



# WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York  
November 13, 2022  
Service of Worship 10:00 AM

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT WORSHIP  
The Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost



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** "I Need Thee Every Hour" Arr. Victor Labenske

**Call to Worship (from Psalm 98)** Lisa Petter

One: O sing to the LORD a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

**All: The LORD has made known his victory;  
God has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

One: God has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**All: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

**Opening Hymn #39** Great Is Thy Faithfulness FAITHFULNESS



**Prayer of Confession**

Lisa Petter

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

Lisa Petter

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

## Moment for Mission

Nancy Ost

## WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### Choral Anthem

“God of Still Waiting”

Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)



### Prayer for Illumination

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 Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD-- and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent--its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy all on my holy mountain, says the LORD.

### Sermon

“Fully Sufficient”

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff



### Hymn #372

O For a World

AZMON

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Gathering Celebrations and Concerns

#### Prayers of the People

Rev. Paul Randall

#### 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.**



#### Stewardship Reflection

Lisa Petter

#### Dedication of Gifts and Pledges

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

One: We dedicate our gifts to you, O God

**All: Help us to use all the blessings we have received, glorifying you and loving our neighbors.**

We dedicate our pledges to you, O God.

**Guide our Elders to make wise decisions about how these funds should be used.**

We dedicate our church to you, O God.

**Show us how to deepen our prayers, widen our welcome, and raise our hopes.**

We dedicate ourselves to you, O God.

**You are the Owner, Lord, we are the owner.**

We pray that all that we offer would be blessed, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



#### Closing Hymn #81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN

#### Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

#### Postlude

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

Arr. Victor Labenske

### About Today's Piano Arranger

Victor Labenske (b. 1963) is professor of music at Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) in San Diego, California, where he teaches courses in piano, music theory, and composition. A summa cum laude graduate of PLNU, he earned his Master's degree in piano performance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and a Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Labenske's compositional output of over 500 published works includes: sacred piano arrangements in various styles, educational piano music, music for violin and piano, music for voice and piano, and music for handbells. He is published by Alfred, Lorenz, and Lillenas music companies. Dr. Labenske remains active as a concert artist both as soloist and as a collaborative performer.

### About Today's Choir Anthem:

The text is by Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) who is an Episcopal priest as well as an adjunct professor of hymnology at Boston University School of Theology. Rev. Daw served on the committee that created the 1982 Episcopal Hymnal, to which he contributed a number of translation paraphrases, and original hymns. He also has written numerous articles for theological journals.

The music is by Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953), and this anthem was actually dedicated to our congregation. Fedak is widely known as a composer of church music with over 300 choral and organ works in print. His hymn tunes appear in hymnals of many denominations.

*God of still waiting, God of deep longing, God of the heart's true rest: hold us in fathomless peace, guard us with unwaning love.*

*Spirit of promise, Spirit of purpose, Spirit of ceaseless prayer: bathe us in life full and free, kindle our wonder and hope. Word who comes to us, Word who lives with us, Word who disturbs and heals: silence our chattering fears, waken our unconscious faith.*

*Word true and faithful, hope bringing Spirit, God of enfolding love: come in your fullness and grace, work through our lives for your praise.*

**We welcome Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher as this week's guest musician. Thank you Darhon!**

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*Flowers today are given by Gail Garrison to honor her parents,  
Anna & Thomas Garrison  
On the anniversary of her adoption*

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### **Session**

Leah Threatte, Clerk  
John Bossung, Nancy Holroyd, Felicia Kollie-Gambles,  
Hannah Ohemaa-Takyi, Susan Schell, Larry Volk

### **Deacons**

Mary Bullis and Dodie Seagle, Co-moderators  
Christabel Abban, Ervin Ashburn, Ruthanne Brod,  
Cynthia Dwyer, Kate Gallagher, Mabel McGraw, Elizabeth McMillan

### **Trustees**

Leif Hartmark, Chair  
David Adjei, Marie McClumpha, Laura Moody, David Norman,  
Pete Seagle, Joy L. Tallmadge, Kathy Walter, Peter Wrede

### **CHURCH PROGRAM TEAM**

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Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education

### **CHURCH SUPPORT TEAM**

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Kim Deal, Communications Manager  
Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer  
Joy L. Tallmadge, Associate Sexton

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## 39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 \*Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.  
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

\*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!  
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.  
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!  
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

# O for a World

372

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.  
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

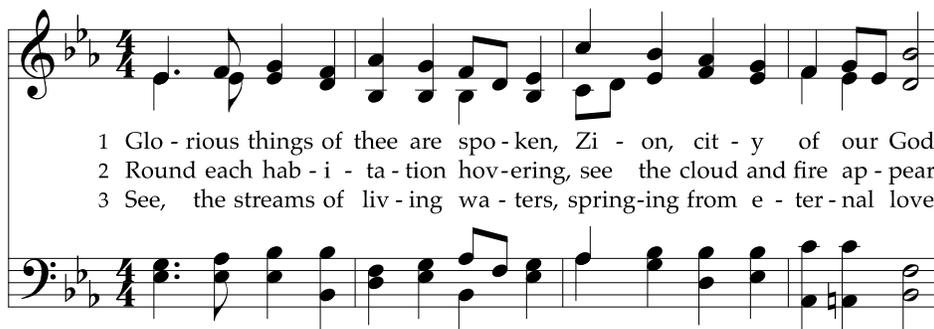
where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

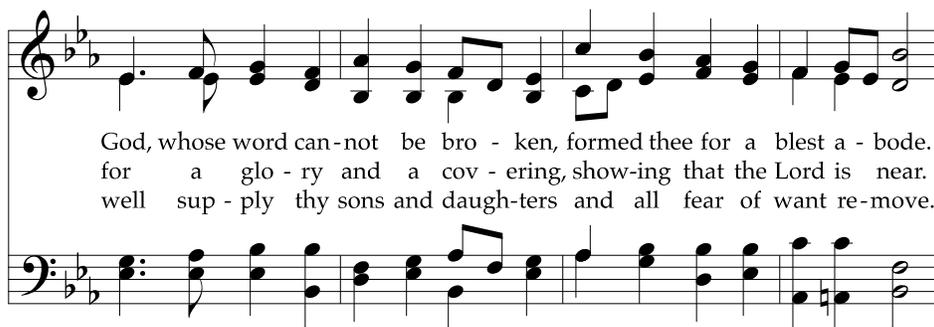
TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987  
MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839  
Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

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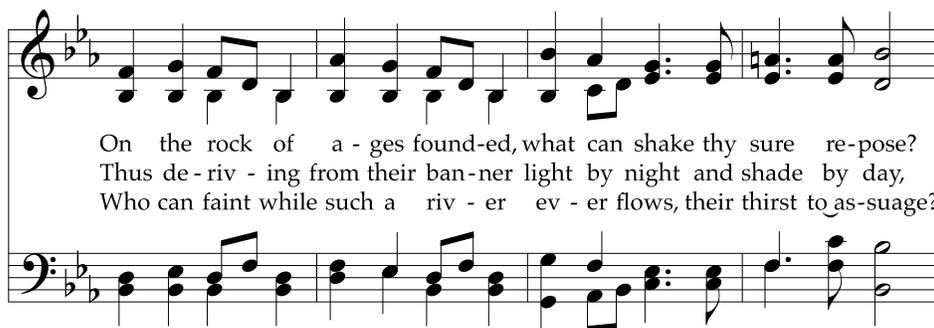
# 81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



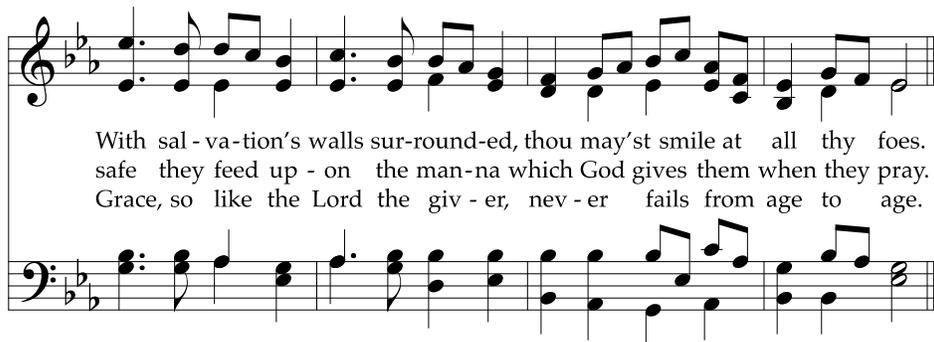
1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.  
2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear  
3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.  
for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.  
well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?  
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,  
Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.  
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.  
Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20–21 with allusions to several other passages.