



PAXTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Let the Little Children Come by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell | A Sanctified Art LLC

the good news is...
protection and care for the vulnerable

March 15, 2026 | 10:30AM

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

"The God of Abraham Praise"
"Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People"
"An Irish Blessing"

-arr. H. Hopson
-arr. M. McConnell
-J. Mansfield

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

"Shelter"

-arr. C.B. Putnam

THE WORD GATHERS US

CALL TO WORSHIP

God loves the field mouse.

God loves the crows that take flight when church bells ring.

God loves the baby, cooing in the back pew.

God loves the child who rocks and claps.

God loves the one with wrinkled hands and soft eyes.

***God loves the giant oaks and the evergreens,
standing strong over all of us.***

God loves the impressionable and the earnest.

There is no bit of creation that God does not love.

So let us worship this good-news God!

Amen.

* HYMN – 49

"The God of Abraham Praise"

* PRAYER OF PRAISE

Creator God, you made all that is, both seen and unseen. You made us in your image, every race and every gender, that we might reflect your goodness, wisdom, and love. As we gather around your Word this day, may our faith be renewed, that we may serve you. Amen.

* GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

* OUR RECOGNITION OF BROKENNESS

Holy God, you have asked us to love our neighbors. We confess that we have mistreated strangers in our land. We have clung to guns and war more than we have pursued peace. We have hoarded our resources and failed to care for our neighbors. We have gatekept the good news in unfair ways. Forgive us, O Lord. Remind us that you also say, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine." Help us remember that by your grace, we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved. May this good news change our lives.

* 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 HEBREW SCRIPTURES Deuteronomy 24:17-22

(OT 225)

ANTHEM “Precious Lord, Take My Hand

-arr. Roy Ringwald

READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 19: 13-15

(NT 25)

SERMON

HYMN – 766

“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

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.***

SCAN HERE
TO GIVE
VIRTUALLY



* Prayer of Dedication

OFFERTORY - PAXTONES “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

-arr. Anna Laura Page

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE WORD SENDS US

* HYMN – 769 “For Everyone Born” vv.1-3,5

* INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

-arr. A. Jordan

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:

*Preacher, Pastor Margaret Poteet; Worship Assistant, Gary Myers,
Conversation with Our Children, Nancy Lengler,
Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce*

Anthem

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

arranged by Roy Ringwald

Precious Lord, take my hand, bring me home through the night, through the dark, through the storm, to the light. I have been to the mount, I have seen the promised Land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

Precious Lord, take my hand, bring Thy child home at last, where the strife and the pain all are past; I have dreamed a great dream that Thy love shall rule our land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

Precious Lord, take my hand, take Thy child unto Thee, with my dream of a world that is free for that day, when all flesh joins the glory Thou hast planned, precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

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, Mary Langley, Betty Palaski, Carol Poteet

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 loving memory of Marvin and Jean Herrold by the Gough and Herrold Families.

LENTEN MEALS AND DEVOTIONAL SERIES Join us in the Fellowship Hall at Paxton Presbyterian Church at 6:00PM on Wednesday evenings March 18 and 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 Artist Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell dedicated this piece to her "little niece, Angelina, whose art rests at the heart of this composition, and in whose joy we glimpse the Kingdom of God--alongside her sisters, Angelika and Ariana." She pictured the probably chaotic scene in her mind of little ones being kids around Jesus and the desires of the disciples to get control of it. "Jesus reorients his disciples (and us) away from the illusion of control and reminds us that it is the joyful, unruly, sincere presence of a child to whom the kingdom truly belongs."



ABOUT TODAY'S ANTHEM After losing his wife and son during childbirth, Thomas Andrew Dorsey wrote this hymn as a broken man. Few gospel songs carry as much sorrow, comfort, and history as "Precious Lord, Take My Hand". It has steadied civil rights marches with the voices of Mahalia Jackson and Dr. Martin Luther King and has bridged blues and church music and became an anthem of hope and perseverance.

PALM SATURDAY WORKSHOP

Families are encouraged to join us as we share the Easter Faith with our children on Saturday, March 29th 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 cross for Good Friday
Prepare for Easter with an egg craft
Make a colorful bracelet to wear on Easter

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



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 Sunday, March 22.

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.

CALLING ON ALL EASTER BUNNY ASSISTANTS It's time to fill Easter eggs for Paxton's annual easter egg hunt! A plastic bin of empty eggs can be found in Coffee Central. Fill up a bag to take home and stuff with candies, stickers, erasers, and little prizes. Please no peanut products. Return filled eggs to Michelle's office by March 22. Thank you.

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 chile 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.

THANK YOU The Cavanaugh Family would like to thank everyone for their many expressions of kindness, support, prayers and love you have shown up for this period of bereavement. It has provided us with great comfort.

March 15 - 22

Sunday, March 15	9:00 AM	Sunday School	Agape Park
	10:30 AM	Worship	Sanctuary
	1:00 PM	Nepali Speaking Community Church	Great Room
Monday, March 16	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Voices of the Valley	Great Room
	6:00 PM	Stewardship	Library
Tuesday, March 17	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
Wednesday, March 18	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	9:30 AM	Sewing Circle	Fellowship Hall
	6:00 PM	Lenten Dinner	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Session	Room 101
Thursday, March 19	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 20	6:00 AM	Sub Sale	Kitchen
	9:00 AM	PPNS Classes	PPNS
	6:00 PM	Nepali Youth Group	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, March 22	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

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

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.

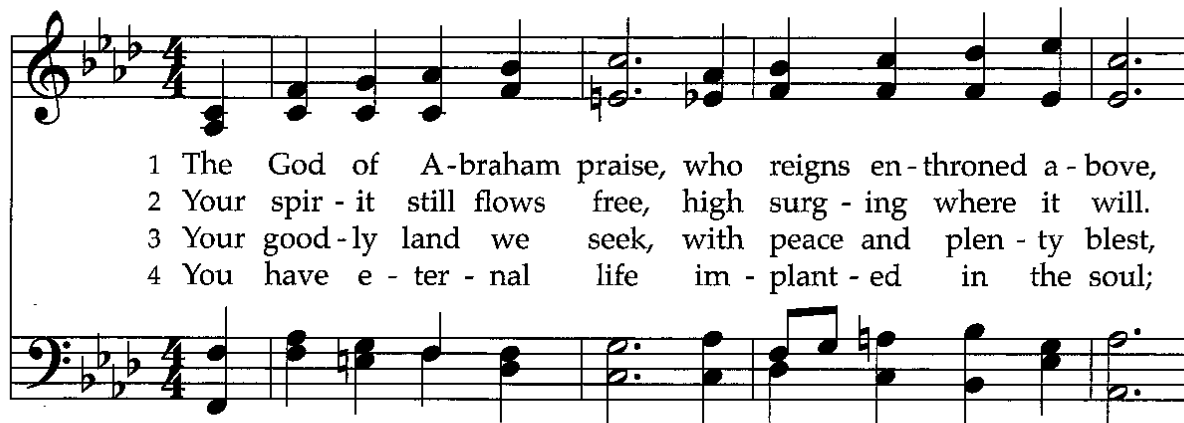
Session *Chair

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

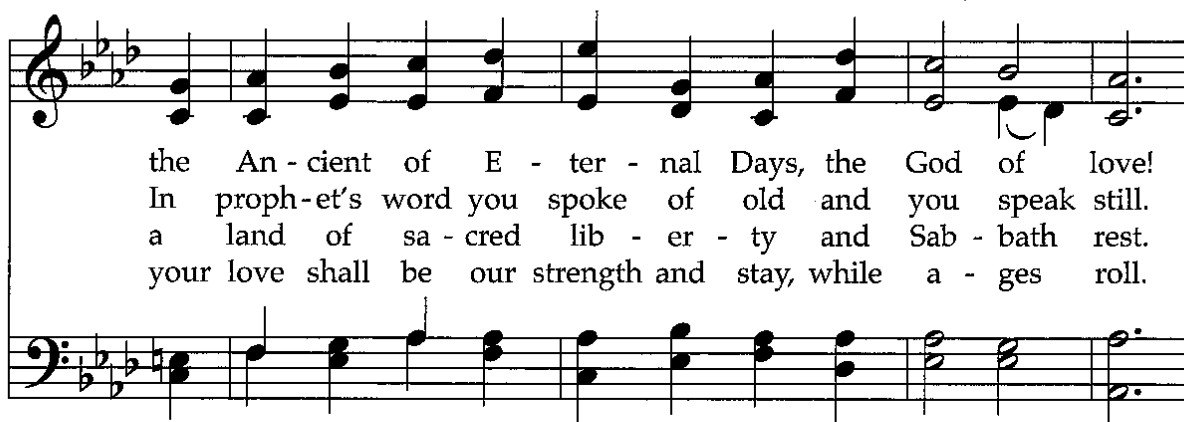
At Paxton Presbyterian Church, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, made in God's image and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. Rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be a welcoming and affirming community for all people - no matter their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



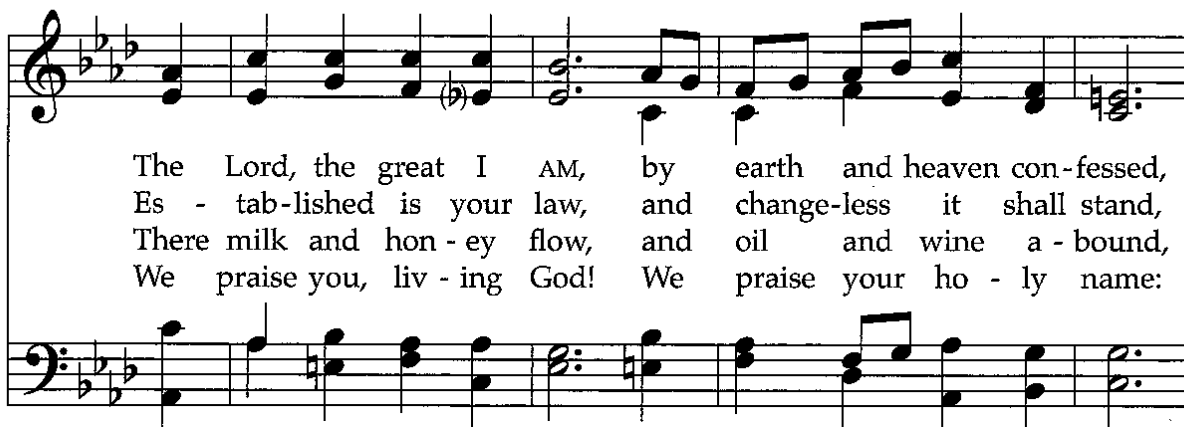
49 The God of Abraham Praise



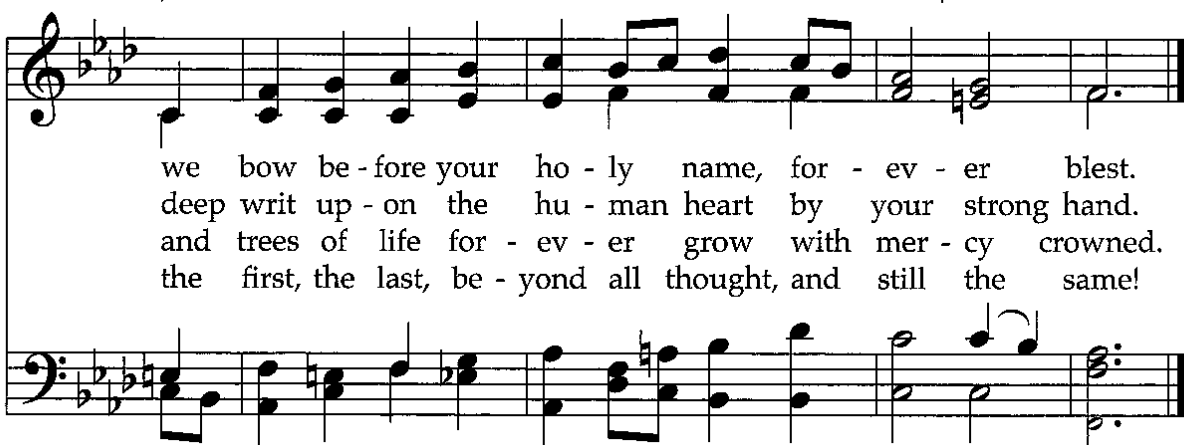
1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;



the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es - tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:



we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!

766 The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by
2 True faith will o - pen up the door and
3 True love will not sit i - dly by when
4 If what we have we free - ly share to
5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by



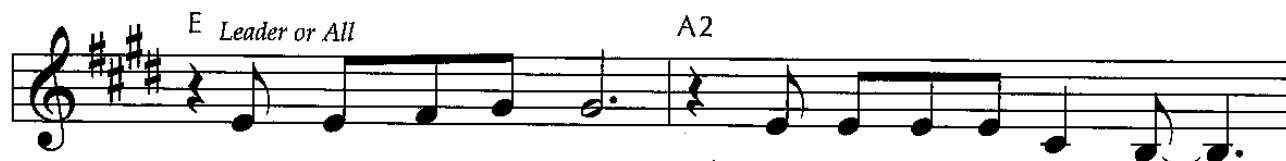
walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek
jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the
walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and



love are found, there can the church be known.
out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.
Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.
love are found, there can the church be known.

769

For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

Refrain

B *All* E E/G# A2 Bsus B
 and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and

E E/G# A2 Bsus B
 joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,

C#m C#m/B A2
 God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

Bsus B (E) *Fine* A2 E Bsus B
 jus-tice and joy!