



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2026

Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC

“Open Hearts, Moving God”

United in Christ’s love, a just world for all

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Singing Prelude

Surely the Presence

Wolfe

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel the mighty power and the grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Welcome and Announcements

We Approach God's Presence

Meditation/Bringing in the Light of Christ

Songs My Mother Taught Me

Dvořák

Responsive Call to Worship

Gayle Davis

God says: "Come—when your hearts are restless,
come—when you are searching for peace."

We come, listening for your voice.

God says: "Come—abide in my love,
and let my peace dwell within you."

We come, opening our hearts.

God says: "Come—follow where my Spirit leads,
and build your life on what endures."

We come to worship, grounded in your love.

*Hymn

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer p. 7

*Prayer for Transformation and New Life

God of presence and peace,
You draw near to us—
both in stillness, and in the movement of our lives.

And yet, we confess how often we fail to listen.

We rush past your invitations.

We ignore the quiet nudges of your Spirit.

We cling to what is familiar

rather than stepping into what you are opening before us.

Forgive us when fear keeps us closed.

Forgive us when we resist your leading.

Open our hearts as you opened Lydia's—

to receive your word, to recognize your presence,
to respond with trust.

Teach us to listen deeply.

Teach us to follow faithfully.

And in every place we are sent, help us to carry your peace—
steady, grounded, and alive.

Through Christ, who dwells with us. Amen.

***Words of Grace**

God does not leave us alone. The Spirit is given— to teach, to guide,
to remind us of love. Even when we falter, God's peace remains.

God with Us, You are held in the abiding presence of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Response**

Today We Bring Our Thankful Hearts (1) Barrett/Sharp/Tredinnick

**Today we bring our thankful hearts
for all a mothering love imparts;
for those who gave us life and breath,
for love that's stronger far than death.**

We Encounter God in the Word

Scripture Reading

John 14:15-21

the Inclusive Bible

Contemplative Reading

All About Love

bell hooks

God is still speaking. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

The Journey

Strommen

Scripture Lesson

Acts 17:22-31

The Voice

The Word of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“Open Hearts, Moving God”

Rev. Barbara Dickason, BCC

We Respond to God's Grace

Congregational Prayers

Silent Prayers

Prayers of the People and Our Lord's Prayer

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.**

Musical Response *Today We Bring Our Thankful Hearts (2)* Barrett/Sharp/Tredinnick
**For kindness, patience, warmth, and care,
for each embrace, each tear, each prayer,
each word of peace, each healing touch...
these simple gifts, which mean so much.**

We Share God's Love

Invitation to Generosity *(Offering plates are found by each doorway for your use.)*

***Song of Gratitude** *Doxology*
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

***Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**
**God of invitation,
Receive these gifts as signs of our willingness to follow.
Use them to open hearts, to create welcome, and to extend your peace. Build through them
a foundation that reflects your love in the world—steady, generous, and alive.
Amen.**

We Go to Carry the Light

***Hymn** *O for a World* (back page)

***Blessing and Benediction**

***Sending Blessing** *Today We Bring Our Thankful Hearts (3)* Barrett/Sharp/Tredinnick
**We look to you, our mothering Lord,
who knows love's cost and love's reward;
your passion fiercer than the grave,
love for the world you came to save.**

Postlude

I've Got Peace like a River

Spiritual/arr. Alex-Xzolt

**Please remain seated in silence for the Postlude
as the Light of Christ is carried into the world.
The worship has ended; our service begins.**

Worship materials are taken from
All About Love, by bell hooks, p. 140;
CCLI SongSelect Song # 7137655

Supporting Our Service Today

Acolyte: Bella Clapham **Liturgist:** Gayle Davis

Welcome Table: Marilyn Schwab **Greeter:** Sandy Barrie

Head Usher: Wendy Seeley **Usher Team:** Victoria Augustine, Terry Calderone,
Char Raitt, Bonnie Thistle, Lynn Weekes

Technology Team

(Live Streaming, Camera, and Sound Technicians)

Gary Woodrum, Debra Mosely, Maria Groody, David Jack, Linda Newton,
Wally Davis, Patty Fjetland, Scott Mellen, Gary and Sharon Leidheiser

The **Lord's Table** was decorated by Victoria Augustine

The **Sanctuary Flowers** are given by Dee Rogers:
"Happy Birthday" (ed. note: Dee's birthday is today!)
and also from Dee:
"Happy Mother's Day to the Women of VUCC"

The **Church Sign** was changed by Faye Newton and Lisa Sclafani

Sunday Librarian: Toni Yahres

Fellowship Hosts: Barbara and Bob Zittel and Sandy Barrie

Senior Minister

Rev. Barbara Dickason

Music Staff

Barbara Quinn: *Music Director*

Lynda Weston: *Bella Handbell Director*

Other Staff

Gary Leidheiser: *Custodian*

Barb Quinn: *Office Assistant*

Church office hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9-1

Would you like to donate to VUCC online? Use your Smart Phone to scan the QR code on the right, and it will take you directly to our donations page. It is really easy!



The Week at a Glance

Mon. 05-11

12:00 PM SpiritFed!

Noon Bible Study via Zoom (link below)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83576594637?pwd=U2024sKmOPiy3CyMqV4OarYUtofaom.1>

Meeting ID: 835 7659 4637

Passcode: 913882

Tues. 05-12

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

2:30 PM VADC—CR

6:00 PM Girl Scouts

Wed. 05-13

9:00 AM-12:00 Library open

10:00 AM Bible Study—CR

11:00 AM RCSSC—Naar Hall

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thurs. 05-14

10:00 AM AAUW—Naar Hall

6:00 PM Daisies

Fri. 05-15

8:30 AM Men's Weekly Coffee at Panera

Sat. 05-16

10:30 AM VADC—Naar Hall

Sun. 05-17

9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

9:00 AM Library Hour

10:00 AM Worship

(in situ and virtual)

After Worship: Fellowship Time—Naar Hall

11:00-11:15 Library Open

... we are

children

OF GOD...

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Exod. 13:21; 16:4; 17:6; Ps. 105:39-44; Rev. 22:1-2

William Williams, 1745
 St. 1, transl. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.
 St. 2-3, transl. William Williams, 1772; alt.

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing
 3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;
 wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

John Hughes, a railroad official by trade, composed this tune for the 1907 anniversary of Capel Rhondda, Pontypridd, Wales. Cwm Rhondda refers to the "low valley" area surrounding the urban district of Rhondda in southern Wales.

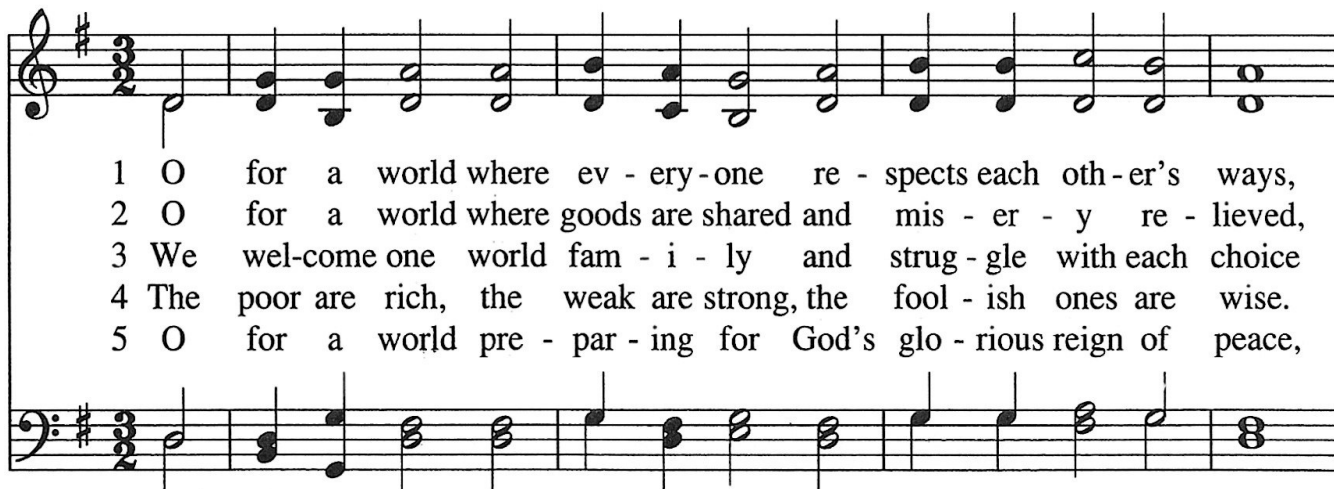
Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
 John Hughes, 1907
 Alternate setting: ZION
 CCLI License #11176734

O for a World

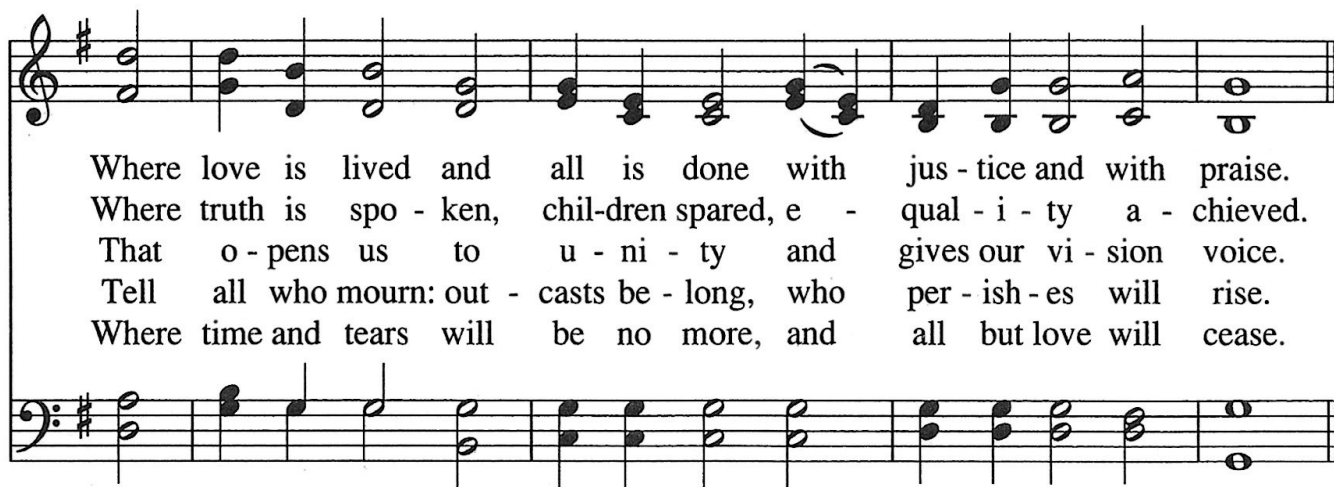
575

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; 1 Pet. 3:8-12



1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,



Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Inspired by Charles Wesley's phrase "O for a thousand tongues" and the familiar tune Azmon, Miriam Therese Winter wrote this hymn envisioning a new world order for the Presbyterian Women's Triennial Conference in 1982. It was later recrafted and recorded by the Medical Mission Sisters.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828

Adapt. Lowell Mason in Modern Psalmsody, 1839
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