



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship June 14, 2026 9:30am
Third Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

*The prelude, the first act of worship, sets the tone for what is to follow.
So, we invite you as worshipers to gather, to transition from your busy lives
into a sacred place of communion with God and with each other. – Dr. Kimo Smith, adapted*

PRELUDE

“Rock-a My Soul”

arr. Kirby Shaw

Belle Voci

Barbara Douglas, director

Leayn Losh, accompanist

Rock-a my soul in the bosom of Abraham

When I went down in the valley to pray, (oh rock-a my soul.)

My soul got happy and I stayed all day!

When I was a mourner just like you, (oh rock-a my soul.)

I mourned and mourned 'til I came through.

*So high, you can't get over it, so low, you can't get under it,
so wide, you can't get 'round it, you must go in at the door!*

*In worship following reflective music, we are requesting a response of quiet or a
contemplative “amen.” Any music that elicits a response of applause is to the glory of God.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Unison*)

ONE: What does the Lord require of us?

ALL: To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

ONE: God calls us to seek peace in a divided world, to stand alongside our neighbors, and to care for the earth entrusted to us.

AL: We come to worship the God of justice and mercy.

ONE: Come, let us bring our whole selves — our hopes, our questions, our gifts, and our commitments.

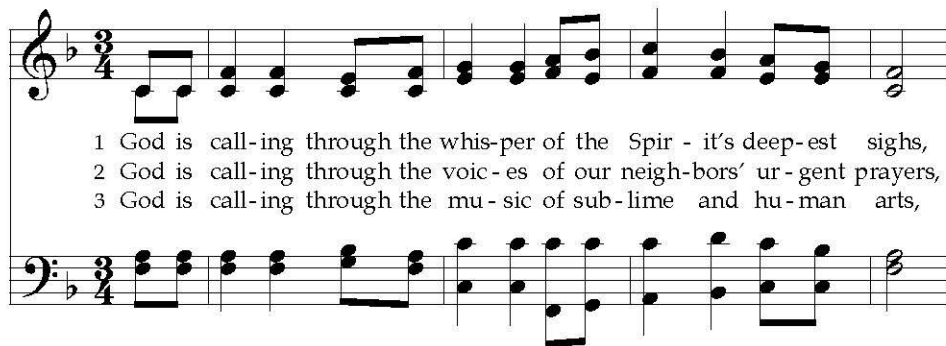
ALL: We will worship God with grateful hearts and willing hands.

*HYMN 410

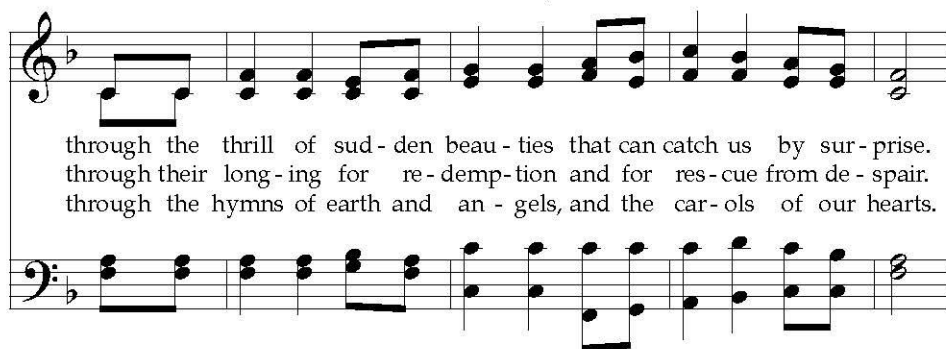
“God Is Calling through the Whisper”

W ZLOBIE LEZY

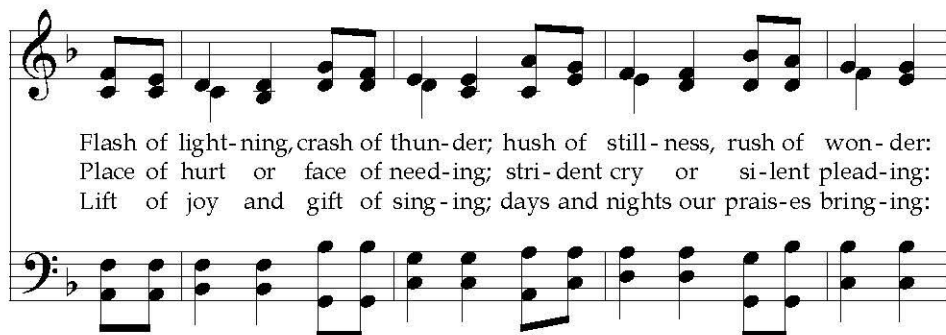
410 God Is Calling through the Whisper



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,
2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,
3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.
through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.
through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.



Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:
Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:
Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:



God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?
God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?
God is call - ing—and we hear! God is call - ing—and we hear!

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

The prophets remind us that God desires more than outward acts of religion. God calls us to lives shaped by justice, kindness, and humility. However, at times we stay silent in the face of injustice or ignore the cries of those who suffer. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Merciful God, you have shown us what is good. You call us to do justice, yet we often choose comfort over courage. You call us to love kindness, yet we can be impatient, judgmental, and self-centered. You call us to walk humbly with you, yet we rely on our own understanding and seek our own way.

Forgive us for the times we have ignored the needs of our neighbors or have remained silent in the face of prejudice, violence, or inequality. Forgive us for the ways we have neglected the care of your creation, using its gifts without gratitude or restraint. By your Spirit, renew our hearts. Give us the courage to advocate for peace, the wisdom to seek justice, and the compassion to care for the earth and all who call it home. Teach us to walk faithfully with you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The God who calls us to justice is also rich in mercy. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and made new. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God equips us to live with compassion, to work for peace, and to seek the flourishing of all creation. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven

ALL: Thanks be to God.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time, is on summer hiatus. Our Nursery welcomes young children, and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you and all others!

*RESPONSE 582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

GLORY TO GOD

582

Glory to God,
Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B^b F B^b F B^b 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^b E^b B^b 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.

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 4:25–32 (NRSVue)

Barbara Douglas

So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you

ANTHEM

“Peace Like a River in My Soul”

arr. Joel Raney

Belle Voci

*I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean in my soul.*

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found. Was blind, but now I see.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we first begun.*

*I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.
I've got peace like a river in my soul, my soul!*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Micah 6:6–8 (NRSVue)

“With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Karen Wright

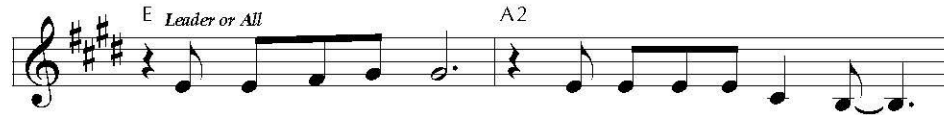
“Listening for the Spirit Among Us: Advocating for Others”

HYMN 769

“For Everyone Born”

FOR EVERYONE BORN

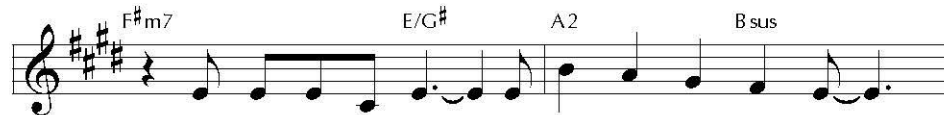
769 For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God's hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and that we who have been created in God's image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator's values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

Refrain

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes, God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice, jus-tice and joy!". The score includes various chord markings: B, All, E, E/G#, A2, B sus, B, E, E/G#, A2, B sus, B, C#m, C#m/B, A2, B sus, B, E (with a fermata), Fine, A2, E, B sus, B. The piece ends with a double bar line.

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and
 joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,
 God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,
 jus-tice and joy!

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

“Witness”
 Belle Voci

Victor Johnson

*Who'll be a witness for my Lord? Who'll be a witness for my Lord?
 You've heard the story and you understand, Samson was the strongest man.
 Samson went out and at one time, he killed a thousand of the Philistine!
 Samson was a witness for my Lord. Samson was a witness for my Lord.*

*Who will be a witness? Who will be a witness for my Lord?
 The king at once for Daniel did send, and then he threw him in the lion's den.
 Then God sent angels, the lions to keep, And Daniel laid down and went to sleep.*

*Daniel was a witness for my Lord. Daniel was a witness for my Lord.
 Daniel was a witness! Samson was a witness!
 Who will be a witness for my Lord? Who will be a witness for my Lord?*

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving and 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.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion

Prayer After Communion

Sending

*HYMN 749

"Come! Live in the Light!"

WE ARE CALLED

749 Come! Live in the Light!

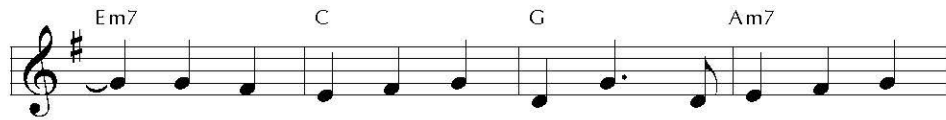
We Are Called



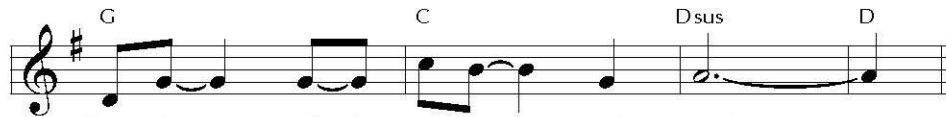
1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

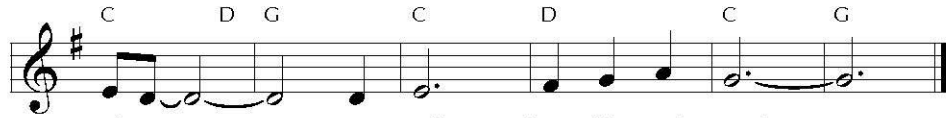
Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”
Linda Dover, organist

arr. by David Lowe

**Stand in body or spirit*

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Boulevard ♦ Overland Park, KS 66210
Phone (913) 345-1256 ♦ www.gcpc.org