

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 22, 2022

Prelude

Welcoming

Lighting the Christ Candle

Let the light of Christ and the flame of our Christ Candle draw us together as we ready ourselves for worship with the assurance that we are not alone and all are welcome.

Call to Worship

Jesus dwells among us,
teaching us to believe in his name.

Let us offer God our thanks.

The Holy Spirit dwells among us,
guiding us down the paths of life.

Let us offer God our praise.

God dwells among us,
beckoning us to worship.

Let us offer God our worship.

Opening Hymn: Spirit, Open My Heart (More Voices 79)

Words: Ruth Duck, 1994

Music: traditional melody, Ireland; arr. Arthur G. Clyde, 1997

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Refrain Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

1 God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. *Refrain*

2 Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
each thought, word, and deed
my living bring you glory. *Refrain*

3 May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ
may we welcome one another. *Refrain*

Opening Prayer

God of all love, thank you for calling us into relationship
with one another and with you.

Thank you for the joys and the responsibilities
that grow out of who we are.

When we get confused, lost, or frustrated,
help us to experience your voice, guiding us to places of life.

In the name of the Risen Christ, we ask it.

May it be so. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings

Christian Scripture (New Testament): Acts 16:9-15

Hebrew Scripture (Old Testament): Psalm 67

Gospel Reading: John 14:25-27

Reflection: God is Here

Hymn of the Day: Oh a song must rise (More Voices 142)

Words and Music: Paul Svenson, 1995; arr. Bryn Nixon, 2006

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Refrain: Oh a song must rise
for the spirit to descend
Oh a song must rise once again
Singing out God's praises and glory,
the faithful voices blend,
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.

1. From the mountains to the valleys,
from the desert to the sea,
a song must rise once again.
From the voices of our leaders,
the voice of you and me
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. *Refrain*
2. From poverty and riches,
from the voice of young and old,
a song must rise once again.
From the free and the imprisoned,
the timid and the bold,
a song must rise
for the spirit to descend. *Refrain*
3. From ev'ry house of worship,
in ev'ry faith and tongue,
a song must rise once again.
From the villages and cities
a new song must be sung,
a song must rise
for the spirit to descend. *Refrain*

Invitation to Offering

As we are blessed by the God of wonder and love, let us share the gifts we have received in blessing to others.

Let us commit ourselves to acts of love, as we continue to worship God through the presentation of our offering.

Offering Prayer

**Creator and almighty God, from city to city,
you continue to bless our lives.**

**Wherever we find ourselves,
the bounty of your peace meets us there.**

**We bring these gifts to you in order to share our bounty
as you have shared yours with us.**

**May those who need these gifts find your presence,
even as they receive what they need.**

**May their paths of faith be lit with your light, as ours have been.
In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

Parting Hymn: Lord, You Give the Great Commission

(Voices United 512, vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5)

Words: Jeffrey W. Rowthorn 1978

Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor 1941

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- 1 Lord, you give the great commission:
'Heal the sick and preach the word.'
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service:
'In my name baptize and teach.'
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervour, draw us
closer in community;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:
'Father, what they do, forgive.'
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
'I am with you to the end.'
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity;
with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us
for the work of ministry.

Benediction

We go into God's world to share what we have.
We go into God's world to share who we are.
We go into God's world,
with God's love,
Christ's peace,
and the Holy Spirit's song.

Postlude

Worship Leaders – Bill Cantelon and Nancy Walker

Music Leader – James Yi

Vocalists – David Chambers, Margaret Chambers and Peggy Dayton

Welcoming – Edward Hickcox

Scripture Reading – Guy Lokhorst

Spirit Kids Program – Nancy Walker

Technical Support – Karen Clark and Louise Johnston

Flowers for the service are offered by Sue and Ken Christensen,
in memory of Sue's Mom, Iva Collins, born May 21, 1921.