



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • 33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME November 16, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Partita on ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR
Marty Franklin

Iteke Prins

Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done gloriously!

Many: Let us sing God's praises throughout all the earth!

One: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

Many: from the highest peaks, to the deepest caverns!

One: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

Many: from the tiniest creatures, to the greatest herds!

One: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

Many: in the midst of our joys and our sorrows!

One: Shout aloud and sing for joy, as we come to worship the God of all creation!

All: Let us worship the Lord, our God!

***Hymn (#393)**

O Day of Rest and Gladness

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

God of peace we confess we are a people of fear.
We have let anxiety rule our days and worry our nights.
We have been distracted by nerves and focused on tension.
We confess we have ignored your command to not be afraid.
Forgive us, O God.
Calm our hearts, settle our stomachs,
and renew in us the ability to find our comfort in you. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: The prophet Isaiah assures us:
God is building a new heaven and a new earth;
the former things will not be remembered or come to mind.
**All: Forgiven and freed, we rejoice in what the Lord is creating in us
and in all creation. 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

Isaiah 65:17-25

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

Anthem

Ellen Lipscomb & Jim Trice

Second Scripture Lesson

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

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

Sermon

Working, Working, Working

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

From A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Hymn (#767)**

Together We Serve

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Call to Generosity

Offertory

Ellen Lipscomb & Jim Trice

***Congregational Response (#647)**

Give Thanks



***Responsive Prayer of Dedication**

One: God of the wolf and the lamb, the lion and the ox,
we give thanks for these gifts and pray they might be agents of your peace.

All: May they serve your creation as we seek your new heaven and new earth.

One: Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with distress and calm it.

All: Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with pain and heal it.

One: Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with silence and speak up.

All: In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#295)**

Go to the World!

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

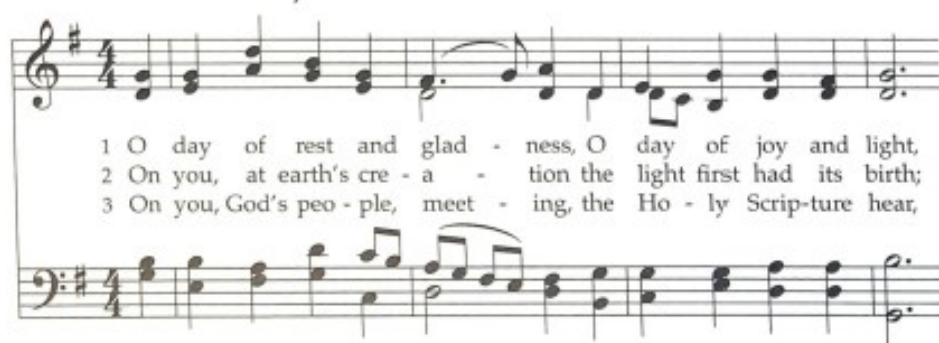
Closing Voluntary on ST. GEORGE's WINDSOR Francis C. Woods

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

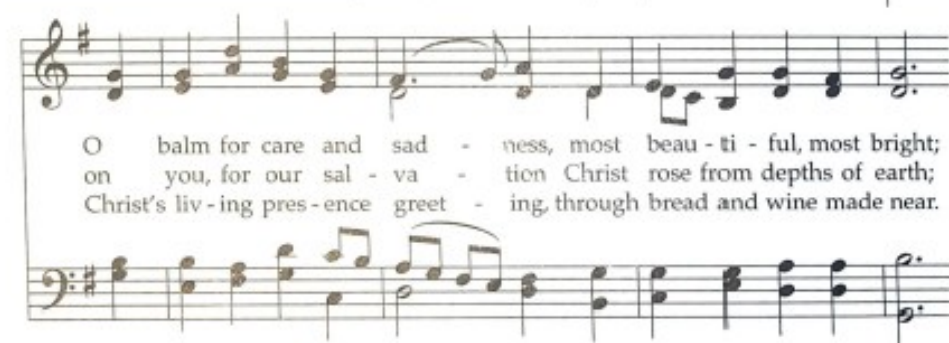


Scan for bulletin info,
news, and more!

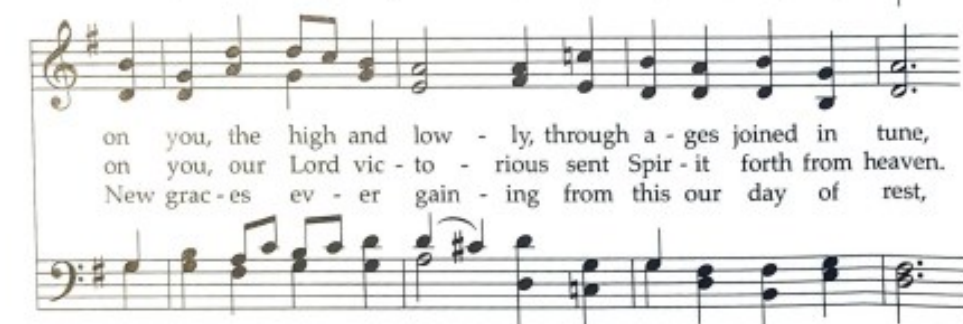
393 O Day of Rest and Gladness



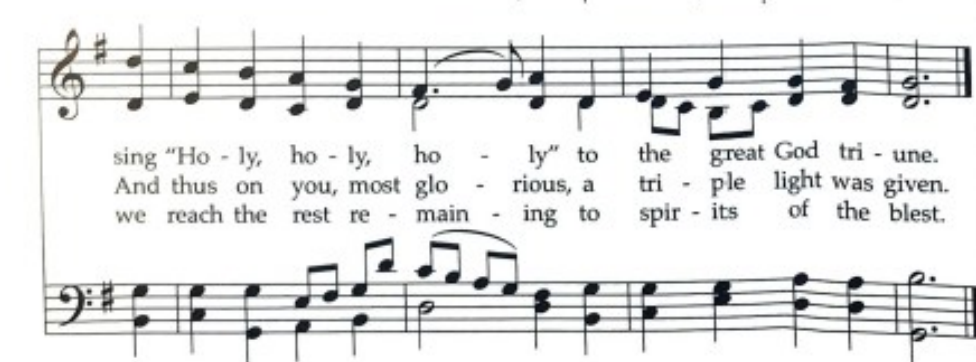
1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion the light first had its birth;
3 On you, God's peo - ple, meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip-ture hear,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright;
on you, for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
Christ's liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through bread and wine made near.



on you, the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious sent Spir - it forth from heaven.
New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" to the great God tri - une.
And thus on you, most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given.
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost—each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons. The tune name recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.

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

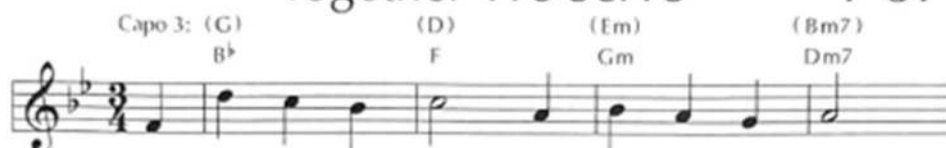
MUSIC: Michael W. Smith, 1984; arr. John Sharber

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

THY WORD
 Irregular

Together We Serve

767



1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,



in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.



We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
We of - fer a home to those who will come,
To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,



ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11-16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.

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

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.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1985
 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

SINE NOMINE
 10.10.10 with alleluias