



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 25, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

“Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”
Marty Franklin

Wayne Wold

Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD’S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Many: The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

One: Let the peoples praise you, O God.

All: Let all the peoples praise you! Alleluia!

***Hymn (#307)**

God of Grace and God of Glory

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD’S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

God of the city, God of the town. You call us to come to you in the world, but we disobey you. We choose power and profit over the acts of love that you exemplify

for us again and again. We are content to work within systems that oppress instead of working to change things. We forget that everything comes from you, and that we are just stewards of what you have given. We seek out mountain tops instead of being among your people. Forgive us Lord, for the times that we forget your call to fully follow your example in the world. Embolden us to live fully in your call: to love our neighbor. (Silence)

*Responsive Assurance of Pardon

One: God blesses us, again and again,
despite the times that we mess up, despite us ignoring God.
Friends, know and believe the good news of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

*Sharing a Sign of Christ's Peace

***Congregational Response (#240 refrain, sing 2x)** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson John 5:1-9
(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)

Anthem	Near to the Heart of God	Jimbo Stevens
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Second Scripture Lesson Acts 16:9-15
(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)

Sermon Come... Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

from the *Confession of Belhar*

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;

We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain,

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways; in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope and together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ.



***Hymn (#733)**

We All Are One in Mission

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Call to Generosity

Offertory

"Come, Ye Faithful" Variation II

Wayne Wold

***Congregational Response (#607, alt. tune #15)**

*Praise God,
from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***Prayer of Dedication**

One: Ever-Giving God, as spring bursts forth its blossoms in witness to your love,
you bless us from generation to generation with the new life of Easter faith.
All: **All that we have and all that we are come from you, O God,
so we gladly share this offering, that others too may be blessed,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#295)**

Go to the World!

***Charge & Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

***Postlude**

Postlude on GAUDEAMUS PARITER

Wayne Wold

***Please rise, in body or spirit.**



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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

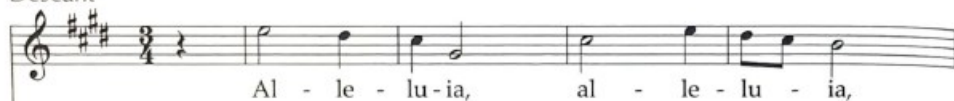
bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

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.

240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Descant



- 1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
- 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
- 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,



He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
Now we shall live for - ev - er.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.



This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.

TEXT: Donald Fishel, 1971

MUSIC: Donald Fishel, 1971; arr. Betty Pulkingham and Donald Fishel, 1979

Text and Music © 1973 International Liturgy Publications

ALLELUIA NO. 1
8.8 with refrain

733 We All Are One in Mission

1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
 2 We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - ferent; our pur - pose is the same:
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing word.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so ev - ery folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

A Lutheran pastor wrote this text in response to a bishop's letter that said, "Our mission is to touch the lives of others with Christ's love." This theme is made stronger by recognizing that shared purposes do not require the denial of diversity but are enriched by it.

TEXT: Rusty Edwards, 1985, all.

MUSIC: Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904

Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

7.6.7.6.D

607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The melody in the treble staff consists of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988

MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg

OLD HUNDREDTH

LM

here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a few rests, and the bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

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

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a final chord, and the bass staff has a final whole note chord. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Go to the World!

295



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
 2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place.
 3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
 4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
 Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
 the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
 for I am with you till the age shall end,

bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
 Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
 As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
 when all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19-20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.