

Subject: It All Flows From Worship
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
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S⁺ Francis



March 3, 2016

It All Flows From Worship

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me
bless his holy name.
Psalm 103:1*

The Short Story

Today is the commemoration of John and Charles Wesley. During the great revival of the 1700's in England, God used John and Charles Wesley very powerfully. John preached in the open air to great crowds. To support those who had experienced a conversion to Christ, he organized a system of groups for continued Christian growth and development. In fact, he would not preach in an area where he did not have people ready to lead those groups when he left for the next town. Charles wrote the hymns used in worship at all of these various meetings. He wrote over 600 hymns. Many of them we sing today. One collection written by Charles, Hymns on the Lord's Supper, brought many new Christians to the practice of receiving communion regularly. Between these two brothers they had established a system of making growing disciples who were devoted to worship. Many historians believe that the revival led by the Wesleys was so deeply transformative of English society that England was saved from a bloody revolution like the one that took place in France during the same period of history. The fruit of their ministry continues today all over the world in the Methodist Church as well as many other Christian movements and denominations.

The Source

In the overwhelming activity of revival which included discipling leaders, handling conflict, dealing with outside criticism, and a relentless schedule, the Wesleys maintained a rich practice of worship as their first priority.

The 600+ hymns Charles wrote were written in that challenging revival atmosphere. The source for energy, ministry, and life, was found in worshipping God. The same energy, ministry and life is available for us from the same source- worshipping God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength. It is out of this experience of worshipping God that Charles wrote lyrics that help to prompt us into worship:

Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Coming Attractions

Sunday, March 6, 2016 Worship at 10:00am

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

4:00pm Vestry Committee

6:30pm Theology on Tap. Contact Richard Walker at
richardandhedy@yahoo.com

7:00pm Caregivers Support Group. Contact Susan Kidd at
sokidd@comcast.com

Sunday, March 13, 2016 Worship at 10:00am followed by pot luck

Please bring nonperishable food to worship to be distributed to the Food Pantry of the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services

Our Missional Communities

The Parke will have worship night pot luck on March 6 at 5:30pm at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker. Contact Richard at richardandhedy@yahoo.com

Symphony will meet on March 27 at 9:00am at Symphony Manor. Contact Bobbie Leviness to participate. Bobbiedrew@yahoo.com

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Yardworks that business would increase and employees be all provided for.

Diocese of Virginia

For the clergy and people of St. Paul's, Haymarket; Grace, The Plains; All Saints, Richmond; Our Saviour, Charlottesville; All Souls, Atlee; St. Gabriel's, Leesburg that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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