



PAXTON

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



There is Good by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC

the good news is...
rooted in justice, mercy, and faithfulness

March 22, 2026 | 10:30AM

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

“Four Green Fields”
“Tripping Up the Stairs”
“Cait Ni Duibhir”
“Carrickfergus”

WORSHIP PREPARATION

In preparing for our worship together please quiet yourself and allow God's Spirit to ready your heart, mind, and soul.

During this time, we invite you to sign the **guest book**, pass it down your row and back again and note friends and guests worshipping next to you. Please also complete a **prayer request card** at this time if you have a joy or concern for which you would like special prayers during the service. The ushers will collect them during the first hymn.

GREETINGS AND NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

“Four Green Fields”

THE WORD GATHERS US

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to the weary and the worn.

Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

This is God's house.

You can make yourself at home here.

Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

* HYMN – 435 “There is a Wideness in God's Mercy”

* PRAYER OF PRAISE

Lord God, We thank You for Your countless blessings. From the breath in our lungs to the beauty of creation, every good thing comes from You. With a grateful heart, we sing praises to Your name and rejoice in Your steadfast love. Amen.

* GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

* OUR RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS

Holy God, we love to live our lives by the rules. We love clear answers and right and wrong. We love swift justice. We love to pick up stones, but you show us another way. You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation. You prioritize mercy over legality. You prioritize people over tradition. You prioritize love over everything. Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters. Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you. Forgive us. Soften our hearts. Root us in mercy, justice, and love, we pray. Amen.

* GOD'S ASSURANCE OF RECONCILIATION

* OUR GRATEFUL RESPONSE – No. 581

***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 THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

THE WORD PROCLAIMS TO US

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING FROM THE GOSPELS John 8:2-11 (NT 122)

ANTHEM “Worthy is the Lamb” -arr. Stephen Leddy

SECOND READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 23:23 (NT 31)

SERMON

HYMN – 445 “God, How Can We Forgive?”

THE WORD INVITES US

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation for the Offering

* Response of Praise – No. 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

OFFERTORY “Stray Away Child”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

SCAN HERE
TO GIVE
VIRTUALLY



THE WORD SENDS US

* HYMN – 738 “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

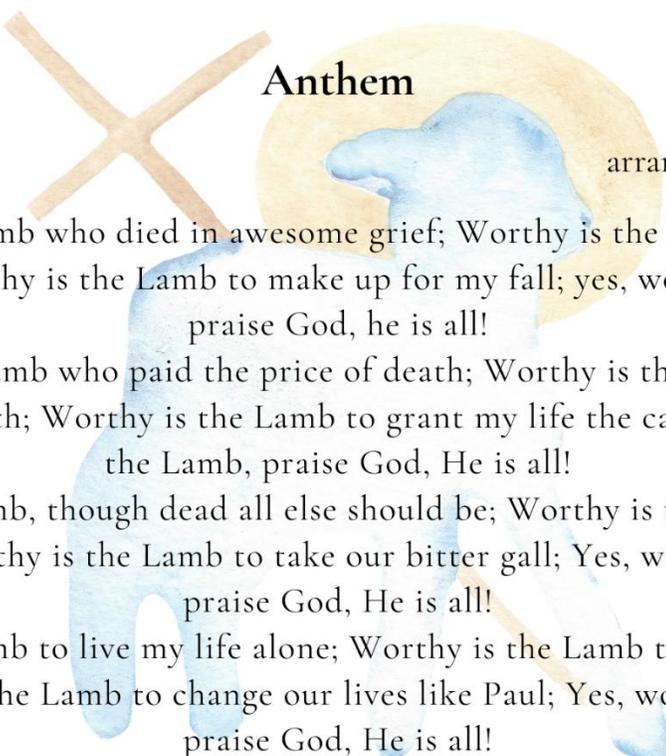
* INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE “Padraig O Keefe’s Slide”

The () indicates that those who are able may stand.
The words printed in ***bold face italics type*** are said by all.
Worship liturgy is adapted from prayers by Sarah Are Speed
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
CCLI#2707192

Directing our worship today: Director of Faith Formation, Michelle Sheppard; Worship Leader, Nancy Bingaman, Assistant Worship Leader; Isla Hutchison, *Conversation with Our Children*, Michelle Sheppard, Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce; Tin Whistle Trio, Nan Bonnet, Bill Sanford, John Palmer



Anthem

Worthy is the Lamb

arranged by John Wilson

Worthy is the Lamb who died in awesome grief; Worthy is the Lamb who saved a dying thief. Worthy is the Lamb to make up for my fall; yes, worthy is the Lamb, praise God, he is all!

Worthy is the Lamb who paid the price of death; Worthy is the Lamb who gave my soul its breath; Worthy is the Lamb to grant my life the call; Yes, worthy is the Lamb, praise God, He is all!

Worthy is the Lamb, though dead all else should be; Worthy is the Lamb to live in you and me; Worthy is the Lamb to take our bitter gall; Yes, worthy is the Lamb, praise God, He is all!

Worthy is the Lamb to live my life alone; Worthy is the Lamb to take my soul and own; Worthy is the Lamb to change our lives like Paul; Yes, worthy is the Lamb, praise God, He is all!

PRAYER SQUARE

Please keep the following church members and friends in your prayers.

Members

Rick Bazdar, Jim Brillinger, the Brillinger Family, Brenda and Ron Brinkley, Family of Bruce Cavanaugh, Fran Gilchrist, Shirley Grunden, Nancy Hutchison, Jo Jacoby, Family of Jim Knight, Penny Knight, Nedra Maxwell, Joanne Miller, Gary Myers' family, Donna Powers, Elsie Williams, Dave Wion, Kathie Zimmerman

Friends

Dave Altland, Atkins Family, Benitez Family, Betty Conte, Rev. John Green, Dr. and Mrs. Kent Groff, Margaret Hoyt, Mary Langley, Betty Palaski, Carol Poteet, Steven Vordenberg

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer Square please contact Janice at 717-418-1526 or momjakh@aol.com

NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL today are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our son John by Barb and Bob Greenwood. Even after 10 years, we can't believe you are gone.

LENTEN MEALS AND DEVOTIONAL SERIES Join us in the Fellowship Hall at Paxton Presbyterian Church at 6:00PM on Wednesday evenings March 25 for our Lenten series. We'll share a meal and have a roundtable discussion using the Sanctified Art series, "Tell Me Something Good". Please let the office know if you would like a printed copy of the devotional booklet. You can scan the QR code for the digital version.

A NOTE ABOUT BULLETIN ART In the piece "There Is Good," artist Hannah Garrity examines the crowds of Jesus' day and contemplates whether all crowds are good crowds to be a part of. She points to Jesus' words in Matthew 23:23 to say that crowds formed to work for justice are good; those that work against it are not. She writes, "In the four corners of the artwork, symbols of justice, mercy, and faithfulness echo the clarity of Jesus. Gathering for justice is the work of the gospel."



PALM SATURDAY WORKSHOP

Families are encouraged to join us as we share the Easter Faith with our children on Saturday, March 28th from 9:30-11:30am

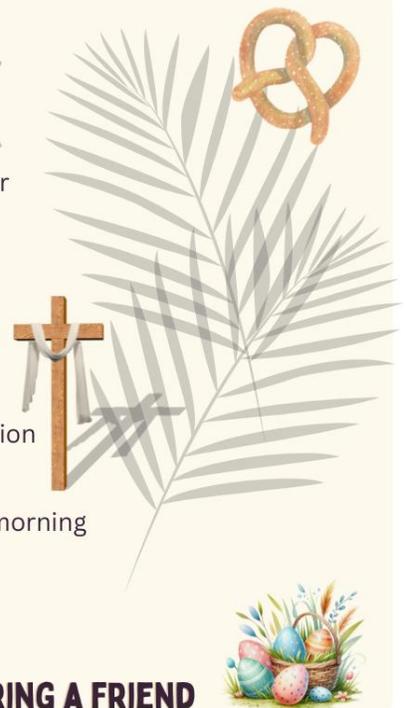
Experience the last week of Jesus' earthly life for and through the eyes of children.

- March in a Palm Sunday parade
- Make braided pretzels for Maundy Thursday
- Make a window cling cross for Good Friday
- Prepare for Easter as we use donuts to teach about the resurrection
- Take home a map of Holy Week to fill out and color

Designed to nurture children with the special days of Holy Week, this morning will also assist adults in discovering words and ways to help children participate and worship during this sacred time.

BREAKFAST SNACKS PROVIDED

ALL AGES ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. BRING A FRIEND



A NOTE ABOUT THE ANTHEM *Worthy is the Lamb* centers around the theme of reverence and adoration for Jesus, acknowledging His sacrifice and the glory he deserves as the Lamb of God.

HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE

- March 29** PALM SUNDAY 10:30 AM
- April 2** MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM
- April 3** GOOD FRIDAY 7 PM
- April 5** EASTER 8 AM AND 10:30 AM

EGG HUNT

PALM SUNDAY AT
9 AM IN AGAPE PARK

**PAXTON
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

CANTATA

"NO GREATER LOVE" BY LLOYD LARSON
DURING WORSHIP ON PALM SUNDAY.

NO GREATER LOVE, by Lloyd Larson will be presented by The Paxton Choir on Palm Sunday, March 29th. A beautiful and dramatic work walking with Jesus through Holy Week. There will be an insert in your bulletin so you will be able to follow along with the texts. Hope to see you there!

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS Lilies, tulips and hyacinths will be used again this year for the Easter flower tree in the chancel and to decorate the sanctuary. Anyone wishing to purchase a plant may do so by completing a form and returning it to the church office or placing it in the offering plate. Additional forms can be found outside the office. Each plant is \$10.00 with checks payable to Paxton Presbyterian Church accompanying each order.

Please complete one order form for each plant purchased to simplify the printing of the dedication. The deadline to place an order is TODAY.

CHOCOLATE EGGS are available for purchase outside of the library until sold out. We still have all flavors available, but raspberry are limited. Eggs and \$1.75 each. All proceeds benefit our Rise Against Hunger event.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER is fast approaching! The total cost of packing 10,000 meals is \$4100 or \$0.41/per meal. \$100 will provide one child with meals for an entire school year! Please consider financially supporting this cause as you are able. \$10=25 meals, \$20=50 meals, \$30=75 meals, \$40=100 meals, and so on. Please make checks payable to Paxton Presbyterian Church with Rise Against Hunger in the memo line.

COMMUNITY CLOTHING DRIVE Please drop off all clothing by noon on March 23rd. All men's, women's, and children's clothes for winter and early spring are needed including pants, shirts, jackets, coats, shoes, underwear, socks, and dresses. Additionally, sheets, towels, and washcloths can be used. Please drop off the clothing at Norm Daniels' house (500 Bonnymead Avenue, Harrisburg, 17111). Questions? Call or text Norm at 717-712-7494.

EASTER EGG HUNT Paxton children and community neighbors are invited to our annual Easter egg hunt at 9:15am on Palm Sunday, March 29. Please bring a basket to collect all your eggs! Parents are encouraged to attend with their children. A light breakfast and easter crafts will be provided after the hunt.

QUILT SUNDAY The Paxton Women's Sewing Circle invites you to enjoy the 50 quilts in the sanctuary today. They will be given to UPMC Nurse/family Partnership for families in poverty or in crisis. You can help our effort by donating flannel, flannel sheets, white sheets, and fabric.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH There is no Children's Church March 29 or April 5.

March 22-29

Sunday, March 22	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room
Monday, March 23	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Voices of the Valley	Great Room
Tuesday, March 24	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	11:45 AM	Staff Meeting	Room 202
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, March 25	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	9:30 AM	Sewing Circle	Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM	Lenten Dinner	Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Deacons	Room 101
Thursday, March 26	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:15 PM	Bell Choir	Sanctuary
	6:30 PM	Paxtang Lions	Fellowship Hall
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir	Choir Room
Friday, March 27	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Nepali Youth Group	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, March 28	9:30 AM	Palm Saturday	Agape Park
Sunday, March 29 PALM SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The office is open to the public

9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday through Friday

If you need to visit the office or building at another time, please call the office.



Worship Volunteers

Paxton Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor	x105	Margaret Poteet	pastor@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Faith Formation	x104	Michelle Sheppard	michelle.sheppard@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Music		Susan Beckley	
Organist		Jeanne Bruce	
Director of Youth Music		Andrew Vinton	
Office Administrator	x101	Abby Spencer	office@paxtonchurch.org
Financial Office/Treasurer	x102	John Palmer	treasurer@paxtonchurch.org
Nursery School Director	x103	Nicole Evenhuis	nurseryschooldirector@paxtonchurch.org
Custodian		Mary Bowers	

Board of Deacons

<p>Sally Appleby '28*</p> <p>Jim Bruce '26</p> <p>Linette Burd '26, Moderator</p> <p>Judy Frankford '27</p> <p>Cheryl Holtzman '26</p> <p>Rich Lengler '28*</p>	<p>Sue McLain '26</p> <p>Merideth Staudenmaier '28*, Secretary</p> <p>Diana Robertson '28*, Financial Liaison</p> <p>Deb Trephan '27</p> <p>Brenda Vinton '27</p> <p>Bev Ziebell '27</p>
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Stephen Ministry

Stephen Leaders	Gary Myers	Jane Sanford
Stephen Ministers	Karen Cirillo	Karen Herrold
	Cheryl Holtzman	Janice Hutchison
	Annette Kilpatrick	Nancy Lengler
	Steve Miller	Kathy Woodbridge

For a confidential referral please contact a Stephen Leader.

Session *Chair

<p>Margaret Poteet</p> <p>Kitti Taylor</p> <p>Nancy Bingaman '28*</p> <p>Cindy Cavanaugh '28*</p> <p>Nancy Lengler '26*</p> <p>Judy Schmidt '27*</p> <p>Gary Myers '26*</p> <p>Jay Kealey '26*</p> <p>Nino Giambrone '27*</p> <p>Craig Staudenmaier '28*</p> <p>Sharon Webb '26*</p> <p>Anita Laughery '27*</p>	<p>Moderator</p> <p>Clerk of Session</p> <p>Christian Education</p> <p>Evangelism and Outreach</p> <p>Budget and Finance</p> <p>Mission</p> <p>Nominating</p> <p>Personnel</p> <p>Property Management</p> <p>Stewardship</p> <p>Technology</p> <p>Worship and Music</p>
<p>Gary Myers Bob Frank '28</p> <p>Geoffrey Vinton '27*</p> <p>Bob Frank</p>	

At Paxton Presbyterian Church, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, made in God's image and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. Rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be a welcoming and affirming community for all people - no matter their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, mental or physical ability, or religious background.



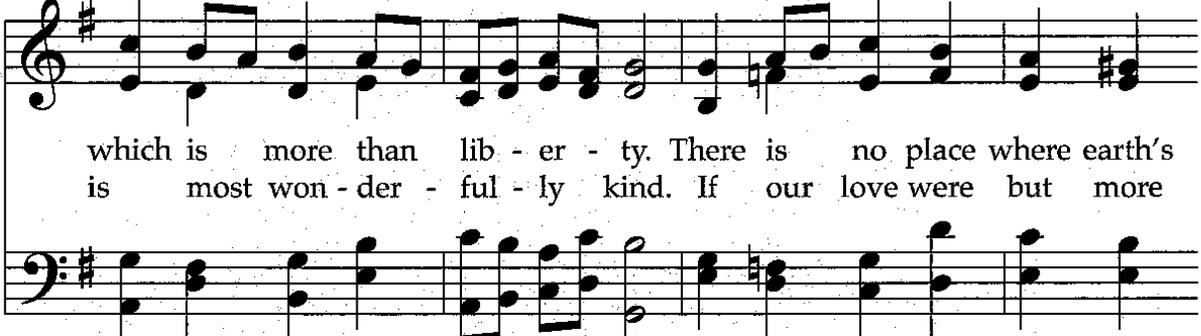
435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



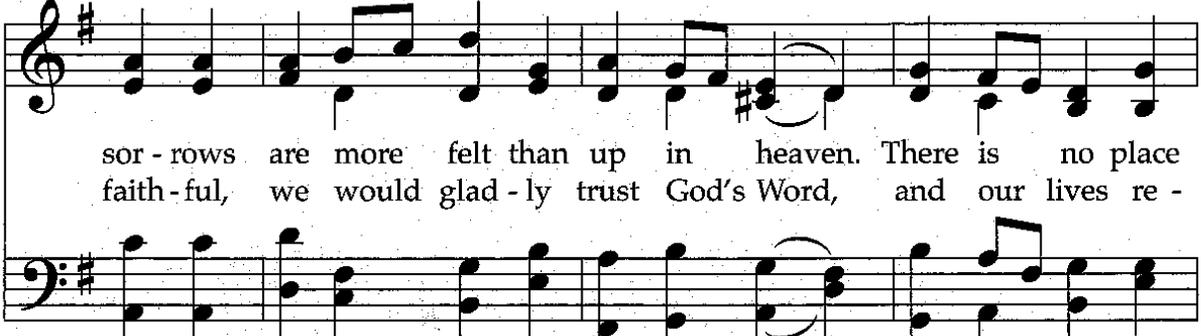
1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures



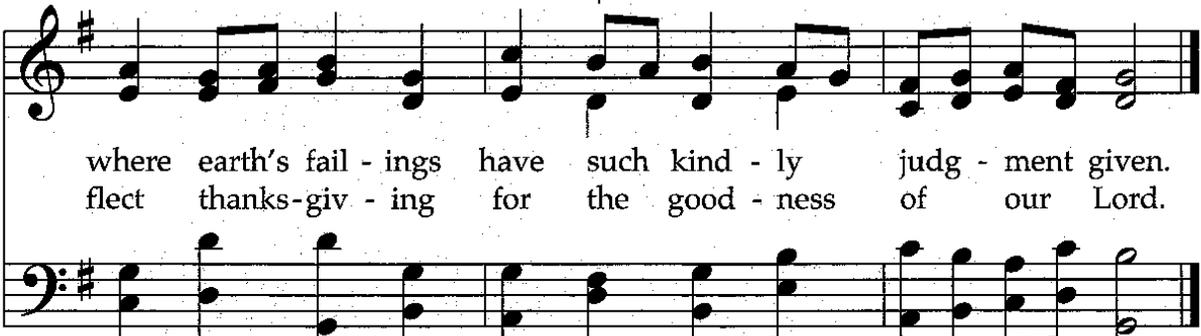
of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal



which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

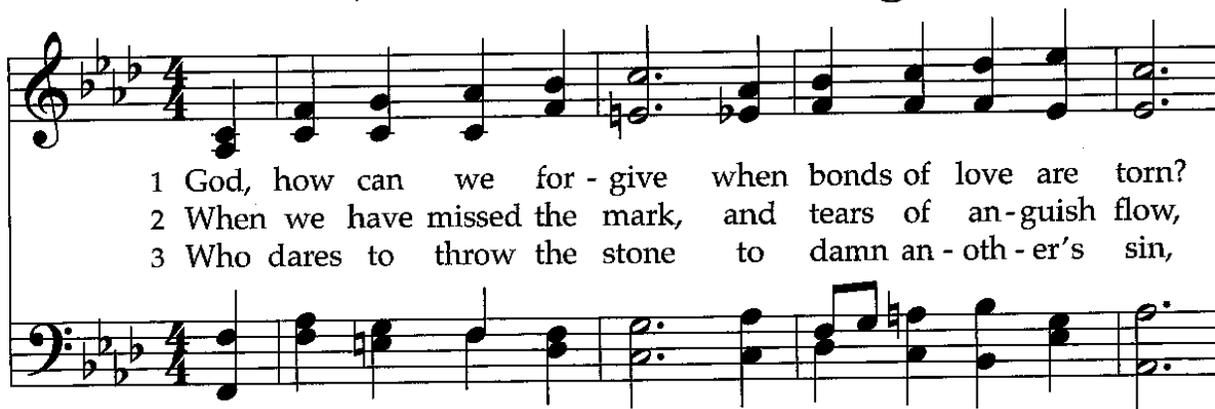


sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -



where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

445 God, How Can We Forgive



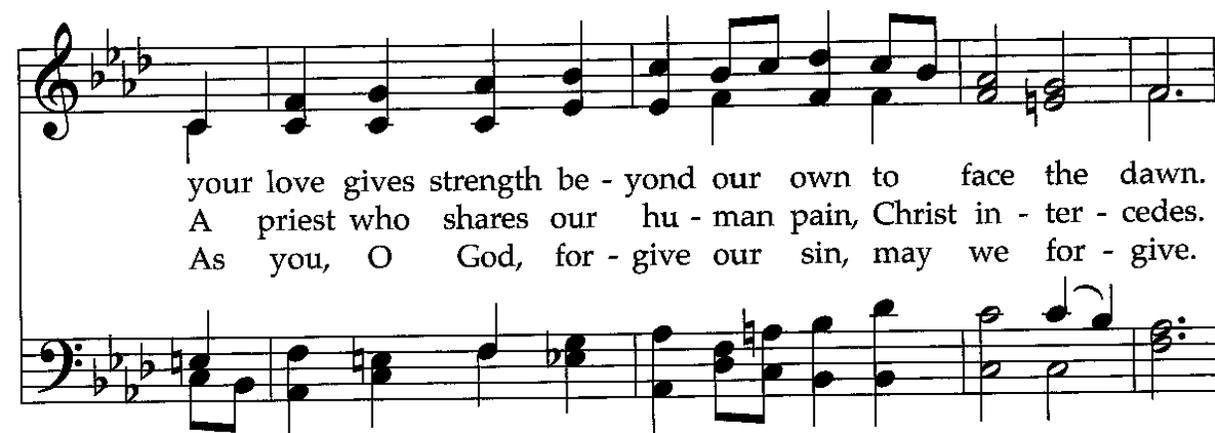
1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,
3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,



How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?



When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.



your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

738 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move
 3 Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray

in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;
 by some clear, win - ning word of love;
 in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,
 far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way;

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the
 teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and
 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in
 in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with

strain of toil, the fret of care.
 guide them in the home - ward way.
 trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

