

Spring 2011 Tour – “Let the Nations Be Glad and Sing For Joy!”

Processional:

Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!!

Traditional Cameroon processional song
collected by Elaine Hanson

Praise, praise, praise the Lord!
Praise God’s holy name, alleluia!

Three Songs of World Praise

Arranged by Allen Pote

Glory to God from Peru

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
To God be glory forever!
Alleluia, Amen!

O Sing to the Lord from Brazil

O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
For God is the Lord, Amen, Alleluia!
O sing to the Lord, O sing a new song!

Sanna, Sannanina from South Africa

*Sanna is a shortened form of Hosanna

Reading No. 1 The Global Reach of the Gospel

Welcome to a service of praise, prayer and reflection as we focus on God’s purpose in missions. From Psalm 67 we learn that God’s purpose is to be known, praised, enjoyed and feared among all the nations of the earth.

**ALL Let the peoples praise you, O God;
Let all the peoples praise you!
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy!
(Ps67:3-4a)**

This prayer by the psalmist, that all nations will be glad and sing for joy, will not go unanswered.

In fulfillment of this prayer, the Great Commission tells us that we as Christians are to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and

of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt 28:19).

In the book Book of Psalms we read that one day “all the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name” and that “all the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him.” (Ps 86:9; Ps22:27)

The gospel is already spreading across the world in fulfillment of God’s promises. Today the cultural center of Christianity is shifting away from Europe and America to Latin America, Africa and Asia.

In the last 110 years it has been estimated that the number of Christians in Africa has increased from 10 million to 475 million, in Asia from 20 million to 350 million and in Latin America from 60 million to 540 million.

This past Sunday more Anglicans attended church in *each* of Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda than did Anglicans and Episcopalians in Britain, Canada and the United States combined.

Also, last Sunday more Presbyterians were in church in Ghana than in Scotland, and more believers attended church in China than in Europe.

As we reflect on the great cultural diversity we have in the body of Christ, please enjoy another song of praise from South Africa, *O Sufini Mungu* and a timeless English hymn of the Christian church, *All People that on Earth Do Dwell*.

O Sufini Mungu (All Creatures of Our God and King)

South African. Music and words by David Maddux, Marty McCall, Mmunga Mwenebulongo Mulongoy and Asukulu

Chorus: Viumbe vyo te vya Mungu wetu na Mfal me wetu

(All creatures of our God and king)

Pazeni sauti ilinasi mwimbe

(Lift up your voice and sing with us)

watu wote, viumbe vyote, awaye yote, sifu Mungu!

(All men, all creatures, everybody praise God!)

Thou burning sun with golden beam, Imbeni (sing).

Thou silver moon with softer gleam

Pazeni sauti ilinasi mwimbe

(Lift up your voice and sing with us)

Thou flowing water, pure and clear

Make music for thy Lord to hear!

Thou fire, so masterful and bright,

That givest man both warmth and light.

Let all things their Creator bless,

And worship Him in humbleness.

Praise the Father, praise the Son,

And praise the Spirit, Three in One!

All People that on Earth Do Dwell by William Kethe (Scottish Psalter), based on Psalm 100

All people that on earth do dwell.

Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.

Him serve with fear; His praise forth tell.

Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;

Without our aid He did us make.

We are His flock; He doth us feed.

And for his sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise;

Approach with joy His courts unto.

Praise, laud, and bless His name always,

For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;

His mercy is forever sure.

His truth at all time firmly stood,

And shall form age to age endure.

Alleluia! O the Lord our God is good!

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,

The God whom heav'n and earth adore,

From earth and from the angel host

Be praise and glory evermore

Reading No. 2 A prayer that the Church May Prosper

Psalm 67 starts out with a prayer, a prayer that God might bless his people and prosper his Church.

ALL May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. (Ps67:1-2) The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; Let all the ends of the earth fear him! (Ps67:6,7)

What is God's purpose in blessing his people? The purpose is so that Christians in turn might be a blessing to the world—that the Bible and God's salvation might be known to all nations.

Christians have been blessed financially. However, it seems that we lose sight that one purpose for these financial blessings is to reach others for Christ.

It is estimated that Christians own and use 52.6% of all the global income, 60% of all telephones and 73% of all computers, but then Christians spend 99.9% of this income on themselves with only one-tenth of one-percent spent on the un-evangelized non-Christian world.

Some estimate that Christians spend more each year for the audits of their churches

than they spend on workers in the non-Christian world.

Let us join the Psalmist in praying that God's financial blessings will be used for His intended purposes, that these blessings will be used wisely to send out workers to draw the world to Him.

The modern hymn writers Keith Getty and Stuart Townend in their hymn, *Speak O Lord*, understood that God's purpose in blessing us is for Christ to be seen in our lives so that others are attracted to Him.

God's command to us is that we must be faithful until the whole earth is filled with the glory of God.

Benedictus from "St. Cecilia Mass" by Charles Gounod
Benedictus qui venit in nomine
(Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, now and evermore)
Domini, in nomine, domini.
(Blessed be the Lord, now and evermore, world without end.)

Benedictus qui venit in nomine domini,
(Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,)
In nomine domini, qui venit
(Blessed be the Lord evermore, forever)
In nomine Domini: Hosanna in excelsis,
(and evermore, evermore: Hosanna in the highest.)

God so Loved the World by John Stainer
(Jn3:16,17)
God so loved the world, God so loved the world
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoso believeth, believeth in Him
should not perish, should not perish but have
everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son into the world to
condemn the world,
But that the world through him might saved.

Speak, O Lord Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth; plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for your glory.
Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.

Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority,
Words of pow'r that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truth unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory.

Reading No. 3 Missional Psalms and Hymns

Isaac Watts lived in the early 18th Century, and he has often been called the father of English hymnody. The tradition of the church in England and Europe was to only sing Psalms to a few common tunes, and when Isaac complained about this tradition as a teenager his father challenged him to write new songs of praise.

Throughout his life Isaac Watts wrote more than 600 hymns, and many of them were paraphrases of Psalms that he applied directly to Jesus Christ and the church.

The hymn, *Jesus Shall Reign*, is known as the first missionary hymn, and it is a paraphrase of Psalm 72 where Watts applied

to Christ the words that originally were written about King Solomon.

Today the Christian church often overlooks the rich heritage of worship we have in the Psalms as the pendulum has swung toward hymns and praise and worship songs. The choir will sing a versification of Psalm 67, and we invite you to join in and sing with us the last two verses and then remain standing to sing *Jesus Shall Reign*.

Psalm 67 (versification, The Free Church of Scotland's Psalter, tune is *All for Jesus* by Mary D. James)

God be merciful and bless us;
Shine upon us with your face,
That the earth may know your actions
And all lands your saving grace.

O God, may the peoples praise you;
May all peoples sing your praise.
For you judge the nations justly,
Ruling over every race.

May they sing with joy and gladness;
May they all rejoice as one.
O God, may the peoples praise you.
As they all unite in song.

Then the land will yield its harvest;
God will pour his gifts abroad.
God, our God, will surely bless us;
All the earth will fear our God.

Jesus Shall Reign, words by Isaac Watts,
tune is *Duke Street* by John Hatton
Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does His successive journeys run;
His kingdom spread from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;

And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
His grateful honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud "Amen!"

Reading No. 4 The Call To Missions

A nation that has been converted to Christ is glad because God is *just*, and he rules with fairness and love.

ALL Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. (Ps67:4)

Although we are called to disciple nations, the missionary work is one-on-one--- one person, one heart at a time.

Each of us are called to be missionaries, to live a life that reflects the love of Christ to others and to share the Gospel with our friends and family.

Some Christians are called to work with cultures that are unchurched, and these cultures may be in urban cities in the United States or on the other side of the globe.

Wherever God has providentially placed us, we are to be a witness for Him.

One, words and music by Dave Clark
Like pilgrims of promise we march side by side;
From ev'ry nation and every tribe;
Out of the darkness and into the light we have come.
The Word of the Lord is a lamp to our feet;
It calls us to follow the path that it leads;
To live set apart for the whole world to see we are one.

Chorus: United in holiness, children of righteousness, Brothers and sisters, we stand

side by side as one. This glorious church in the image of Christ as one.

A people of mercy telling the story, unto the cross we come,
Together we stand as one.

We walk in the footsteps of those gone before;
Who faithfully followed the will of the Lord;
To each generation God's calling once more,
will you come? The prize is before us, the journey's not thro';
The harvest is plenty, the workers are few;
But the One who has called us is faithful and true, we are one.

Offertory and Sharing: Eric Schrottenboer

God desires that we worship him and thank him for His many blessings and his justice. This is both an individual call to worship and a universal call to all the earth.

ALL: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Ps67:5

God of Justice by Tim Hughes

God of justice, Savior to all,
came to rescue the weak and the poor;
Chose to serve and not be served.
Jesus, You have called us.
Freely we've received, now freely we will give.

Chorus: We must go, live to feed the hungry,
stand beside the broken, we must go.
Stepping forward, keep us from just singing,
move into action, we must go.
To act justly every day, loving mercy in every way;
Walking humbly before You, God.
You have shown us what You require.
Freely we've received, now freely we will give.

Bridge: Fill us up and send us out.

Sing To the King by Billy Foote and Charles Silvester Horne

Sing to the King Who is coming to reign.
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.
Life and salvation His empire redeemed,
'cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.

Chorus: Come, let us sing a song, a song declaring we belong to Jesus; He's all we need.

Lift up a heart of praise. Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; Sing to the King.

For His returning we watch and we pray;
We will be ready the dawn of that day.
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed,
'cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.

Our God by Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin, Chris Tomlin and Jesse Reeves

Water You turned into wine,
opened the eyes of the blind;
There's no one like You, none like You.
Into the darkness You shine,
out of the ashes, we rise;
There's no one like You, none like You.

Chorus: Our God is greater, our God is stronger;
God, you are higher than any other.
Our God is healer, awesome in power, our God, our God.

Bridge: And if our God is for us, then who could ever stop us, and if God is with us, then what could stand against? (repeat)

Reading No. 5 Worship, the Fuel and Goal of Worship

John Piper wrote in the conclusion to his book, "Let the Nations Be Glad!" the following:

"The ultimate goal of God in all of history is to uphold and display his glory for the enjoyment of the redeemed from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. His goal is the gladness of his people, because god is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in him."

"The goal of missions is the gladness of the peoples in the greatness of God. Psalm 97:1 states that 'The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!' The missionary command to be happy in God is simply a command for the consummation of praise. Professed praise of God without pleasure in God is hypocrisy."

“Therefore, worship is the fuel and the goal of missions. Worship is the goal of missions because in missions we aim to bring the nations into the white-hot enjoyment of God’s glory. It is the fuel of missions because we can’t commend what we don’t cherish. We can’t call out, ‘Let the nations be glad’ until we say, ‘I rejoice in the Lord.’ Missions begins and ends in worship.”

As we sing our closing songs, let us each focus on what small part we play in the global outreach of the Gospel, a part that begins and ends with the worship of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Mission’s Flame by Matt Redman

Let worship be the fuel for mission’s flame.
We’re going with a passion for Your name,
We’re going for we care about Your praise;
Send us out.

Let worship be the heart of mission’s aim,
To see the nations recognize Your fame.
‘Til every tribe and tongue voices Your praise;
Send us out.

Chorus:
You should be the praise of ev’ry tongue,
You should be the joy of ev’ry heart.
But until the fullness of Your kingdom comes,
Until that final revelation dawns,
Send us out.

Bridge: Ev’ry tribe, ev’ry tongue, ev’ry creature
in the heavens and the earth,
Ev’ry heart, ev’ry soul will sing Your praise,
will sing Your praise.
Ev’ry note, ev’ry strain, ev’ry melody will be for
You alone.
Ev’ry harmony that flows from ev’ry tongue.
We’ll sing Your praise.

Heart For the Nations by Martin Nystrom
& Gary Sadler

Give us your heart for the nations, Let us be
light to the world.

Use us to declare your salvation to the people of
the earth.

May we be moved by compassion, let us know
your love for the lost;
Lord, use us to lead them to the cross.

Chorus: Father, here we are, standing in your
presence,
Send us forth to lead them to the cross;
Spirit, here we are, fill us with your power,
Send us forth to lead them to the cross.

Give us your heart for the nations, let us be light
to the world.

Use us to declare your salvation to the people of
the earth.

May we be moved by compassion, let us know
your love for the lost;
Lord, use us to lead them to the cross.

Chorus: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have
heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your
people in my heart.

Closing Comments

The Reason We Sing by Dick and Melodie
Tunney

He has brought us together each of us a different
gift to bring
We’ll serve Him forever even if the cost is
ev’rything
He has called us to be faithful so with one heart
we give this offering.

Chorus: The reason we sing The reason we lift
our voice is more than just making harmony.
The reason we sing is to praise the one who gave
His son to be the reason we sing.

More than just an emotion, His spirit give us joy
that we can’t hide.
We will not be silent We’ve got to let the world
hear what’s inside.
And as we praise Him with our music.
Jesus is the one we glorify.

Benediction