

We are blessed people singing

We are blessed people singing
as we worship here today;
blessed in your love and presence
and our friendships day by day.
Old folk, young folk, middle-aged folk
boys and girls and babies too -
we are blessed people singing
of our gratitude to you.

We remember all the others
who have worshipped here before.
Pastors, builders, teachers, workers
known to you for evermore.
Praying, tending, giving, hoping
as the years have drifted by -
we remember all the others
who, like us, have raised their cry.

As we move into the future
we ask you to lead us still.
Lead us too to look beyond
and see the needs our help can fill.
Hunger, thirst, and deprivation
waiting for the truth to show -
as we move into the future
may our caring truly grow.

Tune: Ode to Joy

Words written by: Alicenne Stevens

God called Paul from hate to loving

1. God called Paul from hate to loving,
showed him Christ alive again,
helped him see the cross as wisdom,
life as Christ, and death as gain.
May our church, with Paul's devotion,
look to Jesus as our Lord;
look to Jesus as our Lord.
2. God gave Paul the Holy Spirit,
bringing faith and hope and love,
grace to see the gifts of others,
joy in prayer, and strength to serve.
May we, too, be Spirit-gifted,
strong and gentle, holy, wise;
strong and gentle, holy, wise.
3. God used Paul to teach the churches
what their common life should be,
one in Christ, both Jew and Gentile,
male and female, slave and free.
May we share Paul's generous vision,
welcome all in Jesus' name;
welcome all in Jesus' name.
4. God brought Paul from law to freedom,
taught how faith alone could save,
sent him preaching to the nations
in the power the Spirit gave.
May our church, with Paul's own passion,
tell the saving love of God;
tell the saving love of God.
5. Now may we, like Paul, live boldly,
go wherever God may send,
witness in and out of season,
run our race until the end.
May we find our peace in Jesus,
see our Saviour face to face;
see our Saviour face to face.

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