

Call to Worship

One: The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with Israel.

I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Many: God, teach us wisdom in our secret hearts.

Put a new and right spirit within us.

Restore to us the joy of salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit.

One: We trust you, God, to forgive our iniquities and remember our sin no more.

Many: There is a time for everything, and sometimes, the hour is upon us.

One: Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears,

knowing that those who love their life will lose it.

Many: “The hour has come. Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies,

it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”

All: We call out to you, as you call us to deeper growth.

Congregational Hymn:

For the Beauty of the Earth (VT 120 / HWB 89)

Verse 1:

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Verse 2:

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow’r, sun and moon and stars of light:

Refrain

Verse 3:

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:

Refrain

Verse 4:

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:

Refrain

Verse 5:

For each perfect gift and sign to this world so freely giv'n;
graces human and divine, love uniting earth and heav'n:

Refrain

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint (England), Lyra Eucharistica, 1864, alt.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Many: Deep calls to deep.

We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

One: We confess our resistance to being planted
into your aching earth,
into the way of your covenant.

We confess our need for you to plant within us
the joy of your salvation,
a willing spirit.

(We name the forces that keep us from deep growth)

Silence

One: Deep calls to deep.

You call to us from the depth of your love.

Many: Calling us to deep growth.

We come to you, God.

Children's Song: *Your Love is Washing Over Me (VT 166)*

Verse 1:

Your love is washing over me, Your love is washing over me.
Your love is washing over me, and I won't be frightened any more.

Verse 2:

Your mercy's washing over me, Your mercy's washing over me.
Your mercy's washing over me, and I won't be frightened any more.

Verse 3:

Your peace is washing over me, Your peace is washing over me.
Your peace is washing over me, and I won't be frightened any more.

Verse 4:

Your joy is washing over me, Your joy is washing over me.
Your joy is washing over me, and I won't be frightened any more.

Verse 5:

Your grace is washing over me, Your grace is washing over me.
Your grace is washing over me, and I won't be frightened any more.

Verse 6:

Your hope is washing over me, Your hope is washing over me.
Your hope is washing over me, and I won't be frightened any more.

Text: Jaylene Johnson (Canada), © 2015 Jaylene Johnson

Congregational Hymn: *O God, Great Womb (VT 176)*

Verse 1:

O God, great womb of wondrous love,
your Spirit moving on the deep
did wake a world within yourself,
a pulsing, lighted world, from sleep.

Verse 2:

O hearth, O heartbeat of the whole,
your dark light dance began the times,
the days and seasons, seconds, years,
the ages' rhythms and the rhymes.

Verse 3:

O fire, O firmament and sea,
your seething ferment's energy
called forth a whirling waltz of life,
each plant and creature and its seed.

Verse 4:

O silent soul, O mind and strength,
your center did conceive and bear
its male and female image self—
all human forms, one breath to share.

Verse 5:

Now come with rest, O sabbath sun,
O sanctuary, sacred home;
we groan till all is grown complete,
fulfilled, at peace, O great shalom.

Text: Harris J. Loewen (Canada), Assembly Songs, © 1983 Harris J. Loewen

Lent 2021 Theme Song: Ô toi, Seigneur / O God, We Call (VT 683)

Ô toi, Seigneur, nous t'appelons.
Du fond de notre coeur, nous t'appelons, Seigneur.
Oui, nous te désirons, Seigneur.

O God, we call, O God, we call.
From deep inside, we yearn, from deep inside, we yearn,
from deep inside, we yearn for you.

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