



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • 11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME June 14, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty
Marty Franklin

arr. Diane Bush

Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Jesus Christ summons us to answer God's call of mercy.
Christ gathers us and gives us power:

All: to be healed and to heal,

One: to be forgiven and to forgive,

All: to be freed from sin and to set others free,

One: to tell one another and the world:

All: God's presence is at hand. So come; let us worship God!

***Hymn (#634)**

To God Be the Glory

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

Triune God, Holy Three, Holy One, we confess that we do not know how to look

for you. We do not sense your nearness, and if there are angels among us, we are unaware. We do not show the hospitality to strangers that Abraham showed to you. We do not trust that our hardships can be transformed by your Spirit.

O Covenant-keeper, forgive us. Let us laugh with joy because our grace has made peace among us. Send us out with this good news so that others will also receive your blessing; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (Silence)

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Christ gave his life to save us from the wrath of God.

All: Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

One: Trust the good news of the gospel:

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

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

***Congregational Response (#48, sing 2x)**

Rain Down

Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people.

Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination (#288)

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

First Scripture Lesson

Genesis 18:1-15

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

Anthem

Follow You

Ed Cash,

Sarah Privette

Jack and Leeland Mooring

Second Scripture Lesson

Matthew 9:35-10:23

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



Sermon

Welcoming Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

Question 21 from *The Heidelberg Catechism*

One: What is true faith?

All: True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace granted solely by Christ's merit. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Hymn (#343)**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Call to Generosity

Anna Garner

Offertory

Nun Bitten Wir

Dietrich Buxtehude

***Congregational Response (#701)**

Lord, Prepare Me

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

***Prayer of Dedication**

One: Generous God, how can we thank you for all that you have given us?

All: **We give back but a tiny portion in hopes that it may bless the world as you have blessed us. In the name of Jesus, our brother and our Lord, Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#767)**

Together We Serve

***Commissioning Youth & Adults to the Montreat Youth Conference**

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

Bound for the Promised Land

Shelton Ridge Love

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



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news, and more!

634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
 2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

Rain Down

48

Capo 3: (D) (F#7) (Bm) (D7) (G)

F A7 Dm F7 Bb

Rain down; rain down; rain down your

(D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D) (F#7) (Bm)

F/A Gm7 C7 F A7 Dm

love on your peo - ple. Rain down; rain

(D7) (G) (Em) (A7) (G) (D)

F7 Bb Gm C7 Bb F

down; rain down your love, God of life.

This refrain comes from a longer song based on Psalm 33, but the striking image of God's love falling like rain is not actually present in that psalm. That image may be based on Ezekiel 34:26, where God promises to send showers of blessing upon the people of the covenant.

TEXT: Jaime Cortez, 1991
 MUSIC: Jaime Cortez, 1991; arr. John Carter, 2001
 Text and Music © 1992 Jaime Cortez (Published by OCP)

RAIN DOWN
 Irregular

Spirit of the Living God 288

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

KOREAN

살아계신 주 성령 내게 오소서
 살아계신 주 성령 내게 오소서
 빛으시고 채우소서
 살아계신 주 성령 내게 오소서

SPANISH

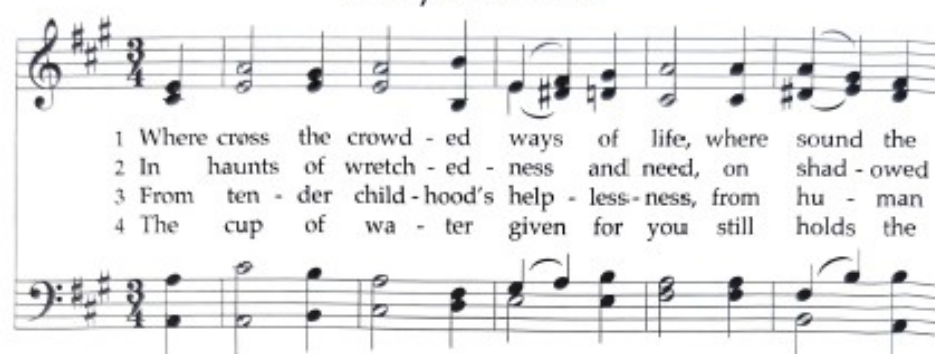
*Santo Espíritu de Dios, ven sobre mí.
 Santo Espíritu de Dios, ven sobre mí.
 Tómame, cámbiame, lléname, úsame.
 Santo Espíritu de Dios, ven sobre mí.*

Both the words and the music of this prayer-song were written by a Presbyterian minister from Tarboro, North Carolina. The words were initially inspired by Jeremiah 18:1-6; a friend helped him set them to music during an evangelistic meeting in Orlando, Florida, where the song was first sung.

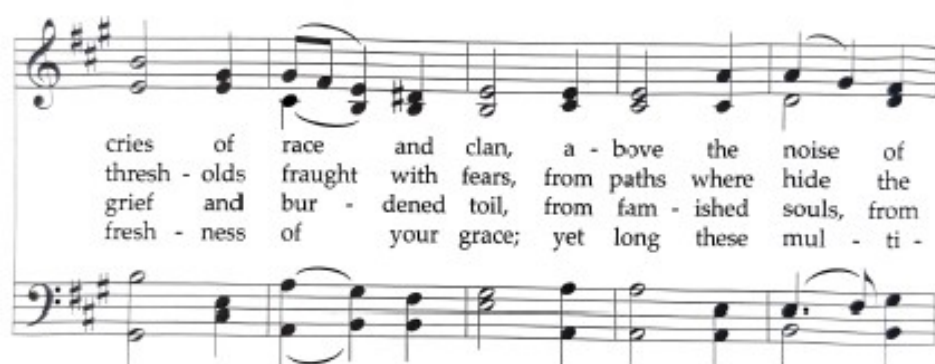
TEXT: Daniel Iverson, 1926; Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee; Spanish trans. anon.
 MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926
 Text and Music © 1935 Birdwing Music (admin. EMMCMGPublishing.com)
 Korean Trans. © 2001 Birdwing Music (admin. EMMCMGPublishing.com)

LIVING GOD
 Irregular

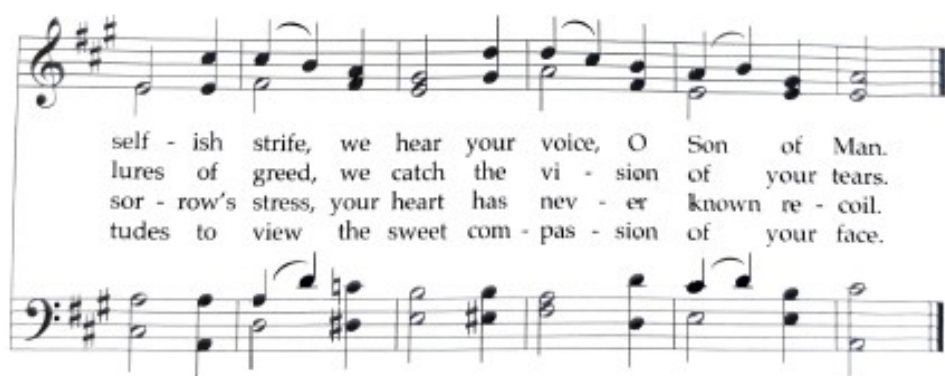
Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life 343



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds fraught with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the sweet com - pas - sion of your face.

- 5 O Master, from the mountainside,
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 among these restless throngs abide;
 O tread the city's streets again;
- 6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
 and follow where your feet have trod;
 till glorious from your heaven above
 shall come the city of our God.

Because dense populations always result in concentrated hardships, this vivid yet timeless evocation of urban need connects to our own day as well as to Jesus' lament over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34). This tune was the first used with this text and is now customary.

Lord, Prepare Me

701

Sanctuary

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
 ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,
 I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

The lines given here convey the central message of the longer song for which they form the refrain. The principal Scripture reference is 1 Corinthians 3:16–17, Paul's reminder to the Christians at Corinth that "[they] are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in [them]."

TEXT: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982

MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982; arr. Nylea L. Butler-Moore

Text and Music © 1982 Full Armor Music Publishing Co.

Music Arr. © 2013 Full Armor Music Publishing Co. (admin. in the U.S.A. Peermusic III, Ltd./Hal Leonard Corp.)

SANCTUARY
 Irregular

Together We Serve

767

Capo 3: (G) B $\flat$ (D) F (Em) Gm (Bm7) Dm7

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,

(C) E $\flat$ (G) B $\flat$ (Am7) Cm7 (Dsus) (D) Fsus F

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.

(G) B $\flat$ (D) F (C) E $\flat$ (Bm) Dm

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,

(G) B $\flat$ (C) E $\flat$ (G) B $\flat$ (Am) Cm (D7) F7 (G) B $\flat$

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.