

Unfold: Claiming New Possibilities

Wednesday Night Worship
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

SETTING THE SCENE

House Lights begin at 5

Video Announcements / Images from Instagram (LS)

Sounds/Music as people enter the space (LS)

Chrysalis imagery (D)

(chrysalis/butterfly development, the butterfly is sitting on the broken chrysalis, wings have not unfolded yet)

House Lights go to 6

Dr. David Williams

Go Podium lights

(No Music)

“The origin of this denomination was built on the dreams, leadership and courage of young generations who refused to allow “what is” to hinder “what could be.” Like Peter, they are willing to step out of the boat, even and especially in the midst of churning waves. Like the unfolding of the butterfly in its metamorphosis to becoming something new, we look to the unique vision of the young adults in our midst to hear the prophetic uttering of what is unfolding in this community. So let us go down to the river to pray!”

Go Blue Stage Setting lights

Prelude

“Down to the River to Pray”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSif77IVQdY>

Words and Music by Allan Hall | Jason Kyle

© Words: Public Domain

Music: 2003 Curb Songs (Admin. by Curb Music Publishing)

Possible Performance piece, no words on screen

*As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way*

*Oh sisters let's go down
Let's go down come on down
Oh sisters let's go down
Down to the river to pray*

*As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way*

*Oh brothers let's go down
Let's go down come on down
Oh sisters let's go down
Down to the river to pray*

*As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way*

*Oh fathers let's go down
Let's go down come on down
Oh sisters let's go down
Down to the river to pray*

*As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way*

*Oh mothers let's go down
Let's go down come on down
Oh sisters let's go down
Down to the river to pray*

*As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way*

*Oh people let's go down
Let's go down come on down
Oh sisters let's go down
Down to the river to pray*

*As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way (B)*

Cut Blue Stage Setting

House Lights 5

ACT ONE

Go Center Spot - Down stage

Opening Prayer:

Michael Diaz

Center Down Stage

“Spirit of the Living God, breathe on us this evening as we seek Your Face for new direction. Open our hearts and minds to all of the possibilities that you have for us. Help us to never discount what you are able to do in and around us. Help us in our disbelief and small-minded thinking.

You are the God of the Amazing and are able to do all things!
Encourage us this evening to step out on the waters with you where we find our safety and security.

In your Blessed Name we pray. Amen!”

Go Podium lights

Introduction of Preacher:

Rev. Lisa Heilig

“Our preacher this night felt the call of God in those waters we just sang about... specifically at Water of Life MCC in Arizona. Since then he moved to Rock and Joy and finally, Peace... as the Associate Pastor for Congregational Life at King of Peace MCC St. Petersburg, Florida. Rev. Brad Rice believes that MCC saved his life, inviting him to walk on water that threatened to overwhelm and his passion comes from believing that can happen for others too.

Full Bright Stage Setting

Jeremiah Cummings

On Handheld mic #1

Center Stage Down

Please rise as you are able. Today is the day of new possibilities! Let us prepare our hearts as we continue to sing!”

Opening Music: **

“Today is the Day”

Intro:

Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh

Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh

Intro

Verse 1:

I'm casting my cares aside, I'm leaving my past behind.

I'm setting my heart and mind on You, Jesus

Verse 2:

I'm reaching my hand to Yours believing there's so much more,

Knowing that all You have in store for me is good, it's good.

Chorus:

Today is the day You have made. I will rejoice and be glad in it.
Today is the day You have made. I will rejoice and be glad in it.

Chorus 2:

And I won't worry 'bout tomorrow, I'm trusting in what You say,
Today is the day.

Intro

Verse 3:

I putting my fears aside. I'm leaving my doubts behind,
I'm giving my hopes and dreams to You, Jesus.

Verse 2

Chorus

Chorus 2

Instrumental section

Bridge:

One: And I will stand upon Your truth

All: I will stand upon Your truth

One: And all my days I'll live for You

All: All my days I'll live for You

One: And I will stand upon Your truth

All: I will stand upon Your truth

One: And all my days I'll live for You

All: All my days I'll live.

Chorus

Ending:

And I won't worry 'bout tomorrow,
I'm giving You my fears and sorrow.

Where You lead me I will follow,

I'm trusting in what You say.

Today is the day!

Intro 2x

“You Make Me Brave”

Mel Martinez on 2nd mic

Center Stage Down

Verse 1:

I stand before You now. The greatness of your renown.
I have heard of the majesty and wonder of you. God of Heaven, in humility, I bow.

Chorus:

As Your love, in wave after wave, crashes over me, crashes over me.
For You are for us. You are not against us.
Champion of Heaven, You made a way for all to enter in.

Verse 2:

I have heard You calling my name. I have heard the song of love that You sing.
Oh, so I will let You draw me out beyond the shore into Your grace.
Oh, Your grace.

Chorus

Bridge:

You make me brave. You make me brave.
You call me out beyond the shore into the waves.
You make me brave. You make me brave.
No fear can hinder now the promises You made.

Bridge

Chorus 2:

Because of love, in wave after wave, crashes over me, crashes over me.
For You are for us. You are not against us.
Champion of Heaven, You made a way.
Champion of heaven, You made a way for all to enter in.

Cut Full Bright Setting and Go to spot in podium area

Project Dr. Seuss on Screen

ACT TWO

Youth on High Altar staggered

Contemporary Word -

Excerpts from Dr. Seuss "Oh The Places You'll Go"

Taylor LaTorre, Billy Piece and Bylee Grubb-Erwin

Need 3 handheld mics on

Staggered on high altar

ALL: OOOOOOOOH ... THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!

1: Congratulations!

2: Today is your day.

1: You're off to Great Places!

3: You're off and away!

1: You have brains in your head.

You have feet in your shoes

**You can steer yourself
any direction you choose.**

2: You're on your own. And you know what you know.

3: And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go.

**1: You may not find anyplace near
that you want to be.**

In that case, of course,

3: you'll head straight out to sea.

**2: It's opener there
in the wide open air.**

**3: Out there things can happen
and frequently do
to people as brainy
and footsy as you.**

**1: And when things start to happen,
don't worry. Don't stew.**

Just go right along.
ALL: You'll start happening too.

1: Except when you don't
Because, sometimes, you won't.

2: I'm sorry to say so
but, sadly, it's true

3: yes, Hang-ups (and Holy Storms)
can happen to you.

1: You will come to a place where the way is not marked.
Some waters are lighted. But mostly they're darked.

2: Should you stay in the boat or should you dive in?

3: Do you dare to stay out? Do you dare to swim?

1: What will you lose? What will you win?

2: You can get so confused
that you'll start in to race

3: over crashing waves at a break-necking pace
and become recklessly faithful, seeking God's face,

1: headed unknowingly toward that most sacred place:

ALL: The Unknown Place...

1: I'm afraid that some times
you'll feel alone too,

2: afraid God's left the waters,

3: that its just you and you.

1: But in you will go

2: though the weather be foul

1: In you will go

3: though your enemies prowl

1: In you will go

2: though the Hakken-Kraks howl

1: In to the sea, the river or creek

3: though your arms may get sore
and your sneakers may leak.

1: You'll get mixed up, of course,
as you already know.

2: You'll get mixed up
with many strange fish as you go.

3: But know when you dive
God's got your back
and remember that Life's
a Great Balancing Act.

1: Just never forget to be real and true.

2: And never let anyone tell you not to be you.

ALL: OOOOOOOOH ... THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!

1: So...

be your name Buxbaum or Bixby or Bray

2: or Mordecai Ali Van Allen O'Shea,

3: you're off to Great Places!

Today is your day!

1: The river is waiting.

ALL: So...get on your way!

Emily Collect Mics as youth exit stage

"For Those Tears I Died"

by Marsha Stevens-Pino

(Chorus only)

Chorus:

And Jesus said, "Come to the water, stand by My side,

I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied;

I felt ev'ry teardrop when in darkness you cried,

And I strove to remind you that for those tears I died."

Ancient Word/Scripture Proclamation - Matthew 14:22-33

(Edited from The Voice Translation)

Alex

A boat was in the water, some distance from land, buffeted and pushed around by waves and wind. Deep in the night, *when Jesus had concluded His prayers*, He walked out on the water to the disciples *in their boat*. The disciples saw a figure moving toward them and were terrified.

Gavin

It's a ghost!

Joshua

A ghost? *What will we do?*

Karen

Be still. It is I. You have nothing to fear.

Graham

Lord, if it is really You, then command me to meet You on the water.

Karen

Indeed, come.

Peter stepped out of the boat onto the water and began walking toward Jesus. But when he remembered how strong the wind was, his courage caught in his throat and he began to sink.

Graham

Jesus, save me!

Immediately Jesus reached for Peter and caught him.

Karen

O you of little faith. Why did you doubt *and dance back and forth between following Me and heeding fear?*

Then Jesus and Peter climbed in the boat together, and the wind became still. And the disciples were in awe.

All

Truly You are the anointed One.

"For Those Tears I Died"

(Chorus only)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xs8wd4oDs0A>

*And Jesus said, "Come to the water, stand by My side,
I know you are thirsty, you won't be denied;*

*I felt ev'ry teardrop when in darkness you cried,
And I strove to remind you that for those tears I died."*

Prayer for Speaker:

Rev. Lisa Heilig

“Thank you for calling those with hearts that are open and responsive to you.
We are grateful for the preacher this evening who has said ‘Yes’ to
Your calling and is willing to serve. Now, Oh God, please open our
Hearts and minds that we may receive the message that you have prepared
for each one of us. In the Name of the One who calls us by our name,
we say Amen!”

Sermon:

Rev. Brad Rice

Song during sermon: piano by Jane

Sermon response/song:

“Oceans”

Verse 1:

You call me out upon the waters, the great unknown where feet may fail.
And there I find You in the myst'ry, in oceans deep, my faith will stand.

Chorus:

And I will call upon Your name and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine.

Verse 2:

Your grace abounds in deepest water, Your sovereign hand will be my guide.
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me, You've never failed and You won't start
now.

Chorus

Bridge:

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders, let me walk upon the waters

Wherever You would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander and my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Savior.

Bridge
Bridge

Ending:
Oh, Jesus, you're my God!
I will call upon Your name and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace
I am Yours and You are mine.

ACT THREE

Offering:

OCLH Revitalization

Rev. Pressley Sutherland & Rev. Lisa Heilig

Lisa - In the midst of the winds and waves of life in the 21st century, the river of change flows on. All across MCC, there are established congregations that are courageously listening anew for the voice of Christ, following as they are called out upon uncharted waters, and finding the Spirit is meeting them there, washing them with waters of new life.

Pressley - This is the work of renewal, revival, revisioning, reinventing, innovation, imagination, and transformation. And all of this is the substance of revitalization.

Lisa - In the Office of Church Life and Health, we have been co-workers with congregations and with God in this process of revitalization in many ways. Sometimes your communities have had settled leadership and sometimes you have been in a time of profound transition.

In the next few months, OCLH will be providing a program with even more resources to help committed congregations intentionally facilitate a process of revitalization, to facilitate congregations discerning, understanding, and acting upon

- Why they are
- Who they are

- Who their neighbors are
- How they will respond
 - Faithfully and
 - Fruitfully

Pressley - Our offering tonight will fund this program, to provide for support through coaching, learning communities, and special consultants when needed.

Lisa - We know that the voice of Christ is calling MCC congregations out and into waters where we have never been, we know that we may fear and fail, but God is with us and will be with us. We know that, through the power of the Spirit, revitalization is born. We've seen it...

Pressley - From the Ferguson shooting and the powerful witness of MCC of Greater Saint Louis to the Pulse shootings and the prophetic presence of Joy MCC in Orlando, we have seen the positive impact that revitalized MCCs can have in their communities, cities and the world. One of the reasons revitalization is crucial is for "such a time as this is"- so that our MCC churches will be not only be able to respond well but have the capacity to be anchor communities proclaiming and embodying the best that the Jesus tradition has to offer: the life-giving message that - (both) Love Always Wins.

Lisa - Every time.

Pressley - Every place.

Lisa - This is our time to rise to our calling and tonight's offering will help community after community across this fellowship become vital and emboldened with missional calling once again.

Offertory Song:

"Something in the Water"

*He said, "I've been where you've been before.
Down every hallway's a slamming door.
No way out, no one to come and save me.
Wasting a life that the Good Lord gave me.*

*Then somebody said what I'm saying to you,
Opened my eyes and told me the truth."
They said, "Just a little faith, it'll all get better."
So I followed that preacher man down to the river and now I'm changed
And now I'm stronger*

*There must've been something in the water
Oh, there must've been something in the water*

*Well, I heard what he said and I went on my way
Didn't think about it for a couple of days
Then it hit me like a lightning late one night
I was all out of hope and all out of fight*

*Couldn't fight back the tears so I fell on my knees
Saying, "God, if you're there come and rescue me."
Felt love pouring down from above
Got washed in the water, washed in the blood and now I'm changed
And now I'm stronger*

*There must be something in the water
Oh, there must be something in the water*

*And now I'm singing along to amazing grace
Can't nobody wipe this smile off my face
Got joy in my heart, angels on my side
Thank God almighty, I saw the light
Gonna look ahead, no turning back
Live every day, give it all that I have
Trust in someone bigger than me
Ever since the day that I believed I am changed
And now I'm stronger*

*There must be something in the water (amazing grace)
Oh, there must be something in the water (how sweet the sound)
Oh, there must be something in the water (that saved a wretch)
Oh, there must be something in the water (like me)
Oh, yeah*

*I am changed (I once was lost)
Stronger (but now I'm found)
(was blind but now I see)*

**RITUAL:
STEPPING OUT/WALKING ON WATER**
Michael Diaz and Rev. Mel Pace

“This evening we have been challenged to follow our God out of the boats of our lives where we are lulled into believing it is safe there. While we are still in our individual boats, we feel the rocking of the waves and wind blowing fear and doubt into our hearts. The water will even splash into our boat and fill our vessel until we begin to sink.

Many of us know how it feels to sink in life. We have tried to make things work through our own best efforts, yet we still end up drowning in our sorrows and self-pity. However, there is hope. We each have a Life Saver! Jesus asks us to trust and come out of our boat of self-sufficiency to the place where he is. He asked Peter to *walk* on the waves, however, Jesus may be asking you to come out and *rest* upon the wave.

Rather than fearing the tossing of the waves, relax. Relax and allow yourself to be at *peace* with the rocking motion of the water. There is nothing to fear because your God is ever present with you. As your spirit begins to relax on the waves, you will feel yourself sinking - but not to worry! All that is happening is that you are allowing yourself to go deeper within your God.

You see, God is a vast ocean that can not be comprehended.
As you sink deeper into the ocean of your God, you realize you are no longer at the surface where the wind and rain frightened you so.
Oh, it is still rocky at the surface, but the difference is *you are no longer there!*
You chose to step out of your boat and *sink* into God!

You and your God are one. You are the ocean and the ocean is you.

We invite each one of you to come to the front of the auditorium to meet one of our Servers who will provide you will a small stone.

This stone is to symbolize one of two things.

One - it can be the fear you want to let go off in order for you to follow your God.
Or two - it can be a symbol of yourself that you desire to sink deeper into God.

Again - the stone can be the fear you want to let go
or symbolic of yourself to go deeper with God.

As you come, you will notice on the floor the blue lines on the carpet. This represents the water and the waves. As you come to claim your stone, I invite to drop your stone into the "water" and allow it to sink. This is a ritual for you to claim the new possibilities God has for you. You are choosing not to live in fear, but faith.

This ritual is a form of communion - your connection with the Living God to say "Yes" to all the possibilities that are available to you and not to allow excuses to get in your way.

God uses us at any age, any ability, any gender, any race or ethnicity and at every economic level. Say "Yes" to your new possibility and live into your potential.

"For Those Tears I Died"

(Longer Version with Verses and Chorus)

Verse 1:

You said You'd come and share all my sorrows.
You said You'd be there for all my tomorrows.
I came so close to sending You away,
But just like You promised You came here to stay,
I just had to pray.

Chorus:

And Jesus said, "Come to the water, stand by My side,
I know you are thirsty, You won't be denied.
I felt ev'ry teardrop when in darkness you cried,
And I strove to remind you that for those tears I died."

Verse 2:

Your goodness so great I can't understand.
And dear Lord, I know that all this was planned.
I know You're here now, and always will be,
Your love loosed my chains and in You I'm free.
But Jesus, why me?

Chorus

Verse 3:

Jesus, I give You my heart and my soul.
I know that without God I'd never be whole.

Savior, You opened all the right doors
And I thank You, and praise You from earth's humble shores.
Take me, I'm Yours.

Chorus (B)

"I Can Only Imagine"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_lrrq_opng

Words and Music by Bart Millard

© 2001, 2002 Simpleville Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
CCLI Song # 2978857

Verse 1:

I can only imagine what it will be like when I walk by Your side.
I can only imagine what my eyes will see when Your face is before me.
I can only imagine. I can only image.

Verse 1

Chorus:

Surrounded by Your glory what will my heart feel?
Will I dance for You Jesus or in awe of You be still?
Will I stand in Your presence or to my knees will I fall?
Will I sing hallelujah? Will I be able to speak at all?

Tag:

I can only imagine. I can only imagine.

Verse 2:

I can only imagine when that day comes and I find myself standing in the Son.
I can only imagine when all I will do is forever, forever worship You.

Chorus:

Chorus:

Tag

Tag

"I Exalt Thee"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFRt6apaGuQ>

Words and Music by Pete Sanchez, Jr.

© 1977 Sanchez, Pete, Jr.

CCLI Song # 17803

Verse:

For Thou, O Lord art high above all the earth.
Thou art exalted far above all gods.
For Thou, O Lord art high above all the earth.
Thou art exalted far above all gods.

Chorus:

And I exalt Thee. I exalt Thee. I exalt Thee, O God.
And I exalt Thee. I exalt Thee. I exalt Thee, O God.

"Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble?"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6StS1K_KKWo

Words and Music by Martin Smith

© 1994 Curious? Music UK (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

CCLI Song # 1097028

Verse 1:

Did you feel the mountains tremble? Did you hear the oceans roar?
When the people rose to sing of Jesus Christ the risen One.

Verse 2:

Did you feel the people tremble? Did you hear the singers roar?
When the lost began to sing of Jesus Christ the saving One.

Verse 3:

And we can see that God You're moving; A mighty river through the nations;
And young and old will turn to Jesus; Fling wide you heavenly gates,
Prepare the way of the risen Lord.

Chorus:

Open up the doors and let the music play. Let the streets resound with singing.
Songs that bring Your hope; Songs that bring Your joy;
Dancers who dance upon injustice.

Verse 4:

Do you feel the darkness tremble? When all the saints join in one song;
And all the streams flow as one river, To wash away our brokenness?

Verse 5:

And here we see that, God, You're moving; A time of jubilee is coming;
When young and old return to Jesus; Fling wide you heavenly gates;
Prepare the way of the risen Lord.

Chorus (Repeat 3 more times)

Announcements:

Dan Rutzen and **Young Adult TBC**

Office of Formation and Leadership Development

Video Announcement

(3 min video) (LS)

Closing Song

“Waterfall”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slw6tgKU8oQ>

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin and Ed Cash;

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Sixsteps Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Worship Together Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Alletrop Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

CCLI # 7021940

Verse 1:

Oh God, my God I seek You, I wanna move when You move.
You're more than I could long for, I thirst for You.
You're an ocean to my soul, to my soul.

Chorus:

Your love is like a waterfall, waterfall running wild and free.
You hear my heart when I call, when I call, deep calls, to deep.
Your love is like a waterfall, waterfall, raining down on me.

Tag:

Waterfall, waterfall.

Verse 2:

Oh God, my God I seek You, In this dry and desert land.
You lead me to streams of mercy, Once again.
You're an ocean to my soul, to my soul.

Chorus

Tag

Bridge:

It's coming like a flood, I'm dancing in the rain,
Everything I've done is covered in rivers of grace. Amazing.
Oh, it's coming like a flood, I'm dancing in the rain,
I lift up my hands, Your love never changes. Amazing

Chorus

Ending:

Raining down on me. Raining down on me.
Your love is like a waterfall, waterfall.

Benediction:

Rev. Brad Rice

Audio Postlude:

Ghost by Ella Henderson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tA8AfQaUnXM>

As people are leaving, this recorded audio could be played.

The band wouldn't need to play it. **(LS)**