

# set all captives free

**Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:**

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim*

*liberty to captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.”*

**Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, “Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”**

— Luke 4:14-21

Lord, who came to set captives free,

We have come to know that our hearts are  
never truly free  
until they rest in you.

And in our love for you,  
our hearts cry out for our brothers and  
sisters;

And so we turn to you.  
Send your grace to those who long for  
freedom every day.

And so we pray ... *set all captives free.*

From the anguish of hunger ...  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

From crippling poverty ...  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

From the shadow of ignorance ...  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

From unjust discrimination ...  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

From slavery and human trafficking ...  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

From fear and danger...  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

*From oppression and persecution ...*  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

*From the cruelty of exploitation ...*  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

*From the torment of hate ...*  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

*From the dark of sin ...*  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

*We praise the Lord of all freedoms  
And in our praise, let us bang no drum,  
sound no horn,  
sing no hymn,  
Without remembering those whose lives are  
still lived in chains.*

*For these ones,  
For ourselves,  
Through your resounding words of liberty,  
Through the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
And through the hands of the servants who call  
on you now,*

*We pray ...*  
❖ **Set all captives free.**

**Amen**