



WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
January 21, 2024
Service of Worship 10:00 am

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Third Sunday After Epiphany



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*(Let the notes of our Prelude be the musical curtain through which we pass as we gather to worship together.
Let the preparation we make together be prayerful.)*

Prelude

Contemplation

Ethel B. Clarke



Call to Worship

David Adjei

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Let us worship God.



Opening Hymn #726

Will You Come and Follow Me



Prayer of Confession

David Adjei

One: Let us now confess our sins, trusting in God's boundless mercy and grace.

All: Merciful God,

in your gracious presence

we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Although Christ is among us as our peace,

we are a people divided against ourselves

as we cling to the values of a broken world.

The profit and pleasures we pursue

lay waste the land and pollute the seas.

The fears and jealousies that we harbor

set neighbor against neighbor

and nation against nation.

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,

of intellect and reason,

and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us;

heal and forgive us.

Set us free to serve you in the world

as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

(Time of silence)

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Do not fear, says the Lord,
for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.

God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth!
By the grace of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven!

All: Amen.

Passing The Peace

David Adjei

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



Prayer for Illumination

David Adjei

One: God of All Power,
Open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts with a spirit of wisdom and revelation.
Help us to hear your voice, to see your ways, and to receive with joy your truth.
In Jesus' name, Amen.



Scripture

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you."

So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Organ Anthem

Sea Shanty in G

John S. Dixon



Scripture

Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea--for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Sermon

“A Second Time”

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer Hymn #736

I Want to Be as Close to You

Gathering Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers From State Street

Ned Trudeau

Prayers of the People

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

The Lord’s Prayer

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**



Offering

David Adjei

Hymn #607

Doxology

Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

Statement on Ordination

Constitutional Questions

Questions to the Congregation (led by Leah Threatte, Clerk of Session)

Do we, the members of the church,
accept John, Kate and Felicia as Ruling Elders
and Mary, Marie and Dodie as Deacons,
chosen by God through the voice of this congregation
to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them,
to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us,
serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Recognition of Trustees

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn #700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Postlude

Paeon Exultant

Frederick Stanley Smith



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2024 CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Leah Threatte, Clerk of Session

2024: Nancy Holroyd, Susan Schell

2025: Ephraim Adjei, Peter McKee, Linore Southworth

2026: John Bossung, Kate Gallagher, Felicia Kollie-Gambles

Deacons

Mary Bullis and Dodie Seagle, Co-moderators

2024: Ruthanne Brod, Cynthia Dwyer, Mabel McGraw

2025: Kelly Crisfield, Carolyn Smith

2026: Mary Bullis, Marie McClumpha, Dodie Seagle

Trustees

John Bossung and Leif Hartmark, Co-chairs

2024: David Adjei, Leif Hartmark, Laura Moody

2025: John Bossung

2026: Pete Seagle, Dixon Southworth, Joy L. Tallmadge, Peter Wrede

CHURCH PROGRAM TEAM

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff, Pastor

pastor@wpcalbany.org

Cell: 240-281-5005

Christopher Price, Music Director

music@wpcalbany.org

Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education

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Emma Mrowka, Organist

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CHURCH SUPPORT TEAM

Lorraine Charboneau, Church Administrator

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Kim Deal, Communications Manager

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Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer

treasurer@wpcalbany.org

Joy L. Tallmadge, Associate Sexton

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726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

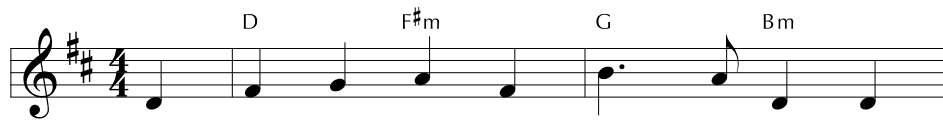
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

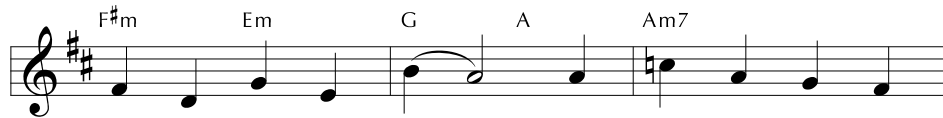
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

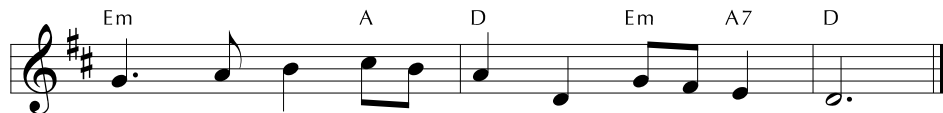
I Want to Be as Close to You 736



1 I want to be as close to you as
 2 I want to be as close to you as
 3 I want to be as close to you as
 4 You want to be as close to me as
 5 Like Mar - y, John, and Mag - da - lene, make



she who gave you birth. Christ Je - sus, let my
 was be - lov - ed John. Christ, let me fol - low
 Mag - da - lene who went, pro - claim - ing news of
 moth - er, broth - er, friend. Christ, keep me faith - ful
 us dis - ci - ples true. Like moth - er, broth - er,



“yes,” like hers, bring bless - ings on our earth.
 where you lead, by trust and friend - ship drawn.
 death’s de - feat, your first a - pos - tle sent.
 to your love, a love that has no end.
 sis - ter, friend, Christ, keep us close to you.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text centers on three significant people in Christ’s earthly life, Mary his mother, John the beloved disciple, and Mary Magdalene, the first witness to his Resurrection. With these models to guide us, we can learn much about how to live out our desire to be near to Christ.

607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551
Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

SERVICE MUSIC

here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;

praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)
 work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (my Lord,) (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.