

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: C Baptism of the Lord x 2019

Texts: [Isaiah 43:1-7](#); [Psalm 29](#); [Acts 18:14-17](#); [Luke 3:15-17; 21-22](#)

MUSIC Smart

Individuals who tend toward this intelligence show sensitivity to rhythm and sound. They love music, but they are also sensitive to sounds in their environments. They have the capacity to perceive (e.g., as a music aficionado), discriminate (e.g., as a music critic), transform (e.g., as a composer), and express (e.g., as a performer) musical forms. This intelligence includes sensitivity to the rhythm, pitch or melody, and timbre or tone color of a musical piece. They may study better with music in the background. They can be taught by turning lessons into lyrics, speaking rhythmically, tapping out time. Tools include musical instruments, music, radio, stereo, CD-ROM, multimedia.

Here are two websites full of musical offerings! The links direct you to Baptism of the Lord, Year C:

[Singing from the Lectionary](#)

Each passage for the day has music that congregations can sing together.

[Sing for Joy](#)

The anthems presented are offered as a way for people to listen and worship wherever and whenever they are.

Text: Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

3 For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. 4 Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

5 *Do not fear, for I am with you;*

I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

6 I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
MUSIC smart	<p>There is a rhythm in the text that beats fairly regularly. The punctuation supplied by the NRSV breaks the piece into segments.</p> <p>The bold type is the main theme that brackets the passage = God is the Creator.</p> <p>The <i>italics</i> are the sub-theme that we have nothing to fear because God loves us and calls us God's own.</p> <p>The center section highlights God's presence (vs2) and God's redemption (vs3-4).</p>	<p>Three years ago, I suggested the anthem You Are Mine by David Haas as an option and I'm doing so again!</p> <p>The chorus quotes verse 5 and the verses in the anthem contain images from verse 2.</p> <p>If you have this piece in your choir's library or repertoire, I hope it is being prepared for this Sunday. If you do not, I recommend it.</p> <p>If you do not have a choir, follow the first link above to one of many offerings posted on YouTube of other choirs singing it.</p>	<p>How Firm a Foundation</p> <p>Fear Not, For I Have Redeemed You</p> <p>This essay at Word and World from 1999 does not include the text for today but does cover a lot of other verses throughout the book of Isaiah plumed by musicians through the years. It might be a good reference for future use!</p>

Text: Psalm 29

A Psalm of David.

1 Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendor.

3 The **voice of the Lord** is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.

4 The **voice of the Lord** is powerful;
the **voice of the Lord** is full of majesty.

5 The **voice of the Lord** breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

7 The **voice of the Lord** flashes forth flames of fire.

8 The **voice of the Lord** shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 The **voice of the Lord** causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

11 May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
MUSIC smart		What does "the voice" of the Lord sound like? Play with some options! •Thunder, booming sounds •strong winds, wind rushing through trees (which I always thought was an approaching vehicle when out walking	In Hebrew, "heavenly beings" is <i>bene elohim</i> . (vs 1), so invite the congregation to imagine the heavens singing this psalm.

		<p>our dog - he got a bit fed up with me pulling to the side of the road for the wind)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•trumpet fanfares, brass bands•choirs of angels or the Hallelujah chorus•children laughing•people talking in a room, the low hum of noise at your fellowship hour•someone saying "thank you" or "I love you".	
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Text: Acts 8:14-17

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the [Holy Spirit](#) 16 (for as yet the [Spirit](#) had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). 17 Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the [Holy Spirit](#).

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
MUSIC smart		<p>If baptism is a visible seal/sign of an inward reality (as we PC(USA) people trust to be true), how does that inward reality manifest itself in our lives? In what ways does our daily living point to this song given to us by God's Spirit? What rhythms do we have in our lives that remind us of our baptism?</p> <p>In her commentary on this passage at Working Preacher, Karoline Lewis quotes Gerhard Krodel saying this passage is breaking down barriers between Jews and Samaritans. This makes me think of mashups; musical combinations of two songs into one new whole. Sometimes they work and sometimes they do not. When the Spirit moves in us, our song can be "mashed up" with another one and another one and another one until all our songs are one whole. Like Psalm 29's heavenly beings singing to God's glory!</p>	<p>In the musical <i>Jesus Christ, Superstar</i>, whenever Andrew Lloyd Weber wanted to highlight a reference to Jesus as Messiah, a triangle would ring. This passage is pretty short, so ringing a bell whenever the Holy Spirit is mentioned may not work very well, but why not continue that on into the sermon and through the rest of the service?</p> <p>Be sure to use a sound that does not make anyone think their cell phone is ringing!</p>

Text: Luke 3:15-17; 21-22

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16 John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
MUSIC smart		<p>Baptized in Water</p> <p>When Jesus Came to Jordan</p> <p>Out of Deep, Unordered Water</p> <p>Scroll down for two hymns by Carolyn Winfrey-Gillette at this link. The second hymn's last verse reflects the Isaiah passage, too! Full circle...</p>	<p>Roy Harrisville, in his commentary at Working Preacher, writes that the unexpected response from John "lays bare the pretenses and false expectations of the people and reveals their deep seated need for personal and inner transformation". To demonstrate this, play a prelude to a familiar song or hymn and then before the lyrics begin, switch it to another song or hymn written in the same key with the same meter. We expect one thing and are given another.</p>