

Easter 22nd May 2022

Led by Fiona Bennett



Welcome & Gathering

Call to worship

One: As Winter sleeps and Spring awakens,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: As a seed dies and a shoot is born,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: As Jesus dies and Christ becomes,

ALL: God weaves new life from death.

One: Holy Source who weaves new life,

ALL: We give you thanks and praise!

Hymn: The song of Kingdom come (with reflective intro)

Chorus: I have a voice.

You have a voice.

We have a voice and when we sing together

A line is drawn; and hope reborn.

This is the song, the song of Kingdom Come.

(repeat)

We heard the cries / of distant neighbours

The dispossessed / the refugee

And God's command to feed the hungry

And set them free / and set them free.

We heard the Word / the New Commandment

And we reclaimed / the prophet's call

To love the world without condition

God's love for all / God's love for all

Chorus: I have a voice...

A reckless love / that knows no borders
That speaks the truth / to those in power
That shines a light on cruel indifference
This is God's hour / this is God's hour
When we will stand / against injustice
With all who live / against the grain
Until their poverty is over
And love shall reign / and love shall reign

Chorus: I have a voice...

We won't stand by / while sisters suffer
Or turn blind eyes / to ruthless wrong
Our psalm of praise will be compassion
This Kingdom Song / this Kingdom song
A song of love / and liberation
Of healing hope / and lasting peace
A taste of life in all its fullness
God's masterpiece / God's masterpiece.

Chorus: I have a voice...

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Opening Prayer

Creator, Christ and Spirit,

we gather together from our different locations,

to seek Your presence

in our time of worship.

ALL: WE ARE HUNGRY FOR YOU

Meet us at our point of deepest need.

Connect us with the needs of others.

Equip us to join in your creative work.
Transform us more into your likeness.
ALL: WE ARE HUNGRY FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

At the end of this Christian Aid Week,
we gather with communities from across the world.
May stories of poverty and suffering make us hungry for justice
and even more impatient for change.
ALL: WE ARE HUNGRY FOR YOUR JUSTICE

We gather with all of creation;
with the mountains and the hills.
We shall burst into song,
with the trees of the field
we will clap our hands.
ALL: WE ARE HUNGRY TO PRAISE YOU.

We unite our prayers together in the Jesus' Prayer or Lord's Prayer with Christian Aid Staff
from across the world...
Video

Time for all ages: What is Christian Aid and what does it do?

Hymn: If you believe and I believe CH4 771

If you believe and I believe
and we together pray,
The Holy Spirit must come down
and set God's people free,
And set God's people free,
and set God's people free;
The Holy Spirit must come down
and set God's people free.

Readings: Rev 21:10, 21:22-22:5 read by Tom Murray

21:10 And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

22 I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.
23 And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light,
and its lamp is the Lamb. 24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will
bring their glory into it. 25 Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night
there. 26 People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. 27 But nothing
unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those
who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22:1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from
the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city. On
either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each
month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. 3 Nothing accursed
will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his
servants will worship him; 4 they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5

And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Meditation by Mike Holroyd

Prayers of the People by Carol Shepherd

Reflection: When I needed a neighbour

Offering & Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessing flow
Praise God all creature here below
Praise God above, You heavenly host
Praise Maker Christ and Holy Ghost

Hymn: Healing river of the Spirit CH4 707

Healing river of the Spirit,
Bathe the wounds that living brings.
Plunge our pain, our sin, our sadness
Deep beneath your sacred springs.
Weary from the restless searching
That has lured us from your side,
We discover in your Presence
Peace the world cannot provide.

Wellspring of the healing Spirit,
Stream that flows to bring release,
As we gain ourselves our senses,
May our lives reflect your peace.

Ruth Duck

Blessing

Grateful for the flood that heals us,
May your church enact your grace.
As we meet both friend and stranger,
May we see our Saviour's face.

Living stream that heals the nations,
Make us channels of your pow'r.
All the world is torn by conflict;
Wars are raging at this hour.
Saving Spirit, move among us,
Guide our winding human course,
Till we find our way together,
Flowing homeward to our Source.