

JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream
Flows from Calvary's mountain.

**In the cross, in the cross,
Be my glory ever;
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.**

Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;
There the bright and morning star

CROSBY/DOANE

Sheds its beams around me.
REFRAIN

Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
Bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day,
With its shadows o'er me.
REFRAIN

Near the cross I'll watch and wait
Hoping, trusting ever,
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river.
REFRAIN

Words by Fanny Crosby (1869) Music by W. Howard Doane

THIS IS THE DAY

MINER

This is the day that we celebrate freedom. We lift our hearts. We lift our hands.
This is the day of the captives' release. We lift our voices to the King,
This is the day that the shackles are broken. For He is the One who turns the darkness into day.
The Light of the world has given Himself Come as you are. Come join the dance.
For you and for me. The river of life runs full and free.
Salvation has come. Jesus is risen from the grave.

Written by Simon Miner ©1999 PedalPoint Music

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW (DOXOLOGY)

THOMAS/MAINZER

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Written by Ken Thomas 1675 and Joseph Mainzer 1845 Public Domain

HAPPENING AT THE GATHERING CHURCH (www.allgather.org/calendar)

PRESENT TO GOD

CONNECTED TO EACH OTHER

ENGAGED IN THE WORLD

On Sunday, **May 13**, we will hold a **Child Dedication** as part of our worship service. We get to celebrate the gift of the lives of these children with their parents and to accept the privilege and responsibility of loving and serving them in Christ. If you are new to the church, new to Christian faith, or have a child new to you, you are invited to participate in this dedication. Let **Mark** know if you'd like to participate (mark@allgather.org)!

Set-up & Clean-up: Have you ever wondered what it takes to "make a Sunday happen?" Look around at the chairs, tables, food, classrooms, signage, coolers, coffee, greeting. It takes a lot to make a school into a church every week and then try to leave it better than we found it on Sunday afternoons. Come help make that happen for others. No skills needed, just willingness to help and serve. See **Craig Silvanic** for more details on how you can best be a part of this.

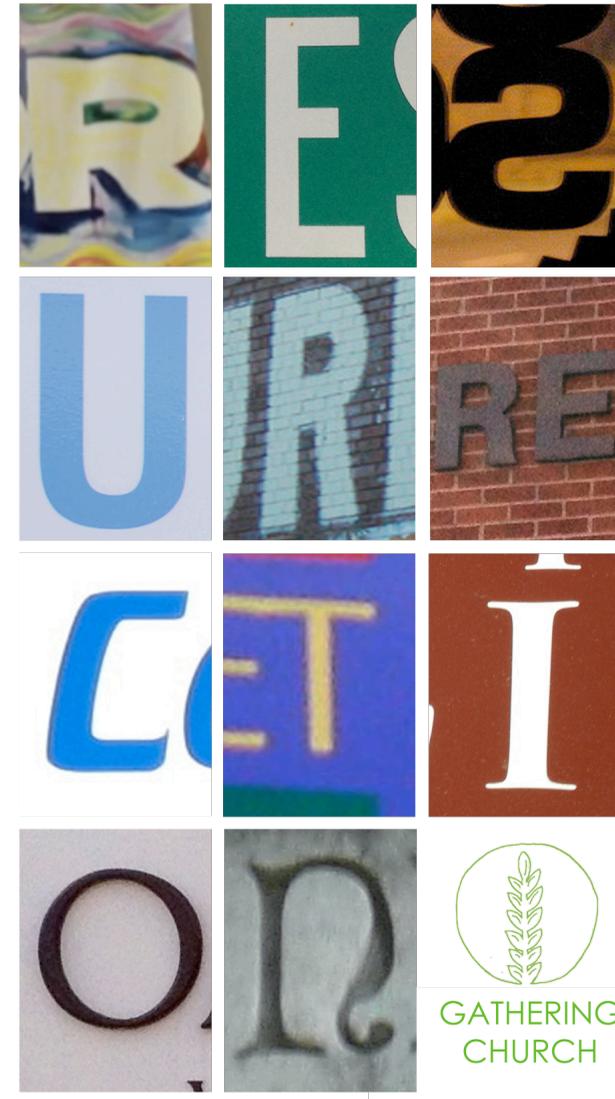
The Gathering Church is co-sponsoring an event with **World Relief Durham** on "a Biblical perspective on loving all our immigrant neighbors." This is a great chance to listen, learn, and ask questions about immigration and the Bible. It will be at Church of the Good Shepherd in Durham on **April 27th**, from **7-9pm**. For more information, please go to: www.wr.org/durham/welcomingthestranger.

Fill out a visitor's card to be included in church communications. To have an announcement included email: happenings@allgather.org. Keep up with the Gathering Church on Twitter ([@allgather](https://twitter.com/allgather)) or www.facebook.com/allgather. Check out Music from the Gathering Church: music.allgather.org (to stream or buy) or blog.allgather.org.

the gathering church



April 15, 2012
Psalm 63 | 1 John 1:1-4



"The best way to show our gratitude to God and to people is to accept everything with joy. A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of the Christ risen."

-Mother Theresa

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

PIERPOINT/KOCHER

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
Pleasures pure and undefiled,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of Thine,
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our grateful hymn of praise.

Words by Folliot Pierpoint (1864) Music "Dix" by Conrad Kocher (1838) - Public Domain

WELCOME

Welcome to the Gathering Church. We are a church that is focused on doing three things well: being present to God in worship, being connected to each other in community, and being engaged in the world by serving and sharing God's love. Thank you for gathering this morning to worship the Lord.

HOLD US TOGETHER

MAHER

It don't have a job, don't pay your bills
Won't buy you a home in Beverly Hills
Won't fix your life in five easy steps
Ain't the law of the land or the government?
But it's all you need

It's waiting for you, knocking at your door
In the moment of truth
When your heart hits the floor
And you're on your knees

CHORUS

**And love will hold us together
Make us a shelter to weather the storm
And I'll be my brother's keeper
So the whole world would know
That we're not alone**

*This is the first day of the rest of your life
This is the first day of the rest of your life
'Cause even in the dark
You can still see the light
It's gonna be alright, it's gonna be alright*

CHORUS

Written by Matt Maher/Steve Wilson ©2010 Thank You Music (EMI) CCLI #14556

GIVING AT THE GATHERING CHURCH

Four ways to give financially: (1) In the black box on the back table on Sundays, (2) online through Paypal (www.allgather.org/giving/), (3) by automating a draft through your bank, or (4) by mailing a check to PO Box 16402/Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

RIPPON/TRADITIONAL

How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word.
What more can he say,
Than to you he hath said;
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace all-sufficient shall be thy supply.
The flame shall not hurt thee,
I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Fear not, I am with thee, oh be not dismayed
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.
I strengthen thee, help thee,
And cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent Hand.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes.
That soul, though all Hell
Should endeavor to shake
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

Written by John Rippon (1787) Public Domain

ALIVE

HOISINGTON/HOISINGTON/JORDAN/LEONARD

This is a call to all the dead
And disappointed
The ones who feel like they are done
This is a word to all the ones
Who feel forgotten
But you are not, oh you are not

We are soaked in all the grace
That we've been given
Unchained from all that we have done
Your mercy's rising like the sun on the horizon
And we're coming home,
Oh we're coming home

**We're alive, alive, alive we're singing
We're alive, alive, alive and we're shaken
We're alive, alive, alive, alive in You**

**We're alive, alive, alive we're singing
We're alive, alive, alive and we're shaken
We're alive, alive, alive, alive in You**

Written by Hoisington, Hoisington, Jordan and Leonard © 2011 Integrity Praise!/Integrity Alleluia!/SESAC CCLI#5881082

KIDS' DISMISSAL & PASSING OF THE PEACE

As the children are dismissed to participate in Gathering Kids activities, find someone you don't know, welcome them, and exchange a sign of Christ's welcome and peace.

SERMON NOTES

COMMUNION

Come and receive of the feast that Jesus offers those who follow him. During this time, we remember Jesus' sacrifice and are nourished by his Body that was broken on the cross for us. For all those serving either with the kids' ministry or the band, there will be a server available in the music room immediately following the end of service.