

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



SUNDAY'S BROADCAST

Our service begins:
9:30 a.m. (CDT)

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER



SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2020

WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

WE GATHER IN THE LORD'S NAME

Prelude | *The People of Israel Shall Keep the Sabbath*

—M. F. Rothblum, arr. Charles W. Ore

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

- One: Sing joyful songs to God, our Savior.
- All: **Remember the Lord, who set us free.**
- One: Blow the trumpet; sound the tambourine!
- All: **Remember the Lord, the God of life. Let us worship God!**

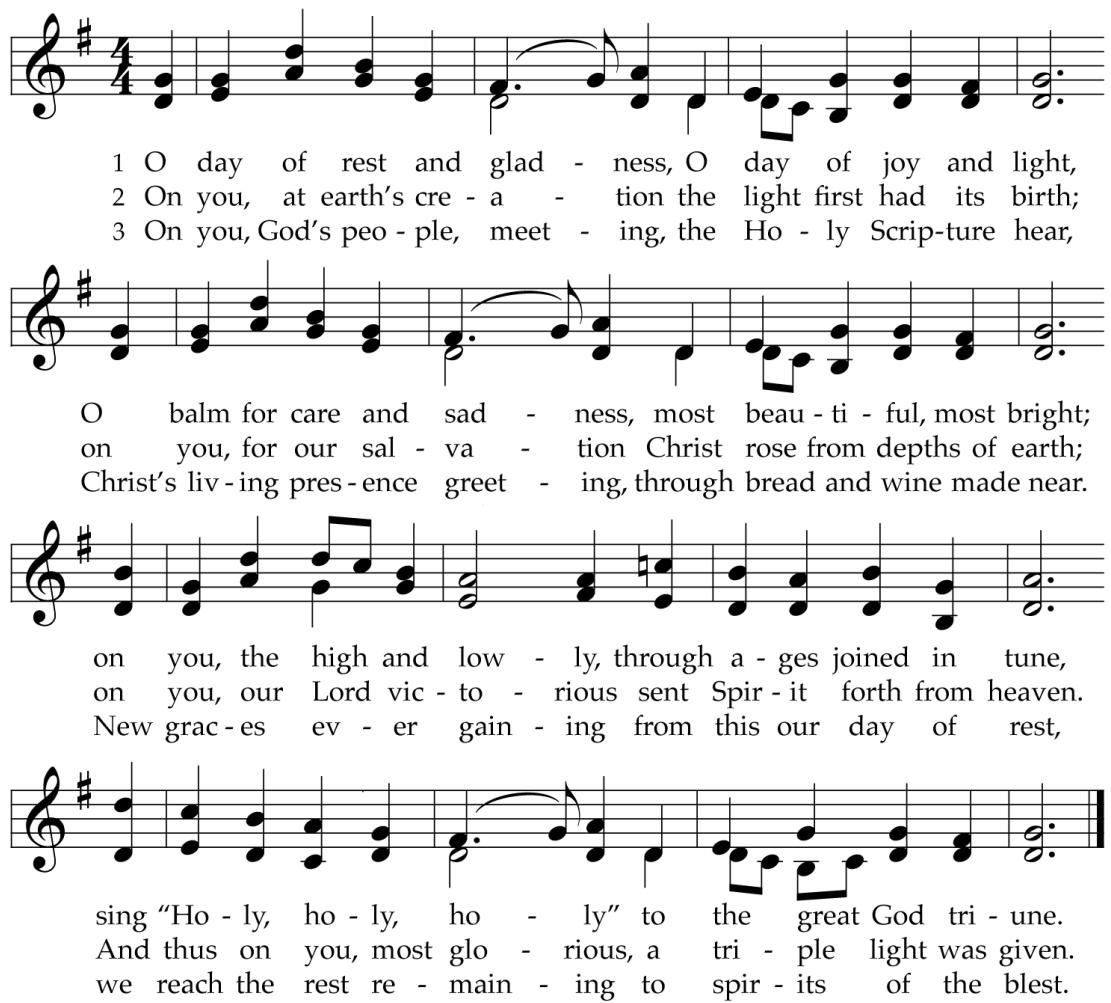
Hymn | #393 "O Day of Rest and Gladness"

HYMN 393—

O DAY OF REST AND GLADNESS

In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost—each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons.

The tune name, ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN (tr. "There flew a little forest bird") recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.



1 O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's creation the light first had its birth;
3 On you, God's people, meeting, the Holy Scripture hear,

O balm for care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright;
on you, for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;
Christ's living presence greeting, through bread and wine made near,

on you, the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
on you, our Lord victorious sent Spirit forth from heaven.
New graces ever gaining from this our day of rest,
sing "Holy, holy, holy" to the great God three.
And thus on you, most glorious, a triple light was given.
we reach the rest remaining to spirits of the blest.

Prayer of Confession

One: In our distress, we call to the Lord, who rescues us.
Whether we are drowning in sin or thirsty for salvation,
God is ready to save. Rejoicing in God's grace, let us confess our sin:

All: **God of freedom, have mercy on us.**
We enjoy idle pleasures and pursue lives of leisure
while others stoop to serve us and struggle to support themselves.
We enact rules and regulations that benefit the wealthy
at the expense of basic needs—human health and daily bread.
Forgive us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Hear the promise of the Lord: I am the Holy One, your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Like weary travelers in
the wilderness, let us drink deeply of God's grace.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you. **All: And also with you.**

One: Let us share words and signs of Christ's peace.

Worshiping With Our Children

Prayer for Illumination

All: Holy God, we give thanks for your Word, speaking through scripture, like a treasure in clay jars. Let us carry these words with us and live as vessels of your truth, proclaiming the good news of life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading | Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

One: This is the Word of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading | Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

One: This is the Word of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon | Summer Sermon Series: Christian Values for the 21st Century.

Week 8: “Sabbath” —Rev. Cader Howard

Special Anthem | “O Day Full of Grace” —N.F.S. Grundtvig; arr. David Cherwien

Affirmation of Faith —from a Declaration of Faith

**All: Jesus lived with a constant sense of God's presence.
He put God's claim on his life above all else.
He joined others in God's worship and praise.
He drew strength from the Scriptures.
He prayed and taught his disciples to pray.**

We believe Christ gives us, and demands of us, personal lives that are centered in God and open to God's reality and rule. It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest, setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work, celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness.

Sharing our Joys and Concerns | 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.

Our Response to God's Generosity

Offertory | *Sarabande* —Arthur Foote

Hymn | #183 "Come to Me, O Weary Traveler"



1 "Come to me, O wea - ry trav - eler; come to me with your dis - tress;
2 "Do not fear, my yoke is eas - y; do not fear, my bur-den's light;
3 "Take my yoke and leave your trou-bles; take my yoke and come with me.
4 "Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - eler; rest in me and do not fear.



come to me, you heav - y bur-dened; come to me and find your rest."
do not fear the path be - fore you; do not run from me in fright."
Take my yoke, I am be - side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty."
Rest in me, my heart is gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care."

Charge and Benediction

Postlude | *Now Thank We All Our God* —arr. Albert L Travis

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Preacher—Rev. Cader Howard

Organist—Laura Edman

Liturgist —Ed Boeve

Cantor—Allan Kellar

Special Thanks — to Rob McManus, oboe, for his offering of music in this morning's service.

Additional Thanks — to the 960 vocal and 364 instrumental participants from across North America and around the globe — including several members and friends of First Presbyterian — who participated in the ACLM and National Lutheran Choir's virtual performance of "Oh Day Full of Grace." A total of 1,324 recordings were submitted and combined to create the video shown in today's service.

THE STORY OF THE VIRTUAL HYMN “O DAY FULL OF GRACE” PENTECOST, 2020

During Lent of 2020, churches around the world suspended liturgies as a pandemic spread its way around the entire globe, sending people around the world into isolation. Current communities of the faithful had never had to consider faith-life without very regular assemblies for worship. Church musicians had spent their entire efforts “bringing together” – to develop, nurture and encourage a powerful instrument: the assembly at song.

As the world arrived at Easter, many Cantors (Church musicians) were somewhat in a state of shock that we would be going through Holy Week without these gatherings. Many had adapted to new methods of encouraging worship to continue – aided by technology, but nevertheless in isolation, without the ability to accomplish corporate singing.

On Easter Sunday, the Episcopal Church released its video of the hymn “The Strife is O’er” which was put together in a short

time span. It was very moving, and encouraging to many: to see the church singing together – young voices, older voices, instruments – over 800 people responded with pent-up energy and desire to once again sing together – even if in isolation. This inspired Lutherans to follow their example.

In early May, a plan was proposed to Jim Rindelaub (Executive Director, ALCM) by David Cherwien (ALCM member, Cantor, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, and Artistic Director, National Lutheran Choir). The proposal was that ALCM, with its very congregational-song-centric 1,700-person membership, could launch a similar thing for Lutherans to use in their virtual liturgies on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020. The National Lutheran Choir could help provide what was needed to launch this effort.



Funding was provided by ALCM through the generosity of Pauline and John Kiltinen. Cherwien and the National Lutheran Choir scrambled over one weekend to produce the arrangement and the initial 8 voice and organ parts with which others could create submissions. The initial hope was for at least 400 participants. (This number was surpassed by over 900)

The Hymn “O Day Full of Grace” was chosen, a hymn known to most Lutherans. This choice was solidified by a letter the ALCM membership received from very active and longtime friend, board-member Norma Aamodt-Nelson. The letter was sharing the news of her entering hospice; the end-of-life time for her due to cancer. In this letter she quoted the final stanza

*“When we on our final journey go,
we’ll gather in song,
our hearts aglow . . .”*

The arrangement had to be simple, with a very predictable introduction and interludes as to indicate clearly the point at which to breathe and sing in time. Two stan-

zas were arranged for 4-part high and 4-part low voices (one for each), the standard hymnal harmonization was included, and a unison with descant final stanza.

Instrumental parts (kept simple as to encourage all ages) were also created and made available.

The invitation net was cast as wide as possible – including internationally. In the end there were over 1,300 video submissions – 960 singers, 364 instrumentalists. Kory Caudill of Nashville received these, and within one week his company edited them all together, to release in various formats for churches to include in their virtual worship materials for Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020. First Presbyterian organist Laura Edman, her daughter Marta and husband Tim participated in this virtual project.

Soli deo Gloria

SUPPORT THE MISSION & MINISTRY OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Please continue to support First Presbyterian with your tithes and offerings.

If you feel so moved, you can send additional donations to help with community assistance through our Emergency Fund and the Cents-ability and Food Shelf Funds.

PAY ONLINE: www.fpc-stillwater.org Click on “GIVING.”

MAIL CHECKS TO: First Presbyterian Church, 6201 Osgood Av. N., Stillwater, MN 55082

THANK YOU!

CONNECTING IN CHRIST TRANSFORMING LIVES

We believe all people are created in the image of God, and God's love and grace extend to all.

We welcome, affirm, and embrace all people regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, faith history, age, family structure, physical or mental ability, economic circumstances, education levels, or any other labels placed on humanity.

Come just as you are and join us as we seek to follow Jesus
as creators of justice, joy, compassion, and peace.

You have a place set at the table,
and we await you with joy!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN COVID-19 RESPONSE

Our gathering together inside enclosed spaces still present a high risk of infection. The Covid-19 virus is known to spread mostly through aerosols and droplets from speaking, coughing, sneezing, or even singing. For this reason we are continuing to meet and worship online. Our staff are mostly working at home. If you need access to the building, contact Deb Schultz or Cader Howard for assistance.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE — **Need a cloth mask** for personal protection? **Need help** with grocery or medicine pickup or other similar requests? We have church volunteers available to assist. Connect with one of our **Member Assistance** helpers by phone or email at: help@fpc-stillwater.org (or) 651-342-2898. Someone will respond to you within 24 hours and put you in contact with a volunteer. Note that this service is for the First Presbyterian Church family: members, attendees, friends, and those participating in the life of FPC. For other requests, please contact Community Thread for services in the greater Stillwater community: (651) 439-7434 / <https://communitythreadmn.org/>



CONNECTING IN CHRIST TRANSFORMING LIVES

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