

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday In Lent
First Presbyterian Church
Tallahassee, Florida
March 15, 2026, 11:00 AM



GATHERING

Ringing of the Zimbelstern

Voluntary

Beach Spring (Sacred Harp)

arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Glenn Hodges

Minute for Missions

Mary Hodges

Call to Worship

We are the children of light,
rejoicing in everything good and right and true.

We worship the Lord who heals, liberates,
And raises us from the dead.
**In the dream of the beloved community of God,
We are awake, and we stand in the light of Christ.**

Opening Prayer

*Hymn 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LEBEN GOTT

*Call to Confession

How do we know when our actions are right?
When the fruits of our labors are good and true.
Christ is the light exposes all we keep hidden,
But offers us healing and renewal instead of judgment.
Therefore, let us hold up our sins to Christ's gaze.

*Prayer of Confession

God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world. We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles. Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions. Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the world your love and grace.

*Sung Response Hymn 575

Lord, Have Mercy upon Us

KYRIE ELEISON (Pardini)

*Assurance of Pardon

Jesus restores our souls
and leads us in right paths for his name's sake.
**Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow us all the days of our lives,
and we will dwell in the house of the Lord
our whole lives long.**

*The Peace

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

WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Caitlin James

Hebrew Scripture

I Samuel 16:1–13

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

Hymn 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (Psalm 23)

RESIGNATION

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8–14

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

*Hymn 314

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Gospel

John 9:1–41

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

Sermon

Rev. Glenn Hodges

*Affirmation of Faith (Adapted from the Confession of 1967)

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

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.**

EUCCHARIST

Call To Offering

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

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

Anthem

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Kathleen Thomerson

Arr. Mark Hayes

*I want to walk as a child of the light;
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world;
The star of my life is Jesus.*

*I want to see the brightness of God;
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path
And show me the way to the Father.*

*I'm looking for the coming of Christ;
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus.*

*In him there is no darkness at all;
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God:
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

*Presentation Hymn 607

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

*Hymn 739

O for a Closer Walk with God

CAITHNESS

*Blessing and Charge

May the steadfast love of God,
the abundant grace of Jesus Christ,
and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit
be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus:
If any wish to be my disciples
let them take up the cross
and follow me. **Amen.**

Voluntary

Restoration (Southern Harmony)

arr. Wilbur Head

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 Juana Maria Diaz Perez (mother of Ruben Diaz), Bob Rackleff, Rich Peyton, Brant Copeland, Martha Kutter, Joyce Crawford, Bev Breedlove, Tara Reynolds, Sandra Sherrard, Martha Snowden, Wayne Friedemann and Peggy Wright Cleveland. **We offer prayers for strength and mercy** for Evanna (sister of Wayne Friedemann), Patricia McCoy Delancey, and Thaddeus Gillon. **We pray for the staff and volunteers** of Second Harvest of the Big Bend as well as those of all our mission partners. **We pray 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.

Today we welcome Dr. Judy Arthur as guest organist.

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 door to the Narthex. Childcare 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 ground floor 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 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. We welcome new members after worship on the second Sunday of each month.

CHECK-IN



Let us know you came
to Worship today!



QR CODES



GIVE ONLINE



Online Offerings &
Donations

MEMBERS OF SESSION 2026-28

CLASS OF 2026

Sue Safford
Daniel Bruno
Eleanor Cleveland
Janet Fixel
Greg Riccardi, Clerk

CLASS OF 2027

Kay Crowell
Jon Dodrill
Caitlin James
Mary Kutter
Deb Whisnant

CLASS OF 2028

Carolyn Herrington
Sue Hightower
Bob McVety
Donnie Watts
Shirley Zahn

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

OFFICIANT
SCRIPTURE READER
CHOIR
CHOIR DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
VIDEO TEAM LEAD

Rev. Glenn Hodges
Caitlin James
The Adult Choir
Elaina Wilson
Dr. Judy Arthur
Carl Morse

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If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee 816

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful
 2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful
 3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine

heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -
 hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's
 own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of

tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in
 plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent. No doubt our
 grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er

God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
 in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.
 yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

Lord, Have Mercy upon Us 575

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm7)(Em) (C)

Fm Cm7 Fm D \flat

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -

(C) (B) (Cmaj7) (Em) (Bm7) (Em)
D \flat C D \flat maj7 Fm Cm7 Fm

on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Have Mercy upon Us'. It consists of two staves of music in G minor (three flats). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats. The melody starts with a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by eighth notes on A4, B4, and C5. The second staff continues the melody with a dotted quarter note on B4, an eighth note on A4, and a quarter rest. The third staff starts with a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by eighth notes on A4, B4, and C5. The fourth staff continues with a dotted quarter note on B4, an eighth note on A4, and a quarter rest. The fifth staff has a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by eighth notes on A4, B4, and C5. The sixth staff concludes with a dotted quarter note on G4, a quarter rest, and a double bar line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Fm, Cm7, Fm, D \flat above the first staff; D \flat , C, D \flat maj7, Fm, Cm7, Fm above the second staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: J. Christopher Pardini, 2005

Music © 2011 Birnamwood Publications (a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.)

KYRIE ELEISON (Pardini)

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need 803

(Psalm 23)



1 My shep-herd will sup - ply my need; Je - ho - vah is his name.
 2 When I walk through the shades of death your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;



In pas - tures fresh he makes me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.
 one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.



He brings my wan - dering spir - it back when I for - sake his ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;



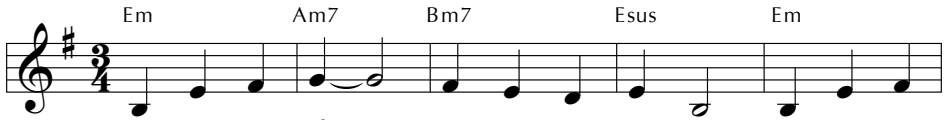
and leads me, for his mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows; your oil a - noints my head.
 no more a strang - er, or a guest, but like a child at home.



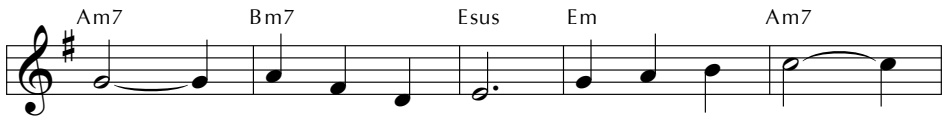
The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

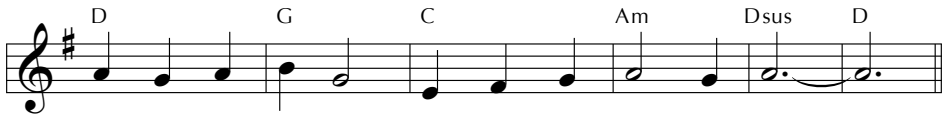
Christ, Be Our Light



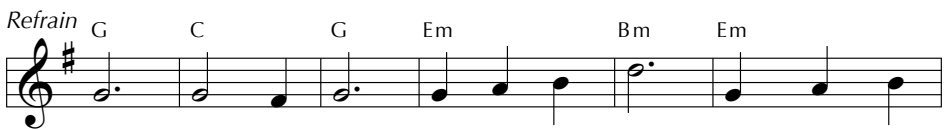
1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
 4 Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



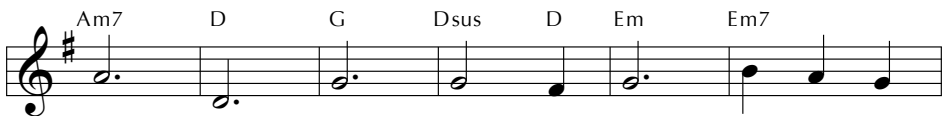
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



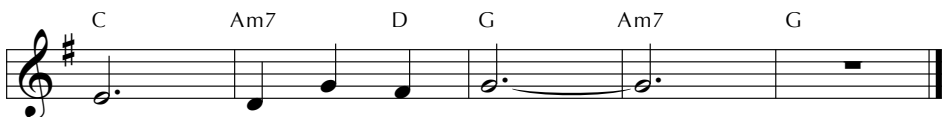
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.

607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology

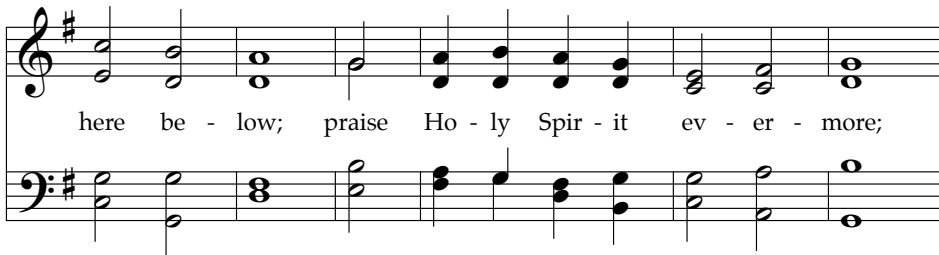
The image shows a musical score for a doxology. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. Both staves are in the key of D major, indicated by a sharp sign on the F line. The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style, primarily using chords and moving lines. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

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;

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.



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

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The upper staff continues the melody from the first system, ending with a double bar line. The lower staff provides the corresponding accompaniment, also ending with a double bar line.

O for a Closer Walk with God 739

1 O for a clos - er walk with God, a
 2 Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, sweet
 3 The dear - est i - dol I have known, what -
 4 So shall my walk be close with God, calm

calm and heaven - ly frame, a light to shine up -
 mes - sen - ger of rest! I hate the sins that
 e'er that i - dol be, help me to tear it
 and se - rene my frame; so pur - er light shall

on the road that leads me to the Lamb!
 made thee mourn and drove thee from my breast.
 from thy throne, and wor - ship on - ly thee.
 mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Merely longing for a restored relationship with God is not enough; real repentance requires amendment of life (stanza 3). The similarity of stanzas 1 and 4 suggests both continuity and improvement. This tune was one of the new common tunes in the Scottish Psalter of 1635.