

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, April 29, 2018)

Share:

We are people of the word, and today that word is..

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed!

We are people of the world, and today that world is..

In need of peace and a Savior.

We are people of work, and today that work is..

Laid aside so that we might find rest for our souls.

We are people of worship, and today that worship is..

Offered in a spirit of humility and gratitude.

Accept, I God, the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts, for we pray in Christ's name.

Read these words from a hymn today: I Danced In the Morning

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,

And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,

And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,

At Bethlehem I had my birth.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,

But they would not dance and they would not follow me;

I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;

They came to me and the dance went on.

I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame,

The holy people said it was a shame;

They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;

And they left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;

It's hard to dance with the devil on your back;

They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,

But I am the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt 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.

Refrain

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.

Read this scripture from worship: John 15:1-8 (The Message)

**15**<sup>1-3</sup> "I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. He cuts off every branch of me that doesn't bear grapes. And every branch that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken.

<sup>4</sup> "Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me.

<sup>5-8</sup> "I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can't produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Father shows who he is—when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples.

Talk together, responding to these questions:

What does Jesus mean when he says, "Live in me?"

When have you felt like "deadwood?" Who or what helped you come to life again?

How would you describe an "abundant harvest" for your life?

Pray together:

Gracious God, show me how I am to grow and how I can help others grow, as well. Empower our attachment to You, the central vine of our lives of faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Bless one another:

Take each person's hand and say. "God's grace is for you, God's love is upon you, God's call is within you. Be kind to yourself and others this week as a child of God."