



## Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost August 22, 2021

### PRELUDE

“Jesus Loves Me”

arr. Charma Davies

Linda Vollweiler, organist

*(The prelude is an opportunity to worship God, a time of prayer, meditation, and reflection.)*

### WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

### INTROIT

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

arr. Diane Bish

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (James 1)

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

God gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

***This morning, may we strive to live as God’s beloved children and seek to build a beloved community.***

May we rid ourselves of all sordidness and welcome with humility the implanted word that has the power to save our souls.

***May our worship this morning inspire us to enact God’s holy word of love, to be doers and not merely hearers of the word.***

May our worship help us persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—and we will be blessed in our doing.

***Come let us worship God!***

### \*HYMN

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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Hannah Jensen-Heitmann, Song Leader

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above; thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all.

We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***Holy God, your truth is often times hard to hear. We confess our avoidance, our purposeful distractions, our prideful arrogance that keep us from hearing and responding to your Word. Although you send us messages and messengers, we dismiss and disregard those who tell us we are wrong. Have mercy upon us, Holy God. Open us to hearing the truth no matter how it is conveyed.***

### SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn?

***Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,***

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

***Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.***

The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

**Alleluia! Amen!**

### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

582

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.

World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

### \*PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you!

***And also with you!***

(Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.)

To reduce the risk of disease transmission, please do not shake hands or hug people outside of your immediate family. Instead, maintain proper social distance, look someone in the eyes and hold their gaze. Share peace with them by holding your hand to your chest and bowing your head to them or share some other appropriate sign.

## SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***God of Wisdom and Grace, you speak through your Word read and proclaimed. Prepare us now to listen well. Open our ears to your truth. Humble us in your presence, God, so nothing will stand in the way of what you will say to us today. Amen.***

1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE READINGS – Acts 17:22-28

ANTHEM

“Kites in the Sky”  
*Ian Erickson, piano*

*Faber*

“Lord, Speak to Me, that I May Speak”

*Frances R. Havergal/  
Robert Schumann*

*Vivian Fong, piano*

*(The Langenberg Legacy Funds provide scholarships for children of church members to take music lessons. During the summer, those children and youth provide special music during the service as a way of giving thanks to God.)*

2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Romans 12:9-18

SERMON

“Believing that Jesus Loves Us”

Greg Allen-Pickett

Summer Sermon Song Series on the song “Save Us All” by Tracy Chapman

\*HYMN

“O for a World”

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1. O for a world where everyone respects  
each other’s ways, where love is lived  
and all is done with justice and with  
praise.

2. O for a world where goods are shared  
and misery relieved, where truth is  
spoken, children spared, equality  
achieved.

3. We welcome one world family and  
struggle with each choice that opens us  
to unity and gives our vision voice.

4. The poor are rich; the weak are  
strong; the foolish ones are wise. Tell all  
who mourn: outcasts belong, who  
perishes will rise.

5. O for a world preparing for God’s  
glorious reign of peace, where time and  
tears will be no more, and all but love  
will cease.

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From A Brief Statement of Faith)**

***We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.***

***In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.***

***Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, and exploit neighbor and nature...***

***Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. Loving us still,***

***God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.***

For the health and safety of our members, we will not pass a plate or collect gifts during the offering. You are invited to give by dropping your offering as you leave in the plates at the back of the sanctuary, dropping it in the outside locked tithing box located on the second brick column under the portico, mailing it in, or giving online: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>

**OFFERING**    *(All loose coins in the offering plate will be donated to PC(USA) Hunger Fund.)*

**OFFERTORY**            "Toccata on the Doxology" (Old Hundredth)            *Gordon Young*

**\*DOXOLOGY**            "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"            606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***Eternal God, you bless us with abundant gifts. Receive these tokens of our gratitude and use them to fulfill your will. May the gifts we give support Christ's work and ministry in this world. Amen.***

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***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.***

1. Called as partners in Christ’s service,  
called to ministries of grace, we respond  
with deep commitment fresh new lines  
of faith to trace.

May we learn the art of sharing, side by  
side and friend with friend, equal  
partners in our caring to fulfill God’s  
chosen end.

2. Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring,  
Christ’s clear call to work and worth, let  
us follow, never faltering, reconciling  
folk on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer, all  
God’s people, young and old, blending  
human skills together gracious gifts  
from God unfold.

3. Thus new patterns for Christ’s  
mission, in a small or global sense, help  
us bear each other’s burdens, breaking  
down each wall or fence.

Words of comfort, words of vision,  
words of challenge, said with care, bring  
new power and strength for action,  
make us colleagues, free and fair.

4. So God grant us for tomorrow ways to  
order human life that surround each  
person’s sorrow with a calm that  
conquers strife.

Make us partners in our living, our  
compassion to increase, messengers of  
faith, thus giving hope and confidence  
and peace.

#### \*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

#### \*RESPONSE

The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,  
The church is not a resting place, the church is a people.  
I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together!  
All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we’re the church together!

#### POSTLUDE

#### “Festive Voluntary”

*Robert Lau*

*(\*Indicates the congregation shall stand as they are able.)*

COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE COMING WEEKS &  
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!

**July 18 - September 6 – Summer Sermon Song Series!**

**10:30 a.m. In-Person and At-Home worship**

**In-Person:** No RSVP just come and join us!

**Today's 10:30am In-Person Worship Service will be broadcast:**

- live on **Facebook** at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings) (You don't need an account.)
- on the **radio** during Sunday service at 10:30am simulcast on KICS 1550AM and 92.7FM.
- on **Channel 181** Tuesday at 1:00pm and Sunday at 9:00am.
- at **Good Samaritan Village**, the service will be broadcast on Channel 3 on Sunday at 12:00pm and on Tuesday at 2:00pm.
- 10:30am at **College View** live on Facebook in the small theatre room. Residents and their families are welcome.
- A copy of any Sunday service is available on **DVD** disc upon request at no charge. Contact Sarah in the office at 402-462-5147 or [sarah@fpchastings.org](mailto:sarah@fpchastings.org).

**August 29, 2021**

- ❖ **The radio broadcast** airs during the 10:30am service on KICS 1550AM
- ❖ **Flowers** in loving memory of all passed friends and family of FPC by FPC
- ❖ **Ushers August Team #6:** Captain- Jim Harrenstein, Eric Brader, Chanda Essink
- ❖ **Greeters:**
  - August 29:** Mary Kay LaMaster, Jean Barber- *Memorial Room*; Peggy & Barry Thomson- *Narthex*
  - September 5:** Sally Smith, Sue Medsker-*Memorial Room*; Bonnie & Kenton Grams-*Narthex*

facebook.com/fpchastings

## End of Summer Sunday Schedule

Sunday 8/29 (no worship in the park)  
Christian Education Kickoff Sunday!!!!

9am-10:20am: Bouncy House and Slide in the playground (supervised)  
Parents, drop your kids off & come to the Fellowship Hall to learn about our incredible opportunities for Christian Ed!

9:15-9:45am: PreK-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live sign-up and orientation

9:45-10:15am: Adult Education Preview and Orientation

10:30am: One worship service in the Sanctuary (and on Facebook Live)  
(Face masks are required in the building and at worship)

### Sunday 9/5 - Labor Day Weekend

One worship service in Alexander Park at 10:30am  
(Service will also be streamed on Facebook Live)

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings  
All are welcome!



**This fall will mark the return of our "Good Reads" Book Club** and we'll dive in right where we left off in the summer of 2020. This fall we are inviting folks to read and join in conversations related to *Home* by Marilynne Robinson. *Home* tells the story of Rev. Robert Boughton, his daughter Glory, and his prodigal son Jack as they reunite and attempt to heal old wounds. This moving book about families, secrets, and the passing of generations will surely touch your heart. Once again, we will intersperse open conversations (hosted via Zoom) with pre-recorded chats from our local literature experts Anne Bohlke, Constance Malloy, and Jenni Welsch. A limited number of copies of the book will be available via the church office and the open conversations will take place at 6:30pm on Thursdays, Sept 30, Oct 14, & 28. If you would like to join those conversations, please contact the church office so we can give you information on how to join.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PRESENTS:**

# REBOOKULOUSLY GOOD READS

**A Faith & Spirituality Book Group**

**OUR FALL READ IS  
HOME BY MARILYNNE ROBINSON**

**CONVERSATIONS HOSTED VIA ZOOM  
SEPT 30, OCT 14, & OCT 28 AT  
6:30PM**



**Please keep  
these people in  
your hearts and  
prayers:**

Greg Howard♥

Frank Georgiana♥

Family of Arnold  
Boehler ♥

Family of Jack  
Stinson♥

Lois Hafer♥

Robin Koozer♥

Rachael Lay♥

Rich Portwood♥

Lanae Hall's mother♥

Pam & Don Canady♥

Bev Stein♥

Melba Trehern♥

Tommy Thomsen♥

Brad Davis♥

Chris Wheeler♥

Carol & Frank  
Medsker♥

Shirley Gass♥

Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann  
Elfond♥

The Tut Ruei family♥

Katherine  
Sachtleben♥

Elaine Schumacher ♥

FORUM SERIES

# *Wisdom for the Good Life*

*Four part series on biblical  
wisdom literature  
and our current lives*

SEPT 12, 19, 26 & OCT 3  
9:15 AM | LYDIA ROOM

Sessions will be led by  
Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh  
and hosted both in person  
and via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84337329785>



I know Jesus loves me  
In my heart I know it's true  
I know Mary's little baby  
Came into the world  
Just to save me  
But I don't know about you

My God's a mighty big God  
My God can shake the world up  
Plagues and famines  
Frogs and locusts  
Walking on water  
Burning bushes  
Rolling the thunder  
And parting the waters too

My God is good in the kitchen  
Make a good meal from bread and fishes  
Feed the hungry pour the wine  
Everybody's welcome to have a good time  
Sit at his table enjoy the food

I know Jesus loves me  
He says I should love you  
My neighbor not his wife  
Don't covet steal kill or lie  
My God's got a lot of rules

My God made creation  
Six days work one day vacation  
Made a garden  
Filled it with apples  
Adam and Eve they walked around natural  
Until they ate that one piece of bad fruit

I've heard that your God's older  
Buddha, Allah, Krishna  
Manifest with many faces  
Worshipped the world over in foreign places  
I assume your God must love you

I know Jesus loves me  
And my God is good and great and true  
But if pride goeth before the fall  
I hope someone's God will save us all

# The weeks ahead:

<b>Sunday 8/29</b>	9:00a-10:15a	CHRISTIAN ED KICK OFF	
	10:00a-10:30a	Hands Around the World Store Open	Memorial/Narthex
	10:30am	Stay-At -Home & Traditional Worship	FPC/Various
	11:30a-12:00p	Hands Around the World Store Open	Memorial/Narthex
<b>Monday 8/30</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Center Gym
	1:00p-3:00p	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Center Gym
	7:00p-7:45p	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 8/31</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Center Gym
	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study	Zoom/Anderson
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Center Gym
<b>Wednesday 9/1</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Center Gym
	12:00p-1:00p	PW Coordinating Team	Fellowship Hall
	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study	Zoom
	1:00p-2:00p	PW	Fellowship Hall
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	LL Church
<b>Thursday 9/2</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Gym
	5:30p-6:30p	Christian Ed (Youth) Meeting	Fellowship Hall
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Center Gym
<b>Friday 9/3</b>	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	LL Church
<b>Sunday 9/5</b>	10:00a-10:30a	Hands Around the World Store Open	Memorial/Narthex
	10:30am	Stay-At -Home & Traditional Worship	FPC/Various
	11:30a-12:00p	Hands Around the World Store Open	Memorial/Narthex
<b>Monday 9/6</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Center Gym
	1:00p-3:00p	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Center Gym
	4:00p-8:00p	Memorial Service for Norris Swan	<u>Lochland Country Club</u>
	7:00p-7:45p	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 9/7</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Center Gym
	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Staff Meeting
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study	Zoom/Anderson
	5:30p-7:00p	WAM Meeting	Zoom/Fellowship Hall
	5:30p-6:30p	United Harvest Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Center Gym
<b>Weds 9/8</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Center Gym
	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study	Zoom
	4:00p-6:45p	WNL 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	
	6:00p-6:45p	WNL Family Meal Time	
	6:20p-6:50p	Bell Rehearsal 6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	
	6:50p-7:30p	Choir Rehearsal 6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	
	7:30p-8:30p	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Youth Group	
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	LL Church
<b>Thursday 9/9</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Center Gym
	5:00p-6:00p	Personnel Committee Meeting	Fellowship Hall
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Center Gym
<b>Saturday 9/10</b>	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	LL Church
<b>Sunday 9/11</b>	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School All Ages	
	10:00a-10:30a	Hands Around the World Store Open	Memorial/Narthex
	10:30a	Stay-At -Home & Traditional Worship	FPC/Various
	11:30a-12:00p	Hands Around the World Store Open	Memorial/Narthex

# ADULT ENRICHMENT

## First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church seeks to enrich the spiritual lives of its members and friends no matter their age. Please join us for any and all of these faith enrichment opportunities this fall.

### HEIRS APPARENT

This long-standing fellowship and conversation group meets weekly on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. The group focuses on contemporary issues of faith and what it means to live as disciples of Christ.

### FORUM SERIES

This Sunday morning enrichment class features a variety of presenters and topics. This fall, Forum will cover Wisdom Literature, current events, and Advent and the arts. Check the bulletin and newsletter for more information.

### GOOD READS

Our spirituality book club makes its glorious return this fall. Hosted via Zoom, we invite the congregation to join in reading *Home* by Marilynne Robinson while we discuss faith, family, and forgiveness.

### WEDNESDAY STUDY

Meeting on Wednesdays at noon via Zoom this group tends to examine the more academic side of faith. Led by Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh, participants diligently study scripture, theology, and everything in-between.

### TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Ever wanted to influence a sermon? Here's your chance! Meeting in-person and via Zoom at noon on Tuesdays this group reflects on the biblical narratives and themes for the upcoming Sunday.

### MONDAY CHECK-IN

Most every Monday pastors Greg & Damen sit down for a chat about scripture & the life of First Pres. You can find their musings on YouTube and Soundcloud. Like & Subscribe!

### FAITH EXCURSIONS

Inspired by our Lenten devotional from 2021 we endeavor to better know our neighbors. Details are still to come but we hope to plan visits with folks from differing faith traditions in order to know and love them better.

YOU'RE INVITED!

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# PRES-FEST PICNIC

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We're having a picnic  
September 12 | 11:30ish  
Alexander Park  
More details to follow



## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:  
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.  
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

# O for a World

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1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.  
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

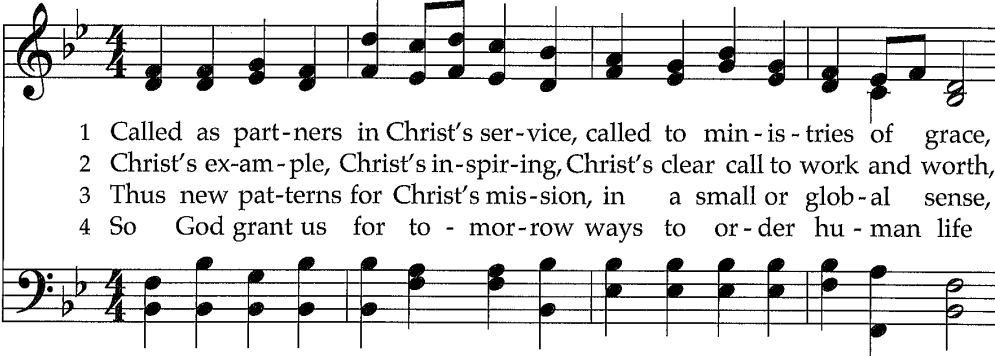
Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987  
 MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839  
 Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

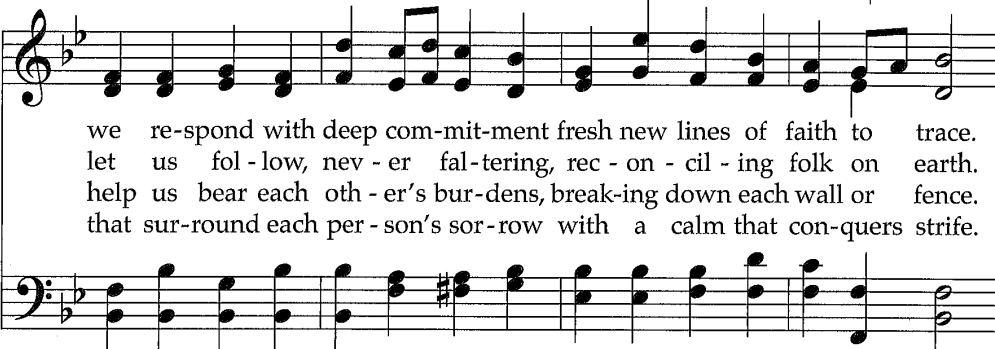
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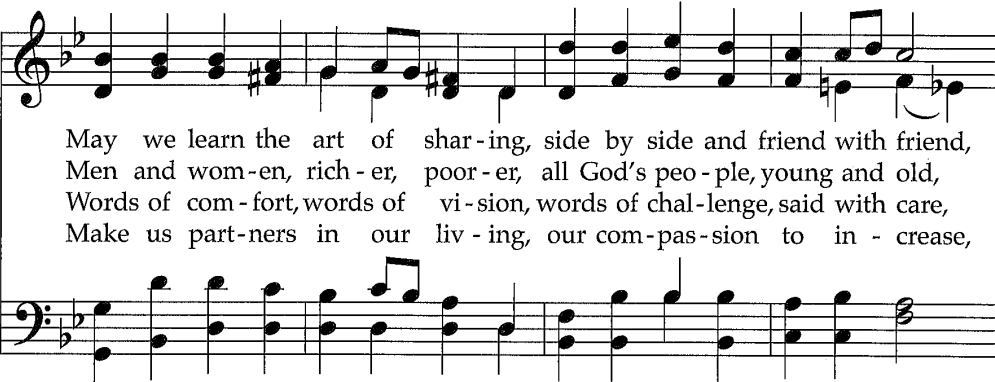
# Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



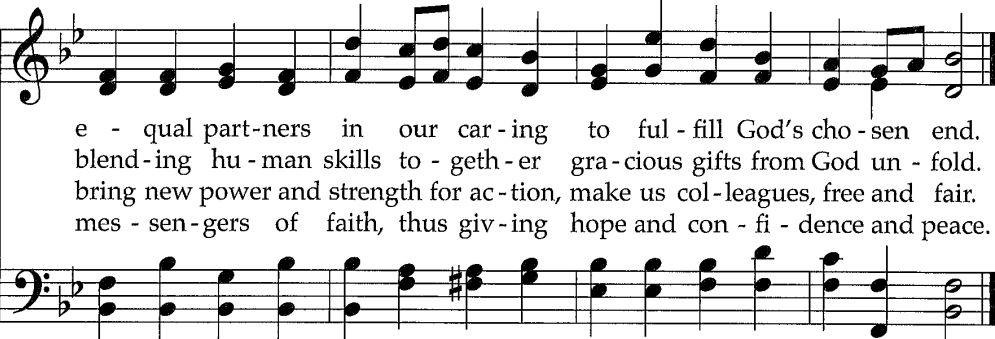
1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



we re-spond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,  
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.  
 blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.