



Sunday 4 May
Third Sunday of Easter

All are welcome

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit whispers, calling us to get up and go,
to set out on the road God will show us.

The Spirit whispers, calling us to walk alongside,
to listen and ask questions and listen more.

The Spirit whispers, calling us to tell the story,
sharing the truth we know and discovering new truth together.

The Spirit whispers, calling us to worship.

HYMN CH4 526

This is a day of new beginnings,

time to remember, and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus,
love's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference
as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past, and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.

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PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN MP936

Teach me to dance to the beat of Your heart.

*Teach me to move in the pow'r of Your Spirit.
Teach me to walk in the light of Your presence.
Teach me to dance to the beat of Your heart.
Teach me to love with Your heart of compassion.
Teach me to trust in the word of Your promise.
Teach me to hope in the day of Your coming.
Teach me to dance to the beat of Your heart.*

You wrote the rhythm of life
created heaven and earth;
In You is joy without measure.
So like a child in Your sight,
I dance to see Your delight,
for I was made for Your pleasure, pleasure.

Let all my movements express
a heart that loves to say 'yes',
a will that leaps to obey You.
Let all my energy blaze
to see the joy in Your face,
let my whole being praise You.

*Graham Kendrick | Steve Thompson
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ALL AGE TIME

HYMN

There is a Redeemer Jesus, God's own Son; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

*Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
and leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is
done.*

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names;
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners
slain.

*Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,
and leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is
done.*

When I stand in glory, I will see His face;
there I'll serve my King forever in that holy
place.

*Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your
Son,
and leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth
is done.*

(Repeat last chorus)

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SCRIPTURE Acts 8:26-39

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.' Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked. 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: 'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?' And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

SERMON

HYMN CH4 685

For everyone born, a place at the table,

for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born a star overhead.

*And God will delight
when we are creators of justice and joy,
yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!*

For women and men, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair.

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of the child in hands kind and wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free
Shirley Erena Murray CCLI #20979 & 585218

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

HYMN CH4 622

We sing a love that sets all people free,

that blows like wind,
that burns like scorching flame,
enfolds the earth,
springs up like water clear;
come, living love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love that seeks another's good,
that longs to serve
and not to count the cost,
a love that, yielding,
finds itself made new;
come, caring love,
live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid
to be itself, despite another's wrath,
a love that stands alone and undismayed;
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love that,
wandering, will not rest
until it finds its way, its home, its source,
through joy and sadness pressing on
refreshed;
come, pilgrim love,
live in our hearts today.

We sing the Holy Spirit, full of love,
Who seeks out scars of ancient bitterness,
brings to our wounds,
the healing grace of Christ:
come radiant love,
live in our hearts today.
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BENEDICTION