



# GRACE COVENANT

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship October 22, 2023 9:30am  
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

### Gathering

PRELUDE

“Prelude on ‘Repton’”  
Linda Dover, organist

by Richard Pantcheff

*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

Nancy Kalesz

SHARING OUR SONG

“Jesus Loves Me”

Adapted by Carol Huffman Dickerson

Joy! Singers (4s-1<sup>st</sup> graders)

From “Jesus Loves Me”

Emily Hussey & Hilary Schmidt, co-directors

by Anna Bartlett Warner

Caitlin Hussey, junior assistant

Singers – Rowan Cabe, Brody Frye, Henry Frye, Charlotte Hearn,  
Aidan Hussey, Evie Schmidt, Bristol Sellers, & Magnolia Sellers

*Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me; He loves me this I know.*

*Jesus loves me, yes, he loves me; the Bible tells me so. (Repeat)*

*Jesus loves us, Jesus loves us; He loves us this I know.*

*Jesus loves us, yes, he loves us; the Bible tells me so.*

*Jesus loves us, this I know.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Nancy Kalesz

**Leader:** Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, worship the Lord with gladness;  
come before his presence with singing.

**People:** **Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us,  
and we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

**ALL: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

\*HYMN, *stanzas 1-3, 5 & 6*

“Acclaim God’s Saving News”  
 (“The Covenant of Grace”)

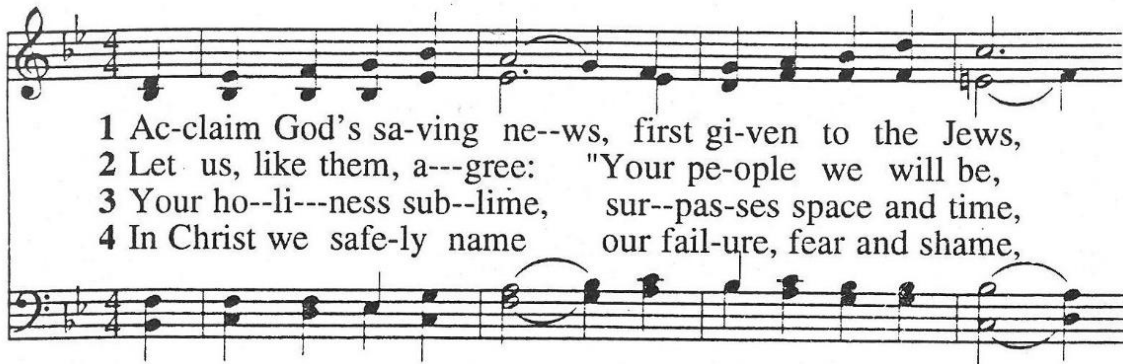
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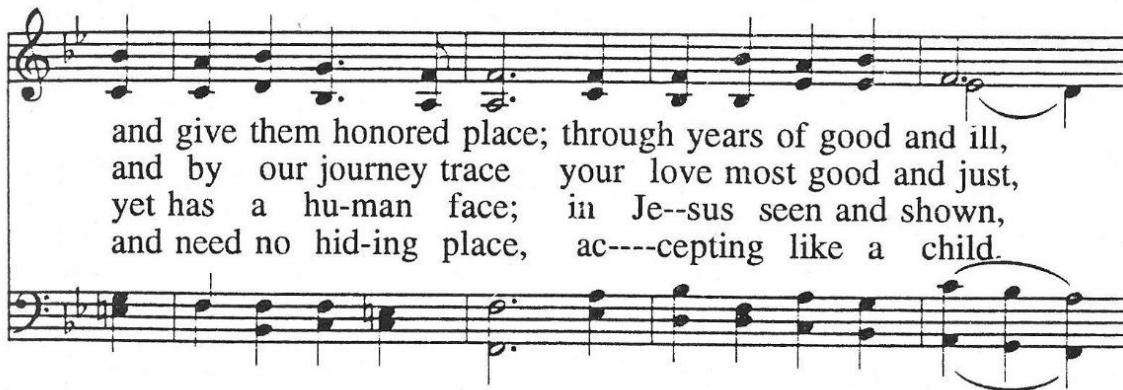
German hymn. c. 1800

Trans. Edward Caswall, 1853, 1858; alt.

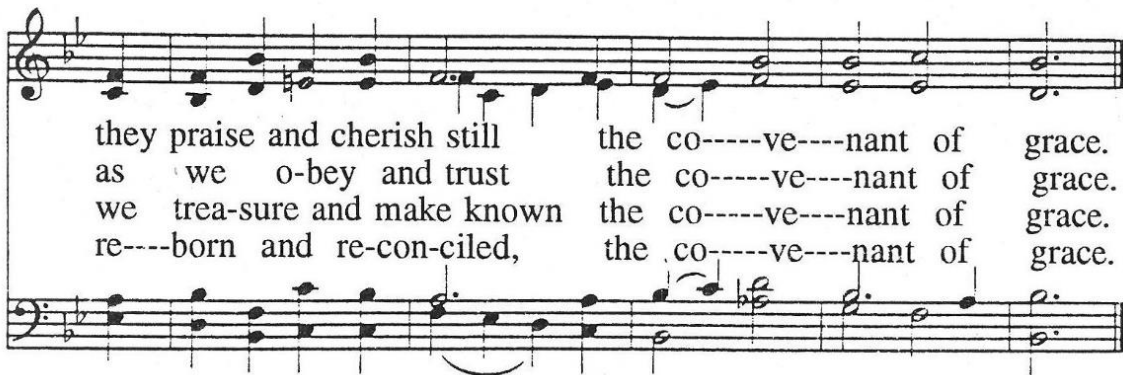
Brian Wren, 1995



1 Ac-claim God's sa-ving ne--ws, first gi-ven to the Jews,  
 2 Let us, like them, a---gree: "Your pe-ople we will be,  
 3 Your ho--li---ness sub--lime, sur--pas-ses space and time,  
 4 In Christ we safe-ly name our fail-ure, fear and shame,



and give them honored place; through years of good and ill,  
 and by our journey trace your love most good and just,  
 yet has a hu-man face; in Je--sus seen and shown,  
 and need no hid-ing place, ac----cepting like a child.



they praise and cherish still the co----ve----nant of grace.  
 as we o-bey and trust the co----ve----nant of grace.  
 we trea-sure and make known the co----ve----nant of grace.  
 re---born and re-con-ciled, the co----ve----nant of grace.

5 Forgiving and fulfilled,  
 we hope to be, and build,  
 a friendly, freeing space  
 for healing, growth and prayer,  
 where many seek and share  
 the covenant of grace.

6 We pray, in all we do,  
 that knowledge old and new  
 may nimbly interlace  
 with caring deep and just,  
 that others too may trust  
 the covenant of grace."

## A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

### “Walk Humbly”

by Jeremy Russell

Celebration! Choir (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders)

Pam Kelly, director – Angela Krug, accompanist

Singers – Helen Blankers, Melo Golston-Circo, Nini Golston-Circo,

\*Xander Circo, Abel Frye, Kamden Frye, \*Mallory Hearn,

Liam Hussey, Brynnley Krug, James Schmidt, & Max Soule

(*\*Soloists*)

*The Lord has told you what is good, and what he wants from you.*

*Do what is right and fair. Love being kind.*

*Walk humbly with your God, trusting all the time.*

*The Lord has told you what is good, and what he wants from you.*

*Do what is right and fair. Love being kind.*

*Walk humbly with your God, trusting all the time.*

*The Lord has told you what is good, and what he wants from you.*

*(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. 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.)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Nancy Kalesz

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

**Lord, we have sinned against you and against one another. Have mercy upon us. We long to be in covenant with you but stray from your guidance and go our own ways instead of the way you have taught us to go. Deliver us God from taking paths that cause us to be so self-serving and blinded to the needs of your kingdom. Draw us back to your word, your ways of living a Christ-like path. That we may be keepers of the covenant through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**ONE:** May the peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL:** And also with you and all others!

\*HYMN 307

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA

## 307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple  
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -  
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our  
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in  
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

## Equipping

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Micah 6:6–8 (NRSV)

Susan Fitzgerald

‘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 tens of 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?

### ANTHEM

+“Draw the Circle Wide”

by Mark A. Miller

Chancel & Exaltation! Singers

Terri Monrad, Bob Dover, & Beth Lillian, soloists

*Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
No one stands alone, we’ll stand side by side. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.  
Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song; no one stands alone.  
Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide.*

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:34–37 (NRSV)

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

**Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

“More Than a Promise”

Nancy Kalesz

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Nancy Kalesz, Melanie Townsend,  
& Kathy Williams

Eldonna Chesnut, Laura Johnson, Madeline Mahoney,  
Cynthia Monshizadeh, Amanda Noren, Nicholas Noren, Dixie Selvidge

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

Nancy Kalesz

OFFERING OF GIFTS

“What the Future Holds”  
*2024 Pledge Drive*

Jane Knoche

[Sending](#)

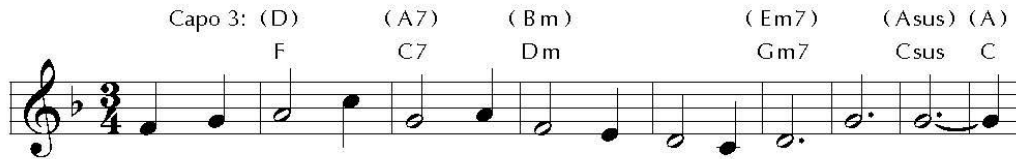
\*HYMN TO SEND US 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

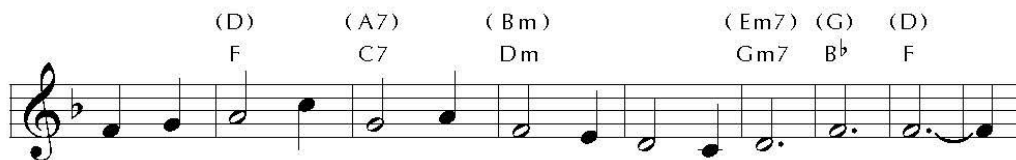
KELVINGROVE

# 726 Will You Come and Follow Me

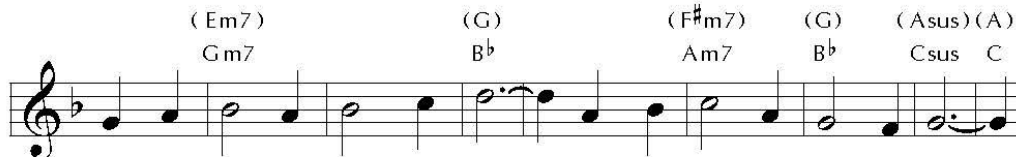
## The Summons



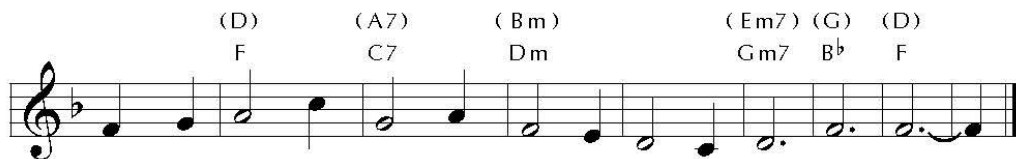
- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"  
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"  
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"  
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING BENEDICTION (Prayer of Peace)

Nancy Kalesz

POSTLUDE

*“Autumn” from *The Four Seasons**

Linda Dover, organist

by Antonio Vivaldi

arr. Alan Ridout

## GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

***+Today’s choral anthem, “Draw the Circle Wide” by Mark A. Miller  
was donated in memory of Co-Pastor, Rev. Mitch Trigger’s father,  
Wayne R. Trigger by Bob & Linda Dover and Jim & Pam Kelly.***

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