



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship June 17, 2022 9:30am
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gathering

PRELUDE

“Will You Let Me Be your Servant”
Linda Dover, organ

by Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rebecca Prater

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Rev. Stephen Wing

One: As people, as a group, as a community of faith -

All: we gather in this place.

One: To listen,

All: to speak,

One: to worship,

All: to pray.

One: To be with God, because we know

All: it is out of God’s love that we live. Alleluia!

*HYMN 451

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

OPEN MY EYES

Open My Eyes, That I May See 451

1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.
 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.

Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un - clasp and
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren

set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy

will to see. O-pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
 will to see. O-pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are hesitant to confess, Holy God, how hard it is to love as you wish. It is easy to love you with all that we are, except when you ask us to love our neighbor with all that we have. We find it hard to love our neighbor, when it is linked to the way we love ourselves. And it is difficult to love anyone—even you—more than we love ourselves. Forgive us, Love Eternal. As you took a risk in creating us, help us to take risks to love others compassionately, to love ourselves genuinely, and to love you as completely as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: You are God's beloved. Peace be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

Equipping

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 10:25–37 (*The Message*)

Nelson Townsend

Just then a religion scholar stood up with a question to test Jesus. "Teacher, what do I need to do to get eternal life?" He answered, "What's written in God's Law? How do you interpret it?" He said, "That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence — and that you love your neighbor as well as you do yourself." "Good answer!" said Jesus. "Do it and you'll live." Looking for a loophole, he asked, "And just how would you define 'neighbor'?" Jesus answered by telling a story. "There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man. "A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man's condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I'll pay you on my way back.' "What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?" "The one who treated him kindly," the religion scholar responded. Jesus said, "Go and do the same."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

“This Is My Word”
Chancel & Exaltation! Singers

by Pepper Choplin
based on Isaiah 55:10-12

*As the snow falls from heaven
as it comes in swirling showers from the sky, so is my word.
As the rains bring the water to the earth that is thirsty and dry, so is my word.
And the word of my mouth, it shall not return empty,
it will bless the earth wherever it is heard, this is my word.
As the rains bring renewal and the tender buds begin to come alive, so is my word.
Giving seed to the sower and the bread to the hungry till they thrive, so is my word.
O Lord, when I am weary, when I feel the days I’m living are in vain,
my God, help me be faithful to the word you have given to proclaim.
And you will go out in joy and be led forth in peace,
and the hills will break before you into song.
So be faithful, brave, and true, for I will go before you.
And when your earthly journey here is done, I’ll say well done.
As the snow falls from heaven and the
rain comes in showers from the sky, this is my word.*

SERMON

“I Love You”

Rev. Stephen Wing

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

“Repton”
Linda Dover, piano

by Richard Pantcheff

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Sending](#)

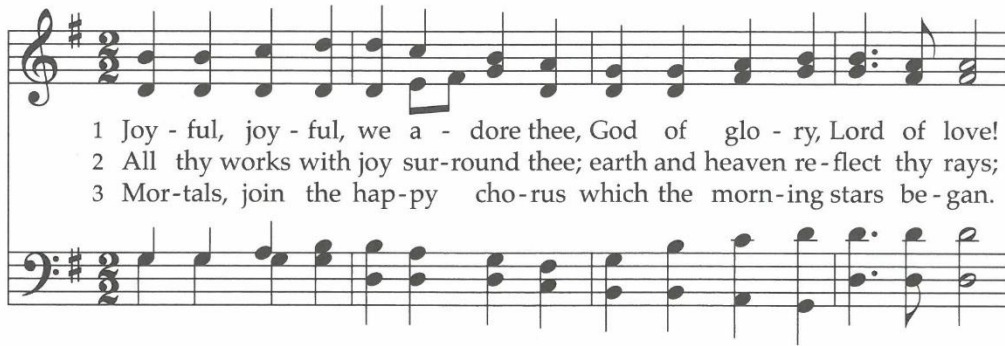
*HYMN 611

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

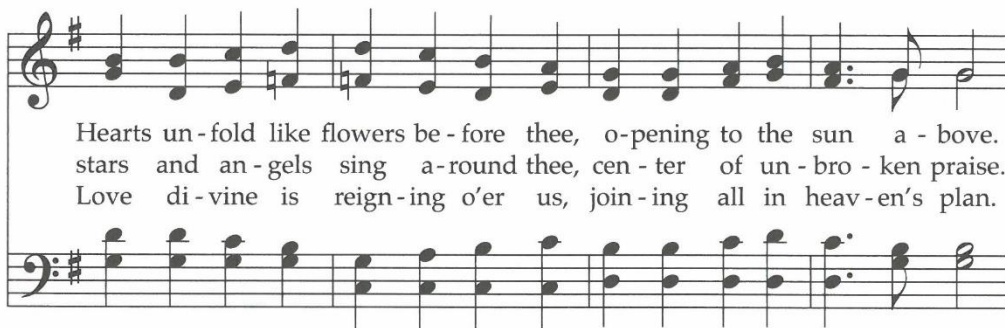
HYMN TO JOY

ADORATION

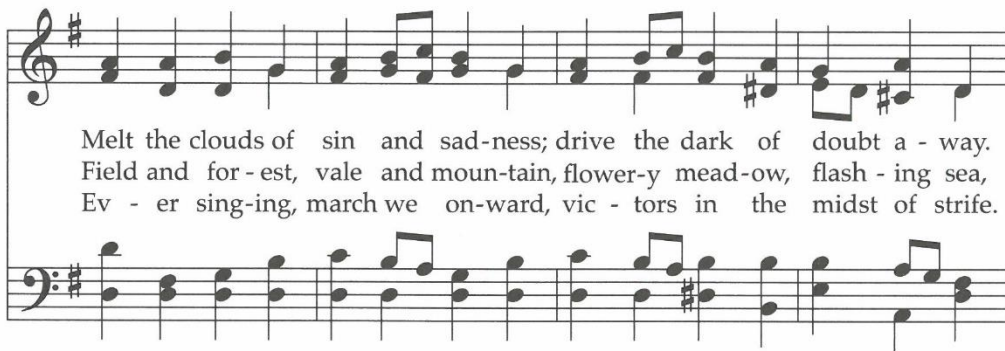
611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



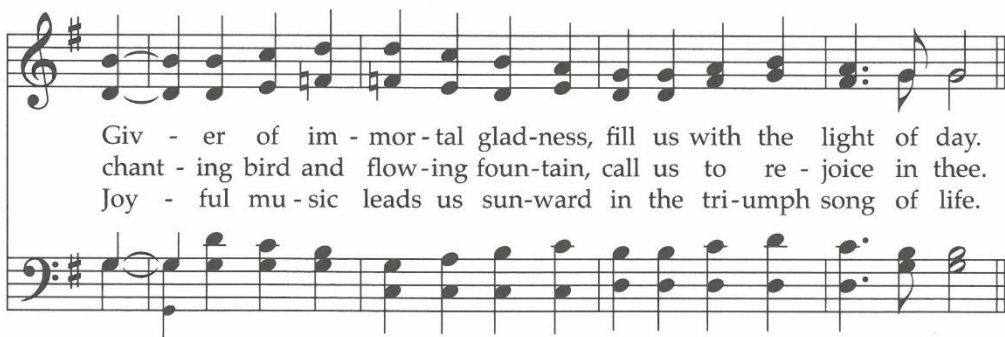
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-lect thy rays;
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.



Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a-bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.



Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Recessional”
Linda Dover, organ

by Thomas R. Berdos

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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