



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Wor(k)ship Sunday

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 13, 2024

GATHERING MUSIC 658 (vs. 1) “God Is So Good” GOD IS SO GOOD
(ALL SING)
**God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good; God’s so good to me.**

INTROIT “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” arr. Sondra Tucker
Charter Ringers
Chris Krug & Celia Nicholas, co-directors
*Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.*

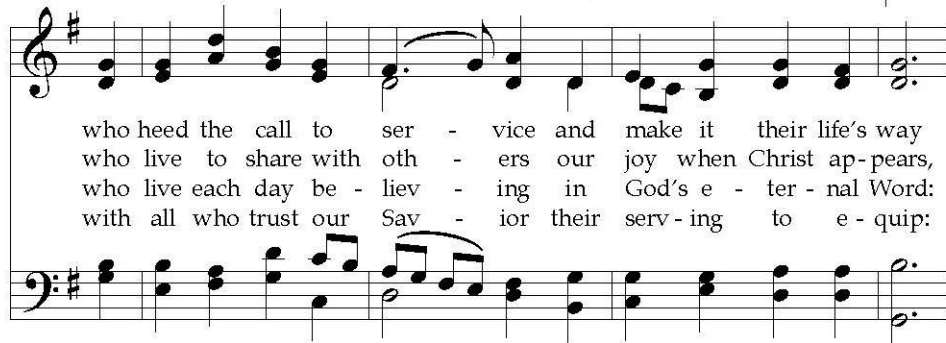
WELCOME AND WHAT IS “WOR(K)SHIP” SUNDAY?

*HYMN 644 “Give Thanks, O Christian People” ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

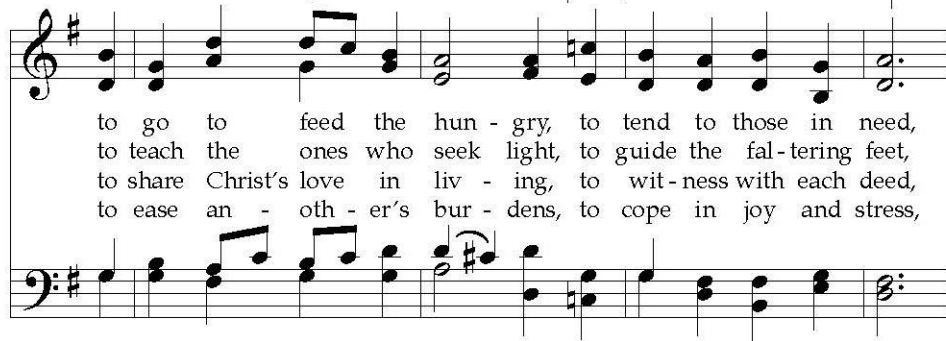
Give Thanks, O Christian People 644



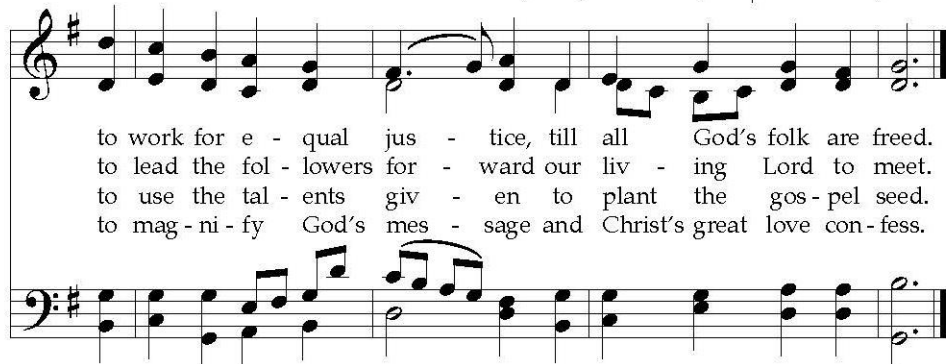
1 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for work-ers of our day
 2 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for lead - ers of our years
 3 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for all who love the Lord,
 4 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for life in fel - low - ship



who heed the call to ser - vice and make it their life's way
 who live to share with oth - ers our joy when Christ ap - pears,
 who live each day be - liev - ing in God's e - ter - nal Word:
 with all who trust our Sav - ior their serv - ing to e - quip:



to go to feed the hun - gry, to tend to those in need,
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the fal - tering feet,
 to share Christ's love in liv - ing, to wit - ness with each deed,
 to ease an - oth - er's bur - dens, to cope in joy and stress,



to work for e - qual jus - tice, till all God's folk are freed.
 to lead the fol - lowers for - ward our liv - ing Lord to meet.
 to use the tal - ents giv - en to plant the gos - pel seed.
 to mag - ni - fy God's mes - sage and Christ's great love con - fess.

This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 3:17–18

Kevin Johnson

How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“The Cost of Caring”

Rev. Karen Wright

From *Good Enough* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie

RESPONSIVE READING

ONE: Blessed are you who want your life to count, you who do the right things, who hope it will all add up to something. That is some good math.

ALL: But blessed are you who do terrible, terrible math. You who care about strangers. What a waste – that wasn’t going to get you a nicer apartment. You who give your health in service of people who might not even deserve it and who never say thank you. You could have been protecting yourself or, God forbid, sleeping through the night. But you are here instead.

ONE: Blessed are you who listen to long, winding stories from lonely hearts instead of rushing off to more interesting friends. You picked loving strangers instead of the warmth of being known. That was your time and you are never going to get it back.

ALL: Blessed are you who love people who aren’t grateful, the sick who endanger your health, the deeply boring who know you have things to do. Loving people can be the most meaningful thing in the world, but it can also be hard, scary, boring, disgusting, sad or anxiety-inducing with zero overtime.

ONE: So bless you dear one. You who made these bad investments, those acts of love that are not going to add up to success in the way the world sees it. You are the definition of love.

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Sellers Family

OFFERING OF GIFTS

“For Everyone Born”

arr. Tom Trenney

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers – Donna Heer, violin

*For ev'ryone born a place at the table, for ev'ryone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe space for growing, for ev'ryone born, a star overhead,*

***and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!***

*For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, dividing a system that's fair, **(Refrain)***

*For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong, **(Refrain)***

*For ev'ryone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for ev'ryone born, the right to be free,*

***and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!***

*HYMN 300

“We Are One in the Spirit” THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm) (Em)
 Fm Cm Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) (Em)
 Bbm Fm

we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) (Em)
 Bbm Fm

and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) (Em)
 Db Fm

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

(Am) (Em) (Am) (Bm) (Em) (Am/E) (Em)
 Bbm Fm Bbm Cm Fm Bbm/F Fm

love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION AND SENDING

WE GO TO SERVE THE LORD

RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE WITH OUR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE PAD:
Click this link: <https://bit.ly/GPCAttendance>, or scan the QR Code below, and it will take you to the link.



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