

Luke 1:76-79 NRSV

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare God's ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

Exploring the Text



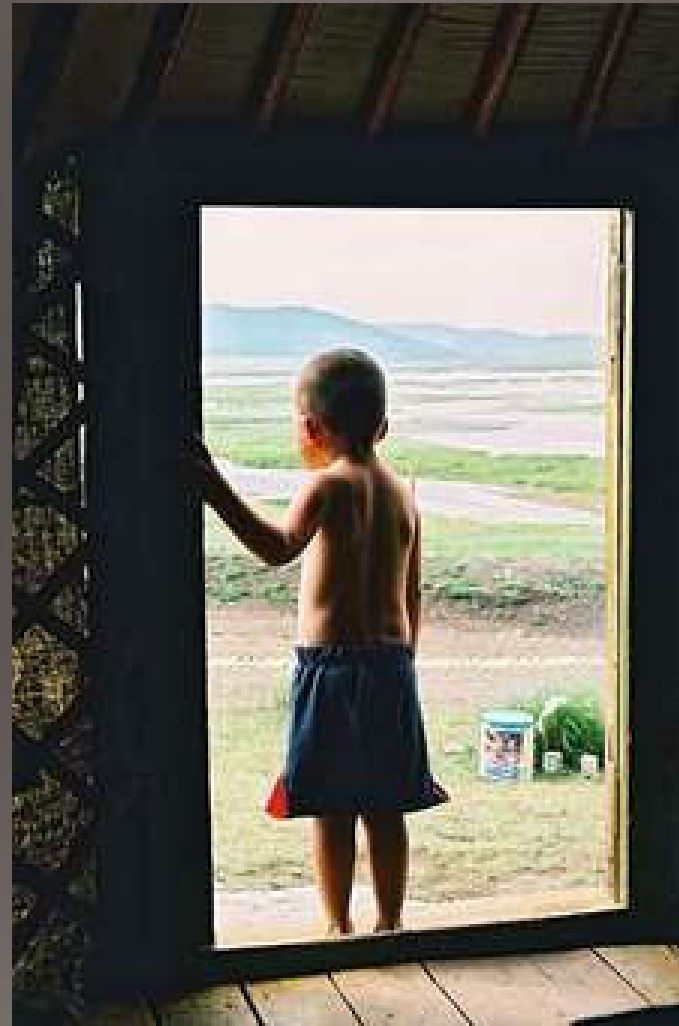
Acts that Point the Way...

- Prophecy
- Repent
- Live

Luke 1:76-79 NRSV

And you, (insert own name), will be called
the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare
God's ways,

You will go
before the Lord
to prepare
God's ways...



Chant



Go before the Lord to prepare God's ways

- What is the prophetic message for FCMF?
- Where do you see God's Spirit moving, especially around your edges?

Bless'd be the tie that binds

Verse One:

Bless'd be the tie that binds

Our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds

Is like to that above.

Luke 1:76-79 NRSV

And you, (insert own name), will be called
the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare
God's ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to the
people by the forgiveness of their sins.

To give
knowledge of
salvation to the
people by the
forgiveness of
their sins...



Chant



Give knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins...

- How is God calling FCMF to go in a new direction?
- What do you need to release?

Bless'd be the tie that binds

Verse Two:

Before the Father's throne,

We pour our ardent prayers;

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,

Our comforts and our cares.

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the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare
God's ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to the
people by the forgiveness of their sins.

Luke 1:76-79 NRSV (cont'd)

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn
from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

To guide our
feet into the
way of peace...



To guide our feet into the way of peace...

- Travel!
- Notice when you are more or less likely to show bias
- Positive attitude and joy!
- Unite over shared identity
- Focus on shared goal
- Stay healthy
- Acknowledge rather than ignore differences
- Assume that others want to work through difference
- Make a friend who is different

Chant



To guide our feet into the way of peace...

- How do we build peace within FCMF?
- What can you commit to doing to build peace?

Prayer of the Heart: "Lord Jesus, have tender mercy..."

Bless'd be the tie that binds

Verse Four:

This glorious hope revives
Our courage by the way,
While each in expectation lives
And longs to see the day.

Bless'd be the tie that binds

Verse Five:

From sorrow, toil and pain,

And sin we shall be free,

And perfect love and friendship reign

Throughout eternity.

Luke 1:76-79 NRSV

And you, Fort Collins Mennonite
Fellowship, will be called the prophets
of the Most High;

for you will go before the Lord to
prepare God's ways,

to give knowledge of salvation to his
people by the forgiveness of their sins.

Luke 1:76-79 NRSV

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the dawn from on high will break
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to give light to those who sit in darkness
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