

## Holy Cross Lutheran Church Our Mission

We gather as an open community of Christians, responding to God's call. We welcome all people as members of our extended family. We gather to support and nourish one another in the faith, equipping people to live the Gospel in the world. Our purpose is to encounter the Gospel in worship, play, study, music, work, prayer, and activism. We provide worship that is diverse, flexible, thought provoking and relevant to our challenging times. We are a voice for compassion and actively seek justice and peace in the world. We identify and serve our neighbors in need. We offer programs that encourage spiritual growth by teaching the Gospel in the Lutheran tradition. We provide opportunities to work, play, and pray together.

### Everyone Is Welcome!

In response to the overwhelming love of God we stand in awe of the wideness of God's mercy. In faithfulness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, mindful of our Lutheran emphasis on grace, and rejoicing in the celebration of our shared baptismal journey, we welcome as members of our extended family, all those who have ever felt excluded by the Church because of their race, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental challenges, financial resources, or family status.



As followers of Christ, all members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church are compelled by the Gospel to seek reconciliation and wholeness in a world that is all too often an unloving place. Therefore, rejoicing in God's abundant grace, we extend a special welcome to all. Whether you are gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender; whatever your country of origin or ancestry; whether you are a believer, a doubter or a seeker; in Christ's love, we welcome you, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we can work together to usher in God's Reign of justice, peace, and mercy.



## HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christ-centered, Inclusive, Progressive,  
Christianity for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Pastor.....The Reverend **Dawn Hutchings** B.A., M.Div. 905-868-0897  
 Pastor.....The Reverend **Tom Doherty** B.A., M.Div. 416-910-7284  
 Musical Director.....**Marney Curran** B.S.M.,A.R.C.T.  
 Website.....www.holycrosslutheran.ca  
 email.....contact@holycrosslutheran.ca  
 Office.....905-898-1682  
 Address.....1035 Wayne Drive, Newmarket, ON., L3Y 1N3



*York Pride Fest  
a Celebration  
of Love & Life*

*June 15<sup>th</sup> 2014*

### Welcome to Worship

Holy Cross is a Christ-centered, open-minded, inclusive compassionate, justice-seeking community. Everyone is welcome at Christ's table, so please join us for Holy Communion! Relax and open yourself to the power of God in our midst!

**Children in Worship:** The sound of children breathes life into our community, so we encourage parents to use the activity centre to help their children focus. But from time to time, even the best of children might need the Cry-Room which is available downstairs.

Our Ushers don't bite so feel free to ask questions!



## Prayers of this Body

We pray for those in special need of God's care: **Petra Vollmerhausen**, **Daniel Smyth** (Sharon's son), **David Applegate** (Kate's husband), **Sharon & Terry** (Curran's extended family), **Wanda McKay** (Janice Weihe's sister), **Fred Bell** (Karen McIntyre's father), **Max Glass** (friend of Jackie Nesbitt & Scott Fleming), **Cheryl Mandel** (friend of Janice Wiehe), **Mary Fleming** (Bob Fleming's sister-in-law), **Charity DiPaolo** (Petra Vollmerhausen's friend), **Christine, Morgan & Tracy** (friends of Pat Lovell, **Chris Ehrat** (Carol Wegford's cousin), **Colleen Rodo** (David Kirby's friend), and **Alex** (Nelson Gonzalez's brother).



MINISTERS	TODAY	Next Sunday June 22 2014
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Terry Hutchings	Bob Fleming
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Bob Fleming Rose Orfanakos Linda Fleming	Sylvia McCutcheon Pat Lovell Neil Nauman
<b>Lector</b>	Terry Hutchings	Bob Fleming
<b>Ushers</b>	Neil Nauman Gary Curran	Terry Hutchings Sharon Smyth
<b>Coffee Hosts</b>	Sharon Euler	OUTREACH VAN
<b>Counters</b>	Bob Fleming Lawrence McCutcheon	Neil Nauman Michael Smith
<b>Altar Care</b>	Sharon Smyth	Sharon Smyth
<b>Greeter</b>	Gary Curran	Bob Fleming
<b>Cleaners</b>	Peter & Katherine Smith	Peter & Katherine Smith

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS		
Today	Join us for Lunch after the service	After Worship
Tuesday	Fundraising Team	7:00pm
Wednesday	Singing Group Choir Picnic @ McCutcheons	6:30pm 6:30pm
Thursday	Meditation Space	5:30 pm
Sunday	Worship: Holy Communion	10:45 am

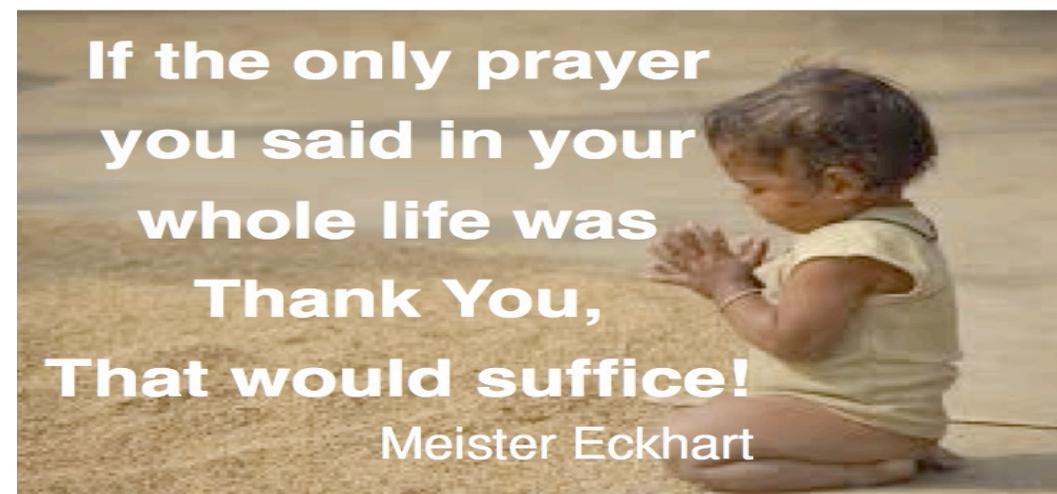
## PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Pastoral Care is often defined as compassionate spiritual and emotional care, so here at Holy Cross we all share the responsibility of providing Pastoral Care.

Our Pastoral Care Team is led by **Pastor Tom** who has primary responsibility for ensuring that the Pastoral Care needs of our community are met. Pastor Dawn provides back-up and support.

Should you require the services of a pastor please contact:

**Pastor Tom at 416-910-7284**



# Canadian Lutheran World Relief Olive Tree Partnership



Augusta Victoria Hospital's  
Elder Care Pavilion

**CLWR**

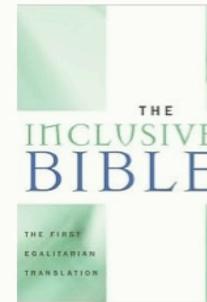
As Canadians we can step up and move this project forward. As we deal with our own aging population, we know the need is great. Every donation at any level will make a huge difference.



**Yes, we know it's not always easy to sit still. So we're asking parents to let their children wander over to the Worship Center to pick-up a little something to help them worship their way.**

*the inclusive bible:*

## ***The First Egalitarian Translation***



Translations of the Hebrew and Greek texts of the Bible are many and varied. During worship we will use:

*the inclusive bible:*

***The First Egalitarian Translation.***

This translation is the work of the Priests for Equality Project of the Quixote Center Collective. Published by Rowman and Littlefield in 2007, this translation seeks to be faithful to the original languages while using non-sexist language to express the ancient writings.

## THE BLANKET EXERCISE FOLLOW-UP BOOK CLUB

**Indian Horse** by Richard Wagamese is a severe yet beautiful story of a survivor of a residential school. Saul Indian Horse is also a hockey player.

Date for the book club discussion: **Monday June 23, 2014**  
at 7:00pm at Holy Cross Lutheran

**Buffalo Shout, Salmon Cry: Conversations on Creation, Land Justice and Life Together**

by Steve Heinrichs offers up histories and memories that unsettle our souls and work toward reconciliation.

Date for the book club discussion: **Tuesday October 28, 2014**  
at 7:00pm at Holy Cross Lutheran

Please plan to join us for sharing views and learning each other's insights whether you have read the whole book or want to hear about it.

Visit us on the NET

[www.holycrosslutheran.ca](http://www.holycrosslutheran.ca)

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Pastor's  
Blog 

[www.pastordawn.ca](http://www.pastordawn.ca)

# York Pride Fest Worship Service

Music printed under LiscenSing #1975  
at ♦ Please Stand if you are able

## GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Rainbow Candle-Lighting

Members of York Parents, Families & Friends  
of Lesbians and Gays, - York PFLAG

The first Rainbow Flag was designed in 1978 by Gilbert Baker, a San Francisco artist, who created the flag in response to a local activist's desire for a "community symbol. The use of the rainbow as a sign of diversity, inclusiveness and hope has a long history going back to the biblical myth of Noah in which the rainbow serves as a symbol of promise.

The six coloured candles represent the six colours of the rainbow flag:

**Red for LIFE, Orange for HEALING, Yellow for SUNLIGHT,  
Green for NATURE, Blue for HARMONY, Violet for SPIRIT**

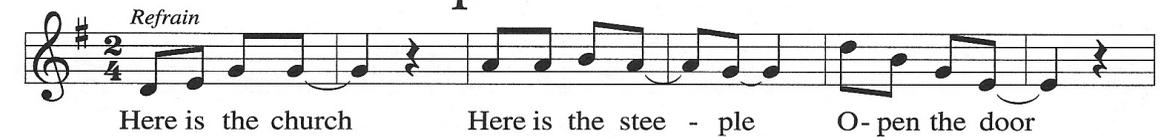
Today, let these colours remind us of the diversity of our  
communities, backgrounds, interests and gifts!



♦ Opening Hymn:

**Open the Door**

WORDS & MUSIC: Ray Makeever



1 We are the chil - dren and we are the old  
2 We are the wom - en and we are the men  
3 We are the straight      and we are the gay  
4 We are the al - tar and we are the street



We are the gen - tle and we are the bold  
We are the strang - er and we are the friend  
We are what we do      We are what we say  
We are the hands      and we are the feet



We are the dark skin We are the light  
 We are the walk - ing We are the lame  
 We are the sin - gle We are the wed  
 We are the weal - thy We are the poor



We are the blind - ness and we are the sight  
 We are the dif - f'rent and we are the same  
 We are the hun - gry and we are the bread  
 We are the stee - ple and we are the door

◆ Greeting

P: The grace of the risen Christ,  
 the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
 is with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

◆ Bidding

*As We Gather in Your Presence*

Kristopher E. Lindquist



As we gath - er in your Pres - ence, Make this Here in - fin - i - ty,



As we gath - er in your Spir - it, Make this Now e - ter - ni - ty.

Verse



You are won - der, you are mys - tery, You are dark - ness, you are light,



Like the dawn - ing of the morn - ing, Like the si - lence of the night. *Repeat Refrain*

◆ Prayer of the Day

P: Standing in the midst of the ONE Who Is the Source of All Being, we rejoice in the possibilities of this new day.

All: **Our hearts are filled with longing for justice and peace for all our sisters and brothers.**

P: Mindful of the struggles of all those who have gone before us, we remember those who suffered and those who continue to suffer because they were labeled, ostracized, persecuted, abused and even killed because of who they loved.

All: **We long for justice for all those who continue to be oppressed because of fear, ignorance or hatred.**

P: We rejoice in the wonders of our bodies. The intricate design of our humanity is a miracle that enables joy, empowers love, and provides life in a creation that we are only beginning to understand.

All: **Let us treasure the wonders of creation and be tender with one another so that all may know the pleasures of companionship and community.**

P: Our sisters and brothers in so many parts of the world live under constant threat and fear for their lives. Let us provide a witness to the beauty of diversity so that all may see and know the freedom of peace through justice.

All: **Let us live our lives in joyful response to the blessings we often take for granted. Let us open ourselves to opportunities to embody the Love of God so that all may know the joys of life.**

P: Our ancestors sought to live out the scripture's call to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with our God. As we rejoice in the wonders of our own unique creation, let us live into the dream of justice, equality, freedom, and love that so that the dreams and visions of justice-seekers and peacemakers can be given life in all the world.

All: **Let the Spirit of Love live in, with, through, and beyond us so that all may know Love, now and forever, Amen.**

◆ Hymn of Praise

*We Are In God*

Kristopher E. Lindquist

Refrain

We are in God, and God is in us.  
We are in God, and God is in us.

Verse

Light in all peo - ple: Cre - a - tive En - er - gy.  
Light in all peo - ple: Cre - a - tive En - er - gy. *Repeat Refrain*

Text inspired by Julian of Norwich, 1342-1415 CE, & John 1:1-18.  
Music & text © 2001, 2005 KEL. www.KELmusic.com

**WORD**

First Reading

Leviticus 19:17-18



Response

*We Praise You, Holy Other*

Isaiah 40:25, 55:9

1. We praise You, Ho - ly Oth - er, di - vin - i - ty in all;  
2. Your beau - ty, Ho - ly Oth - er, shines through di - ver - si - ty;  
3. Now send us, Ho - ly Oth - er, with You to end the strife,  
our love for one an - oth - er ful - fills Your high - est call.  
our var - ied forms and col - ors re - flect Your im - age free.  
that all may re - dis - cov - er Your lib - er - at - ing life.  
When we are la - beled "oth - er" by cus - tom's nar - row norms,  
As we em - brace Your full - ness with - in us and in all,  
As we re - claim our whole - ness, our sa - cred - ness ex - plore,  
*(organ ped.)*  
show us our sa - cred val - ue, Your im - age in each form.  
we cel - e - brate our one - ness that breaks down ev - ery wall.  
Your vi - sion guides us for - ward through ev - er wid - er doors.

Words: Jani Aldredge Clenton

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**Responsive Reading**

based on Song of Songs 2:16; 3:1-3; 8:6-7

L: Let us join together in a cherished prayer of the heart:

All: **My Beloved is mine, and I am my Beloved's.**

L: Day after day I seek my Beloved;  
I seek but do not find.

Have you seen my Beloved? Truth is her name!

All: **Waters cannot quench, nor floods drown Truth!**

L: I arise and go about the City;  
in the streets and in the squares

I call for my Beloved: Justice is his name!

All: **Waters cannot quench, nor floods drown Justice!**

L: In the Church I seek my Beloved  
With heart and soul, mind and strength:

Have you seen the one my soul loves? Hope is her name!

All: **Waters cannot quench, nor floods drown Hope!**

L: Have you seen my Beloved?  
At Home? In the City? In the Church?  
Passion is his name!

All: **Waters cannot quench, nor floods drown Passion!**

L: O friends and companions, Come, let us seek our most desired:  
Truth, Justice, Hope, Passion!

All: **Set us as a seal upon your heart,  
As a seal upon your arm;  
For Love is as strong as death.  
Waters cannot quench, nor floods drown Love!**

L: Let us enter into worship and proclaim:

All: **My Beloved is mine, and I am my Beloved's!**

◆ Gospel Acclamation *Show Us the Way*

Refrain

Kristopher E. Lindquist



Verse



*Repeat Refrain*

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◆ Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

*For All the Children* (printed on the following pages)



# FOR ALL THE CHILDREN



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple To  
 2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, That  
 3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives Cut  
 4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture When



raise our song a - bove, And we dare to claim the  
 one day they be free; And we sing for gen - er -  
 short by fear and shame So a - fraid of who they  
 chil - dren far and wide, Can live their lives with



pro - mise of Your love, Though the  
 a - tions yet to be, That they  
 are and whom they love. May the  
 dig - ni - ty and pride. As they



day may not yet be here, We trust it soon will  
 nev - er have a rea - son To doubt that they are  
 mess - age now be ban - ished That Your love is for the  
 grow in strength and sta - ture, May they join us hand in



be, When your chil - dren will be free.  
 blest. May they, in Your love, find rest.  
 few, May their faith in You re - new.  
 hand, As a - gainst all hate we stand.

## REFRAIN



O, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, Fling the



church doors o - pen wide. May there be room e - nough for



ev - 'ry - one in - side. For in God there is a



wel - come, In God we all be - long. May that



wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman  
 Music: David Lohman

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## Prayers of this Body

*God is not some far off person in the sky. Our God is the Ground of our Being, the ONE in whom we live and breath and have our being. God lives in with and through us. So, our prayers rise up among us so that we might become Christs to one another and move our prayers from words and worries into actions and change.*

*You will be invited to briefly name your concerns and thereby open us to the possibilities of reaching out to one another in love so that God's Reign of justice and peace might begin here and now in with and through us.*

*We will begin by offering prayers of gratitude,  
then our concerns for the word,  
and then our concerns for the people in our lives.  
We do not pray to change the mind of a far off being but rather to open  
ourselves to the power of God who lives in us,  
so that we might be LOVE in the world.*

◆ Peace

P: The peace of Christ, which surpasses all our understanding, is with you all.

C: **And also with you.**



*We greet each other with a sign of God's peace.  
Early Christians used a kiss to symbolize the peace.  
Hugs and handshakes are also appropriate.  
As we greet one another with a sign of the peace we say:  
"Peace be with you."*

Choir **Celtic Blessing**

Offering

◆ Offertory Hymn: **From the Fruit of All Creation**

Refrain Kristopher E. Lindquist



From the fruit of your Cre - a - tion Bread and wine we bring to share,



From the boun - ty of the Plan - et That you give to hu - man care.

Verse



By your Spir - it all is sac - red So your Pres - ence may ap - pear,



In thanks - giv - ing cel - e - bra - tion For your peo - ple gath - ered here. *Repeat Refrain*

◆ Prayer

A: Let us pray:

C: We rejoice in the abundance of life in Christ and celebrate the gifts of God's grace. Our cups overflow with blessings. Our hearts long to share the love of God as we seek to imitate Christ in the pursuit of peace through justice. We offer these gifts trusting that they will be a blessing to others, as together we begin again the work to which we are called by God our Creator, Christ and Spirit ONE. Amen.

## HOLY COMMUNION

◆ Great Thanksgiving

P: God is with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Open your selves.

C: **We open ourselves to God.**

P: Let us give thanks to our God Most Holy.

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P: We give thanks for the wonderful gift of reflective awareness that allows us to recognize and name the presence of our Creator God, who is beyond our abilities to imagine.

Everything we have, everything we see, everything we do, everyone we love and everyone who loves us reveals God's sustaining presence and our total dependence on God. We marvel and wonder at the size and complexity of our universe. We marvel and wonder at the development of life on this planet.

We give thanks for the Creative Spirit that sparks this life and all that exists. We recognize that human life gives the Holy Spirit a particular way of being in the world and that in us the Spirit can sing and dance, speak and write, love and create.

Conscious that we live, move, and have our being in God, we give thanks for the people throughout history who have affirmed this loving presence in all people and who have challenged people to bear witness to this by lives characterized by mercy, gratitude, compassion, generosity, and forgiveness.

Mindful that we stand on the shoulders of all those who have gone before us in faith, we join with our sisters and brothers of every time and place to sing the unending hymn of praise:

◆ Sanctus

*Holy, Holy Holy*

Kristopher E. Lindquist

Refrain



Ho - ly, whol - ly, ho - ly One, Whol - ly, ho - ly, whol - ly One!

Verse



1..All the U - ni - verse is full of your Glo - ry,  
2..Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name, \_\_\_\_\_



All the U - ni - verse is full of your Love. \_\_\_\_\_ *Repeat*  
Ho - - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est! *Refrain*

*Text inspired by traditional Sanctus & Isaiah 6:3.*

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We give thanks for Jesus of Nazareth,  
who loved so greatly and taught so clearly and courageously  
that he was able to set people free from images and ideas  
and religious practices that bound them into fear  
and a false sense of separation from the Spirit of all Life.  
Through Jesus we have learned that to love is to share in the Spirit.  
In Jesus we see God challenging all of us  
to make visible and tangible the Spirit's presence on earth.  
From our ancestors in the faith we have learned  
the story of the night before Jesus' death,  
when Jesus took bread, gave it to his friends saying,  
take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."  
Later, when the supper was over, knowing that his life was to be poured out,  
Jesus took a cup of wine, gave thanks, and gave it to his friends saying,  
"Drink this all of you, this cup in the new covenant, poured out for you and for

all people. Drink this in remembrance of me."

And now, remembering Christ's death and celebrating Christ's resurrection we await Christ coming again and again to bring peace and justice to all the earth as we declare the mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again and again.**

P: Let the Holy Spirit bless this bread and this fruit of the vine.  
Let our eating and drinking inspire us to embody Christ in the world.  
Let our love of God be entwined with our love for one another  
so that all may know the peace that comes through justice. Through Christ,  
with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are  
yours, O God of love, now and forever.

◆ Abba Prayer

**Chorus** On Earth as in Heaven  
let the will of God be done  
On Earth as in Heaven  
let the will of God be done  
And let it reign on every one  
And let it reign on every one

1. We call to you our Father our Mother  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
Your name is blessed like no other  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
We pray your reign of peace to come  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
We pray that your good will be done  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**
2. Give us this day the bread we need  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
Give it to those who have nothing to eat  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
Forgive us the debts we cannot pay  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
As we forgive those who owe us today  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**

3. Do not bring us to the test  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
 From all evil deliver us  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
 Yours is the power the glory the mercy  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**  
 Forever and ever let the Reign of God be  
**Here on Earth as in Heaven**

**Chorus** On Earth as in Heaven  
 let the will of God be done  
 On Earth as in Heaven  
 let the will of God be done  
 And let it reign on every one  
 And let it reign on every one

◆ At the Breaking of the bread **Round and Round the Table of God**

Refrain Kristopher E. Lindquist

Round and round the ta-ble of God, Round and round the ta-ble of God,

Ga - ther the peo-ples, ga-ther the crea-tures, Ga-ther, O Earth, round the ta-ble of God!

Verse

Here is food of life, here is drink to heal,

Here is Sub-stance, here is Es-sence, Here is Pres-ence Di - vine.

*Repeat Refrain*

## ***Distribution by continuous Communion.***

*You may choose to take the wine from the Common Cup or the individual glasses.  
 For those who are accustomed to intinction:  
 in compliance with public health recommendations, we do not offer intinction  
 and so we would encourage you to use the individual glasses.*

**Grape-Juice Option:** *is served in the individual glasses – white juice*

***Everyone is welcome to participate in Communion!***

Communion Hymns: ***In the Singing*** – *sing a cappella*

1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,  
 2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,

in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,  
 in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,

Refrain

Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;

Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

# Welcome Table

R 172

1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble,  
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and hon - ey,  
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta - ble, some of these days.  
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and hon - ey, some of these days.  
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,  
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and hon - ey,  
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,

I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.  
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk and hon - ey, some of these days.  
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

# We Are Called

720

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be

Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as

live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.  
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.

*Refrain*  
 We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to

love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -

oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

◆ After Communion

Rise Up Rejoicing

Kristopher E. Lindquist

Refrain (twice each time)

Rise up, re - joic - ing! — Rise up, re - joic - ing! —

Rise up, re - joic - ing, — O peo - ple — of God!

Verse

Spir - it of the Liv - ing One, — Dance in us your dance to - day, —

Sing in us your song of love, — Light in us com - pas - sion's way.

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◆ Blessing

Announcements

◆ Closing Song

*Praise the Source of All Creation*

Music: Beethoven; HYMN TO JOY 8787D; Words: Jann Aldredge-Clanton (adapted)

Praise the Source of all creation, giving life throughout the Earth,  
blessing every love relation, filling all with sacred worth.  
Celebrate all forms and colors, varied beauty everywhere,  
streams of goodness overflowing, wondrous gifts for all to share.

Many genders, many races, all reflect Divinity;  
many gifts and many graces help us be all we can be.  
Partners on this path of freedom, taking down each stifling wall,  
we will open doors of welcome, bringing hope and joy to all.

Long have many been excluded, judged and scorned by custom's norms;  
everyone will be included as we work to bring reforms.  
Let us end abuse and violence, bringing justice everywhere,  
joining Holy Wisdom's mission, helping all be free and fair.

Equal marriage, healing, freeing, nurtures body, mind and soul,  
reaffirming every being, all created good and whole.  
Come, rejoice and sing together, celebrating life and love;  
praise the great Creative Spirit, living in us and above.

Sing a song of jubilation, dance with joyous revelry;  
Clapping trees and laughing rivers join our call to liberty.  
Free at last to blossom fully, flowering forth in beauty bright,  
We become a new creation, bursting open into light.

◆ Dismissal

L: Go in peace, be all that you were created to be!

All: Thanks be to God!

**Bi**  
**Gay**  
**Queer**  
**Lesbian**  
**Questioning**  
**Created Queer**  
**PROUD OF WHO I AM**  
 I am God's kid (John 1:12)  
 I am our God's friend (John 15:15)  
 I am joined with our God (1 Cor 6:17)  
 I am a citizen of the kingdom (Eph 3:19)  
 I'm chosen by the Son of God (John 15:16)  
 I am truly blessed and comforted (Matt 5:3-4)  
 I am living with no condemnation (Romans 8:1-2)  
 I'm reconciled and am at peace with God (Col 1:20)  
 I'm one nobody can charge or accuse (Rom 8:33 -34)  
 I'm able to triumph in Christ through God (2 Cor 2:14)  
 I'm already sitting with Christ in the heavenly (Eph 2:6)  
 I cannot be separated from Christ Jesus' love (Rom 8:35)  
 I am just as sweet a perfume as Christ is to God (2 Cor 3:15)  
 I can approach God boldly and with confidence (Ephesians 3: 12)  
 I am completely redeemed from the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13)  
 I am justified (Rom 5:1) and I am a holy temple for God to inhabit (Eph 2: 22)  
 I am working with God (1 Cor 3:9) and I'm showing God's workmanship (Eph 2:10)  
 I am confident all the good things God has started in my life will be completed (Phil 1:6)  
 I am redeemed and forgiven (Colossians 1:14) and I am adopted as God's child (Ephesians 1:5)  
**God's queer child**  
**Straight?**  
**Lesbian**  
**Trans**  
**Gay**  
**Bi**

## Touched by an Angel

We, unaccustomed to courage  
exiles from delight  
live coiled in shells of loneliness  
until love leaves its high holy temple  
and comes into our sight  
to liberate us into life.

Love arrives  
and in its train come ecstasies  
old memories of pleasure  
ancient histories of pain.  
Yet if we are bold,  
love strikes away the chains of fear  
from our souls.

We are weaned from our timidity  
In the flush of love's light  
we dare be brave  
And suddenly we see  
that love costs all we are  
and will ever be.  
Yet it is only love  
which sets us free.

Maya Angelou

## Expands God's Being



*All beings are words of God,  
God's music, God's art.*

*Sacred books we are, for the infinite camps  
in our souls.*

*Every act reveals God and expands God's Being.  
I know that may be hard to comprehend.*

*All creatures are doing their best  
to help God in God's birth of God's Self.*

*Enough talk for the night.  
God is labouring in me;  
I need to be silent for a while,  
worlds are forming in my heart.*

*Meister Eckhart (1260-1328)*

**How long will  
grown men and women in this world  
keep drawing in their colouring books  
an image of God  
that makes them  
sad?**

**Meister Eckhart (1260-1328)**

