

Invitation to Worship
(inspired by Acts 2:42-47)

We are God's church:
We come together to worship.

He has given us his Word:
We come together to learn from him.

He has filled us with his power:
We go out to bring others to him.

He has called us into his family:
We come together to share our lives.

He has put his words on our lips:
We go out to tell the world about him.

He has given us his Spirit:
We come together to celebrate.

He has showered us with his riches:
We go out to share his goodness with others.

He has freed us from our past:
We come together to move forwards.

He has planned for us a glorious future:
We go out to live our lives to please him.

We are God's church:
We come together to worship.

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What excitement: studying, worshipping, breaking bread, sharing everything.

How I long to be there.

I can feel it, sense it.

For a minute it's real:

A growing family, a growing church.

Oh, where has my enthusiasm,
my expectation,

my joy

gone?

Why haven't I missed it until now?

Gracious God,

grant us the repentance in the hearts of those early Christians

– they were men and women like us.

Lord grant us too:
the urgency of the Early Church in our preaching,
the faithfulness of the Early Church in our worship,
the expectation of the Early Church in our ministry,
the generosity of the Early Church in our homes;
and the joy of our Lord Jesus Christ,
risen, ascended, glorified
as we live as your people today.

Amen.

(Roots on the web)

Holy God, holy and true,
you feed the hungry and connect all that is made.
Here in your presence,
we pray for our world in need:
for those whose lives know little love,
for those whose days find little peace,
for those who never have enough.
For those who choose to share,
for those who work for change,
for those who challenge the world's complacency.

Holy God, holy and true,
the length, breadth, height and depth of your love
was revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
**fill us with the strength
to reveal your love in the world.**

Holy God, holy and true,
you shared meals with those who did not feel worthy
and stayed in the homes of those whom others never visited.
Here in your presence, we pray for our community:
for those who struggle to be faithful,
for those who show love to us in our day-to-day lives,
for those whose lives are sad, lonely and full of illness
For those who have asked us to pray,
and those who have not.

Holy God. Holy and true:
the length, breadth, height and depth of your love
was revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
**fill us with the strength
to share hope in our community.**

Holy God, holy and true,
you sit at our table, you make our food holy.
Here in your presence, we pray for ourselves,
when we wonder how we will follow,
when we have ideas and hopes,
but no one to share them with,
when we wonder about the future,
or feel frightened by our past.

Holy God, holy and true:
the length, breadth, height and depth of your love
was revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
**fill us with the strength
to live as your people.
Amen.**

(Roots on the web)