



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • 16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME July 20, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Variations on O WALY WALY (Variation I, II)
Marty Franklin

Janet Linker

Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: God calls us here to worship. We carry many worries and are distracted by many things, but here, in this time and place, we are invited to set them aside, to be fully present. Let's pause and take a deep breath.

We remember who we are:

Many: We are the body of Christ.

One: We remember whose we are:

Many: We are God's beloved children.

One: We remember our chief purpose:

Many: To glorify and enjoy God forever.

One: Let us worship God!

***Hymn (#610)**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, we are pulled in many different directions. We are distracted by the news, quick to point fingers and pass judgment, but reluctant to examine the ways we benefit from the injustice in our world. We are distracted by our fears. We fear the loss of health, safety, and financial security. Instead of proclaiming your abundance, we operate from a mindset of scarcity. We are distracted by our tasks, by calendars that shape our priorities, leaving us with less time and energy for what is most important.

We confess our distraction, even as we acknowledge that sometimes we embrace it because it's easier than sitting at Jesus's feet, learning what it means to follow him. We confess that distraction is easier than discipleship.

Forgive us. Help us discern and choose the better path as we seek to follow Christ, in whose name we pray. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: This is the good news that will not be taken away:

**All: We are God's beloved children, holy and blameless,
reconciled to God through Jesus Christ!**

One: So let us live into this good news:

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

Genesis 18:1-10a

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



Anthem

The Gift of Love
Mike & Vickie Norman

Hal Hopson

Second Scripture Lesson

Luke 10:38-42

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

Sermon

The One Thing

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

from "A Declaration of Faith"

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us personal lives that are centered in God and open to God's reality and rule. Christ teaches us to put obedience to God above the interests of self, family, race or nation; to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time. It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest, setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work, celebrating with our family in Christ the Lord's goodness. We need constantly to search out God's way in Scripture, not expecting detailed directions for every decision, but relying on the Word to tell us who God is, to press God's present claim on us, and to assure us of God's grace and comfort. Amen.

***Hymn (#410)**

God Is Calling through the Whisper

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Call to Generosity

Offertory

Variations on O WALY WALY (Variation IV)

Janet Linker

*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: Abundant God, we give thanks for your grace and provision in our lives.

All: **Use these gifts to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our community and the world. May they witness to your love and care for all people, as we offer our time and energy to do the same. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn (#547)

Go, My Children with My Blessing

*Charge & Benediction

*Postlude

Variations on O WALY WALY (Variation VII)

Janet Linker

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



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news, and more!

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing 610

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
 2 The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and
 3 Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new
 4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
 5 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be

dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
 bids our sor - rows cease, sings mu - sic in the
 life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful wak - en
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
 now and ev - er given by saints be - low and

God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace!
 sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
 to re - joice; the poor in heart be - lieve.
 earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
 saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.

SPANISH

1 *Mil voces para celebrar
 a mi Libertador,
 las glorias de su majestad,
 los triunfos de su amor.*

KOREAN

1 만 입이 내게 있으면
 그 입 다 가지고
 내 구주 주신 은총을
 늘 찬송하겠네

This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura;
 Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001
 MUSIC: Carl Gottlieb Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Spanish Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)
 Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

AZMON
 CM

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 measures.

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.

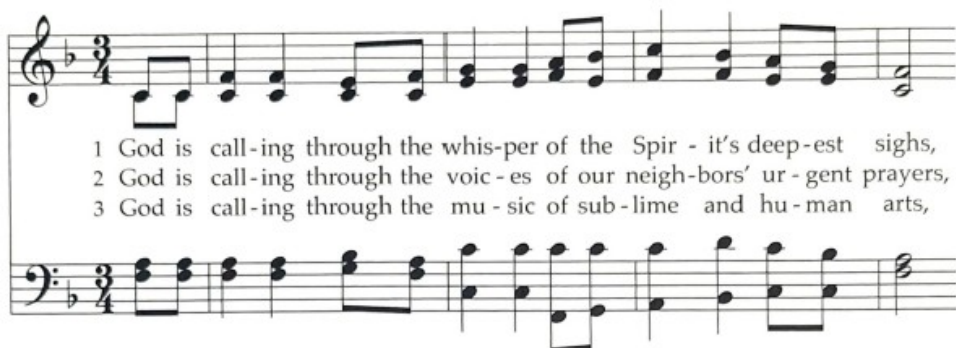
May be sung as a round, successive voices entering ad lib.

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.

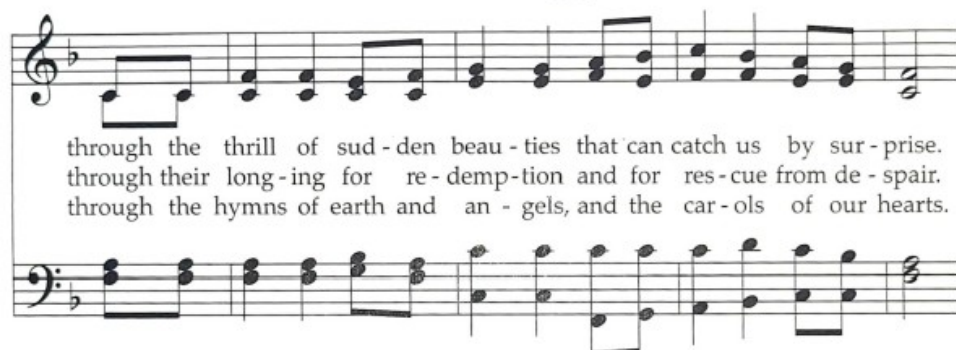
TEXT: Anon. Canadian, alt.
MUSIC: Anon. Canadian; adapt. *Church Hymnary*, 4th Edition, 2005

LISTEN
10.10.11.10

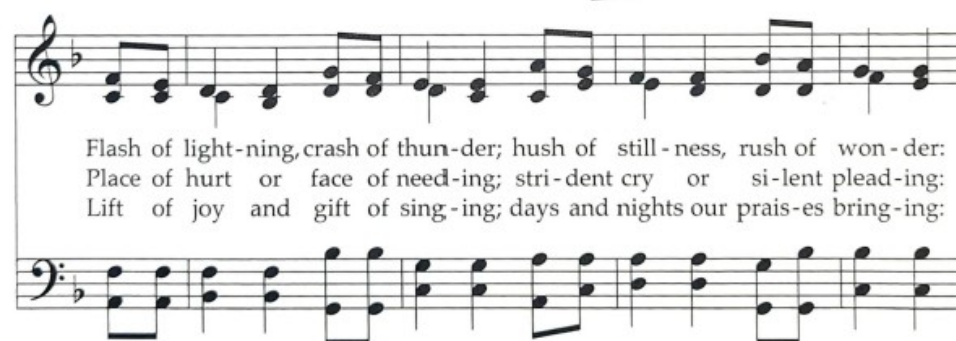
410 God Is Calling through the Whisper



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,
2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,
3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.
through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.
through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.



Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:
Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:
Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:



God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?
God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?
God is call-ing—and we hear! God is call-ing—and we hear!

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology



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

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988

MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

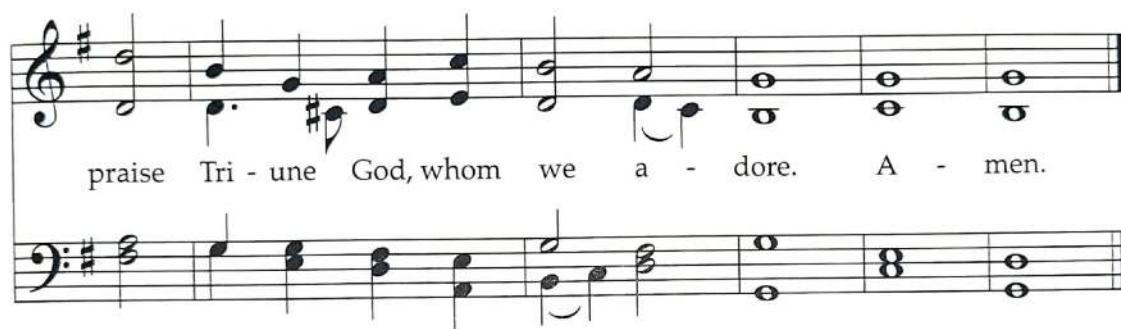
Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg

OLD HUNDREDTH

LM



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



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

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.