

Worship on the Lord's Day

Presbyterian Church of Radford

Fifth Sunday of Eastertide

May 2nd, 2021

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE - Prelude in A Minor, Heyer - Hudson Crowe

WELCOME & MINUTE FOR MISSION

OPENING SENTENCES

The Spirit and the Church say, "Come."

Rev. 22:17

The people of the Word say, "Come."

Let everyone who is thirsty come.

Receive the gift of the water of life.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

HYMN No. 475 - Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (all verses) - Alex Lyons

(lyrics & music included at the end of the bulletin)

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

We are a people born of water and the Spirit.

John 3:5

We have made promises to be Christ's faithful disciples,

And to show his love to our life's end.

Although we fail to fulfill those baptismal vows,

God's faithful love endures forever.

Confident of God's grace,

Let us confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Confession

Merciful God,

You pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.

We have not loved you with a pure heart,

Nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not done justice, loved kindness,

Or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving kindness.
In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.
Do not cast us away from your presence,
Or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
And sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news!

John 3:5; Cor. 5:17

As people born of water and the Spirit
We have died to the old life, and a new life has begun.
God's grace is poured out upon us day by day.
Come to the water and remember your baptism.
Be thankful,
And live as one who has been raised to new life!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.¹

EPISTLE READING - 1 John 4:7-21

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Georgeanne Lavery

HYMN No. 623 - I've Got Peace Like a River (all verses) - Alex Lyons

GOSPEL READING - John 10:11-18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹ John Wurster, "Order for Worship 5th Sunday of Easter," *Presbyterian Outlook*, https://pres-outlook.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Liturgy_05-02-21.pdf, Accessed April 29, 2021.

SERMON - Rev. Kelsey Hawisher-Faul

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

HYMN No. 297 - In Christ Called to Baptize (verses 1,3,4) - Alex Lyons
Same tune as 'Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise'

OFFERING

Call to Offering

In the spirit of the first believers,
We are called to share our goods in common
And contribute to the needs of the poor
With glad and generous hearts.
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Acts 2:44-46

Doxology

Prayer Over Offering

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With the boldness and confidence of God's children,
let us pray, saying,
Gracious God, Lord of light, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, in Christ you embrace people of every nation
and make them members of the same body,
sharers in the promise of the gospel.
For the holy church of God,
that through its faithful witness
the wisdom of God in its rich variety
be known in heaven and earth,
Gracious God, Lord of light, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God,
you judge the people with righteousness
and the poor with justice.
For nations, rulers, and authorities
to forsake violence and be guided by the light of truth,
that righteousness may flourish and justice abound in every land,

Gracious God, Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

Loving God,
we never know when we might be
entertaining angels unaware.
For the city of Radford and for all who live here,
that we may be a community of hospitality,
welcoming the stranger and sheltering the refugee,
Gracious God, Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

Loving God,
in your providence, creation yields its good fruits
that all may enjoy its riches.
For our planet Earth,
that we may dwell peacefully with nature,
be good stewards of its resources,
and share its abundance for the sake of human flourishing.
Gracious God, Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

Loving God,
you defend the cause of the poor,
give deliverance to the needy,
and save those who are oppressed.
For those who suffer the cruelty of poverty,
and all who endeavor to transform systems of economic injustice.
Gracious God, Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

Loving God,
you take pity on the weak,
For those whose bodies are enfeebled by disease
or whose spirits are debilitated by illness,
that they may be restored to wholeness of life,
Gracious God, Lord of light, ***hear our prayer.***

Loving God,
your servant Paul was imprisoned
for preaching the good news of Jesus.
For any who are wrongly incarcerated
that they may be liberated,
and for those whose guilt is valid

and imprisonment warranted
that they may know genuine repentance of their sin
and reconciliation with their community,
Gracious God, Lord of light, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God,
because you have called us your children,
we are bold to ask for what we need,
confident in your goodness
through faith in our Lord and brother, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

And now we pray as Christ taught us, saying,
***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 debts,
As we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
And the glory, forever. Amen.***

GO IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN No. 482 - Baptized in Water (all verses) - Alex Lyons
Same tune as 'Morning Has Broken'

BLESSING AND CHARGE

POSTLUDE - Postlude in C Major, Heckmayer - Hudson Crowe

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ADORATION

623 I've Got Peace like a River

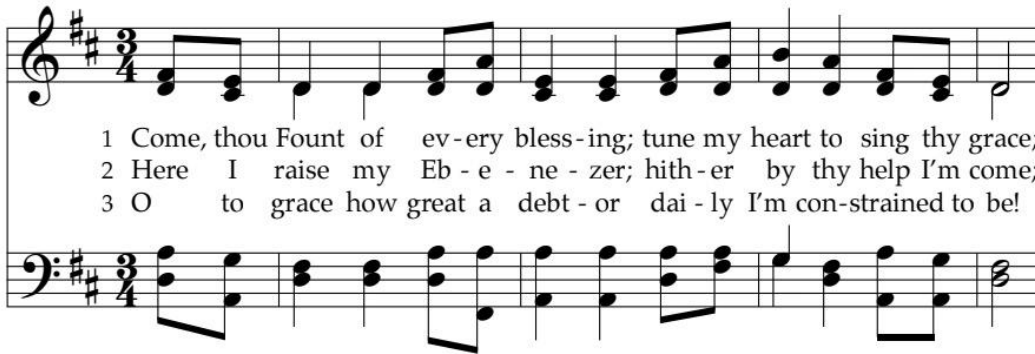
1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my

soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

In the King James Version, the promise of "peace like a river" is twice mentioned in Isaiah (48:18; 66:12) as a blessing that comes from doing God's will. The water imagery of this African American spiritual also provides reminders of Christians' baptismal identity.

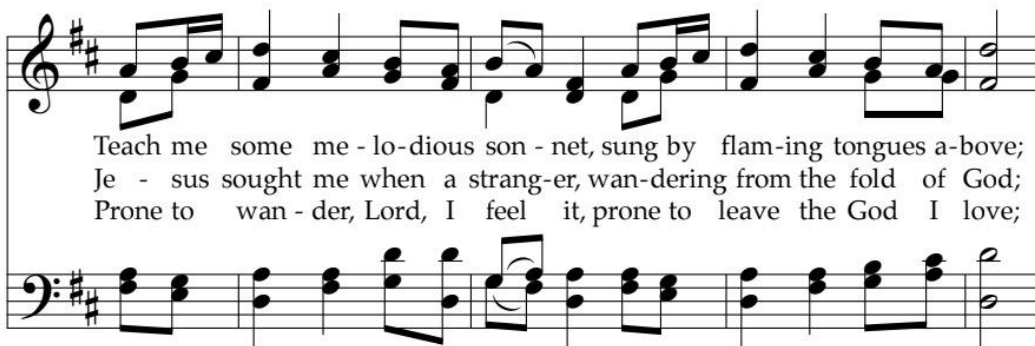
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



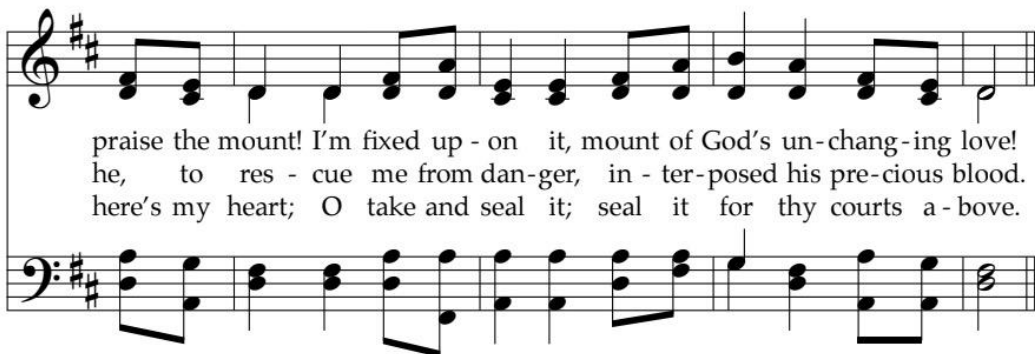
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

In Christ Called to Baptize 297

1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
 2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
 3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
 4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,

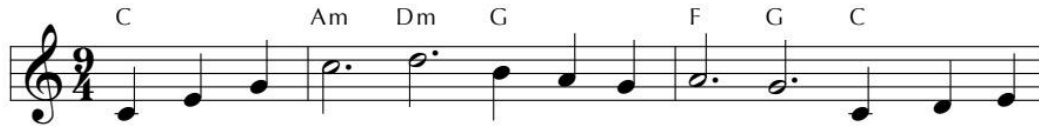
and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
 a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
 the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
 for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.

In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
 Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
 By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
 E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.

then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
 One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
 in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
 In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

Written for use at the 1997 meeting of the Lutheran World Federation, this text about Christian vocation and ministry organizes the first three stanzas around verbs: baptize, banquet, witness. The final stanza is a prayer for the Spirit's gifts to empower all these callings.

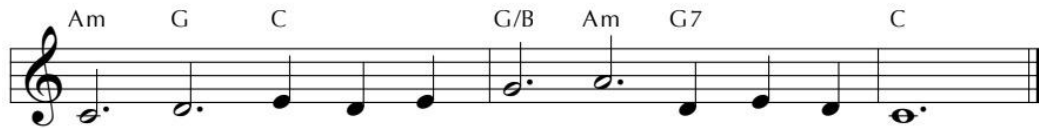
Baptized in Water



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
 tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Each stanza of this compact and carefully constructed text about baptism begins with allusions to John 3:5 and Ephesians 1:13. The interplay of constant and changing lines accentuates each added image. It is set here to a Gaelic tune first transcribed in the 19th century.