

Worship Celebration: April 29, 2018

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

9:15 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)

5th Sunday of Easter (Year B)



Welcome to Epworth! We conclude our Earth Weekend, by sharing in song and liturgy that give thanks to God for this planet where we live and work! Today, we continue our sermon series entitled, *And Are We Yet Alive!* We ask the question, *How did this ragtag group of nobodies from a politically powerless country develop into a force that changed the values of the Mediterranean world?* We examine the early Christian Church as found in Acts of the Apostles to see how God shaped the church, grew it, and who the church included in its evangelism. Going beyond the 12

disciples, to others, like Philip the evangelist – we discover how the Holy Spirit included others in the earth church’s mission and outreach. How do we do the same outreach and sharing of God’s love and salvation today? We conclude our worship today with a time of healing and anointing by our Stephen Ministers. God is in this place!

EPWORTH

a United Methodist Church

19285 Holland Glade Road
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

(302) 227-7743 ☪ www.eumcrb.org



VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community

MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care

☪ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ☪

Praise Gathering

OPEN UP THE HEAVENS

We waited for this day, we’re gathered in Your name, calling out to you.
Your glory like a fire, awakening desire, will burn our hearts with truth.

You’re the reason we’re here. You’re the reason we’re singing.

Open up the heavens; we wanna see You.

Open up the floodgates, a mighty river flowing from Your heart, filling ev’ry part of our praise.

Your presence in this place, Your glory on our face, we’re looking to the sky.
Descending like a cloud, You’re standing with us now. Lord, unveil our eyes.

You’re the reason we’re here. You’re the reason we’re singing. *(Chorus 2X)*

Show us, show us Your glory. Show us, show us Your power.

Show us, show us Your glory, Lord. *(repeat)*

Into CHORUS: We wanna see You, we wanna see You! (*Chorus 2X*)

TAG: We sing, sing! ¹

Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Susan J.

*Passing the Peace

*Singing in Praise

I AM

There's no space that His love can't reach. There's no place where we can't find peace.

There's no end to amazing grace.

Take me in with your arms spread wide. Take me in like an orphan child.

Never let go, never leave my side.

I am, holding on to You. I am holding on to You.

In the middle of the storm, I am holding on, I am!

Love like this, Oh my God to find! I am overwhelmed what a joy divine!

Love like this sets our hearts on fire! (*chorus 2x*)

This is my resurrection song. This is my "Hallelujah, come!" This is why to You I run.

This is my resurrection song. This is my "Hallelujah, come!" This is why to You I run.

There's no space that His love can't reach. There's no place where we can't find peace.

There's no end to Amazing Grace.

I am, holding on to You. I am holding on to You.

In the middle of the storm, I am holding on. (repeat 2X)

(Tag) I am. I am. In the middle of the storm, I am holding on, I am! ²

Children's Celebration

Autumn Reynolds

HOLY SPIRIT

There's nothing worth more that could ever come close.

No thing can compare; You're our living hope.

Your presence, Lord.

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,

where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone.

Your presence, Lord.

Holy Spirit, You are welcome here.

Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere.

Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,

to be overcome by Your presence, Lord.

Your presence, Lord.

☞ WE PREPARE FOR THE WORD ☞

New Testament Lesson

Acts 8:26-40

Loretta Smith

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.)

So he got up and went.

Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury.

He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it."

So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah.

He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?"

And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"

Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water!

What is to prevent me from being baptized?"

He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Brothers and Sisters,

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

§Thanks be to God

HOLY SPIRIT (CONT)

There's nothing worth more that could ever come close.

No thing can compare; You're our living hope.

Your presence, Lord.

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,
where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone.
Your presence, Lord.

*Holy Spirit, You are welcome here.
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere.
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
to be overcome by Your presence, Lord.
Your presence, Lord.*

Let us become more aware of Your presence.
Let us experience the glory of Your goodness. {Repeat section 4X total – then 1st four lines of Chorus} ³

Sermon

And Are We Yet Alive! Outcasts and Beyond

Rev. Vicky Starnes

☞ WE RESPOND TO THE WORD ☞

***Song of Response**

I NEED YOU TO SURVIVE

*I need you; you need me. We're all a part of God's body.
Stand with me; agree with me, We're all a part of God's body.
It is His will that ev'ry need be supplied.
You are important to me. I need you to survive.
You are important to me. I need you to survive. (Repeat from top)*

*I pray for you; you pray for me. I love you. I need you to survive.
I won't harm you with words from my mouth. I love you. I need you to survive. (Section 6X)*

*TAG: It is His will that ev'ry need be supplied.
You are important to me. I need you to survive. ⁴*

Invitation to Offering ~ Please sign the blue Connections Pad and pass it down the row.

Vicky

*Offerings are given through cash and check, on-line giving, Texting at 302-488-0038
and by using our Giving Kiosk in the main lobby. There are Giving Cards in the pews to place in the plate, if you wish
Bless your heart for supporting our ministries!*

ALLEGRO SPIRITOSO ... Greg Underwood

Memorial Bell Choir

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Susan

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

§ *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

(Move into time of healing now)

A Time of Healing - Thanksgiving over the Oil

Vicky

The Lord be with you.

§ And also with you.

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you and praise you for the wonder of creation,
and particularly for the gift of your son Jesus Christ,
who lived among us and knew human pain and suffering;
who called all who were burdened and heavy laden and gave them rest;
who healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners;
who cast out demons and showed us the way to you through faith;
who took our suffering upon himself,
that we might be cleansed of our sins and receive eternal life.

O God, graciously listen to our prayer of faith:
send the power of your Holy Spirit, the Consoler,
into this precious oil, this soothing ointment,
this rich gift, this fruit of the earth.

Bless this oil and sanctify it for our use.
Make this oil a remedy for all who are anointed with it;
heal them in body, in soul, and in spirit,
and deliver them from every affliction.

By the same Spirit heal us in body, mind, and spirit,
cleansing away all that would separate us from you.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all glory and honor is yours almighty God, now and forever.

§ Amen.

Anointing and Healing Prayers

All are invited to come forward for anointing and healing prayers at the chancel rail.

If you would like spoken prayer, simply ask the Stephen Minister to pray with you.

Music during Healing

OCOME TO THE ALTAR

Are you hurting and broken within,
overwhelmed by the weight of your sin? Jesus is calling.
Have you come to the end of yourself?
Do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is calling.

*O come to the altar; the Father's arms are open wide.
Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.*

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes.
Come today; there's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling.
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy.
From the ashes a new life is born. Jesus is calling. (CHORUS 2X)

O what a Savior. Isn't He wonderful?
Sing "Alleluia! Christ is risen!"
Bow down before Him, for He is Lord of all.
Sing "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" (Repeat section – CHORUS 3X)

TAG: Bear your cross as you wait for the crown.
Tell the world of the treasure you found. ⁵

IT IS WELL

When peace, like a river, attends me on my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, You have taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed His own blood for my soul. {Refrain}

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! {Refrain}

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my soul. {Refrain} ⁶

☞ We Are Sent into the World ☛

*Benediction

Vicky

*Sending Song

THE RIVER

I know a place, where we can go, to lay the troubles down eatin' your soul,
I know a place, where mercy flows, take the stains, make you whiter than snow.
Like a tide, it is risin' up, deep inside, a current that moves and makes it come alive.
Living water that brings the dead to life. Oh, oh.

We're goin' down to the river, down to the river, down to the river to pray, ay, ay.

Let's get washed by the water, washed by the water and rise up in amazing grace.

Let's go down, down, down, to the river. You will leave changed.

Let's go down, down, down, to the river. Never the same.

I've seen it move, in my own life, took me from dusty roads into paradise.
All of my dirt, all of my shame, drowned in the streams that've made me born again.
Like a tide, it is risin' up, deep inside, a current that moves and makes it come alive.
Living water that brings the dead to life. Oh, oh. {Chorus}

TAG 1: Let's go down. (Oo... Oo... Oo...)Let's go down. (Oo... Oo... Oo...)Let's go down. {Chorus}

TAG 2: Oh, down. (Oo... Oo... Oo...)Gotta go, gotta go, gotta go down in amazing grace.

Down, down, down to the river. Gotta go, gotta go, gotta go down in amazing grace.⁷

**Please stand as you are able.*

Bulletins for the month of April are sponsored in memory of Loved Ones by Linda Miniscalco & Jeanne Drake.

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and:

- In celebration of Loved Ones by Floyd & Sarah Cook;
- In memory of Allen Edward Herman by his parents, Allen & Wendy Herman.

Stephen Ministers, wearing blue name badges, will be at each service if anyone in the Epworth family wants to talk about any life challenges.

The special Peace Candle on the Chancel shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Service at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recording may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore; you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Acolyte Chase Reynolds

Sound Ken Mahan, Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman

Ushers Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Usher Coordinator – Worship Pathway:

9:30: Wally & Joan Sprague, Ruth Ann Barnes, Kathy Pippin, Teri Moore, Cole Murphy

Worship Resources

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¹ *Open Up the Heavens*: Jason Ingram, Stuart Garrard, Andi Rozier, James MacDonald & Meredith Andrews ©2012 Song/ATV Music Publishing LLC

² *I Am*: David Crowder ©2000-2015 AZLyrics.com

³ *Holy Spirit*: Bryan Torwalt & Katie Torwalt @2011 Jesus Culture Music & Capitol CMG Genesis

⁴ *I Need You to Survive*: David Frazier ©2003 God's Music Inc. / L'il Dave's Music Inc.

⁵ *O Come to the Altar*: Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick & Wade Joye ©2015 Elevation Worship Publishing

⁶ *It Is Well*: Horatio G. Spafford and Philip Paul Bliss ©Public Domain

⁷ *The River*: Jordan Feliz, Goshua Silverberg & Colby Wedgeworth ©2015 CentricSongs.

Ministers: The Church Family... *Lay Leader*: Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Vicky Starnes ... *Associate Pastor*: Rev. Glenn Catley

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... *Accompanist*: Linda Hess ... *Coordinator of Caring Ministries*: Mickie McManamon

Communications & Technologies Manager: Kenneth Mahan ... *Office Manager*: Darlene Ford

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Administrative Assistant*: Diana Young ... *Sound Tech*: Josh Megee

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... *Nursery*: Cathy Crawford ... *Interim Cemetery Superintendent*: Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson...*Maintenance*: Mike Harrigan



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Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

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Large-Print Bulletins &
Hearing Assist Devices are Available
Please see an Usher for assistance



American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



Affiliated with other
United Methodists for
greater inclusiveness
through the
Reconciling Ministries
Network
www.RMNetwork.org

worship@epworth
7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary
