



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME June 29, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Prelude on THAXTED
Marty Franklin

Shelton Ridge Love

Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."

Many: Lord, help us follow where you lead.

One: Jesus said, "If any wish to come after me,
let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Many: Lord, help us put you first and follow you.

One: Jesus said, "Whoever serves me must follow me,
and where I am, there will my servant be also."

Many: Lord, help us follow you that we may serve you.

One: The peace of Christ be with all of you.

All: And also with you. Let us worship God!

***Hymn (#810)**

When in the Night I Meditate

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

Eternal God, you claimed us as your own in our baptisms and called us to be your covenant people. We confess we do not live as people created in your image, nor do we lead lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called. Jesus still calls, "Follow me" and we offer excuses because we can't do that. Jesus calls us to new life in the Spirit, and we cling to our old habits and tired traditions. Gracious God, forgive our sins. Open our ears and hearts to hear Jesus's call and give us grace and strength to respond in faith and love. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, God saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to God's mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

All: God has poured out the Spirit on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

One: So let us declare the good news of the gospel:

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

***Sharing a Sign of Christ's Peace**

***Congregational Response (#582, v. 1)** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination (#455)

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken

First Scripture Lesson

Luke 9:51-62

*(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)*

Anthem

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

Tom Fettke &
Linda Lee Johnson

Second Scripture Lesson

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

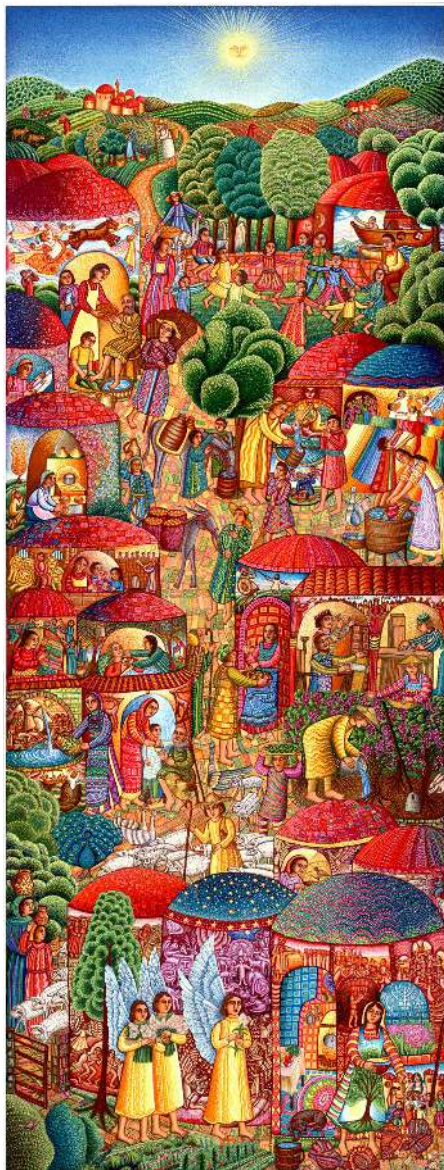
(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sermon

Choosing Freedom

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH



***Affirmation of Faith** from “A Declaration of Faith”

We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord’ He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord. Amen.

***Hymn (#292)**

As the Wind Song

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer

Call to Generosity

Offertory

Soliloquy

King Richard III

***Congregational Response (#607, alt. tune #606)**

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

One: Gracious and loving God,

All: **We thank you for the undeserved blessings you give us. Most of all, we thank and praise you for your indescribable gift of your Son Jesus Christ. Give us grateful hearts and willing lives so we may follow our Lord where he leads us and serve our Lord as he calls us. Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#544, sing 3x)**

Bless the Lord

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

A Joyful Recessional

Lani Smith

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



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810 When in the Night I Meditate

(Psalm 16)

1 When in the night I med - i - tate on
 2 For - ev - er in my thought, the Lord be -
 3 My in - most be - ing thrills with joy and
 4 I know that I shall not be left for -
 5 The path of life you show to me; of

mer - cies mul - ti - plied, my grate - ful heart in -
 fore my face shall stand; se - cure, un - moved I
 glad - ness fills my breast; be - cause on God my
 got - ten in the grave, and from cor - rup - tion,
 joy a bound - less store is ev - er found at

spires my tongue to bless the Lord, my guide.
 shall re - main, with God at my right hand.
 trust is stayed, my flesh in hope shall rest.
 you, O Lord, your ho - ly one will save.
 your right hand, and plea - sures ev - er - more.

Corresponding to Psalm 16:7–11, these five stanzas celebrating God's guidance and protection formed the second half of a paraphrase of the full psalm in their original publication. These words are set to a 16th-century psalm tune that has been effective with many texts.

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, 7 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, 7 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, 7 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.

455 Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken

The musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

Lis - ten to the word that God has spo - ken; lis - ten to the

One who is close at hand; lis - ten to the voice that be -

gan cre - a - tion; lis - ten e - ven if you don't un - der - stand.

May be sung as a round, successive voices entering ad lib.

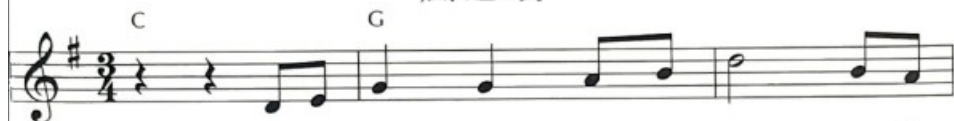
Like "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" (see no. 453), this short song from Canada is an encouragement to pay attention to what God is saying. The significance of the text is enhanced by singing this piece as a round, allowing the overlapping phrases to yield a single message.

TEXT: Anon. Canadian, alt.
MUSIC: Anon. Canadian; adapt. *Church Hymnary*, 4th Edition, 2005

LISTEN
10.10.11.10

As the Wind Song

風之頌



1 As the wind song through the trees, as the
 2 As the rain - bow af - ter rain, as the
 1 風之頌, 林中吹送, 輕風之
 2 彩之虹, 雨後高懸, 生之



stir - ring of the breeze, so it is with the Spir - it of
 hope that's born a - gain, so it is with the Spir - it of
 送心中振動, 上主的靈如風吹
 盼, 人間再現, 上主的靈如風吹



God, as the heart made strange-ly warm, as the
 God, as the green in the spring, as a
 送; 心溫暖, 奇異難明, 風浪
 送; 春天裡, 青山綠水, 線上



voice with - in the storm, so it is with the Spir - it of
 kite on a string, so it is with the Spir - it of
 中, 靜聽主聲, 上主的靈如風吹
 繫飛揚風箏, 上主的靈如風吹



God. Nev - er seen, ev - er known where this wind has
 God, mak - ing worlds that are new, mak - ing peace come
 送; 眼不見, 心未明, 風來去何
 送; 大地萬象更新, 和平終實

Reversing the usual order, this hymn began with the music rather than the words. The composer (from Singapore) sent this tune to the author (in New Zealand) to see what text it might inspire from her. She also suggested the tune name, a Maori phrase meaning "Holy Spirit."



blown bring-ing life, bring-ing power to the world,
 true, bring-ing gifts, bring-ing love to the world,
 蹤, 給 世 人 賜 生 命 加 力 量;
 現, 給 世 人 帶 來 愛 和 禮 物;



as the danc - ing tongues of fire, as the soul's most deep de -
 as the ris - ing of the yeast, as the wine at the
 火 之 舌, 跳 動 飛 舞, 心 深 處, 朝 思 暮
 麵 之 酵, 悄 然 膨 升, 盛 宴 上, 醇 香 美



sire, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
 feast, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
 想, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹 送。
 酒, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹 送。

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 musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff contains a melody 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 features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, and the bass staff continues with harmonic support.

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

The third system concludes the doxology. The treble staff ends with a final cadence, and the bass staff provides a solid harmonic foundation.

544

Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

The first system of music is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a final half note. The bass line consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final half note.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

The second system of music is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a final half note. The bass line consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final half note.

This refrain based on Psalm 103:1 is meant for repeated singing. To "bless God's holy name" (which could not be spoken by observant Jews) is a reminder to be grateful even for what we cannot comprehend, trusting that God's providence will show us "the path of life" (Psalm 16:11).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1984

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984

Text and Music © 1984, 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (Lahmin, GIA Publications, Inc.)

BLESS THE LORD (Taizé)
Irregular