

Presbyterian Church of
Western Springs

Sunday, August 28, 2022 | 9:30 A.M.

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Worshipping Together

Gathering Together in God's Name

Prelude

Antiphonal Paraphrase on "Lobe den Herren"
Stephanie Coates, organ

arr. by David A. Wehr

Gathering & Greeting

Marcia Buell

♦ Call to Worship

*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.*

Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.

And by faith we understand.

The worlds were prepared by the word of God,

so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

Come, join in worship of our God,

In whom we have faith, though we have not seen.

♦ Opening Hymn #475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

♦ Call to Confession

We would like to keep our sins hidden and our failures a secret. But God would not have us keep silent, but speak our confessions out loud, so we may be blessed with God's mercy and grace. I invite you to pray with me, saying,

♦ Prayer of Confession (silent confession followed by responsive prayer)

You have a vision of all people as your beloved children, Imaginative God, but we see folks whose language, dress, and skin make them different. You have a vision of a universe filled with goodness and beauty, and we damage it with litter, with violence, with poor choices. You have a vision of a Table where we can feast on your grace and hope, but we line up at the fast food counters of sin and greed. Forgive us, Visionary of Mercy, as we confess that we are not "insiders" but immigrants searching for our true home. By faith, may we be willing to be as gracious, as compassionate, and as hopeful as you are. You love us enough to want us to be with you forever, so may we take the hand of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who leads us into your kingdom.

♦ Assurance of Pardon

There is nothing to fear. God's hope is more tenacious than our despair; God's joy is more resilient than our grief; God's love is more compelling than our hate. By grace, we are gathered to God. By faith, we rest in God's promises of forgiveness and restoration. Thanks be to God! Amen.

♦ Indicates congregation standing, if able.

♦ Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son; and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.*

♦ Passing of the Peace of Christ

Time with Children & The Lord's Prayer

Ben

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Song of Preparation #405

Praise God for This Holy Ground (vs. 5)

HEYMONYSTRAAT

Though praise ends, praise is begun where God's will is gladly done.

Refrain:

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

Proclaiming the Word of God

First Lesson

Psalm 33

Pew Bible, Old Testament, page 480

Special Music

Shout to the Lord
Kate & Kay Kelly, duet

by Darlene Zschech
arr. by Lloyd Larson

Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:8-12

Pew Bible, New Testament, pages 211-212

Sermon

By Faith

Ben Mertz

Responding to God's Word

♦ Hymn of Response #51

To Abraham and Sarah

LLANFYLLIN

Pastoral Prayer

Go in God's Name

♦ Choral Response

The Hand of God Shall Hold You
Kate & Kay Kelly, duet

by Marty Haughan

♦ Sending

By faith, let us go out as God's people.

We will gather others around us and dance into God's kingdom.

By faith, let us go to follow Jesus to serve with compassion and grace.

We will share the good news of hope and peace with everyone we meet.

By faith, let us go to join the Holy Spirit in welcoming all of God's children.

We will add as many chairs as are needed, so all may feast on God's love.

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Stephanie Coates, piano

setting by John Carter

Chancel flowers are sponsored this week by Caryle Wilkie, in loving memory of Peter Wilkie

Today's Stephen Minister, Marilyn Hanson, is available for prayer following worship, near the front piano.

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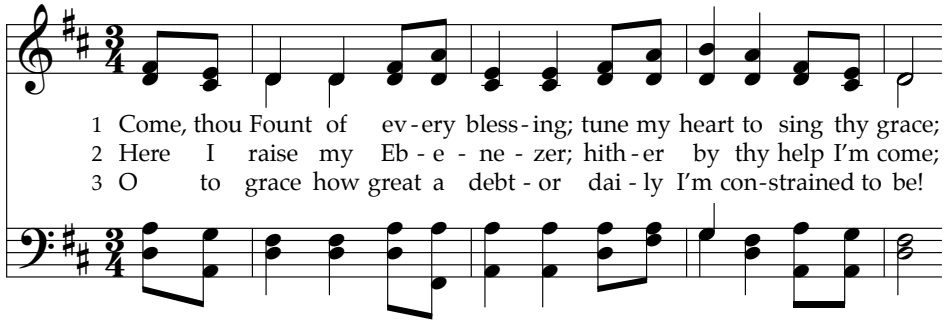
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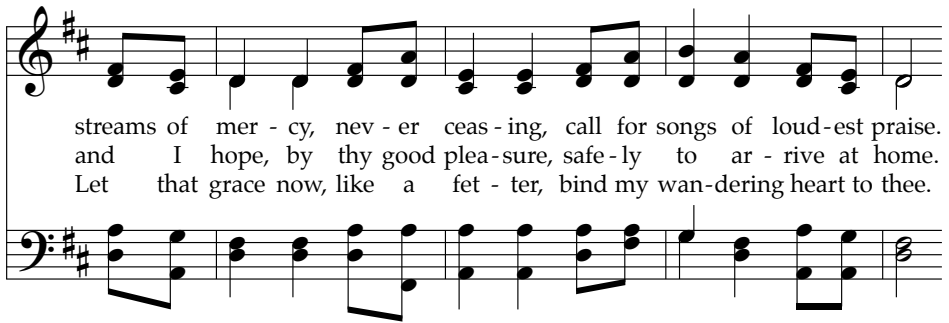
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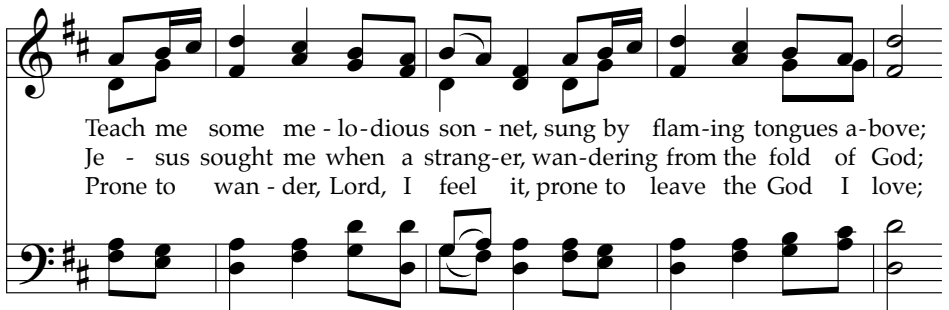
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



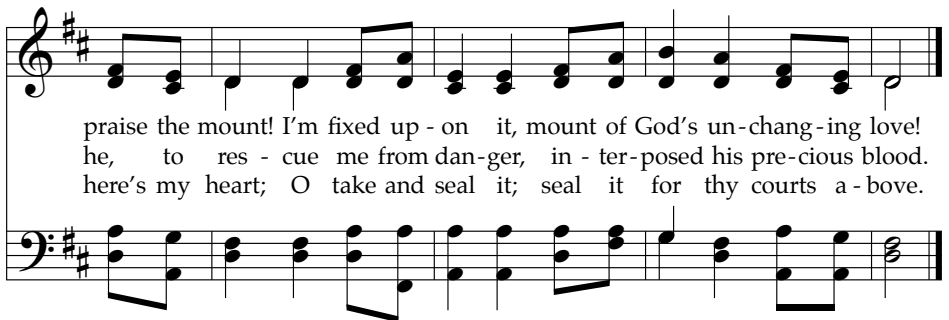
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

Glory Be to the Father

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The vocal line begins with a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B-flat4, and C5. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady bass line of quarter notes: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1.

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

The second system continues the melody. The vocal line has a dotted quarter note on D5, followed by quarter notes on E5, F5, and G5. The piano accompaniment continues with quarter notes: F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1.

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

The third system features a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B-flat4, and C5. The piano accompaniment continues with quarter notes: E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1.

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The vocal line has a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B-flat4, and C5. The piano accompaniment continues with quarter notes: D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1, D1.

Praise God for This Holy Ground 405

Capo 2: (D)

(G)

(A)

(Bm)



1 Praise God for this ho - ly ground,
 2 Praise God in whose word we find
 3 Praise God who through Christ makes known
 4 Praise God's Spir - it who be - friends,
 5 Though praise ends, praise is be - gun

(Em7)

(D/F#)

(Em7)

(Asus4) (A)



place and peo - ple, sight and sound.
 food for bod - y, soul, and mind.
 all are loved and called God's own.
 rais - es, hum - bles, breaks, and mends.
 where God's will is glad - ly done.

Refrain

(D)

(G)

(Em7)

(A)

(F#7)

(Bm)



Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

(D)

(Em7)

(A7)

(D)



God's good - ness is e - ter - nal.

Although several passages in the Psalms come close to the wording of this refrain, none matches it exactly. The refrain serves as a summation of the stanzas, each of which is filled with multiple instances of God's providential mercy, and all of them are worth pondering.

51 To Abraham and Sarah

I Will Be Your God

1 To A - bra - ham and Sa - rah the call of God was clear:
 2 From A - bra - ham and Sa - rah a - rose a pil - grim race,
 3 We of this gen - er - a - tion on whom God's hand is laid

"Go forth and I will show you a coun - try rich and fair.
 de - pen - dent for their jour - ney on God's a - bun - dant grace;
 can jour - ney to the fu - ture se - cure and un - a - fraid,

You need not fear the jour - ney, for I have pledged my word
 and in their heart was writ - ten by God this sav - ing word,
 re - joic - ing in God's good - ness and trust - ing in this word,

that you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."
 "That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."
 "That you shall be my peo - ple and I will be your God."

This hymn condenses the narrative of Genesis 17:1–22 and grounds it in the recurring statement of the covenant relationship between God and the people God has chosen. This Welsh tune also occurs in a minor version called LLANGLOFFAN, used elsewhere in this hymnal (see no. 362).