

Our awe and wonder at the goodness of others is profound.
 We call to mind acts of kindness, generosity, and selflessness.

Silence for reflection

In this pause, Holy Spirit, we come asking you for strength.
 The temptation to live by the economics of not-enough is so strong in us.
 We ask for revelation in our thinking and doing,
 so that we might live with meaning in this house.

Silence for reflection

Loving God, Christ Jesus, Holy Spirit, we are yours.
 We bring to you now the concerns of our day, of our communities,
 knowing that already you are present, already you are working
 to bring about comfort and healing.

Silence for reflection

WA We lift before you all those on our prayer list; we pray for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing and strength.
We pray for places and people on this earth ravaged by war.
We pray for those affected by severe weather, wildfires and landslides.
We pray for those who've lost all their worldly goods;
for those who've died and those who mourn.
We pray for first responders,
and all those who work to bring healing to the injured.
We pray for refugees, for those who are without a safe place to call home.
Give us courage to live out your Gospel so that we may seek justice and mercy for all people.

Silence for reflection

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

All Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please stand in body or spirit.

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the Peace of our risen Lord by "speaking" that Peace through sign language.


P Jesus Christ become Peace with you.

All And also with you.

You may be Seated

Offering

While we still will not physically pass the offering plates we will continue to have the plates available at the entrance to receive your offerings and will lift them up in thanksgiving before the throne of grace.



Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the
 liv - ing God, fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me,
 fill me, use me. Spir - it of the
 liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

Offertory Prayer

P God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
 and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

All Bless what we offer to your service:
 our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
 now and always. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P When we grow afraid and weary and cannot fathom your care,
hoarding resources for ourselves and “our kind,”
your love remains steadfast.

You deliver us from captivity to worldly illusions of security,
make covenant again and again to be our Sustenance,
and you continue to speak to us through your prophets
who proclaim abundance for all people.

All **Come, Holy Spirit, come to us again.**

WA Come, Holy Spirit,
renew the hearts of all gathered for praise and prayer.
Create in us a desire for justice, peace, and liberation for all people.

P In the night in which he was betrayed
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;
broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take and eat; this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Let us together approach the throne of grace
as we pray as Jesus taught us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

All Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Invitation

P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of abundance.

shed for you and
for all people
for the forgiveness of sin



All are Welcome!

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your
 Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring
 It is in par - don - ing that we are



love; where there is in - ju -
 hope; where there is dark - ness,
 par - doned, in giv - ing of our -

last time to Coda ⊕



ry, your par - don, Lord; and
 on - ly light; and
 selves that we re -



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.

2

3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er

seek so much to be con - soled as to con -

sole, to be un - der - stood

as to un - der - stand, to be

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda

loved as to love with all my soul.

Coda

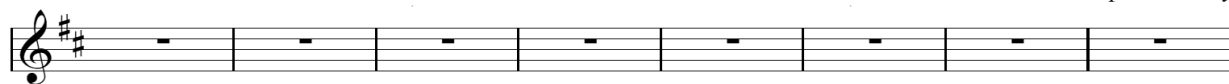
ceive and in dy - ing that we're

born to e - ter - nal life.

Text: Sebastian Temple, b. 1928

Music: PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS, Sebastian Temple

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We pray_ for the lone - ly ones know-ing that some of us are
 We pray_ for the wound-ed ones know-ing that some of us are
 We pray_ for the starv - ing ones know-ing that some of us are
 We pray_ for the dy - ing ones know-ing that some of us are



lone - ly_ and We pray_ for the heart - bro - ken
 wound-ed and we pray_ for the re - gret ful
 starv - ing_ and we pray_ for the im - pris oned
 dy - ing_ and we pray_ for the new - ly_ born



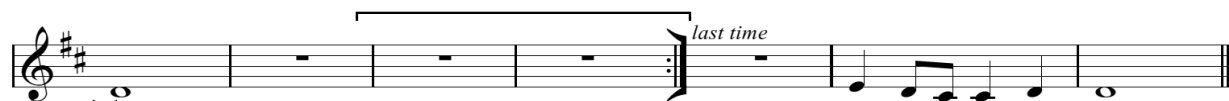
ones know-ing that some of us are_ heart - brok - en_.
 ones know-ing that some of us are_ re - gret - ful.
 ones know-ing that some of us are_ im - pris - oned
 ones know-ing that some of us are_ ar - riv - ing.



All - our hearts and minds are lean-ing in_ with clear in - ten tion_



join - ing in your way of love_ in_ the world.
 heal-ing
 just - ice
 love_



A - - - men.

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

All **Amen**

P Let us pray,
Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.

All **Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

You may be Seated

Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The jars are full in the Kingdom of God.
The cup of salvation is full of the grace we need
and the grace we are called to give away.

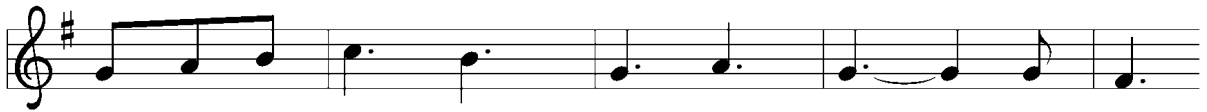
Transformed by the economy of Jesus,
to bear witness to God's grace,
may we go out to invest in the transformation of our communities
with the help of God, ✚
the guidance of Jesus,
and the power of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen**

Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873–1954

Dismissal

WA Go in peace. Live your life giving grace away.

All Thanks be to God.

Front Cover:

Photo by Mathilde Langevin on Unsplash
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Readings for next Sunday,
March 2nd
Transfiguration

First Reading:

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm:

Psalm 99

Second Reading:

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Gospel:

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

JOSEPH & HIS
BROTHERS -
THAT'S SOME
FAMILY
RELINION!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

IT SURE IS!



AND IT'S MORE! JOSEPH IS THE
FAVORED SON WHO BECOMES
THE SALVATION OF THOSE WHO
SOUGHT TO DESTROY HIM. HIS
STORY ANTICIPATES *JESUS!*



IT'S ALWAYS
ABOUT JESUS
ISN'T IT.



YEAH,
PRETTY
MUCH.



GENESIS 45:3-11, 15

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