

1/ I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
I dance in the moon and the stars and the sun,
I came down from Heaven and I danced on earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Chorus:

"Dance then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the dance," said he,
"And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance," said he.

2/ I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
They would not dance, they wouldn't follow me.
So I danced for the fishermen,
James and John came with me and the dance went on. (Chorus)

3/ I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame,
The Holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
Left me there on a cross to die. (Chorus)

4/ I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black,
It's hard who dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body, they thought I'd gone,
But I am the dance, and I still go on. (Chorus)

5/ They cut me down, but I lept up high.
"I am the life that'll never never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me.
I am the Lord of the dance," said he. (Chorus)

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift His countenance upon you. And give you peace, and give you peace; and give you peace,
and give you peace. Amen

Postlude

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March 23, 2020

God

*He hath made every thing
beautiful in His time:
Eccles. 3:11a*

**First United Methodist Church
Center, Texas**

The Methodist Messenger

Love God, Love People, Serve The World

Thank you so much for tuning in to our first Facebook Live worship service! We were excited that 88 different households joined us from Center, Brazoria, Lufkin, New York City, Virginia, and North Carolina. We are figuring out the number of persons that represents. We have some of the kinks worked out so we are hoping that buffering will not be an issue this week. Thanks for your input on what we can do to improve moving forward.

Since there are not group activities at the church, the newsletter will be a little light on information. We decided to use this as our worship bulletin each Sunday.

We are keeping you in our prayers. Worship without you was not the same. I was able to envision you sitting in your usual pews! I missed your smiling faces and hugs. (those of us who are huggers are struggling through this time aren't we!) As a church, we also missed your generous offering. This week we received a little over \$500 in offerings either through the mail or online giving through Vanco Payments (see back page for link). Thank you! Please remember you can also drop your offering in the mailbox outside the office, honk and we'll come to your car or mail you gift to the church. Our mailing address is 211 Porter Street Center, TX 75935. To use Vanco Payments without downloading the app, go to our webpage and hit the link for Vanco online giving.

We are reducing our office hours through this time. The office will be open from 9am to 3pm, Mon-Thursday and Friday from 9am to Noon. If you need anything outside those hours please call me at the parsonage (598-3616) or on my cell (409-382-8218). As the situation with Covid-19 continues, this may all change but for now we are keeping the course with these hours.

Please let me know if there are any errands you need run or if you have a special prayer request. I love you! Stay safe and well! Remember that this too shall pass! *Karen*

From Faythe:

KIDS: Watch the mail for your Kid's Worship Bulletin! It includes a story for you and your parents to share and some activities for you. Also, I'll do another Facebook video just for you! We miss you all so very much!

YOUTH: Watch your mail for a Bible study that Lakeview sent us. We hope you are doing well. Love you and miss you. It too quiet around here with you at home. Stay safe!

Worship Bulletin for Sunday, March 29
Scriptures of the Week: Ezekiel 37: 1-14 / Psalm 130 /
Romans 8: 6-11 / John 11: 1-45

Prelude

Welcome and Prayer

Call to Worship

In silent sanctuaries, in our homes or apartments,
wherever we are in these moments of worship,
God waits to greet us with joy and wonder.

We awake to find ourselves enveloped in grace.

During these days of isolation and worry,
in this time of uncertainty and feat,
Jesus challenges us with the possibility of faith.

**Even in these times of safe distancing and caring for others,
as well as ourselves, we can offer healing and hope to others.**

In the shadowed evenings when fear lurks outside,
and we long to hear the lullabies of grace, the Spirit is with us.

**The Light of life shines on us from early morning until we say our evening prayers, comforting us
in the shadows of sleep.**

Opening Hymn

Spirit of Faith, Come Down

UMH 332

1. Spirit of faith, come down,
reveal the things of God,
and make to us the Godhead known,
and witness with the blood.
'Tis thine the blood to apply
and give us eyes to see,
who did for every sinner die
hath surely died for me.

3. O that the world might know
the all atoning Lamb!
Spirit of faith, descend and show
the virtue of his name;
the grace which all may find,
the saving power, impart,
and testify to humankind,
and speak in every heart.

2. No one can truly say
that Jesus is the Lord,
unless thou take the veil away
and breathe the living Word.
Then, only then, we feel
our interest in his blood,
and cry with joy unspeakable,
"Thou art my Lord, my God!"

4. Inspire the living faith
(which whosoe'er receive,
the witness in themselves they have
and consciously believe),
the faith that conquers all,
and doth the mountain move,
and saves whoe'er on Jesus call,
and perfects them in love.]

Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,

We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Sing Alleluia to the Lord (Sung 2 times)

TFWS 2258

Sing hallelujah to the Lord
Sing hallelujah to the Lord,
Sing hallelujah,
Sing hallelujah,
Sing hallelujah to the Lord.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which 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 that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

Hymn of Promise

UMH 707

1/ In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

2/ There's a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;

3/ In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

Hymn

Love Lifted Me

W&S 3101

1 I was sinking deep in sin,
far from the peaceful shore,
very deeply stained within,
sinking to rise no more;
but the Master of the sea
heard my despairing cry,
from the waters lifted me;
now safe am I.

2 Souls in danger, look above,
Jesus completely saves;
he will lift you by his love
out of the angry waves.
He's the Master of the sea,
billows his will obey;
he your Savior wants to be –
be saved today. (Chorus)

Chorus: Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help, Love lifted me.
Love lifted me! Love lifted me!
When nothing else could help,
Love lifted me.

Special Music

Chris Watlington

**Scripture
Message
Prayer**

Rev. Karen Jones