

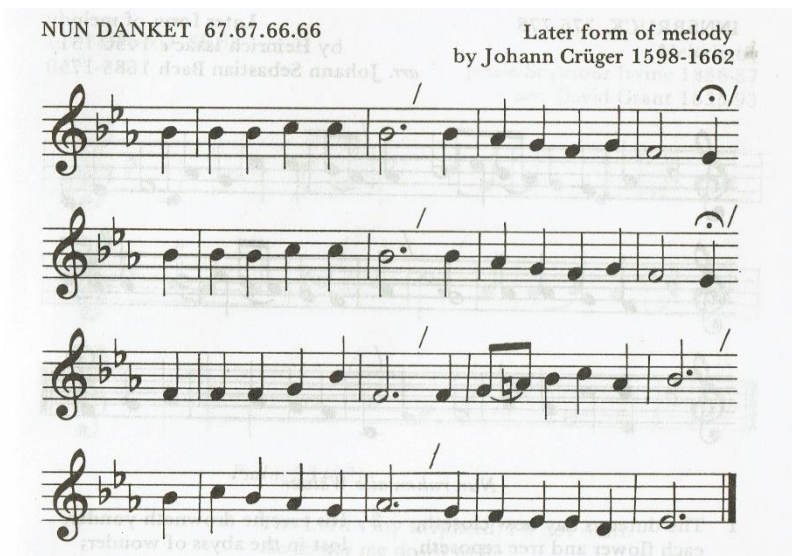
The Childlike Simplicity of Selfless Service

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

The peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Call to Worship:

Frederick A. Styles *Worship For An Easter People* 'Volume 2' (Ontario: enThusia Enterprises 1978) p. I-9



WOV 14 Now Thank We All Our God

1. Now thank we all our God,
with hearts, and hands, and voices.
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices.
who, from our mothers' arms,
hath blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills

in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and Holy Ghost,
One Lord in highest heaven:
the one, eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore.
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkart

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

In this time of startling storms, warm winds, and crisp frost the warming sun calls from clear skies bringing new growth from the earth.

This is a season of contradictions and new possibilities.

It is also a time to reflect on the vast universe where divine wisdom brought order out of chaos.

The blessing of stability and peace within the ever-changing timelessness beyond our knowing

In the image of a bush that burns without being consumed humanity is called out of the slavery that fear and greed imposes.

Called to the promise of interdependent, empathic communities.

Within human frailty each person is called to new possibilities through the challenge of inspiration and leadership that guides communities and renews the lives of individuals.

As Christians we recognise the divine through Jesus Christ.

Jesus who lived a human life, shared the pain of existence and the dread of non-being to rise beyond death and walk beside all folk in their darkest moments.

In Christ is the promise and possibility of renewal as people give of themselves for the healing of others and offering themselves as a servant of all.

For the world we are born into, the science that gives us understanding, the caring for others we are called to, and the healing and hope we give and receive.

We bring our heartfelt thanks and praise to this time of worship together.

Lament

However, life's journey has its moments of darkness and terror. **All lives have both beginnings and endings.**

Wondrous and complex bodies, grow then cease to grow, minds mature amass wisdom then body and mind begin to decline.

Within life's interdependency every plant and creature is also nourishment for other beings both large and fearful or minutely small, numerous and often deadly.

Oppression drives people to violent conflict which creates even more conflict and streams of refugees that in turn create increasing fear in an overcrowded world.

Fear and pain that protects and warns us can also incapacitate and paralyse people in a slavery of imagination.

Pain and pandemics can grip folk in the reality of throbbing powerlessness while love that lifts humanity towards life giving empathy risks misunderstanding, rejection and the pain of loss.

Words of Assurance

In the image of a Christ
who shares humanity's pain and death,
is the resurrection hope of love and life restored. **Thanks Be to God**

We conclude our opening prayers using the words we believe Jesus taught his disciples.

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Passing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you all
And also with you

The First Lesson: **Proverbs 31: 10-31**
In this is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Gospel Lesson: **Mark 9: 30-37**
This is the gospel of Christ.
PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Bro-ther, sis-ter, let me serve you, let me be as

Christ to you. Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my

ser- vant too.

AA8 Brother sister let me serve you

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travellers on the road,
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you

in the night-time of your fear,
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you,
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love, and agony.

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

Richard Gillard

Sermon

Quiet reflection

Music score for the hymn 'When I needed a neighbour'. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first staff has a key signature change from G major to E minor (three flats) for the second half. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff is labeled 'Refrain' and starts with a D7 chord. The fourth staff continues the melody. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, B7, Em, Em, C, G, B, B7, Em, C, Em, Am, D7, G, Em, G, C, G, B7, Em. The lyrics are: 'And the creed and the co - lour and the name won't mat - ter, were you there?'.

WOV 558 When I needed a neighbour

1. When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?*

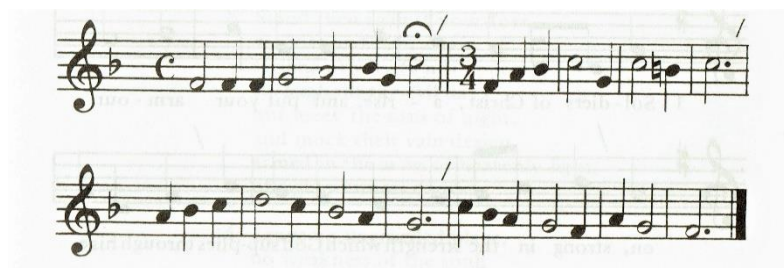
2. I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?
3. I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?
4. When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a shelter, were you there?
5. When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a healer, were you there
6. When they put me in prison, were you there, were you there?
When they put me in prison, were you there?
7. Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there,
wherever you travel, I'll be there.

Sydney Carter

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

The Offering and Dedication

Notices



WOV480 Forth in your name, O Lord I Go (TiS571 Words)

1. Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labour to pursue,
you, Lord, alone resolved to know
in all I think, or speak, or do.
2. Each task your wisdom has assigned
still let me cheerfully fulfil,

in all my works your presence find,
and prove your good and perfect will.

3. You may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes my inmost substance view,
and labour on at your command,
and offer all my works to you.
4. Give me to bear your easy yoke,
and every moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look,
and hasten to your glorious day;
5. for you delightfully employ
all that your bounteous grace has given,
and run my course with even joy,
and closely walk with you to heaven.

Charles Wesley

Commissioning and benediction **with sung amen**

Frederick A. Styles *Worship For An Easter People* 'Volume 1' (Ontario: enThusia Enterprises 1975)pIV-4

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Keeping in Touch

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and putting it in the offering bag.

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