

From Generation to Generation:

A festival of hymns
Celebrating God's steadfast love in song

Offered by the Plymouth Choir
from First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln, Nebraska
Tom Trenney, Minister of Music
Ariel Merivil, Associate Minister of Music

October 13-15, 2023

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Columbus, Ohio
The United Methodist Church, Painesville, Ohio
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Massillon, Ohio

Welcome

Call to Worship

from Psalm 100

Hymn (Please rise and join in singing.)

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE/ arr. Jeremy Bankson

All 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our
Men 2 Un - der the shad - ow of Your throne Your
Choir 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or
All 4 A thou - sand a - ges in Your sight Are
(in harmony)

hope for years to come, Our shel - ter from the
saints have dwelt se - cure; Suf - fi - cient is Your
earth re - ceived its frame, From ev - er - last - ing
like an eve - ning gone, Short as the watch that

storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
You are God, To end - less years the same.
ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

Women

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

All

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home.

Please be seated.

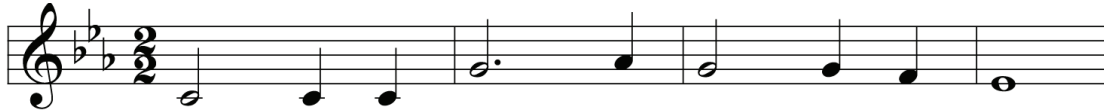
A Reading from Creation by Gerald McDermott

Hymn

Many and Great

LACQUIPARLE

Please join in singing or humming both stanzas.



1 Man - y and great, O God, are thy works,
2 Grant un - to us com - mu - nion with thee,



Mak - er of earth and sky. Thy hands have
thou star - a - bid - ing One. Come un - to



set the heav - ens with stars; thy fin - gers spread the
us and dwell with us. With thee are found the



moun - tains and plains. Lo, at thy word the
gifts of life. Bless us with life that



wa - ters were formed. Deep seas o - bey thy voice.
has no end, e - ter - nal life with thee.

Words of Assurance from Isaiah 40



Hymn

We've Come a Long Way, Lord

Negro spiritual

Please join in singing as invited.

1 We've come a long way, Lord, a migh-ty long way. We've come a long

6 way, Lord, a migh-ty long way. You took our bur-dens in the heat of the day;

11 we know our God's gon - na find a way. We've come a long

14 way, Lord, a migh - ty long way.

Anthem

Don't Leave Me, Lord

Negro spiritual/ arr. Marques Garrett

Don't leave me, Lord. Lord, don't leave-a me behind.

Jesus, Jesus is my Friend. He will go with me to the end.

I don't want to stumble and I don't want to stop. I don't want to be no stumbling block.

A reading from Lamentations

Hymn

Great is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Stanzas 1-3: all in harmony

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

Scripture Collage

Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Please join in singing joyfully throughout.



1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-



last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. *Refrain*
Lean-ing,
Lean-ing on Je-sus,



lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on
lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus,



ing, lean-ing, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus,



Scripture Collage

Hymn (Please rise and join in singing.)

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION/ arr. Tom Trenney

Stanza 1: all

Stanza 2: high voices

Stanza 3: low voices

Stanza 4: all in canon
as invited

Stanza 5: all in unison

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

Please be seated.

A Reading from Psalm 46

Hymn (Please rise and join in singing.)

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG

Stanza 1: all in unison

Stanza 2: all in harmony

Stanza 3: choir only

Stanza 4: all in unison



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -



fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this



seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's



armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Please be seated.

A Reading from Psalm 91

Anthem

Jehovah Sabaoth (God of Angel Armies)

Donald Lawrence

I shall not fear the arrow by day nor shall I fear the terror by night.

The God who governs angel armies has set encampments around me. Whom shall I fear?

I'm not afraid. All is well.

Reflection by Tom Trenney

Hymn

Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers

Please join in singing this refrain as invited.

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you
 lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each
 day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

A reading from Psalm 139

Hymn

When Memory Fades

FINLANDIA

Please join in thoughtfully singing all stanzas in harmony

1 When mem - ory fades and rec - og - ni - tion fal - ters,
2 As frail - ness grows and youth - ful strengths di - min - ish
3 With - in your Spir - it, good - ness lives un - fad - ing.

when eyes we love grow dim, and minds, con - fused,
in wea - ry arms that worked their ear - nest fill,
The past and fu - ture min - gle in - to one.

speak to our souls of love that nev - er al - ters;
your ag - ing ser - vants la - bor now to fin - ish
All joys re - main, un - shad - owed light per - vad - ing.

speak to our hearts by pain and fear a - bused.
their earth - ly tasks, as fits your mys - tery's will.
No val - ued deed will ev - er be un - done.

O God of life and heal - ing peace, em - power us
We grieve their wan - ing, yet re - joice, be - liev - ing
Your mind en - folds all fi - nite acts and of - ferings.

with pa - tient cour - age, by your grace in - fused.
 your arms, un - wea - ried, shall up - hold us still.
 Held in your heart, our death - less life is won!

Scripture Collage

Anthem

He Never Failed Me Yet

Robert Ray

*I will sing of God's mercy. Every day, every hour, He gives me power.
 I will sing and give thanks to Thee
 for all the dangers, toils and snares that He has brought me out.
 He is my God, and I'll serve Him. No matter what the test:
 trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet.
 I know God is able to deliver in times of storm,
 and I know that He'll keep you safe from all earthly harm.
 One day when my weary soul is at rest, I'm going home to be forever blessed.
 Didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh?
 And didn't He cool the fiery furnace for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
 When I think of what my God can do - He delivered Daniel - I know He will deliver you.*

Words of Assurance

Anthem

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

*O Love, that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
 I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.
 O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee;
 I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.*

Reflection by Tom Trenney

Anthem

Wondrous Love

WONDROUS LOVE/ arr. David Edmonds

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul.
 What wondrous love caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.
 What wondrous love caused the Lord of life to lay aside His crown for my soul!*

Benediction

Hymn (*Please rise and join in singing.*)

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

Stanza 1:
all in harmony

Stanza 2:
all in harmony

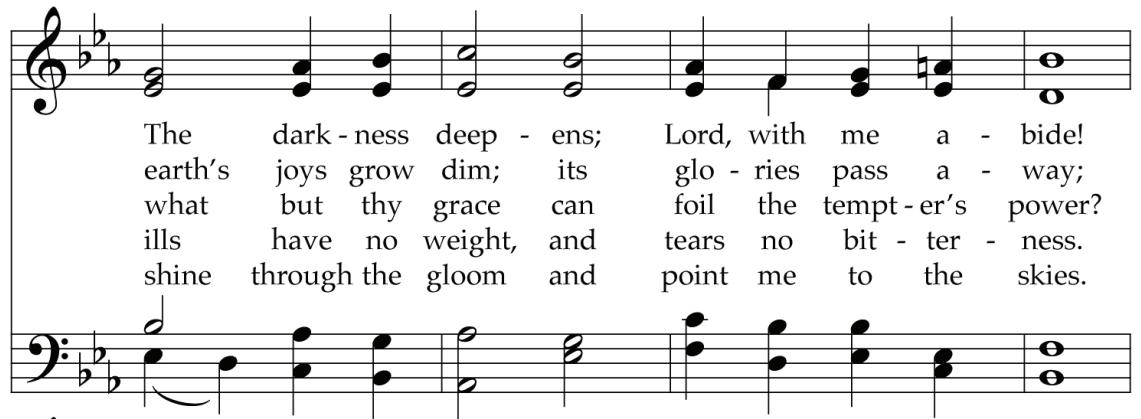
Stanza 3:
high voices

Stanza 4:
low voices

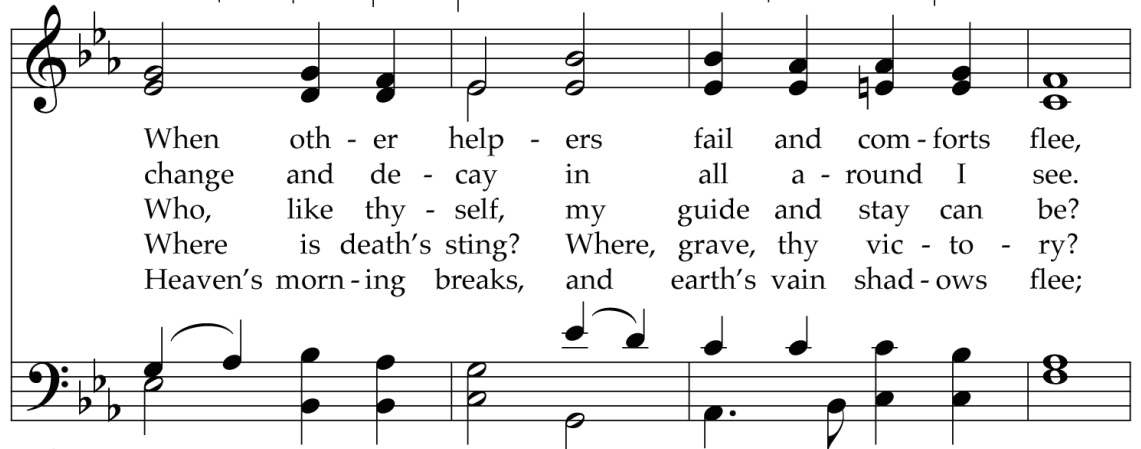
Stanza 5:
*all, gently,
in harmony*




1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide!
earth's joys grow dim; its glo - ries pass a - way;
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
change and de - cay in all a - round I see.
Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
Heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Our worship has ended, and now our service begins.