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Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation
St John the Evangelist Parish, Campbelltown

**Order for the
Conferral of Confirmation
*within the Mass***

7pm

Tuesday 8 September 2026

Wednesday 9 September 2026



The Introductory Rites

Gathering Hymn

Please stand

Gathered As One

1. Many faces, the young and the old,
Gathered as one in our God!
Throughout history the story's retold,
Gathered as one in our God!

Like those come before us: we listen and learn.

We remember the promise and await your return.

So without hesitation a new generation proclaims the salvation of God!

Gathered as one, with Jesus your Son, lifting our voices in praise,

We know and believe and long to receive: the bread that is strength for our days, Gathered as one!

2. Many pilgrims, sharing at feast,
Gathered as one in our God!
All are welcome, the greatest and least,
Gathered as one in our God!
2. Many voices, raised up in song,
Gathered as one in our God!
In one family where all can belong,
Gathered as one in our God!

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Greeting

Bishop: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Bishop: Peace be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Introduction

We are gathered here today as one family, united with our chief Shepherd of the Diocese, Bishop Brian. On behalf of Fr John and Fr Richard, St John's Parish, our catechists and the teachers from St John's we extend a very heartfelt and warm welcome to Bishop Brian.

To our Confirmation candidates: today, you stand with friends and family as a living witness to God's action. You are confirming your ongoing commitment to your Faith and being a light for all here today to see, feel and be inspired. Your Confirmation today and receiving Holy Communion completes the Christian initiation which began at your Baptism.

The Asperges – Rite for Sprinkling with Holy Water

The bishop moves to stand near the Baptismal Font. A server has the vessels to be filled with holy water.

Bishop: Water is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. In the beginning the Holy Spirit hovered over the waters and created all things. It gave life to the world. The waters of the great flood offered a new beginning of goodness, to Noah and the Ark. Through the waters of the Sea, Moses led the Israelites out of slavery to freedom. And in the waters of the River Jordan, Jesus was baptised by John and anointed with the Spirit.

When you were baptised, the Holy Spirit was given to you and you were welcomed into God's family as Children of God.

May this baptismal water remind us of the promises we made at our baptism. As we use it in this sprinkling rite, let us, through the power of God's Spirit, be healed of our brokenness and renewed in faithfulness and love.

The bishop takes water from the font and moves through the Church sprinkling the community with holy water. Music or an appropriate refrain accompanies the ritual action.

Instrumental music is played.

Upon returning the bishop goes to the font, tips the remaining water in and then returns to the chair. When all is ready he continues.

Bishop: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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Collect

Bishop: Let us pray

Pause for silent prayer

Graciously pour out your Holy Spirit upon us,
we pray, O Lord,
so that, walking in oneness of faith
and strengthened by the power of his love,
we may come to the measure of the full stature of Christ.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

5:16-17. 22-23

If you are guided by the Spirit
you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence,
since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit,
the Spirit is totally against such a thing,
and it is precisely because the two are so opposed
that you do not always carry out your good intentions.

What the Spirit brings is very different:
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control.

You cannot belong to Christ Jesus
unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires.

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pause for quiet reflection.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103:1. 24. 27-28. 30-31. 33-34. R. v.30

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,

How many are your works, O Lord!

In wisdom you have made them all.

The earth is full of your riches.

All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

All of these look to you

to give them their food in due season.

You give it up, they gather it up:

you open your hand, they have their fill.

All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

You send forth your spirit, they are created;

and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!

May the Lord rejoice in his works!

All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

I will sing to the Lord all my life,

make music to my God while I live.

May my thoughts be pleasing to him.

I find my joy in the Lord.

All: Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Pause for quiet reflection.

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful

And enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

14:23-26

Jesus said, "If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him
and make our home with him.

Those who do not love me do not keep my words.

And my word is not my own:

It is the word of the one who sent me.

I have said these things to you
while still with you;
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Presentation of Candidates

Please be seated

The bishop and other ministers take their seats.

Fr John: Bishop Brian, the Parish community of St John the Evangelist, Campbelltown, presents to you the candidates for Confirmation. Along with parents and teachers, they have been involved in a careful preparation and are now ready and worthy to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Would the parents of the candidates please stand and say together:

Parents: Bishop Brian, having already presented our children to be born again in Christ through Baptism, we wish to further their initiation into the Catholic faith by presenting them now to share in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation.

As Christian parents we wish to give them every help and encouragement we can, by our words and by our example, to practise the faith within the Church community.

(Parents please be seated)

Fr John: Would those who are to sponsor these candidates please stand and say together:

Sponsors: We are willing by our good example and prayers to be a spiritual friend, to guide, support and care for the candidate whom we will sponsor for Confirmation.

(Sponsors please be seated)

Fr John: Candidates, as your name is called, please stand and say, "Present" and remain standing.

(Candidates are called by name)

Candidate: Present.

Fr John: Bishop Brian, the parish community of St John the Evangelist, Campbelltown requests that you confirm these candidates.

Bishop Brian: I am happy to accept the candidates you have presented and to gift them with the Holy Spirit in Confirmation.

(Candidates now sit)

Homily

The bishop moves to a position in front of the altar and begins his homily, addressing the children who have gathered in front of him. When the bishop concludes his address to the children he will ask them to return to their seats. The bishop will then proceed to address the assembly.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

*After the homily, the bishop invites the candidates to stand and then questions them.
The candidates respond together.*

Bishop: Do you renounce Satan, and all his works and empty promises?

Candidates: **I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

Candidates: **I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

Candidates: **I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who today, through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you in a special way, just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

Candidates: **I do.**

Bishop: Do you believe in the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Candidates: **I do.**

Bishop: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church.
We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The Laying on of Hands

The concelebrating priests stand near the bishop. He faces the people and with hands joined says.

Bishop: Dearly beloved,
let us pray to God the almighty Father,
for these, his adopted sons and daughters,
already born again to eternal life in Baptism,
that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them
to confirm them with his abundant gifts,
and through his anointing
conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

All pray in silence for a short time.

The bishop and the priests who will minister the sacrament with him lay hands upon all the candidates (by extending their hands over them). The bishop alone says:

Bishop: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who brought these your servants to new birth
by water and the Holy Spirit,
freeing them from sin:
send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;
give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and fortitude,
the spirit of knowledge and piety;
fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Anointing with Chrism

The Chrism is brought to the bishop. The bishop goes to the individual candidates around the church. The one who presented the candidate places their right hand on the latter's shoulder and gives the candidate's name to the bishop.

The bishop dips his right thumb in the chrism and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed, as he says:

Bishop: **[Name]**, be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Candidate: Amen.

The bishop touches the cheek of the newly confirmed as a sign of peace.

Bishop: Peace be with you.

Candidate: And with your Spirit.

On Us Breathe

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The Universal Prayer

Please stand

Bishop: Let us come to the Father in prayer, inspired by the Holy Spirit,
who has sealed our brothers and sisters forever,
and empowered them with His divine gifts.

1. For the Holy Catholic Church, that the Spirit of wisdom and understanding
will keep us one with Pope Leo, Bishop Brian and our priests.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

2. For all who have been confirmed today,
that the Spirit of counsel and fortitude
may strengthen them in the years ahead.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

3. For our Parents and Sponsors, that the Spirit of piety
may make them an inspiring example of sincere faith.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

4. For young people everywhere,
that they may allow the Holy Spirit to guide their choices,
especially those who are considering the priesthood or religious life.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

5. For those who prepared the candidates for this sacrament,
that the Spirit of knowledge may continue to work through them in their mission.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

6. For this Eucharistic community, that the Spirit of fear of the Lord
may help them to welcome and adore Jesus, the Bread of Life.

(pause) We pray to the Lord:

Bishop: Father of all good gifts, we bring our prayers with gratitude.
You have sent forth the Spirit upon us,
the fire of faith and breath of divine life,
true to the promise of Your Son, Jesus.
We make these prayers through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Offerings

Open My Eyes

Open my eyes, Lord,
Help me to see your face,
Open my eyes, Lord,
Help me to see.

**Open my ears, Lord,
Help me to hear your voice,
Open my ears, Lord,
Help me to hear.**

Open my heart, Lord,
Help me to love like you,
Open my heart, Lord,
Help me to love.

**I live within you,
Deep in your heart, O Love,
I live within you,
Rest now in me.
Rest now in me.**

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After receiving the bread and wine the bishop and ministers move to the altar, where the bishop takes the vessel holding the bread, and holding it slightly above the altar, says inaudibly:

*Bishop: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you:
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,
it will become for us the bread of life.*

He then places the paten with the bread on the corporal.

The priest, pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

*By the mystery of this water and wine
may we come to share in the divinity of Christ
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.*

Taking the chalice and holding it slightly above the altar, the bishop says inaudibly:

*Bishop: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you:
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,
it will become our spiritual drink.*

Then he places the chalice on the corporal. The bishop bows and says inaudibly:

*Bishop: With humble spirit and contrite heart
may we be accepted by you, O Lord,
and may our sacrifice in your sight this day
be pleasing to you, Lord God.*

The bishop washes his hands, saying inaudibly:

*Bishop: Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.*

Prayer over the Offerings

Please stand

Bishop: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good
and the good of all his holy Church.**

Bishop: Accept graciously these your servants, O Lord,
together with your Only Begotten Son,
so that, signed with his Cross and with a spiritual anointing,
they may constantly offer themselves to you
in union with him
and merit each day a greater outpouring of your Spirit.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Preface I of the Holy Spirit: The sending of the Spirit by the Lord upon the Church.

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

**It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.**

**Ascending above all the heavens
and sitting at your right hand,
he poured out the promised Holy Spirit
on your adopted children.**

**Therefore, now and for ages unending,
with all the host of Angels,
we sing to you with all our hearts, crying out as we acclaim:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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Eucharistic Prayer III

Please kneel



108. The Priest, with hands extended, says:

**You are indeed Holy, O Lord,
and all you have created rightly gives you praise,
for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
by the power and working of the Holy Spirit,
you give life to all things and make them holy,
and you never cease to gather a people to yourself,
so that from the rising of the sun to its setting
a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.**



109. He joins his hands and, holding them extended over the offerings, says:

**Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you:
by the same Spirit graciously make holy these gifts
we have brought to you for consecration,**

He joins his hands and makes the Sign of the Cross once over the bread and chalice together, saying:

**that they may become
the Body and + Blood of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,**

He joins his hands.

at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

110. In the formulas that follow, the words of the Lord should be pronounced clearly and distinctly, as the nature of these words requires.

For on the night he was betrayed

He takes the bread and, holding it slightly raised above the altar, continues:

**he himself took bread, and, giving you thanks,
he said the blessing,
broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:**

He bows slightly.

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

He shows the consecrated host to the people, places it again on the paten, and genuflects in adoration. After this, he continues:

In a similar way, when supper was ended,

He takes the chalice and, holding it slightly raised above the altar, continues:

**he took the chalice, and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing,
and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:**

He bows slightly.

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU
AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

He shows the chalice to the people, places it on the corporal, and genuflects in adoration.



112. Then he says:

The mystery of faith.

And the people continue, acclaiming:

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

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113. Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion of your Son,
his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven,
and as we look forward to his second coming,
we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church and,
recognizing the sacrificial Victim
by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself,
grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son
and filled with his Holy Spirit,
may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

C1 May he make of us an eternal offering to you,
so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect,
especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,
with blessed Joseph, her Spouse,
with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs
with Saint John the Evangelist, and with all the Saints,
on whose constant intercession in your presence
we rely for unfailing help.

C2 May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord,
advance the peace and salvation of all the world.
Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity
your pilgrim Church on earth,
with your servant **Leo** our Pope and **Brian** our Bishop,
the Order of Bishops, all the clergy,
and the entire people you have gained for your own.

Remember also, Lord,
your servants reborn in Baptism
whom you have been pleased to confirm
by bestowing the Holy Spirit:
in your mercy, we pray, keep safe in them your grace.

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family,
whom you have summoned before you:
in your compassion, O merciful Father,
gather to yourself all your children
scattered throughout the world.



**To our departed brothers and sisters
and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life,
give kind admittance to your kingdom.
There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory**

He joins his hands.

**through Christ our Lord,
through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.**



114. He takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, raising both, he says:

**Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.**

The people acclaim:

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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Communion Rite

Please stand

Bishop: My brothers and sisters,
the power of the Holy Spirit enables us to pray and to call God Our Father.
So let us pray with one voice, as the Lord Jesus Christ taught us.

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Bishop: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

The bishop, with hands extended, says aloud:

Bishop: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

The bishop extends and then joins his hands, and continues:

Bishop: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Bishop: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The assembly exchanges a sign of peace. The bishop then takes the host, breaks it over the paten, and places a small piece in the chalice, saying quietly:

Bishop: May this mingling of the Body and Blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

Meanwhile, the assembly prays:

All: **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,
grant us peace.**

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The bishop, with hands joined, continues inaudibly:

Please kneel

Bishop: *May the receiving of your Body and Blood,
Lord Jesus Christ,
not bring me to judgement and condemnation,
but through your loving mercy
be for me protection in mind and body
and a healing remedy.*

The bishop genuflects, takes the host and, holding it slightly raised above the paten or above the chalice, while facing the people, says aloud:

Bishop: Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Hymn – In Remembrance of You

1. Jesus, hope for all, teach us to believe.
Reach us, hope for all, in water, wine, and wheat.
**Gathered at table, gathered in love,
food for the journey sent from above.
Strengthen and feed us in all that we do,
gathered at table in remembrance of you.**
2. Jesus, Son of God, you are living Word.
Teach us, Son of God, to share what we have heard.
3. Jesus, Lamb of God, bearer of our sin,
Free us, Lamb of God; come heal us from within.

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Thanksgiving - In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand
2. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ
3. No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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Prayer after Communion

Please stand.

Bishop: Let us pray.

Instruct, O Lord, in the fullness of the Law
those you have endowed with the gifts of your Spirit
and nourished by the Body of your Only Begotten Son,
that they may constantly show to the world
the freedom of your adopted children
and, by the holiness of their lives,
exercise the prophetic mission of your people.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Concluding Rites

Presentation of Certificates

The bishop addresses the sponsors inviting them to present the newly confirmed with their certificates. Our catechists, Norma McNally and Diana Hill, along with Emily Costello and Fr Richard Healey will present the certificates.

Greeting

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Solemn Blessing

Bishop: *Bow down for the blessing.*

Bishop: Confirm O God,
what you have brought about in us,
and preserve in the hearts of your faithful
the gifts of the Holy Spirit:
may they never be ashamed
to confess Christ crucified before the world
and by devoted charity
may they ever fulfil his commands.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Bishop: May almighty God bless all of you who are gathered here,
the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy ✠ Spirit.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Bishop: Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

Send Down The Fire Of Your Justice

**Send down the fire of your justice,
Send down the rains of your love;
Come, send down the Spirit,
breathe life in your people,
and we shall be people of God.**

1. Call us to be your compassion, Teach us the song of your love;
Give us hearts that sing, Give us deeds that ring,
Make us ring with the song of your love.
2. Call us to learn of your mercy, Teach us the way of your peace;
Give us hearts that feel, Give us hands that heal,
Make us walk in the way of your peace.
3. Call us to answer oppression, Teach us the fire of your truth;
Give us righteous souls, 'Til your justice rolls,
Make us burn with the fire of your truth.
4. Call us to witness your Kingdom, Give us the presence of Christ;
May your holy light Keep us shining bright,
Ever shine with the presence of Christ.

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Last updated: 4/09/2026 2:03 PM