



PAXTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Members Choice
Unanswered Prayer

JULY 20, 2025
3500 SHARON ST | 717-561-0510

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 20, 2025

10:30 a.m.

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!

MUSIC INTERLUDE

THE WORD GATHERS US

CALL TO WORSHIP

How long, O Lord? Will you forget us forever?

Even when we cry out, God's presence remains.

When we do not know how to pray,

The Spirit prays with sighs too deep for words.

Though we see only in part,

God is stitching grace into every tangled thread.

Come, people of hope, bring your praise, your pain, your prayers.

We come to worship the God who holds it all.

* HYMN - No. 465 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

* PRAYER OF PRAISE

Gracious and ever-present God, you are the weaver of wonder and the holder of every thread. You meet us in joy and in sorrow, in answers and in silence, in strength and in weakness. You do not turn away when we bring our questions. You sit beside us, as close as breath, as patient as dawn. Today we praise you not only for what we understand, but for the beauty we cannot yet see. Receive our worship and make it something beautiful for you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

* GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

* OUR RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS

God of mercy, we confess that we want clear answers and visible signs. We confess that we grow discouraged when our prayers seem unanswered. We confess that we confuse silence with absence, and disappointment with punishment. Forgive us when we turn away in frustration or despair. Remind us that even unanswered prayers are heard. Teach us to trust you with the threads we cannot untangle. Stitch your grace into the fabric of our lives. (silent confession)

* 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

READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 26:36-46 (NT37)

ANTHEM "Twist and Turn" -VBS Kids

READING FROM THE LETTERS 2 Corinthians 12:5-10 (NT226)

SERMON "Unanswered Prayer: Sewn Into Something Sacred"

HYMN - No. 451 "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "Apostles' Creed" -Traditional (p. 35)

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

-Traditional (p. 35)

SCAN HERE
TO GIVE
VIRTUALLY



THE WORD SENDS US

* HYMN - No. 547 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

* INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE

The () indicates that those who are able may stand.
The words printed in ***bold face italics type*** are said by all.

CCLI#2707192

Please use your phone's camera to scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.

Directing our worship today: Preacher, Rev. Dr. Kent Carter;
Worship Assistant, Geoffrey Vinton; *Conversation with Our Children*, Michelle Sheppard;
Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce; Director of Youth Music, Andrew
Vinton; Duet, Nino Giambrone and Andrew Vinton

Prayer Square

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

MEMBERS

NANCY BINGAMAN, JIM BRILLINGER, BRENDA BRINKLEY, DAVE FOREMAN, BARB
GREENWOOD, SHIRLEY GRUNDEN, DON HOOPES, NANCY HUTCHISON, JIM KNIGHT,
PENNY KNIGHT, NEDRA MAXWELL, JOANNE MILLER, CHARLIE MORY, THE
NICKUM FAMILY, DONNA POWERS, LOUIS ROBERTSON, ELSIE WILLIAMS, DAVE
WION, KATHIE ZIMMERMAN

FRIENDS

STEVEN BENTZ, KAREN CHIOCHANYONT, CELESTE EHRHARDT, COLLEEN GERBER, DR.
KENT GROFF, FRED HECKLER, SHERRY HOWER, LINDA LEEDY, DANIELLE SIMS, RYAN
WALKER, CHRISTY WEIGLE, DAVID WEISS, LYNN BUCK WOODWARD

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 in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kealey by their loving children and grandchildren.

COMING IN WORSHIP JULY 27 Christmas in July! Celebrate the infant at the manger and baptismal font. Sing Christmas carols, including "Silent Night," as we light candles. Reflect on the joyous gift of God with us in Jesus. Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors. Then, join us following worship for a reception of refreshments celebrating our interim time together.

BACKPACKS NEEDED! Could you donate a new or gently used backpacks for junior and senior high school students? Our mission partner, Center for Champions, is asking for our help providing backpacks for boys and girls as they begin their new school year. If you can help, backpacks can be placed in the blue bin outside the library. Donations will be collected through August 3.

CELEBRATION OF PASTOR KENT Sunday, July 27, following service there will be a Thank You Celebration of Pastor Kent's service to Paxton. There will be light fair and refreshments. Please RSVP to the office by July 23 via email or phone.

MULTIFAITH PICNIC The multifaith community picnic organized by St Catherine's Church is only one month away. If you have not put the date on your calendar, please do. The picnic is on August 10th at 1:00pm at the 40 and 8 Club on Chambers Hill Road. So far St Catherine's have not assigned specific dishes to share. Please bring whatever summer picnic dish you wish main, sides, salads, or dessert. Children and grandchildren are especially welcomed. Hope to see you all there.

THE NEXT POOR AND HOMELESS DELIVERY WILL BE AUGUST 7 Summer items are in need, particularly MEN'S CLOTHING - long pants and shorts (especially sizes 34-36); men's medium-sized shirts; and sneakers and sandals. At this point, they have an abundance of women's clothing. of all kinds. Sheets and towels are not needed currently. Children's summer clothing would also be appreciated. Please drop off the clothing at Norm Daniels' house (500 Bonnymead Avenue, Harrisburg, 17111) by 9:00 p.m. August 6. Questions? Call or text Norm at 717-712-7494.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Approved the recommendation from the Personnel Committee for Pastor Kent's Terms of Dissolution. This is the agreement that states his last day of employment, severance, and activities/ministries associated with the church. The terms are defined in the documents that are based on the outlines provided by the Presbytery of Carlisle and the contract between Pastor Kent and the Session.
- Approved a request from the Property Management Ministry to solicit funds from the congregation, committee ministries, and memorial funds to upgrade Room 101 furnishings, paint, and technology. Rationale: Property Management will be soliciting bids for a much-needed refresh of the Adult Classroom (101) as part of our continuing effort for maintaining and improving our church campus. In addition to its use as a Sunday School room, it is also our primary meeting space for Session, Deacons and their subsequent ministries. Within the past few weeks, new LED lighting has been installed in this room making it much brighter and welcoming. It is our hope to have a deep clean done of the entire Adult Classroom, including closet space, as well as fresh paint, new carpet and new seating.
- Received notification of bequest from Jerry Davies. There are no restrictions on this generous donation. Based on past decisions, this will be invested at Merrill Lynch with 25% for Property Management and 75% for the Endowment.
- Prayed for members and friends recovering from hospitalizations and illnesses, for those struggling with and the effects of physical, emotional, and spiritual maladies, the pastoral nominating committee and candidate, the mission and ministry of Paxton Presbyterian Church, and individual member contributions.
- Budget (Operational) Howgozit for May: Income \$39,836, Expenses \$53,149, Difference (\$13,313), YTD Difference (\$21,229).
- Active membership is currently 259.

Members of the congregation are encouraged and welcome to attend Session meetings. The next stated meeting is August 20, 2025, at 8:00pm. We hope to see you.



JULY 20 - 27

Sunday, July 20	10:30 AM	Worship with Communion	Sanctuary
	11:30 AM	VBS Game Afternoon	Great Room
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Fellowship Hall
Monday, July 21	5:30 PM	Penguin Project	Great Room
	6:00 PM	Stewardship	
Tuesday, July 22	10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Room 202
	5:30 PM	Penguin Project	Great Room
Wednesday, July 23	10:00 AM	Paxton Bylaws Committee	Room 202
	5:30 PM	Penguin Project	Great Room
Thursday, July 24	5:30 PM	Penguin Project	Great Room
Saturday, July 26	5:00 PM	Keystone Concert Band	The Grove
Sunday, July 27	9:15 AM	Summer Bible Study	Seekers' Room
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:30AM	Celebration of Interim Ministry	Great Room
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room

Lemonade on the Lawn

August 24

Join us after church for lemonade and fellowship!
10:00 AM Coffee Central Sunday Snacks will
resume in September.

Concerts in the Grove

Keystone Concert Band
July 26th at 6 pm

Lower Paxton Variety Band
August 16 at 5 pm.

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.

Paxton Presbyterian Church Staff

Interim Pastor	x105	Rev. Dr. Kent Carter (he/him)	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
Worship Events Coordinator		Susan Shuey	
Financial Office/Treasurer	x102	John Palmer	treasurer@paxtonchurch.org
Nursery School Director	x103	Nicole Evenhuis	nurseryschooldirector@paxtonchurch.org
Custodian		Mary Bowers	

Board of Deacons

Tara Frank	Moderator
Merideth Staudenmaier	Secretary
Sally Appleby	Rich Lengler
Jim Bruce	Diana Robertson
Linette Burd	Deb Trephan
Judy Frankford	Brenda Vinton
Cheryl Holtzman	Bev Ziebell

Pastoral Nominating Committee

Bob Frank	Chairman
Nancy Bingaman	Secretary
Jessica Vinton	Communications
Bill Gough	
Mary Myers	
Don Laughery	

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

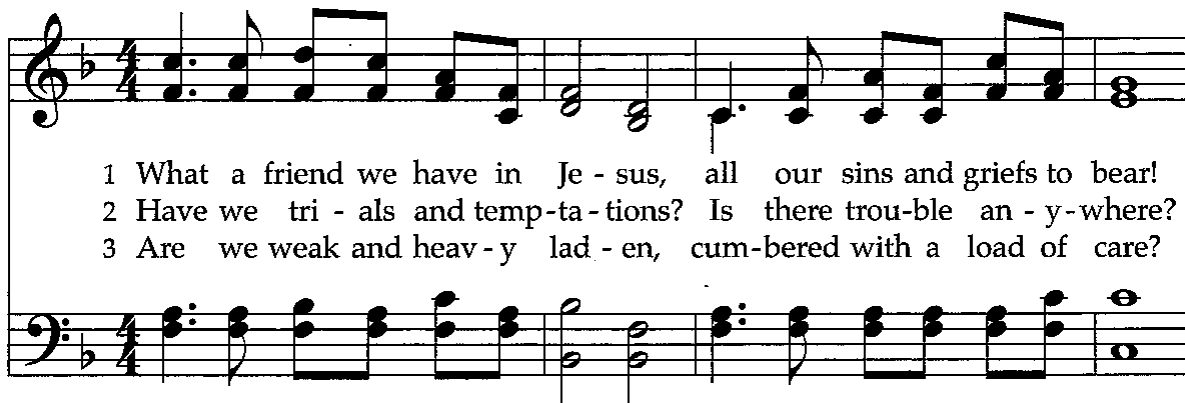
Kent Carter (he/him)		Moderator
Kitti Taylor		Clerk of Session
Karen Herrold*		Christian Education
Janice Hutchison*		Evangelism and Outreach
Nancy Lengler*	Craig Staudenmaier	Budget and Finance
Judy Schmidt*	Jan Gough	Mission
Gary Myers*	Janice Hutchison	Nominating
Jay Kealey*	Gary Myers	Personnel
Nino Giambrone*	Geoffrey Vinton*	Property Management
Craig Staudenmaier*		Stewardship
Sharon Webb*		Technology
Anita Laughery*	Bob Frank	Worship and Music

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.

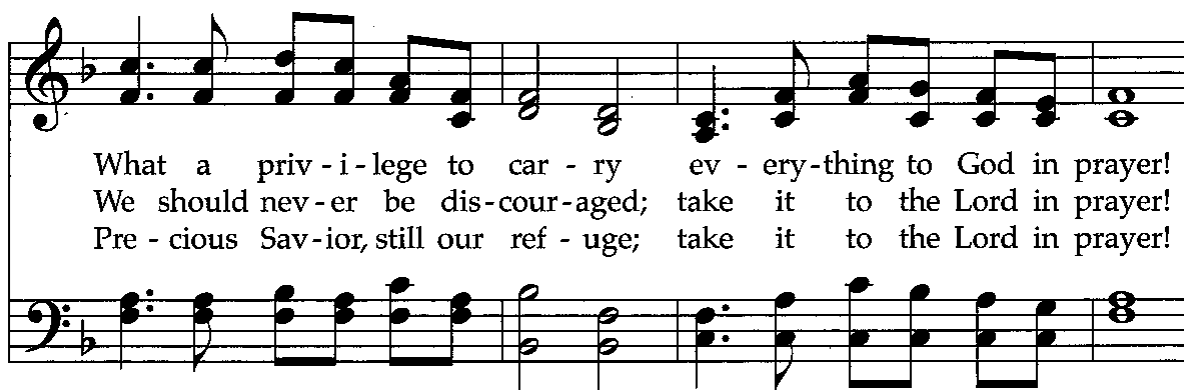


465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

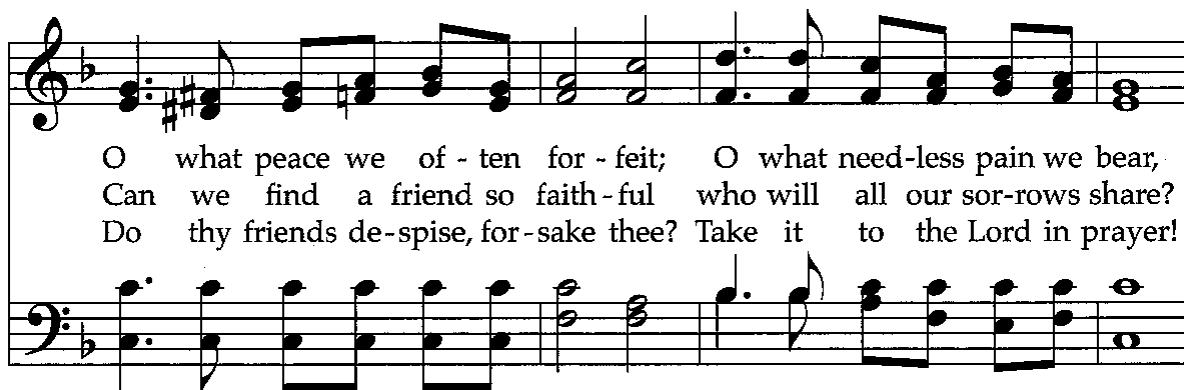
죄짐맡은 우리구주



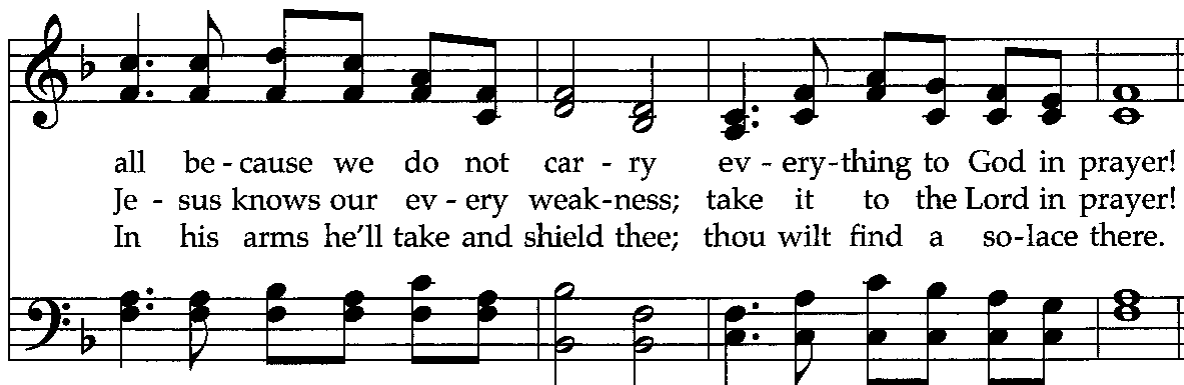
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



- 1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth thou hast for me.
- 2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send - est clear.
- 3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where.



Place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - clasp and
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery - thing false will
O - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare love with thy chil - dren



set me free. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy
dis - ap - pear. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy
thus to share. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy



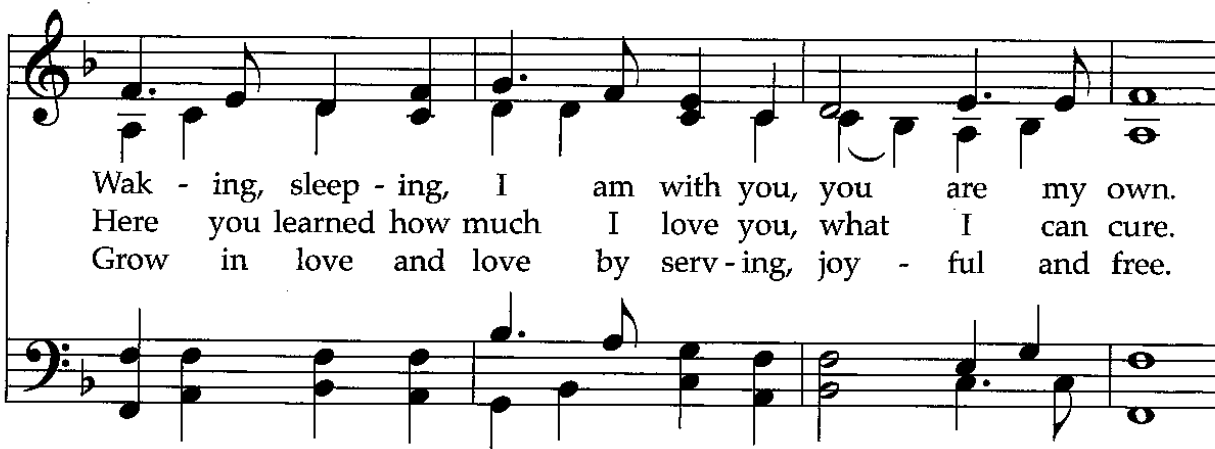
will to see. O - pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
will to see. O - pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
will to see. O - pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!



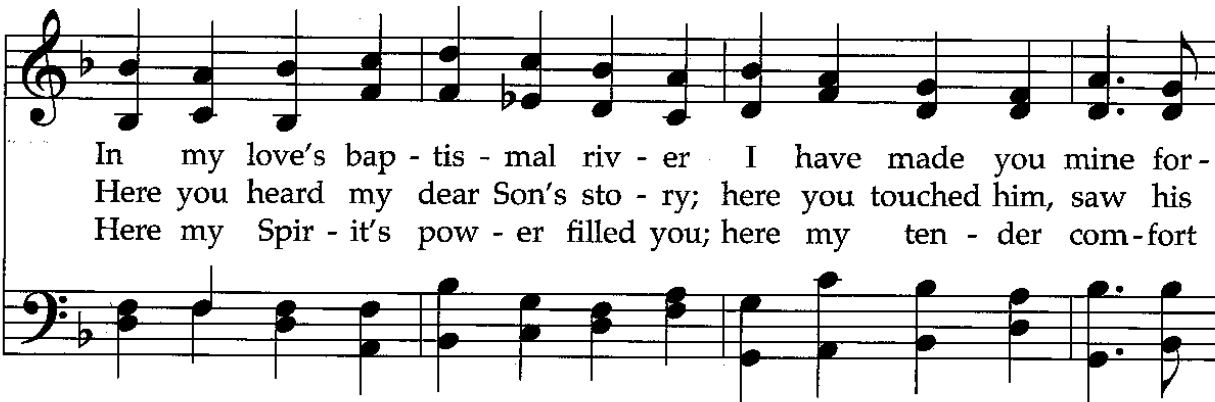
Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."