

# Bulletin May 16, 2021

Welcome & Sharing the Life of the Church  
Prelude / Light Altar Candles & Procession of Leaders  
Prayer of Invitation

## Call to Worship

Call: Like a whisper that lures us to safety,

**Response: Strong as a shout that bids us to come,**

Call: Gentle as a prayer that eases our worry,

**Response: Like a clear bell that rings out our name,**

Call: Your Word comes to us, Loving God.

**Response: It calls us, comforts us, and urges us to depart from evil and do good, to seek peace and pursue it.**

Call: Talking God, open our hearts to hear you

**Response: And free our voices to praise you.**

## Hymn: “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” UMH 400

*WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1758 (1 Sam. 7:12)*

**1. Come, thou Fount**

**of every blessing,**

**tune my heart**

**to sing thy grace;**

**streams of mercy,**

**never ceasing,**

**call for songs of**

**loudest praise.**

**Teach me some**

**melodious sonnet,**

**sung by flaming**

**tongues above.**

**Praise the mount!**

**I'm fixed upon it,**

**mount of thy**

**redeeming love.**

**2. Here I raise**

**mine Ebenezer;**

**hither by thy**

**help I'm come;**

**and I hope, by**

**thy good pleasure,**

**safely to**

**arrive at home.**

**Jesus sought me**

**when a stranger,**

**wandering from the**

**fold of God;**

**he, to rescue**

**me from danger,**

**interposed his**

**precious blood.**

**3. O to grace**

**how great a debtor**

**daily I'm**

**constrained to be!**

**Let thy goodness,**

**like a fetter,**

**bind my wandering**

**heart to thee.**

**Prone to wander,**

**Lord, I feel it,**

**prone to leave the**

**God I love;**

**here's my heart,**

**O take and seal it,**

**seal it for thy**

**courts above.**

## Prayer of the Congregation

**God of grace & mercy, your constant love extends toward the heavens and your faithfulness reaches the clouds. You are like a strong mountain and a mighty sea. How precious is your love, O God of power and might. Your constant love provides shelter and protection. Your love sets a banquet of blessings, even when we struggle with faith and life, your presence blesses. How precious is your love, God of great power and might.**

Concerns & Celebrations & Lord's

Young Disciples' Time

Tithes & Offerings/ Offertory/ *Doxology*

UMH # 95

## Hymn of Preparation: “They’ll Know We are Christians by our Love” p2223

Peter Scholtes (John 13:34-35; Eph. 4:4-6) // © 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp.

**1. We are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray  
that all unity  
may one day  
be restored:  
(Refrain)**

**2. We will walk  
with each other,  
we will walk hand in  
hand,  
we will walk**

**with each other,  
we will walk hand in  
hand,  
and together  
we’ll spread the news  
that God is  
in our land:  
(Refrain)**

**3. We will work  
with each other,  
we will work side by  
side,  
we will work  
with each other,  
we will work side by  
side,**

**and we’ll guard  
human dignity  
and save  
human pride:  
(Refrain)  
4. All praise to the  
Father,  
from whom  
all things come,  
and all praise to Christ  
Jesus,  
God’s only Son,  
and all praise  
to the Spirit,  
who makes us one:  
(Refrain)**

*Refrain:*

**And they’ll know  
we are Christians  
by our love, by our love;  
yes, they’ll know  
we are Christians  
by our love.**

### Written Word of the Lord:

#### Acts 8:26-40

#### Philip and the Ethiopian

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian<sup>[a]</sup> eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

<sup>31</sup> “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

<sup>32</sup> This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:  
“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.  
Who can speak of his descendants?  
For his life was taken from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" [37] [c] 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. 40 Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

## **Matthew 3:13-17**

### **The Baptism of Jesus**

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

15 Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

### **Hymn of Commitment: "Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart" p.402**

*WORDS: African American spiritual*

**1. Lord, I want to  
be a Christian  
in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to  
be a Christian  
in my heart. (in my heart)  
Lord, I want to  
be a Christian  
in my heart. (in my heart)  
In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be a Christian  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

**2. Lord, I want  
to be more loving  
in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want  
to be more loving  
in my heart. (in my heart)  
In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be more loving  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

**3. Lord, I want  
to be more holy  
in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want  
to be more holy  
in my heart. (in my heart)  
In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be more holy  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

**4. Lord, I want  
to be like Jesus  
in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want  
to be like Jesus  
in my heart. (in my heart)  
In my heart, (in my heart)  
in my heart, (in my heart)  
Lord, I want  
to be like Jesus  
in my heart. (in my heart)**

## **Benediction**

