

The background of the cover is a complex marbled paper pattern. It features a dark, almost black, base color with intricate, swirling veins of light blue, teal, and a golden-brown or ochre hue. The pattern has a cellular, organic quality, with some areas appearing more dense and others more open. In the upper right quadrant, there is a white, stylized floral or starburst outline that serves as a decorative element behind the main title.

Leaven + Liturgies

EIGHT

VOLUME 1

STORIES / ART / LYRICS / REFLECTION



What if we've forgotten the song we were made to sing? Romans 8 reminds us of the ancient melody that we have spent our lives trying to re-remember. Opening with "no condemnation" and ending with "no separation," this beautiful text illuminates the new identity for those who follow Christ. Now as adopted children, the believer has a new family, an inheritance, and a relationship that will never again be broken with "Abba (Daddy), Father." If we have an inheritance, then we have assurance that we can dwell secure as sons and daughters of God. We have been given a job to do as co-heirs with Christ: to rule and reign with him in this life and the next. We are now vice-regents and "Underkings." This text also speaks compassionately about the brokenness we will encounter within us and in all creation. Romans 8 appeals to us directly in its acknowledgement of the experience of human suffering. We are invited to set our mind to see the Son and Spirit who intercede on our behalf who is present and sustaining us in every moment.

Making our way through Romans 8


Over two volumes of music we make our way through this transformative text. Some of the songs serve as scriptural paraphrases while others are personal responses to the content. This companion book to Volume 1 of "Eight" serves to share lyrics, stories, art, and offer opportunities for reflection and prayer. My hope is to capture your imagination to behold the beauty of Jesus and his gospel and that you would be convinced of God's endless, extravagant love for you.

"...For I am sure that... [nothing] will ever be able to separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." v. 38-39

I started Leaven + Liturgies in response to my own desire to be part of a collaborative, creative community and to anchor my affections in the story of scripture.

We are a storied people. With the help of the liturgical calendar the Leaven + Liturgies community rehearses the redemptive narrative of scripture together over shared meals, discussion questions, and seasonal liturgies in order to center our hearts on God's story and speak identity over the co-creator in Christ. In response to the good news of the gospel, the community collaborates together.

These songs have been shared at our table and mulled over in community. I hope that you will be blessed as we unpack over two volumes, 8 songs in Romans 8.

Christina Telineto 

Leaven + Liturgies



VOLUME 1

01. UNDERKINGS

Romans 8:9-17

02. WHAT GOD HAS DONE

Romans 8:2-11

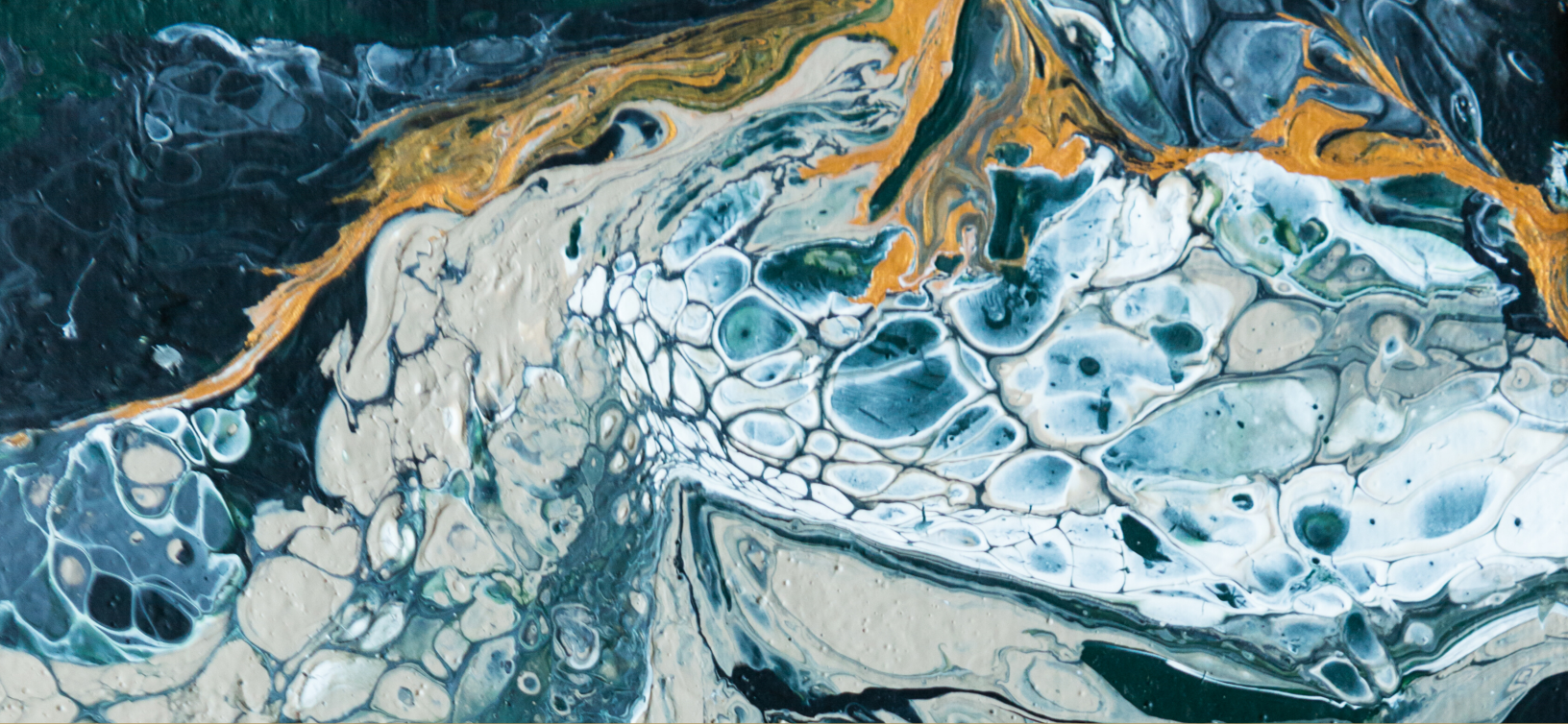
03. THIS GREAT EXCHANGE

Romans 8:1

04. NOTHING WILL SEPARATE

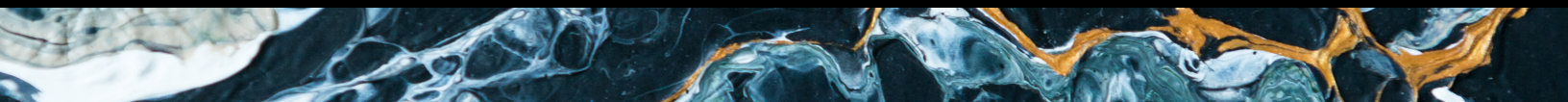
Romans 8:31-39





**"The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
and if children then heirs - heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ,
provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him."**

Romans 8:16-17 ESV



UNDERKINGS

Inspired by Romans 8:9-17

Brothers and Sisters

Let us remember who we are

Beloved of the Father

Provided we suffer for a while

Though we are debtors

We are no longer slaves to fear

The Spirit is witness

We are made children and heirs

Sons and Daughters

Kings and Queens

Reconciled, restored, redeemed

With all of creation

Recalling the song we're made to sing

We are your "Underkings"

The Spirit indwelling

This deposit a guarantee

Of our belonging

To Jesus our Great High Priest

If Christ is in you

You're raised to life in righteousness

We will share in glory

This is our hope and confidence

We await the day when

Again you'll dwell among us

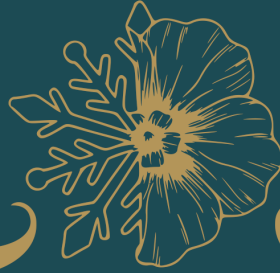
Heralding the moments

When your kingdom comes

With you we'll reign

Where no sin remains





WITH ALL OF CREATION
RECALLING
THE SONG WE'RE MADE TO SING
WE ARE YOUR
UNDERKINGS

Pause + Pray



UNDERKING: (UN'DÉR-KING)

A RULER EXERCISING AUTHORITY ON BEHALF OF A SOVEREIGN

PAUSE: Do you see yourself as a co-heir with Christ called to co-create with him?

PRAY: Ask the Lord how he has wired you to enter into his kingdom work. Ask for the courage and boldness to step into your identity as a beloved son or daughter.

WHAT GOD HAS DONE

Written in collaboration w/Emmanuel Chirume

Inspired by Romans 8:2-11

OH WHAT GOD HAS DONE MY FLESH COULDN'T DO BY SENDING YOUR OWN SON YOU DID WHAT THE LAW WAS TOO WEAK TO

When I carry the law as a weight on my chest
Living life as a graded test
With a heavy heart not finding rest
"The Spirit is life because of righteousness."

Because Jesus came and died
Conquered death to bring new life
I can set my mind on **Union with Christ**
By whose blood I'm justified.

You give me breath, Lord, you give me peace
When I'm in doubt and sin won't cease
When the Spirit is willing but the flesh is weak
When I need to pray and still won't seek.

My heart's at war a revolving door
Of hurt and shame that I bear no more
You turn my mind away from me
Conquering hostility.

As I consider my life before I knew Christ
The anger and sadness I tried to hide
An illusion of joy in things now despised
I remember the moment you said *"Child, you're mine."*

In faith I believed you gave your life
That I could be free from the darkness inside
So your Glory in me now would abide
In your presence today – all of life by your side.

You give me hope, Lord, that I can be
Beyond what shame would speak over me
A shadow self that still creeps
lingering here – bringing me to my knees.

As I behold would I become
Conformed to the image of the Son
Who rules and reigns and fights for me
Upholding all things in sovereignty.

**"For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do.
By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us,
who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."**

Romans 8:3-4 ESV

"UNION WITH CHRIST"

Article by Christina Jelinek
Painting by Tiffany MacLeod

"But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness." Romans 8:10 ESV

I owe a debt of gratitude to The Village Church for the space that was created for me at the table during my time in the Art & Business Fellowship. As we studied the doctrine of "Union with Christ" the Spirit broke down walls of lies I had believed. It was a profound moment that changed the way I view God and myself.

In his book "Union with Christ, The Way to Know and Enjoy God," Rankin Wilborne describes this beautiful doctrine in this way:

"When I base my Christian life on my Christian experience, I become locked in the labyrinth of my own performance. I am only as sure of God as my current emotions and obedience allow. My eyes are fixed on myself. The gospel, the good news, is the way the Holy Spirit turns our eyes away from ourselves and onto Christ. The gospel brings you into union with Christ. Christ enters your heart and gives you faith. By that faith, you receive Christ and all his fullness. Faith fixes your eyes on Christ and rests in him."

As I reflect on the text of Romans 8, I am deeply stirred to set my mind to behold the truth that the gift of the Spirit is life everlasting (v. 5). We are made righteous because of Jesus' righteousness given to us. Our flesh could never hold our gaze long enough to become like Christ (v.3-4). Life and peace are ours in Christ! The Spirit of life has set us free from the law of sin and death (v. 2, 6). Through union with Christ the law is fulfilled in us (v.4). As believers we are now "in Christ" by the power of the indwelling Spirit as a promise to raise us to glory (v. 10-11).



Believer, your union with Christ is a firm foundation. May this truth empower your obedience and remind you of the grace and mercy of Jesus. Would it stir you to confess your sin with all assurance, and to believe and experience Jesus as present in your suffering. You are loved beyond all comprehension.

Rankin reminds us that *"Union with Christ is an enchanted reality. It tells us that the most important things about our lives cannot be seen or touched with our senses. Union with Christ means we are part of a larger family, a broader mission, a longer story, a bigger world, and a deeper love... Remember, union with Christ means that when God looks at you, he sees your life hidden in Christ's perfect life and perfect obedience. It is finished. Thank God!"*

Wilbourne, Rankin. Union with Christ The Way to Know and Enjoy God. David C. Cook, 2016.

ART STORY: TIFFANY MACLEOD

Leaven + Liturgies began in large part because of Tiffany. In a season when I felt isolated and alone, her hospitality and kindness reminded me that I am seen and I am known by Christ. Tiffany hosted myself and four other wonderful women to a meal once a month in her home and created a space for us to work through a small devotional and answer questions about how the content had stirred our hearts. Even beyond the content of those times, her ministry to us was that of margin and belonging. She created a space for us to linger and to be known. It was in this group that I was given one of my first opportunities to share some of the songs that I had been writing and be spurred on toward what is now **Leaven + Liturgies**. Tiffany's faithful act of obedience to the calling of her life to show hospitality sowed a seed in my heart to minister margin and belonging to others.

Leaven in the scriptures is significant of a pervasive influence. I am reminded of the beauty of breaking bread together just as the early church depicted in Acts and how from those small beginnings came great transformation. Tiffany's kindness has leavened the dreams of my heart and it is a privilege to honor her by using her wonderful artwork in both Volume 1 and Volume 2 of "Eight."

Liturgy is simply "the work of the people." In response to the movement of the Spirit, God's people co-create with Christ as they are formed into the image of Jesus. Throughout this companion to "Eight" Volume 1, you have seen the painting entitled "Ordinary Time." You will notice the bright gold and vivid greens beautifully moving through the black, white, and gray textures. There is beauty in the mundane as we spend most of our lives, not in the extraordinary, but in the radically ordinary. In the Church calendar, Ordinary Time is for the people of God to be unleashed for good works, bringing the Kingdom of God, empowered by the Spirit of God, and being reliant upon the truth of the scriptures. Ordinary Time encompasses most of the calendar year.

Volume 1 of "Eight" reflects the work of our people as we celebrate the goodness of the gospel to the believer as heralds to the dwelling, dominion, and dynasty of Christ in our personal and communal relationships to Jesus for the sake of the world.



THIS GREAT EXCHANGE

Written by and performed with Adam Crawford

Guilty, I was guilty
The charge of my accuser still comes by
Filthy, I was filthy
Clothed in the rags of my demise

But the Lord in His mercy
Has taken my iniquity away

As if I've always obeyed
No sin attached to my name
Your record applied to my soul:
"Perfect and Holy"
The wonder of this great exchange
Your glory for all of my shame
No longer under your wrath
"Clean and forgiven"

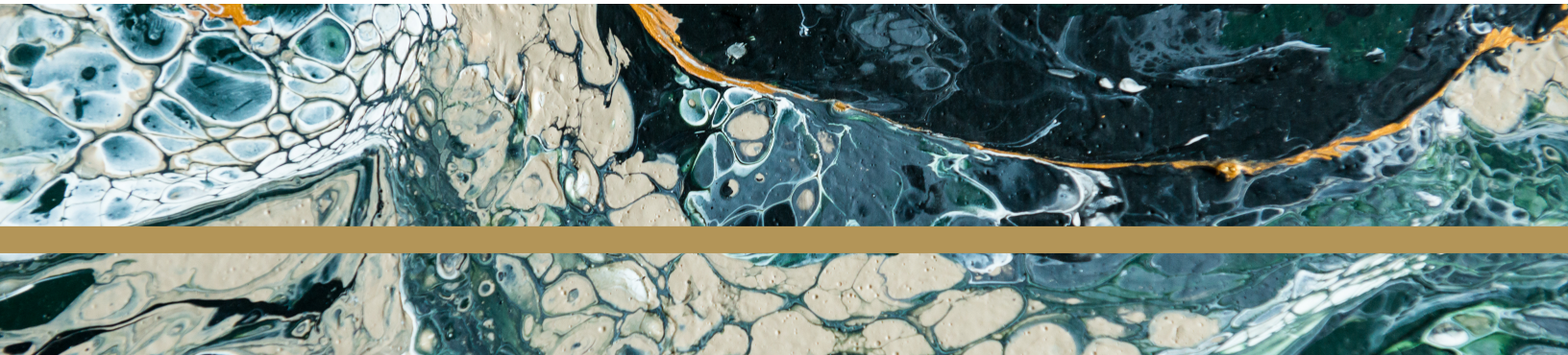
Gracious, He is gracious
To pull us from the flames of the fire
Faithful, He is faithful
To make a way for us into life

"There is now no condemnation..."

Romans 8:1

I declare you **"pure and blameless"**
All my righteousness upon you
By my blood you have been made new

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, Jesus.



SONG STORY: ADAM CRAWFORD

"This Great Exchange" was inspired by a sermon I was listening to out of Zechariah 3:1-5. In the sermon the preacher (a dear friend) drew our attention to how the prophet was clothed by God even in the midst of accusation from the enemy (the charge of our accuser). Then, this phrase, "God in His mercy through Christ makes it as if we have always obeyed." The truth of the retroactive nature of Jesus' righteousness that has been imputed onto us sank into my heart in a fresh and new way. The bridge of this song brings this truth full circle. It's not just retroactive from what we have done. We never have to live condemned again! That is where the song came from.

Pause + Pray

PROPTIATION: (PRŌ PISHĒ'ĀSHŌN)

AN ATONING SACRIFICE FOR SIN OR WRONGDOING; TO APPEASE

PAUSE: In the gospel, we give Christ our sin and he gives us his righteousness. Because of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus we are now given new robes of white that will never be removed from us and we will never take off.

When the father looks at you, He sees the perfect record of his Son.

PRAY: Thank the Lord for his kindness to you.

Thank him for the freedom to walk in the newness that is yours in Christ.

"Jesus as our 'propitiation' means that he assuages or turns away the just wrath of the Father toward our sins. It is a legal term, an objective one. Christ as our advocate may have a faint legal connotation but more frequently in literature outside the New Testament in early times it has to do with something more subjective, expressing deep solidarity. Jesus shares with us in our actual experience. He feels what we feel. He draws near. And he speaks up longingly on our behalf."

*Taken from Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Suffers by Dane C. Ortlund, © 2020, pp. 78.
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www.crossway.org.*

YOUR
GLORY
FOR ALL OF MY
Shame
THIS GREAT EXCHANGE

Pause + Pray

I wrote this song as a lullaby for my heart. So often, I find my mind focused solely on my sin or my suffering. In God's kindness, He lifts my head to see my Savior. God has graciously provided the final word over us. We can know where all of this struggle ends: *No one* and *nothing* will ever be able to keep us from God's everlasting love. Our God who did not spare his Son, promises to graciously provide everything we need. He promises his power and his presence as we wade through the waters of sanctification toward final glory.

PAUSE: Are there any places you think the love of God will not follow you? Confess these things to God.

PRAY: Ask Jesus for the freedom to believe in His steadfast love given to us through the gospel.

NOTHING WILL

SEPARATE

Inspired by Romans 8:31-39

Who shall separate us
from the precious love of Christ?
What in all creation
could move us from his side?

No more condemnation
We are raised from death to life
Forever Sons and Daughters
For God has justified

Death nor life
Depth nor height
Nothing will separate us now
Robes of white, ours in Christ
Nothing will separate us now

We are more than conquerors
By the Spirit He provides
Christ indeed is interceding
for those he loves on high



THANK YOU.

For those who set the table for me and taught me about my belonging first to Jesus, thank you. For everyone who encouraged me to find my voice and not let the whispers of the enemy silence it, thank you. For those who shine their light in the darkness as a beacon of hope for those who hold only a dimly lit flame, thank you.

Christina Ielovek





Leaven + Liturgies

E I G H T

VOLUME 1

Christina Jelinek / Charlie Schaefer / Wes Ashworth
Adam Crawford / Grant McCurdy / Jeff Capps / Emmanuel Chirume
Danielle McKinnon / Tiffany MacLeod / Philip Likens
Cory Say / The Village Church Art & Business Fellowship

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Leaven + Liturgies has been setting the table for creative community since 2019. It is our desire to see artists flourish through the showing of hospitality, encouraging gospel identity, and taking part in historical and new liturgy. We aim to cultivate Christ-centered creativity and collaboration through food, fellowship, and formation. Our Table Guide is made available for free to anyone desiring to host their own Leaven + Liturgies table.



Leaven + Liturgies

E I G H T

VOLUME 2: ADVENT

New Music + Seasons Guide: Releasing 11.29.20.



