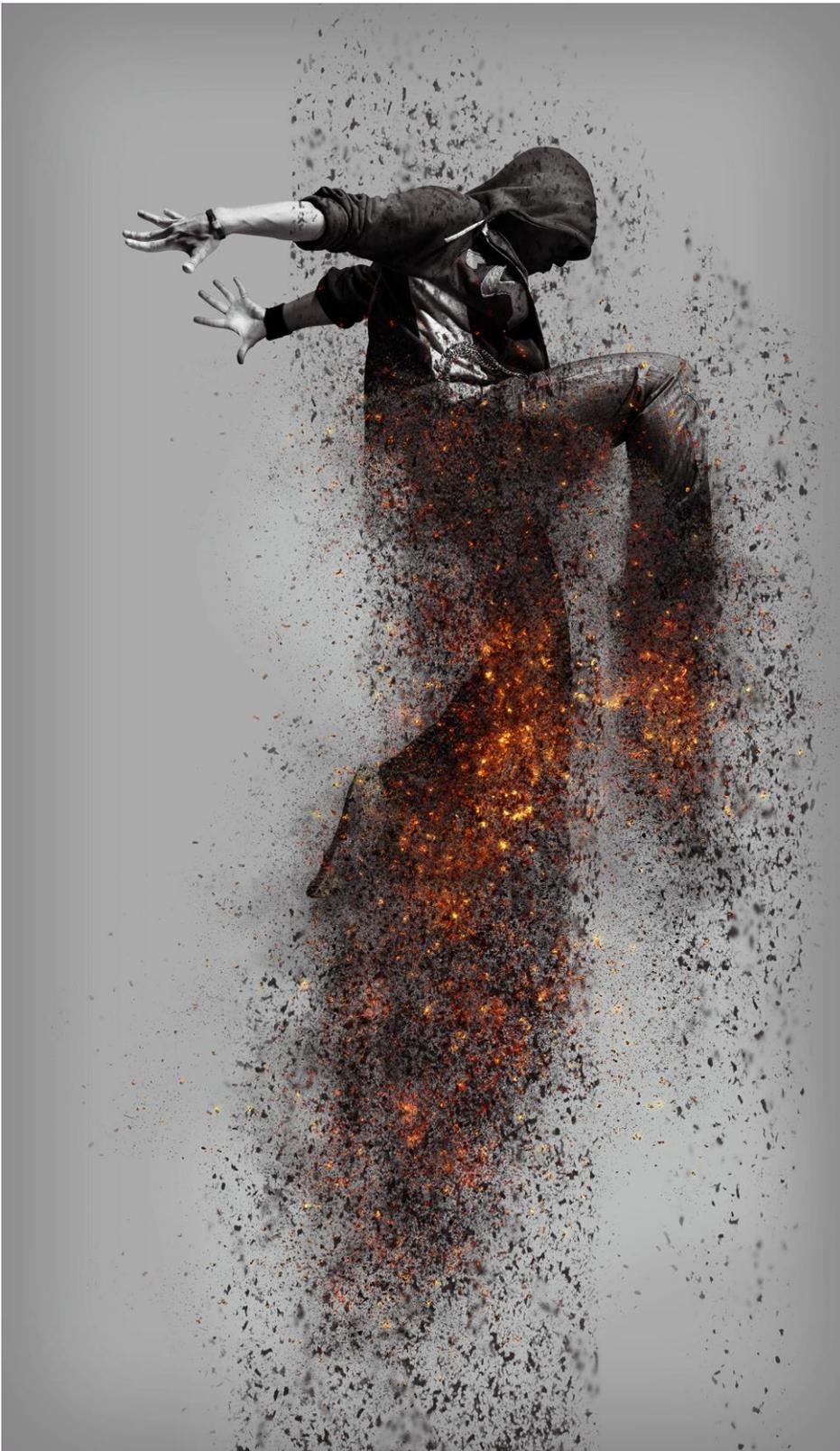


Easter, one week on (and a couple of thousand years) 28th April 2019

To see a world in a grain of sand and a heaven in a wild flower
Hold infinity in the palm of your hand and eternity in an hour

William Blake 1757 – 1827



... I rise, still I rise



Call to thoughtfulness: Still I rise Maya Angelou from The complete collection of her poems 1994

**You may write me down in history with your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust,
I'll rise.**

**Does my sassiness upset you? Why are you beset with gloom?
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells pumping in my living room.**

**Just like moons and like suns, with the certainty of tides,
Just like hopes springing high, still
I'll rise.**

**Did you want to see me broken? Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops, weakened by my soulful cries?**

**Does my haughtiness offend you? Don't you take it awful hard
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines diggin' in my own backyard.**

**You may shoot me with your words, you may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness, but still, like air,
I'll rise.**

**Does my sexiness upset you? Does it come as a surprise that I dance like I've got diamonds
at the meeting of my thighs?**

**Out of the huts of history's shame
I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain
I rise
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide, welling and swelling I bear in the tide.**

**Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.**

I rise

I rise

I rise.



HYMN 425 The Saviour died, but rose again ... verse one solo

Welcome A people rising to a new day us!

Day by day dear Lord, of you three things we pray

**to see you more clearly
to love you more dearly
to follow you more nearly day by day**

Psalm 150 ... Praise God in his sanctuary, in the universe

**Praise God in the depths of the universe;
Praise God in the human heart.
Praise him for his power and beauty,
For his all-feeling fathomless love.
Praise him with drums and trumpets,
With string quartets and guitars.
Praise God in market and workplace,
With computer, with hammer and nails,
Praise him in bedroom and kitchen;
Praise him with pots and pans.
Praise him in the temples of the present;
Let every breath be his praise.**

(adapted from the Hebrew by Stephen Mitchell, A Book of Psalms 1993)

Prayer Worship with elation URC prayer handbook p 47

HYMN ... For the music of creation Words Shirley Elena Murray Tune Hymn of Promise 727

**For the music of creation, for the song your Spirit sings,
for your sound's divine expression, burst of joy in living things:
God, our God, the world's composer, hear us, echoes of your voice -
music is your art, your glory, let the human heart rejoice!**

**Psalms and symphonies exalt you, drum and trumpet, string and reed,
simple melodies acclaim you, tunes that rise from deepest need,
hymns of longing and belonging, carols from a cheerful throat,
lilt of lullaby and lovesong catching heaven in a note.**

**All the voices of the ages in transcendent chorus meet,
worship lifting up the senses, hands that praise, and dancing feet;
over discord and division music speaks your joy and peace,
harmony of earth and heaven, song of God that cannot cease!**



What could possibly go wrong?

The other Kim meets Trump!

A reprise! Thoughts on “getting back into your lane”

ROMANS 12 2

Do not be conformed to the this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect

LUKE 24 13 - 27 ... but their eyes were kept from recognising him

HYMN Crazy God Words John Campbell Tune Greensleeves

We want a God who's barely there, yet steps in when we hit despair;
an ambulance of help and care? yet only when we want it.
You long for friendship true,
with risks and costs our whole lives through;
each second shared with you,
for, crazy God,
you love us.

We want a God to glorify, who looks the part for you and I;
a worthy one to magnify, yet only when we want it.
You spurned all god-like fame,
instead a cross, a death of shame;
you shouldered all the blame
for, crazy God,
you love us.

We want a God to help us out, who understands what we're about;
who takes our side and has no doubt, supports us when we want it.
You never let things be,
but challenge, question endlessly;
you fight to set us free?
for, crazy God,
you love us.

HymnQuest ID: 86882

Prayers Beatitudes for a Risen Life URC prayer handbook p 46

OFFERTORY HYMN 263 God of freedom, God of justice



The future looks like this
Greta Thunberg addresses the Environment Committee of the European Parliament

Prayers for our world and for all living things



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, give us your peace!

HYMN 713 Come, all who look to God today

The tryst

Lord, set your blessing upon us as we begin this new week together
Confirm us in the truth by which we rightly live; confront us with the truth from which we wrongly turn
We ask not for what we want, but for what you know we need
As we offer ourselves and the days ahead for you and to you
May our faith, unbound from fear, pride or anxiety, speak of your boundless grace, forgiveness and love.
Make us your disciples, faithful disciples, open to the rush of your breath and the depth of your love
Whatever the path we choose, may we trust in your guiding wisdom
Help us rise to the journey as people of the way and many ways

The Blessing after which we sing

May the God of peace go with us as we travel from this place
May the Love of Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace

