



WESTMINSTER

— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
September 1, 2024
Service of Worship 10:00 AM

FOCUS CHURCHES OF ALBANY COMBINED WORSHIP
The Fifteenth 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

Hymn of Faith

Walker Baylor



Opening Hymn #54

Make a Joyful Noise to God



Call to Worship (Psalm 95:1-2)

Leah Threatte

One: O come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

**All: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,
singing joyful songs of praise.**



Hymn #26

Earth and All Stars!



Prayer of Confession

Leah Threatte

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: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Response Hymn #582

Glory To God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Passing The Peace

Leah Threatte

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Choral Anthem

How Can I Keep From Singing

Arr. Sally DeFord

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD



Prayer for Illumination

Leah Threatte

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 Lesson

Song of Solomon 2:8-13, New Revised Standard Version

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.

My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away,
for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Sermon

"The Time of Singing Has Come"

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer Hymn

Glorify Thy Name

Prayers of the People

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.**

Invitation to the Offering

*This morning's offering will go to the FOCUS Churches of Albany to support our shared work
meeting our neighbors' need for food and community support.*

Moment for Mission

Words of Appreciation

Hymn #647

Give Thanks

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff & Dr. Fred Boehrer

One: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
let those who have no money come and eat.

Isa. 55:1; Ps. 63:4-5

**All: God will satisfy our souls with a rich feast,
and we will bless the Lord as long as we live.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In every time and every age, O God,
it is good and faithful that we give you thanks,
for your mercy is sure
and your steadfast love endures forever.
In your compassion you gave us Christ Jesus,
who sets us free from death
and leads us to life eternal.
And so, with all creation,
with all the needy and hungry ones,
with all those who have enough and plenty,
with creatures large and small,

with sun and moon and stars,
and with the saints of every age,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Hymn #595)

**Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!**

**Santo, santo, santo. ¡Mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón te sabe decir: ¡Santo eres, Señor!**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things.
By your power and love you continue
to deliver your people from bondage,
thwart the designs of evil,
show the way through the wilderness,
turn hardship into righteousness,
and reveal your hand upholding the just.
Blessed are you, O Christ, servant of the universe.
You came among us to feed and heal and teach,
to confound the haughty,
to confuse the deceivers,
to challenge the wrong-hearted,
and, in all these things,
to give hope to those who long for peace.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night before he met with death,
Jesus came to the table with those he loved.
He took bread, blessed and broke it,
And gave it to them, saying: Take, eat.
Whenever you do this, remember me.

In the same way he took and poured the cup,
Saying: Take and drink.
Whenever you do this, remember me.

Now, whenever we eat and drink at this table,
We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection until he comes again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life.
You give us words when we have none;
you fill us with vision when we have the most need;
you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour.
Be our guide and teacher, today and always.

Come now, O Prince of Peace,
Spirit of Love,
Breath of Life.
Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew,
and teach us to proclaim with her,
"I have seen the Lord!" Amen.

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

Hymn #507
Hymn #699

Come to the Table of Grace
Fill My Cup

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Hymn #641

When In Our Music God Is Glorified

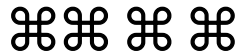
Charge and Benediction

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

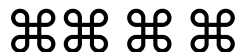
Postlude

Be Still My Soul

Charles Tsui/Trinity United Methodist Church
Jean Sibelius, arr. Cindy Berry



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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, Nathan Powers

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

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John Bossung, President

2024: David Adjei, Leif Hartmark, Laura Moody

2025: John Bossung

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

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Make a Joyful Noise to God! 54

(Psalm 66)

1 Make a joy - ful noise to God! All cre - a - tion sings your praise!
 2 Come and see what God has done, great the bless - ings to the just:
 3 Bless the Lord, our ref - uge sure; let our songs of praise be heard!

Great your won - ders here dis - played, un - ex - celled through - out our days.
 walked the cho - sen through the sea, brought their en - e - mies to dust.
 By whose jus - tice, we are tried; by whose grace, our guilt de - ferred.

Glo - rious is your sa - cred name, a - ges old, yet still the same.
 Let us lift a thank - ful voice for God's mer - cies, and re - joice!
 When our life's sure end shall come, bring us to your heav - en - ly home.

This paraphrase of Psalm 66 maintains a corporate tone more suitable for congregational singing than does the original psalm, which moves to a personal narrative in its latter part. The reference to "all creation" is strengthened by the associations of the tune (see no. 14).

26 Earth and All Stars!

1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals! Sing to the
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!

Lord a new song! Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing

snow - storm!
 cel - los! Sing to the Lord a new song! God has done
 work - ers!
 mem - bers!

mar - vel - ous things. We too sing prais - es with a new song!

This lively text was written for the 90th anniversary of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Echoing Psalm 98, it is a prime example of a 20th-century hymn style based on phrases rather than complete sentences. The exuberant tune was created expressly for these words.

582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
 B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
 F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
 C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Glorify Thy Name

Father, glorify Your name! John 12:28

Words and Music by
Donna Adkins

B \flat Eb/B \flat B \flat F Gm/F F B \flat 2 B \flat

1. Fa - ther, we love You, we wor - ship and a - dore You,
2. Je - sus, we love You, we wor - ship and a - dore You,
3. Spir - it, we love You, we wor - ship and a - dore You,

5 B \flat Eb B \flat /F Eb6/G F sus F Gm7 F/A B \flat B \flat /D Eb

Glo - ri-fy Thy name in all the earth. Glo - ri-fy Thy name,

11 D7 C/E D7/F \sharp Gm Gm/F Eb F7 Eb/G F7 Eb/F F7 B sus B \flat

Glo - ri-fy Thy name, Glo - ri-fy Thy name in all the earth.

GLORIFY THY NAME

647

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart; give thanks to the Ho-ly One;

give thanks be-cause we're giv-en Je-sus Christ, the Son. Give

Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the

poor say, "We are rich be-cause of what the Lord has done for

us!" And us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

Drawing on language from 2 Corinthians 6:10 and 12:10 as well as Psalm 126:3, this short and repetitive song can be easily memorized. The simple vocabulary makes it suitable for multigenerational use, reminding all ages how gratitude for God's goodness changes our perspective.

TEXT: Henry Smith, 1978, alt.

MUSIC: Henry Smith, 1978

Text and Music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (admin. EMICMCPublishing.com)

GIVE THANKS

Irregular

Holy, Holy, Holy

595

Santo, santo, santo

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you!
San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra!

My heart knows how to say to you: you are ho - ly, Lord!
Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res, Se - ñor!

Come to the Table of Grace 507

Capo 3: (D) (A) (Bm) (D7/A) (G)
 F C Dm F7/C B \flat

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) (D) (A) (D) (Em)
 C F C F Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/A) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 F/A B \flat F/C C7 F B \flat F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

699

Fill My Cup

Refrain

Fill my cup; let it o - ver - flow; fill my

cup; let it o - ver - flow; fill my cup; let it

The refrain of this gospel song by a well-known Presbyterian pastor and musician can be understood as a meditation on Psalm 23:5, while the stanzas reflect an updated and easily accessible interpretation of the prayer often attributed to St. Francis of Assisi (see no. 753).

TEXT and MUSIC: Isaiah Jones Jr., 1969

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FILL MY CUP

8.7.8.7 with refrain

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

Fmaj7 Em7 Dm7 F C *Fine*

o - ver - flow; let it o - ver - flow with love.

C

1 Lord, let me be your in - stru - ment, spread - ing
2 It's my de - sire to live for you and to

F C G Em7

sun - shine in the land; let peo - ple see your
al - ways walk up - right; give me the strength to

Am7 Dm7 G2 *to Refrain*

works in me; help me live the best I can.
face each day; stay with me through each dark night.

ADORATION

641 When in Our Music God Is Glorified



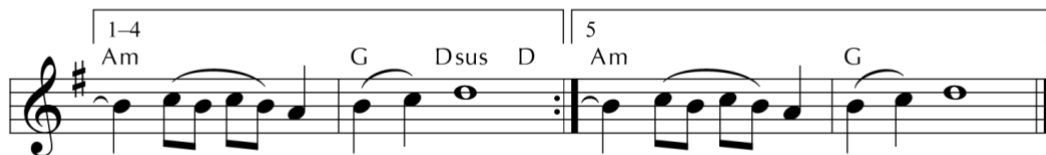
1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied,
 2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found
 3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song,
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night
 5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!



and ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,
 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound,
 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,
 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!



it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:
 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found
 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:
 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Written to supply this tune with words suitable for occasions celebrating music, this text explores how human song gives voice to creation, how music can convey new insight, how sung faith has kept the church authentic, how Jesus relied on the psalms, and how sound can be praise.