



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • 32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME November 9, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Prelude on a Harvest
Marty Franklin

Carson P. Cooman

Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Many: We will break forth into joyous song, and sing praises.

One: Sing praises to the Lord!

Many: Make a joyful noise with trumpet and the sound of the horn.

One: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

Many: The floods clap their hands and the hills sing out together;

One: Let us join in the joyful song of creation.

All: Let us worship God!

***Hymn (#4)**

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, we confess that we are too easily influenced by peddlers of despair and alarm, too quick to sink into numbness and apathy, too tired to imagine another way. Our hopes have crumbled, and our hearts are faint. Breathe new life into us, we pray. Help us to be mindful of your promises, your faithfulness, and your presence as we face the challenges of our lives. Restore our vision and give us courage to live in your truth. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: God's ways are just, and God's kindness is constant. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. Beloved, God draws near to us with compassion and forgives our sins.

All: **Thanks be to God, we are a forgiven people! Alleluia! Amen.**

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

***Congregational Response (#659)**

Know That God Is Good

Know that God is good (3x). God is good (2x).

Halle, Hallelujah (3x). Hallelujah (2x).

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination (#458, refrain)

Thy Word is a Lamp unto My Feet

First Scripture Lesson

Haggai 2:1-9

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

Anthem

The Lord Is My Shepherd
Guest Musician: John Cillian Rhoades

David Childs

Second Scripture Lesson

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

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

Sermon

Comfort and Hope

Rev. R.C. Griffin III



WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

Ephesians 4:15-16 & *The Declaration of Barmen*

One: “Let us, however, speak the truth in love, and in every respect grow into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body is joined together.”

All: The Christian Church is the community of brethren in which, in Word and Sacrament, through the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ acts in the present as Lord. With both its faith and its obedience, with both its message and its order, it has to testify in the midst of the sinful world, as the Church of pardoned sinners, that it belongs to him alone and lives and may live by his comfort and under his direction alone, in expectation of his appearing. Amen.

***Hymn (#361)**

O Christ, the Great Foundation

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer

Call to Generosity

Dare Stromer
Executive Director, BROCC

Offertory

The Ash Grove

Paul Otte

***Congregational Response (#647)**

Give Thanks

***Responsive Prayer of Dedication**

One: For the gifts offered this day and every day we give thanks, O God.

All: **Make us good stewards of all you have entrusted to our care.**

**May these gifts be used to serve your beloved creation,
to sustain your children in all they say and do,
and to build up your kingdom throughout the earth.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#644)**

Give Thanks, O Christian People

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Recessional on "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

Dennis Eliot

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



Scan for bulletin info,
news, and more!

4 Holy God, We Praise Your Name

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 All a - pos - tles join the strain as your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it:

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim;
 bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name they hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, while in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heaven a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heavens with
 and the bless - ed mar - tyrs fol - low, and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you, and a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun, through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Based on an 18th-century German metrical version of a celebrated 5th-century Latin hymn, *Te Deum laudamus*, this abbreviated 19th-century English paraphrase is sung by both Protestants and Roman Catholics. It is set here to the tune composed and named for the German version.

TEXT: Attr. Ignaz Franz, c. 1774; trans. Clarence Alphonus Walworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: *Allgemeines Katholisches Gesangbuch*, c. 1774; harm. Johann Gottfried Schicht, 1819

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LÖBEN DICH
 7.8.7.8.7.7

659 Know That God Is Good

Mungu ni mwema



1 Know that God is good. Know that
2 Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le,
Mu - ngu ni mwe - ma. Mu - ngu



God is good. Know that God is good;
hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah,
ni mwe - ma. Mu - ngu ni mwe - ma,



God is good; God is good.
hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.
ni mwe - ma, ni mwe - ma.

This engaging song from central Africa is based on an affirmation that recurs in numerous psalms (34:8; 73:1; 100:5; 135:3; 145:9) as well as several other books of the Hebrew Scriptures. Both the brief text (in English, Hebrew, and Shona) and the musical parts are easily learned.

Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet 458

Refrain

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my
 path. Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a
 light un-to my path. *Fine* When I feel a-fraid, and I
 think I've lost my way, still you're there right be-side me.
 Noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.
 Please be near me to the end.

The refrain of this 20th-century song is a quotation of Psalm 119:105 in the King James Version. That longest of all psalms celebrates the gift of God's law by accumulating many synonyms for it. In Christian practice, this verse has been used to give thanks for all Scripture.

TEXT: Amy Grant, 1984

MUSIC: Michael W. Smith, 1984; arr. John Sharber

Text and Music © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company (admin, EMCMGPublishing.com)/Word Music

THY WORD
Irregular

O Christ, the Great Foundation 361



1 O Christ, the great foun-da - tion on which your peo - ple stand
2 Bap - tized in one con - fes - sion, one church in all the earth,
3 Where ty - rants' hold is tight-ened, where strong de - vour the weak,
4 This is the mo - ment glo - rious when he who once was dead



to preach your true sal - va - tion in ev - ery age and land:
we bear our Lord's im - pres - sion, the sign of sec - ond birth:
where in - no - cents are fright-ened, the righ - teous fear to speak,
shall lead his church vic - to - rious, their cham - pion and their head.



pour out your Ho - ly Spir - it to make us strong and pure,
one ho - ly peo - ple gath - ered in love be - yond our own,
there let your church a - wak - ing at - tack the powers of sin
The Lord of all cre - a - tion his heaven - ly king - dom brings:



to keep the faith un - bro - ken as long as worlds en - dure.
by grace we were in - vit - ed; by grace we make you known.
and, all their ram - parts break - ing, with you the vic - tory win.
the fi - nal con - sum - ma - tion, the glo - ry of all things.



The text was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that prepared an important ecumenical Chinese hymnbook, *Hymns of Universal Praise* (1966). This familiar tune invites comparisons of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart; give thanks to the Ho-ly One;

give thanks be-cause we're giv-en Je-sus Christ, the Son. Give

Son, And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the

poor say, "We are rich be-cause of what the Lord has done for

us!" And us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

Drawing on language from 2 Corinthians 6:10 and 12:10 as well as Psalm 126:3, this short and repetitive song can be easily memorized. The simple vocabulary makes it suitable for multigenerational use, reminding all ages how gratitude for God's goodness changes our perspective.

TEXT: Henry Smith, 1978, alt.

MUSIC: Henry Smith, 1978

Text and Music © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (admin. EMCMCPublishing.com)

GIVE THANKS

Irregular

Give Thanks, O Christian People 644

1 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for work-ers of our day
 2 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for lead - ers of our years
 3 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for all who love the Lord,
 4 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for life in fel - low - ship

who heed the call to ser - vice and make it their life's way
 who live to share with oth - ers our joy when Christ ap - pears,
 who live each day be - liev - ing in God's e - ter - nal Word:
 with all who trust our Sav - ior their serv - ing to e - quip:

to go to feed the hun - gry, to tend to those in need,
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the fal - tering feet,
 to share Christ's love in liv - ing, to wit - ness with each deed,
 to ease an - oth - er's bur - dens, to cope in joy and stress,

to work for e - qual jus - tice, till all God's folk are freed.
 to lead the fol - lowers for - ward our liv - ing Lord to meet.
 to use the tal - ents giv - en to plant the gos - pel seed.
 to mag - ni - fy God's mes - sage and Christ's great love con - fess.

This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

TEXT: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1984

MUSIC: Memminger ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904
 Text © 1986 Fresh Winds of the Spirit by Lavon Bayler (admin. The Pilgrim Press)

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

7.6.7.6.D