

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3rd, 2020 Sunday Virtual Worship at 10:30am



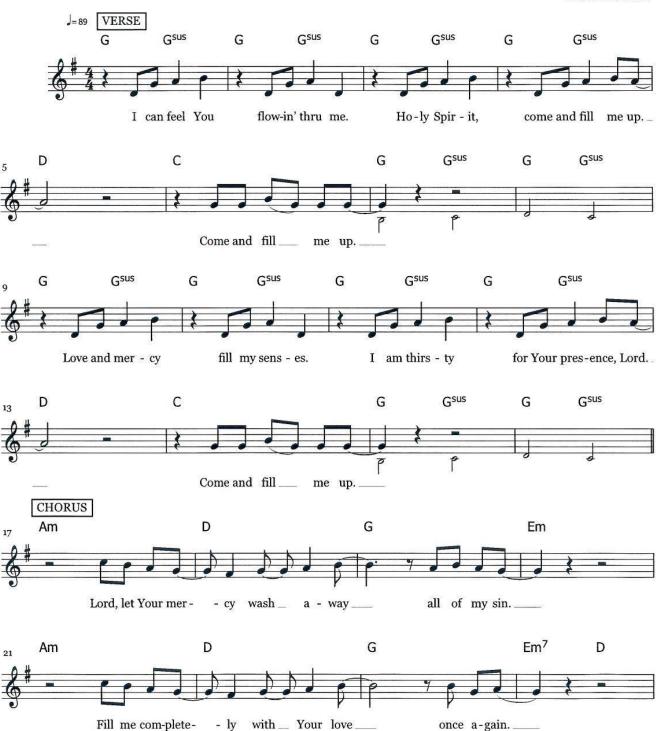
www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Gathering
Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen Indeed (3x)

Gathering Song- Come and Fill Me Up & Better is One Day

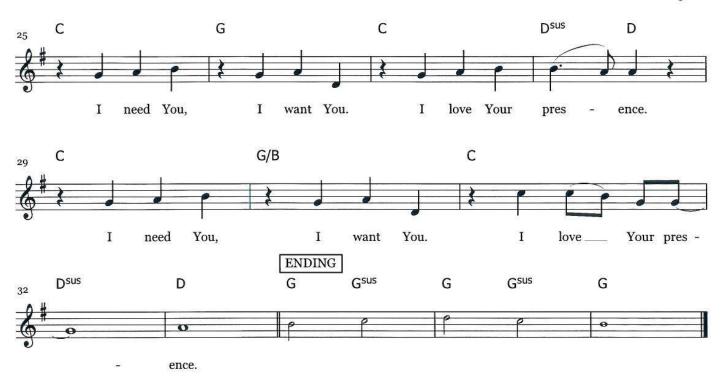
Come And Fill Me Up

Words and Music by Brian Doerksen



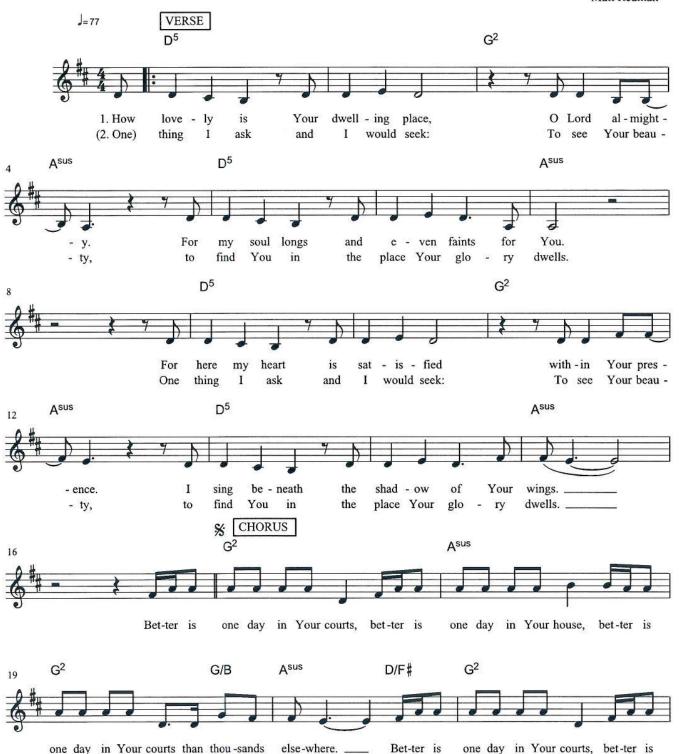
CCLI Song # 630307
© 1990 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing | Vineyard Songs Canada
For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License # 3277748

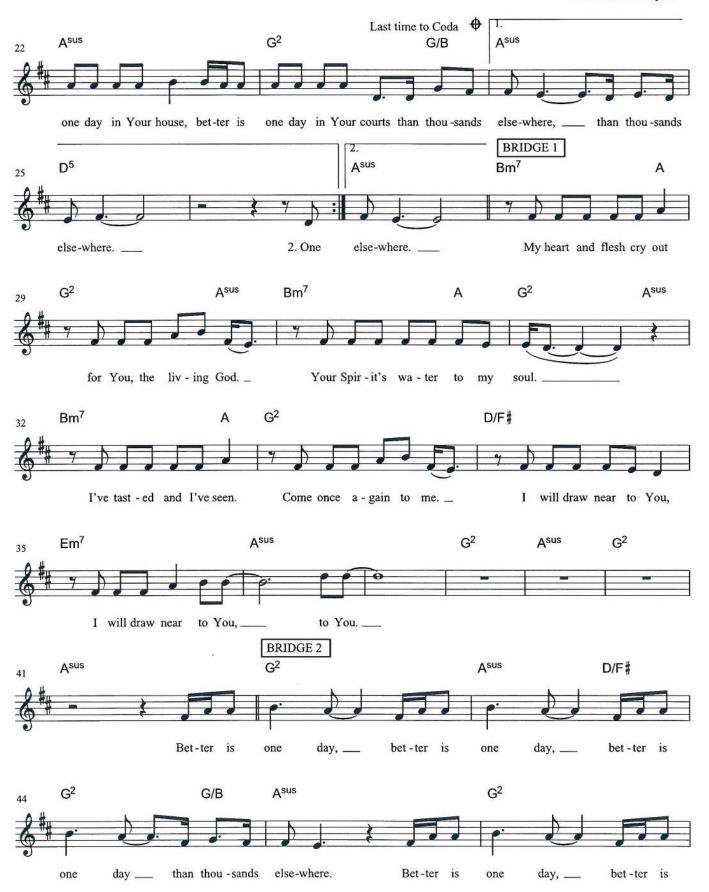
Come And Fill Me Up - 2

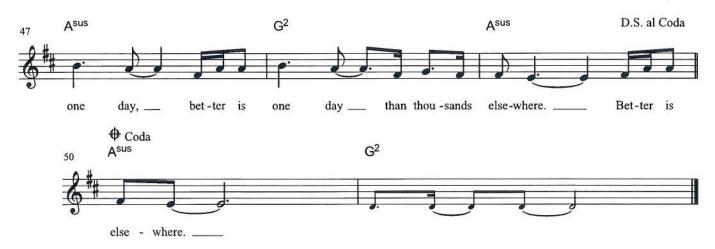


Better Is One Day

Words and Music by Matt Redman







Introduce the Theme with Kids

Welcome, RiverSource and Keyboards

No Longer Strangers Prayer

Jesus, our teacher, you saw the image of God in all those you met along the lake side, in the vineyards, and on the road. Give us eyes to see your face in all the people we meet. Equip us to meet them right where they are at in their journey. Amen

Meet Someone New

In this time of social isolation and quarantine we continue to need to have social contact. We can do that through old fashioned cards and letters – consider sending one to a nursing home near you as a way to meet someone new.

Greeting

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe that God meets you here. We gather in the name of God the eternal Creator – Jesus Christ, God's only Son and the Holy Spirit – who is with you always... **And also with you.**

Confession and Forgiveness

We are God's people, sheep of the Spirit's fold, lambs of Christ's flock, sinners of God's redeeming.

Amen.

Let us come together in a time of confession before God, who already knows our hearts and welcomes our humility.

Silence for reflection.

Loving God,

Our thoughts, our words, and our deeds are an open book to you. You have seen where we fall short. You know where we have strayed as individuals and as your church. In your mercy, forgive us and guide us into right ways of being — Ways of welcome, paths of mercy, habits of grace — so that we may live renewed in the joy of our salvation, prepared, equipped, and ready to meet Christ in our neighbors and in your creation.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

God's ways are not our ways and God's thoughts are not our thoughts. Before we were made, God brought creation out of nothing and peace out of chaos. In this same love, God unyokes you from sin and binds you to a new life and new living in Jesus Christ. Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the kingdom of God!

Amen!

Prayer of the Day

Loving Lord, your followers were faithful even in the face of strong opposition. Give us their courage and conviction o be worthy proclaimers of the Gospel of grace, in Jesus' name, amen.

THE STORY

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues today, with a reading from Acts 17:1-9

Narrator: After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying,

Paul: "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you."

Narrator: Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring

them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting,

Crowd: "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus."

Narrator: The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

Narrator: Our story and God's story continues today, with a reading from Thessalonians 1:1-10

Reader: Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

Congregation: To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Reader: Grace to you and peace.

Congregation: We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,

Reader: constantly remembering before our God and Father

Congregation: your work of faith and labor of love

Reader: and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Congregation: For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you,

Reader: because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction;

Congregation: just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

Reader: And you became imitators of us and of the Lord,

Congregation: for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by

the Holy Spirit,

Reader: so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

Congregation: For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia,

Reader: but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.

Congregation: For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you,

Reader: and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,

Congregation: and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—

Reader: Jesus,

Congregation: who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Narrator: Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hymn – Softly and Tenderly

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling



Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909 Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

Prayers of the People

As we continue to focus on Love Without Limits, let us focus our prayers on these three areas:

The people I struggle to love...

Where do I need love, and where do others need love...

Who taught me to love... and then will be prayed out loud, anonymously.

Reader: Hear us O God, All: Your mercy is great.

Offering

Worship Leader: We are grateful for your financial gifts; it's the only way churches are churches. Set up automatic giving by going to our website, <u>riverofhopehutchinson.org</u> and follow the directions to "give online".

THE FEAST

Setting the Table

As the kids help set the table, make a circle around the table and lead the congregation in the table prayer written by Martin Luther:

Let's pray: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. And let these gifts to us be blest. Blest be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

This table is open for all to receive the grace, mercy and love that comes to us in this bread and wine:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast, that, renewed in the gift of our baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me."

The 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.
Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Meal

You are welcome to this meal. It is free and it is for you. If you hunger and thirst for grace and mercy that comes through Jesus Christ, then Christ has set this table just for you.

Communion Songs/Hymns- Old Time Religion

Old Time Religion



Text: Traditional

Tune: OLD TIME RELIGION, Irregular; traditional; arr. by Joseph Joubert, b.1958, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

Blessing after Communion

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his peace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray, God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us out in the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may demonstrate your transforming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose? We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings

There are many opportunities to serve God and our neighbor – this is the time to lift those up!

MILESTONES!

Final Blessing

May the God of love fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Sending Song – Mighty is our God

Mighty Is Our God

Words and Music by Eugene Greco, Gerrit Gustafson and Don Moen



Go in peace – Jesus is with you! Thanks be to God

Music to Send you out

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2005 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies
Annual License #SAS023086 CCLI License # 3277748