



## Pray the Story Monthly Playlist: February 2023

*Composed by Sarah Agnew*

[sarahagnew.com.au/pray-the-story-podcast](http://sarahagnew.com.au/pray-the-story-podcast)

### **Holy One is listening, and yet ...**

*Isaiah 58:1–9a*

*a lament*

Listen! People of Holy One,  
Listen.

Day after day we seek Holy One,  
delight to know Wisdom's ways.

And yet, we also turn from God,  
neglect Wisdom's teaching again.

We delight to draw near,  
to enter Holy Presence;

and yet, serve our own interests  
in our fasting, our praying, our living.

How will Holy One hear our voice  
above the din of our quarrels and fights?

Holy One is listening,  
listening for chains of justice falling free,  
for hunger pangs to cease,  
for calls of welcome,  
sighs of belonging, and healing, and love.

Holy One is listening for the Song  
we say we are singing –

and yet ...

Holy One will hear us, will join  
us, when we return, in tune.

Amen.

**Choose to live**

*Deuteronomy 30:15–20*

*call to worship*

Before us, Holy One places choice:  
to live, or  
not to live.

Love is the path into life:  
love for the Divine Source,  
our Maker, our God;  
love for the Way of Wisdom –  
love that longs to fulfill the Dream  
of a Creator for Their beloved.

Hearts aligned to other gods,  
they will not thrive, but  
will break,  
and break  
the heart of our Divine.

All heaven and earth,  
all that lives in the Breath  
of Life sings, calls, pleads: Live!  
Choose to live, to love,  
to flourish, in the Dream  
of the One, the Source, of Life!

Amen

**For God so loved**

*Exodus 24:12–18*

*a response to the story*

a mountain on fire  
cloud enveloping Moses  
touch of God for all

**We entreat you: be reconciled to God!**

*2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10*

*a statement of faith  
for Ash Wednesday*

We hear the call of our ancestors in faith,  
we commit again to reconcile with our God.

The Divine-made-human brings us in,  
into reconciliation with God.

Holy One listened, and heard,  
and came anew to heal.  
We look to this time, now,  
as time to accept, time to enter,  
time to enact Wisdom's Way  
of endurance through hardship,  
of integrity, wisdom, patience,  
lovingkindness, the spirit of holiness,  
honesty, alignment with God.

We will stay true, through the challenges we face;  
remember who we are, and what life is ours to live;  
we will rejoice, even through sorrow,  
seek treasure in God, not in earthly riches.

We will be reconciled,  
in all we are and do, to God.  
We will return to God!  
Amen.

**Bitten**

*Genesis 2 and 3*

*a response to the story / a lament*

Tempter get behind  
the One, the True, we follow  
yearning to return