

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Presbyterian Church

Tallahassee, Florida

First Sunday in Lent

March 09, 2025, 11:00 AM



GATHERING

Call to Worship

Ethan Murphy

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
say to the Lord:

**My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.**

For God will protect us from evil
and commands angels to guard us in all our ways.

**God rescues those who love God
and is present with us in trouble.**

God answers when we cry out
and reveals our salvation to us.

Let us worship God!

*Opening Prayer

Rev. Glenn Hodges

*Hymn 165

The Glory of These Forty Days

ERHALT UNS, HERR

*Call to Confession and Decalogue

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me. **Amen.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol. **Amen.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. **Amen.**

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. **Amen.**

Honor your father and your mother. **Amen.**

You shall not commit murder. **Amen.**

You shall not commit adultery. **Amen.**

You shall not steal. **Amen.**

You shall not be a false witness. **Amen.**

You shall not covet anything that belong to your neighbor. **Amen.**

*Prayer of Confession

As Lent unfolds before us, great God,

we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem.

The road is long, our sins are many, and our burdens are heavy.

We can't imagine new life, Easter life,

because our current lives are filled with bad choices and failed efforts.

Meet us in our weakness.

Take up our sins.

Ease our burdens.

Carry us on the way.

Bring us to Jerusalem, at last.

Show us a love that is stronger than death,

a love no tomb can hold.

*Asterisks indicate to please rise in body or spirit. Congregational responses are in **bold print**.

*Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

*Sung Response (Insert)

Kyrie

Schubert

*The Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

PROCLAIMING

Prayer for Illumination

Sue Safford

Hebrew Scripture

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

TOULON

(sung by choir)

*Deep in the shelter of the Lord I dwell,
And in the shadow of God's love abide;
No pestilence or snare will me assail,
When God Almighty watches at my side.*

*Since I have made the Lord my dwelling place,
Home of my care and harbor for my praise;
Great hosts of angels, messengers of grace,
God sends to keep me safe in all my ways.*

*Beneath God's hovering wings I rest secure,
With calm assurance that my help is near;
God's loving-kindness my protection sure,
And e'er attends to banish all my fear.*

*"For I, the Lord, have bound you safe in love,
You need not fear, I will your rescue be";
Since You, O Lord, from danger me remove,
My song shall be Your praise eternally.*

Epistle

Romans 10:8b-13

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn 783

When We Are Tested

ANGELS OF HEALING

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

Rev. Glenn Hodges

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

RESPONDING

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Response, Hymn 467

Give Us Light

JYOTHI DHO

... Have Mercy, O God; Give us light. **(Verse 1)**

... Have Mercy, O God; Give us life. **(Verse 2)**

... Have Mercy, O God; Grant us peace. **(Verse 3)**

... Have Mercy, O God; Save us now. **(Verse 4)**

... all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Give us peace. **Amen. (Verse 5)**

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.

Call to Offering

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Anthem

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Richard Shephard

*Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins
And close by Thee to stay.*

*As Thou didst hunger bear, and thirst,
So teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self, and chiefly live
By Thy most holy Word.*

*And through these days of penitence,
and through your Passiontide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death,
Jesus, with us abide!*

*Presentation Hymn 712, v. 3

FOREST GREEN

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

*Hymn 618

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

DEO GRACIAS

*Blessing and Charge

Put away the past.
God is about to do a new thing!
God makes a way where there is no way!
God carves a path through the wilderness
and sends angels to guard and guide us.

Amen.

Having been reconciled by God,
we are now agents of God's righteousness
and ambassadors for Christ.

Live boldly, for Christ welcomes sinners
and makes all things new.

Amen.

Voluntary

Prelude in B minor, BWV 544

J. S. Bach

IN WORSHIP TODAY

“Kingdom” or “Kindom” in the Lord’s Prayer? Kingdoms were the dominant community structure when our Scriptures were written. Some find it meaningful to think about other Biblical metaphors to convey the ethos of care and genuine kin-ships about which Jesus taught and preached. Please pray as you choose.

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations — **We offer prayers for healing** for Alan Williams, Martha Kutter, Sandy Burkholder, Wayne Friedemann, Morris Springer, Patricia Yeilding, Cindy Harden, Carol Lou Phillips, Joyce Crawford, Bev Breedlove, Tara Reynolds, Sandra Sherrard, and Martha Snowden. **We offer prayers for strength and mercy** for Evanna (Wayne Friedemann’s sister), Patricia McCoy Delancey, Thaddeus Gillon, and Aidan (grandson of Sue Safford). We pray for the staff and volunteers of Second Harvest of the Big Bend and all our mission partners, and for victims of gun violence in our community and our country. We pray for the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Cuba, Pastor Izett Samá Hernández, and Pastor Alison Infante. We pray for peace in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, and around the world. **We also pray for those in military service**, including Brian Guisao, Ross Yeilding, David DelRossi, and Owen Elzie.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children are welcome in this service as full members of God’s family. Parents and children are invited to use whatever is useful in the basket by the back door. Child care for children under the age of kindergarten is in the Education Building. Please note that during worship the Education Building is locked. Please enter through the breezeway door.

Restrooms are located in this building through the door at the end of each aisle of the sanctuary.

An induction loop system is available in the sanctuary. To use the system, switch your compatible hearing aid to the T–telephone mode or request a wireless headset from an usher.

Large print versions of the *Glory to God* hymnal and worship bulletin are available from ushers.

Visitors: We are glad you are here this morning! If you have questions about our congregation or about church membership, please let us know by using the friendship registers or speaking to one of the greeters so we can connect you with the right people. Join us in the courtyard after worship today for some lemonade and fellowship.

Check-in
➔
Let us know
you came to
Worship Today!



QR Codes



Give Online!
←
Online Offerings
& Donations

MEMBERS OF SESSION 2025–27

Class of 2025
Donna Barber
Carolyn Bradley
Debbie Gibson
Patrick Kennedy
Sue Safford

Class of 2026
Jane Atkinson
Daniel Bruno
Eleanor Cleveland
Janet Fixel
Greg Riccardi, Clerk

Class of 2027
Kay Crowell
Jon Dodrill
Caitlin James
Mary Kutter
Deb Whisnant

Designated Pastor Rev. Glenn Hodges
Parish Associate..... Rev. Dr. Greta Reed
Organist..... Elizabeth LaJeunesse
Choir Director..... Ethan Murphy
Financial Administrator..... Fran Owens
Custodian and Sunday Host..... Becky Brown

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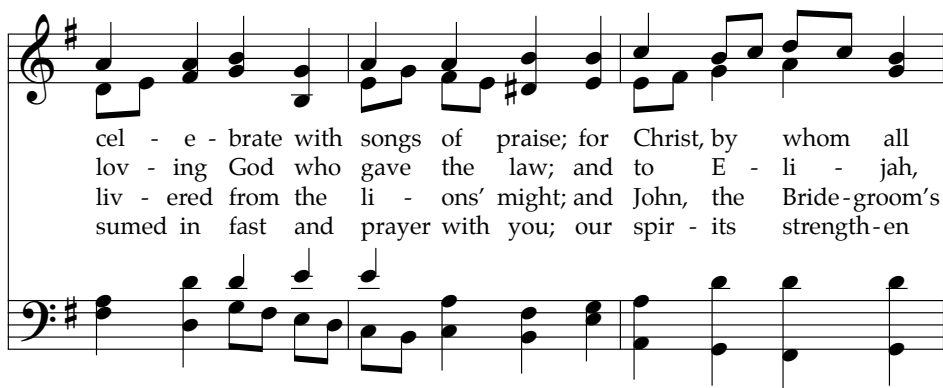


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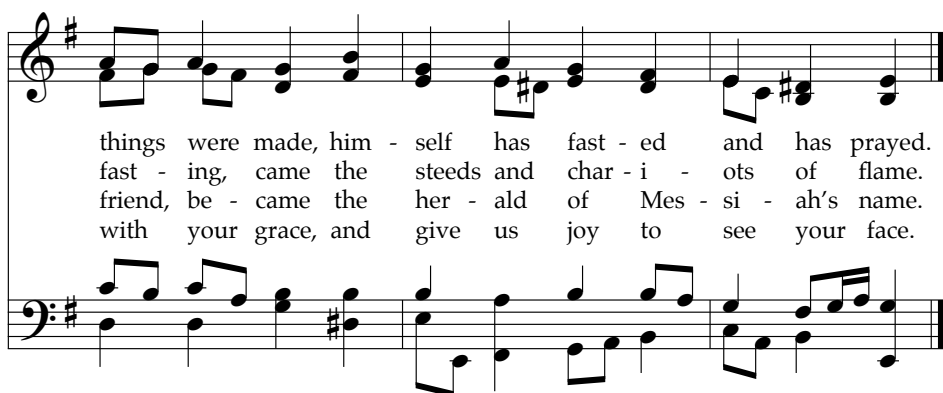
165 The Glory of These Forty Days



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
 4 Then grant that we like them be true, con -



cel - e - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, by whom all
 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride-groom's
 sumed in fast and prayer with you; our spir - its strength-en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Appropriate for singing at any time during Lent, this stately text connects Jesus' wilderness fast with the solitary testing of other prophetic souls: Moses, Elijah, Daniel, and John the Baptist. This sturdy 16th-century chorale melody formed the basis of Bach's *Cantata 126*.

When We Are Tested 783

Capo 2: (Dm)

(Am)

(Dm)

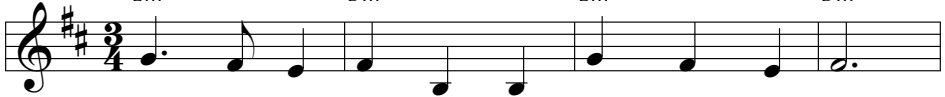
(Am)

Em

Bm

Em

Bm



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
 2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
 3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
 4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,

(Em)

(B7)

(Em)

(Dsus) (D)

F#m

C#7

F#m

Esus E



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
 plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
 trad - ing the truth for the power to con - trol,
 sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,

(G)

(D)

(Em7)

(F)

A

E

F#m7

G



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
 lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
 teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
 Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,

(Am6)

(C)

(Dm)

(Am) (E)

Bm6

D

Em

Bm F#



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
 trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
 seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
 an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Although the Temptation of Christ is mentioned in all three synoptic gospels (Matthew 4:1–11/Mark 1:12–13/Luke 4:1–13), this hymn is based on the Lukan version. It is notable that each stanza begins “when,” not “if”; temptation is not an optional feature of the spiritual life.

Give Us Light

Jyothi dho Prabhu

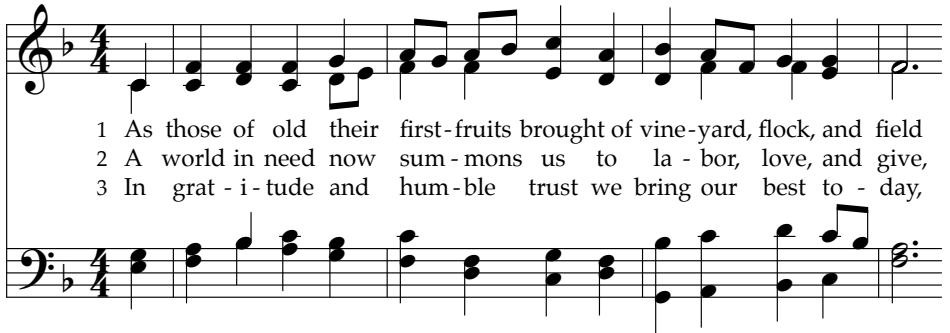
- 1 Give us light; give us light; give us light, O Lord.
 2 Give us life; give us life; give us life, O Lord.
 3 Grant us peace; grant us peace; grant us peace, O Lord.
 4 Save us now; save us now; save us now, O Lord.
 5 Give us grace; give us grace; give us grace, O Lord.

HINDI

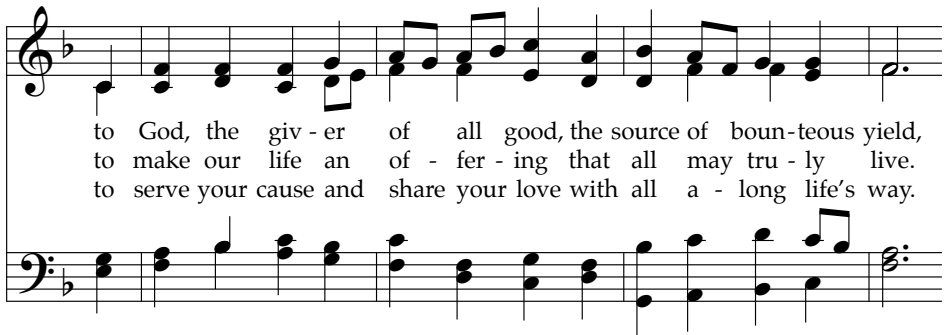
- 1 *Jyothi dho Prabhu.*
 2 *Jiivan dho Prabhu.*
 3 *Shanthy dho Prabhu.*
 4 *Mukthy dho Prabhu.*
 5 *Aasish dho Prabhu.*

From northern India comes this refrain from a typical *bhajan*, a kind of spiritual song praising the attributes of God. The Indian tradition of repeating important words and phrases (often even more than here) can be seen in this text drawn from images appearing in John 1:9–17.

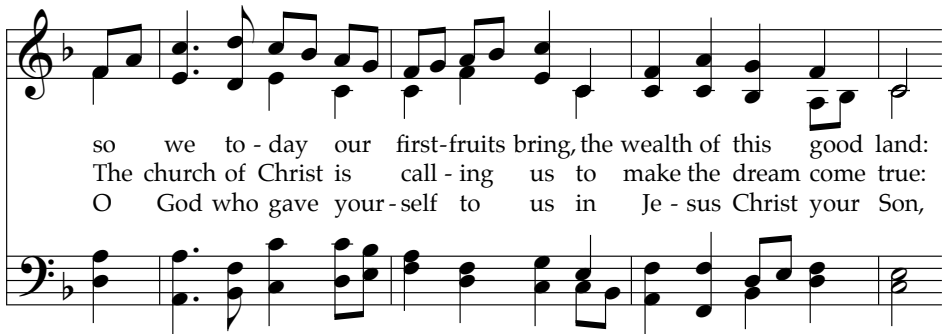
As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought 712



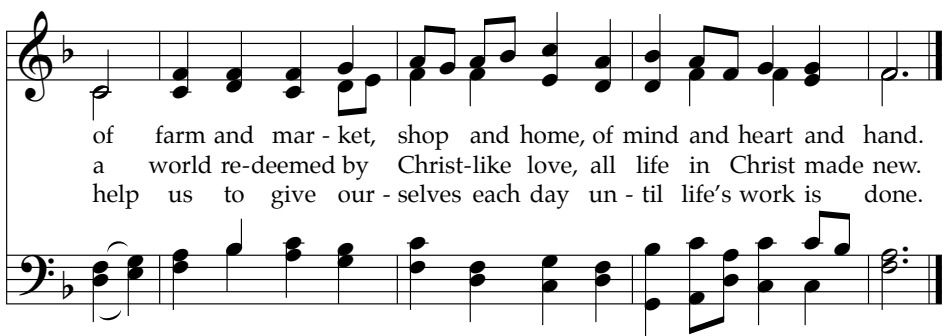
1 As those of old their first-fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la-bor, love, and give,
 3 In grat-i-tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to-day,



to God, the giv-er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
 to make our life an of-fer-ing that all may tru-ly live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a-long life's way.



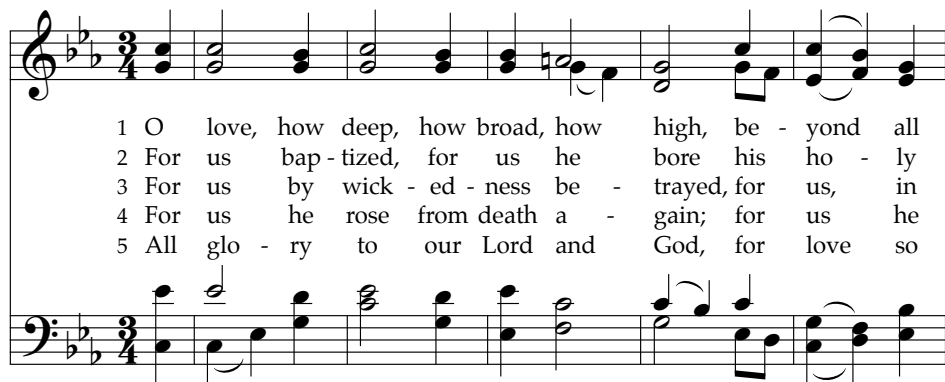
so we to-day our first-fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
 The church of Christ is call-ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God who gave your-self to us in Je-sus Christ your Son,



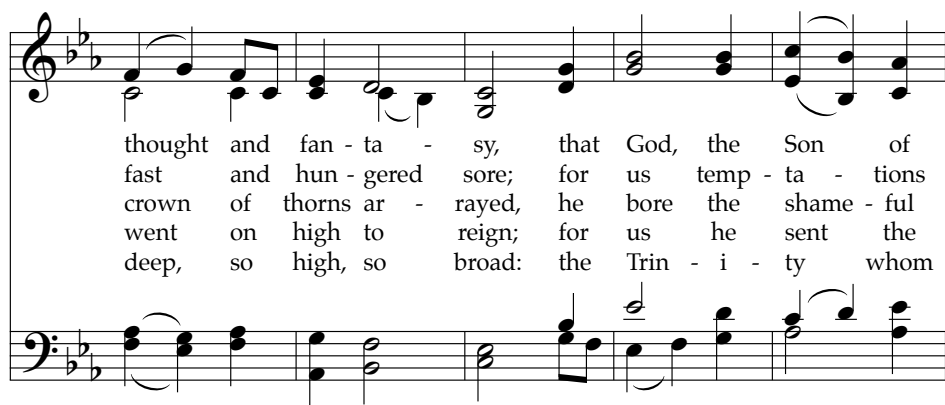
of farm and mar-ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.
 help us to give our-selves each day un-til life's work is done.

This text by a Presbyterian pastor in California expresses the conviction that being a good steward is an essential part of the Christian life, for self-giving is God's own nature. The tune is named for the village in Surrey where the arranger collected this tune in 1903.


618 O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed, for us, in
 4 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 5 All glo - ry to our Lord and God, for love so



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 crown of thorns ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 went on high to reign; for us he sent the
 deep, so high, so broad: the Trin - i - ty whom



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 sharp he knew, for us, the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 Spir - it here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 we a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Reducing a twenty-three-stanza Latin text to these five English stanzas intensifies this survey of the mystery of the Incarnation and strengthens the repeated reminder that all was done "for us." A comparable tone of proclamation animates this 15th-century song celebrating a military victory.