

CHURCH OF EVERY NATION

Bernadette Farrell

Church of ev'ry nation, born in darkest night.
Church of new creation, Christ our Gospel light.
Future uncertain, in her fear and shame,
Mary sang with courage, "Holy is your name."

Church of prayer and action, called to play our part.
Church of God's compassion, Christ our tender heart.
Bold in our witness, faith and hope compel,
touching Jesus' garment, "I will be made well."

Church of love and mercy, greater than our fear.
Church of living presence, Christ among us here.
Offering welcome, building unity,
Lydia inspires us, "Come and stay with me."

Church of resurrection, born on Easter Day.
Church of new direction, Christ our living way.
Shown to a woman, doubted and ignored,
Mary wept and witnessed, "I have seen the Lord."

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Revelation 7:9–17 (“There was a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages...”)

Verse 1: *New Creation* • Direct reference: Luke 1:49 (Mary, Mother of Jesus) • Indirect references: Psalm 111:9 • 2 Corinthians 5:17 • Acts 3:21 • Romans 8:18–21 • Revelation 21:1–8

Verse 2: *Compassion* • Direct reference: Matthew 9:21 (Woman with hemorrhage) • Indirect references: Psalm 86:15 • Psalm 116:5 • Psalm 145:8–9 • James 5:11 • Hebrews 4:15 • Matthew 14:13–14 • Luke 7:12–15 • Mark 6:34

Verse 3: *Welcome* • Direct reference: Acts 16:15 (Lydia of Thyatira) • Indirect references: 1 Timothy 5:10 • 1 Peter 4:8–9 • Acts 16:33–34 • Luke 14:12–14 • Matthew 25:34–40, 42–46 • Romans 12:13–20

Verse 4: *Living Way* • Direct reference: John 20:18 (Mary Magdalene) • Indirect references: Hebrews 10:20 • 2 Corinthians 5:14–15 • 1 Peter 1:3 • 1 Peter 3:21 • John 11:25–26

In every age, the Church is re-born. We are always surrounded by a cloud of witnesses. This hymn includes the words of an inspiring biblical woman in each of its four verses. (1) Mary of Nazareth was a young, homeless refugee when she bore Christ, our Savior; who, under the law, was illegitimate, a child refugee. Her faith and courage inspire the Church through all generations. (2) The first woman to speak in the New Testament, the woman with a hemorrhage, suffered persistent poor health, rendering her “untouchable,” for twelve long years. As Jesus passed by, she pressed through the crowd to touch the fringe of his garment and was instantly healed. Jesus stopped and waited until he heard her voice, insisting that she speak out. Her action and her words are recorded for all time. (3) The Church in Philippi began with the conversion of Lydia of Thyatira, a merchant in purple goods. She was the first Christian convert in Europe (Greece), who offered hospitality to Paul and his friends in her own home. Lydia is a model of hospitality who enabled the Christian mission. (4) In John’s Gospel, the first word spoken by Jesus after his resurrection is “Woman.” It is addressed to Mary of Magdala, who remained with Jesus both at the Cross and the Tomb. First to encounter the living Christ, she announced the resurrection as the apostle to the apostles.

Use: Easter, Pentecost, Church, Courage, Creation, Faith, Global Family,
Love for Others, Love of God for Us, Mercy, People of God, Sending Forth,
Unity, Welcome



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NOËL NOUVELET

1. Church of ev - 'ry na - tion, born in dark - est
2. Church of prayer and ac - tion, called to play our
3. Church of love and mer - cy, great - er than our
4. Church of res - ur - rec - tion, born on East - er

1. night. Church of new cre - a - tion,
2. part. Church of God's com - pas - sion,
3. fear. Church of liv - ing pres - ence,
4. Day. Church of new di - rec - tion,

1. Christ our Gos - pel light. Fu - ture un - cer - tain,
2. Christ our ten - der heart. Bold in our wit - ness,
3. Christ a - mong us here. Of - fer - ing wel - come,
4. Christ our liv - ing way. Shown to a wom - an,



CHURCH OF EVERY NATION, cont. (2)

1. in her fear and shame, Mar - y sang with
2. faith and hope com - pel, touch - ing Je - sus'
3. build - ing u - ni - ty, Lyd - i - a in -
4. doubt - ed and ig - nored, Mar - y wept and

1. cour - age, "Ho - ly is your name."
2. gar - ment, "I will be made well."
3. spires us, "Come and stay with me."
4. wit - nessed, "I have seen the Lord."

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