Westminster
Presbyterian Church
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330-263-2398 / wpcwooster@gmail.com

August 6, 2023
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Service of Communion

Welcome and Announcements — **Rev. Matthew J. Skolnik**

Let us open our hearts and minds to the rhythm of the gathering music as it centers us in God's presence for worship.

Prelude — **"My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice" (Aria from Samson and Deliah)** — ***Camille Saint Saëns***

***Gathering Words** — **Psalm 27:4-6** — **Candy Relle**

*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

One thing I ask from the Lord,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord
and to seek God in the temple.
For in the day of trouble
God will keep me safe;
God will hide me in the shelter of the sacred tent
and set me high upon a rock.

***Opening Prayer** — **Candy Relle**

Let us pray …
Loving and gracious God, we gather in worship today, seeking to follow Jesus.
As we reflect on the beginning of Jesus' ministry in the Gospel of Mark,
we hear the call to turn from paths of destruction and believe in the good news of Christ.
We believe that you set the captives free, give sight to the blind, and set the oppressed free.
Let this be the year of the Lord's favor. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Opening Hymn No. 308 "O God in Whom All Life Begins" *Noel*

Call to Confession Ferenc Relle

Beloved community, let us enter into a time of confession,
acknowledging our need for God's grace and mercy.
As followers of Jesus, we recognize that we have fallen short
of the inclusive love and radical justice that Christ embodies.
Together, let us turn our hearts toward God, seeking forgiveness
and renewed commitment to walking in the footsteps of our Savior.

Prayer of Confession Ferenc Relle

In this time of confession, let us remember that God's love knows no bounds and embraces all people, regardless of age, gender, race, or any other human construct that divides us.
We confess that we have often failed to fully embrace this truth, contributing to systems of injustice and inequality, consciously or unconsciously.
We have at times remained silent when called to speak for justice and have neglected opportunities to extend compassion and hospitality to all.
Forgive us, O God, for the times we have fallen short
of your inclusive vision for your beloved community.

Grant us the courage to confront our own biases and prejudices, and open our eyes to the ways in which we perpetuate systems of oppression.
Help us to actively work towards dismantling these systems and creating a world where all are seen, valued, and embraced.
May this time of confession be a turning point, as we recommit ourselves to follow Jesus as Lord, who welcomed all and stood alongside the marginalized.
In the name of Jesus, who calls us to a higher way, we offer this prayer. Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 759 "O God, We Bear the Imprint" *Todos Los Colores*

Assurance of Forgiveness Ferenc Relle

Beloved community, hear the good news:
In Jesus Christ, we find abundant and freely given restoration and forgiveness.
Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus we are reconciled

with God and assured of God's grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Let us walk in the freedom of this forgiveness, sharing God's grace with the world. Amen.

Musical Offering **"Tempo Di Minuetto"** ***Foote/J.S. Bach***

We offer our gifts of money, talents, time, and energy—the gifts of our lives in gratitude for God's relentless love and grace for all. These gifts represent our commitment to heed God's call and join God in God's mission
of healing and transforming our world.

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Matthew J. Skolnik**

Scripture Reading **Mark 1:16-28 (NRSV)** **Rev. Matthew J. Skolnik**

16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into
the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for
people." 18 At once they left their nets and followed him.
19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat,
preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat
with the hired men and followed him.
21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began
to teach. 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had
authority, not as the teachers of the law. 23 Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by
an impure spirit cried out, 24 "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to
destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"
25 "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" 26 The impure spirit shook the man violently and
came out of him with a shriek.
27 The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and
with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." 28 News about him spread
quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

Sermon **Following Jesus Today** **Rev. Matthew J. Skolnik**

Communion Hymn No. 508** **"Come to the Table"** ***Come to the Table

Communion

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We do indeed praise you, eternal God, for out of your thought
you spoke the world into spinning beauty. After scooping together a little earth,
you animated humans with your heart's breath.
Your glory shines forth, and out of the soil comes abundant harvest:
wheat whirling in winds' delight, grapes clinging to the Vine.
You rain down your compassion and feed us with mercy.
When we want more than our share, and pollute all the works of your hands,
You let us sit in our own stench, 'til we cry out.
Then you stretch forth your hand to wash all clean.
You grow prophets to lead us into freedom's plenty.
In the fullness of time You yourself came forth in Jesus
And creation rejoiced as its redemption drew near.
Oceans danced with the light of the moon, mountains murmured delight,
Trees trembled in praise, flowers burst forth in song.
Wolves howled in harmony, and sheep kicked up their heels…

We pray through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kin-dom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution
Communion of the people

Distribution music "Offertoire" *Leon Boellman*
Prayer after Communion

***Closing Hymn No. 731** **"Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm"** *Repton*

Benediction **Rev. Matthew J. Skolnik**

Postlude **"Fuga" (from Sonata No. 6 for organ)** *Felix Mendelssohn*

The service continues with fellowship.

*The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving was written by Teresa Stricklen for the PC(USA) Office of Theology. All other prayers were written by Rev. Matthew J. Skolnik.
*Rev. Matthew J. Skolnik is the General Presbyter of Muskingum Valley Presbytery.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Ken Shafer, organ; Bob Iams, piano
*Sunday assistant/flowers/treats: Candy and Ferenc Relle

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To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you are moved to support our ministry, we invite you to place your gifts in the plate.



You may also give online through our website by clicking on the "GIVE NOW" button at the bottom of the home page. Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 6
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, August 7
- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday, August 9-11
- Compassion Camp – 9-11 am – Mackey Hall

Thursday, August 10
- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, August 13
- Walking-in-Mindfulness – 7.30 am – Oak Hill Park
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, August 20
- Outdoor church service at Clear Creek with potluck luncheon to follow.

Westminster Presbyterian Church
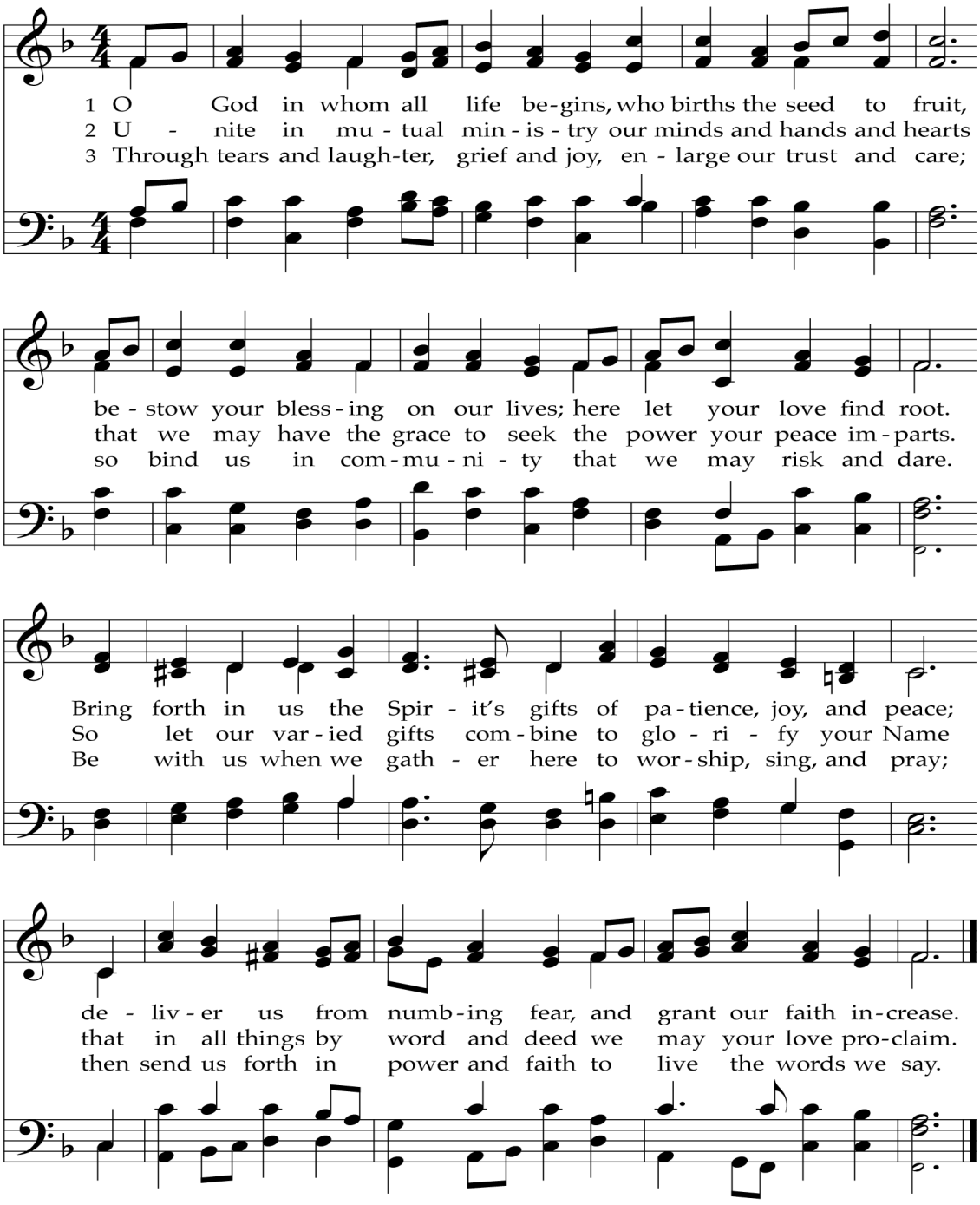
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

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Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

O God in Whom All Life Begins 308
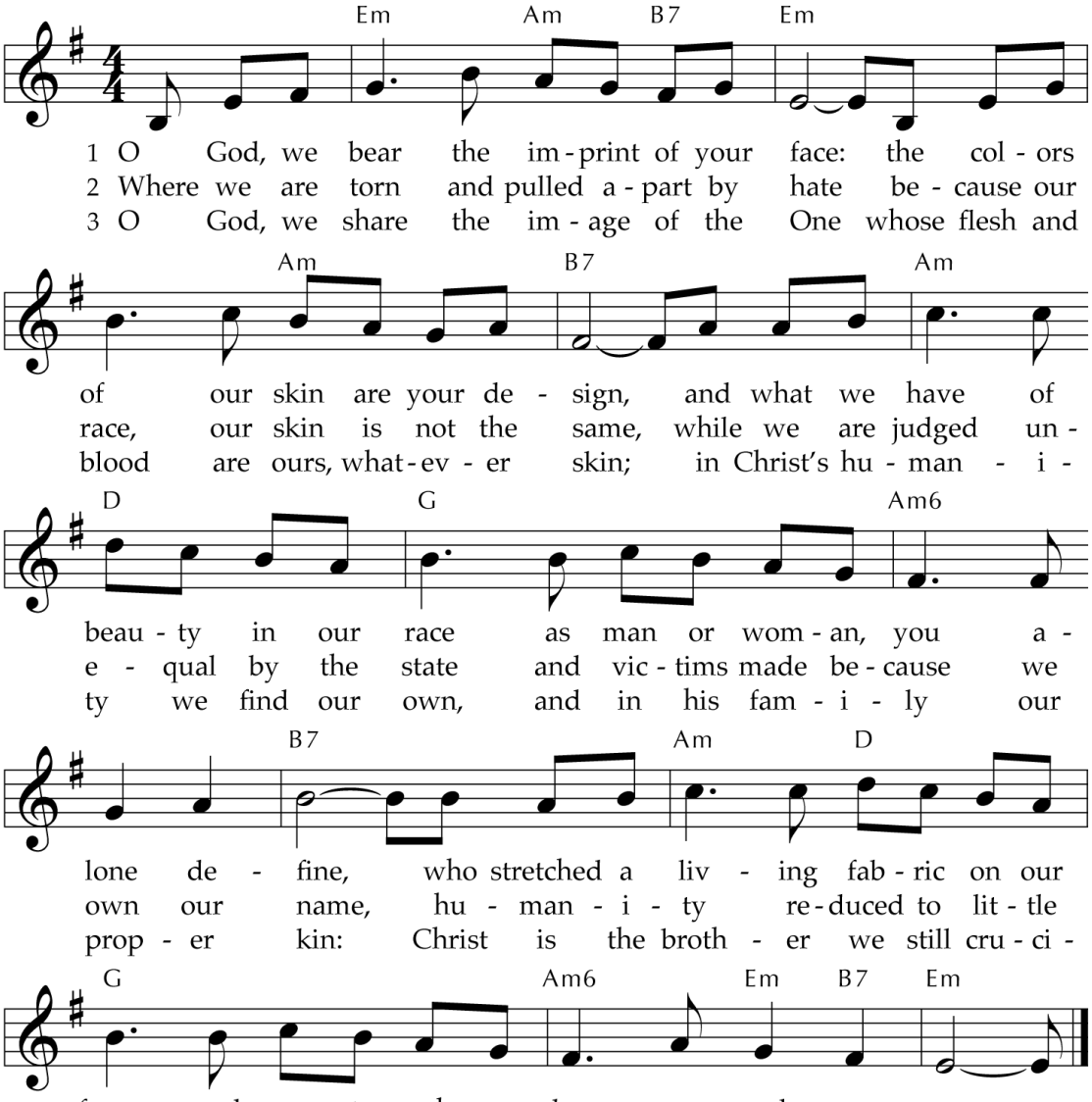


Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshiping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1990
MUSIC: English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874
Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

NOEL
CMD

O God, We Bear the Imprint 759



Rather than treating racism as a societal problem, this text considers the issue from a theological point of view. When we distance ourselves from other people merely because of the color of their skin, we fail to honor their God-likeness and to see Christ's image in them.
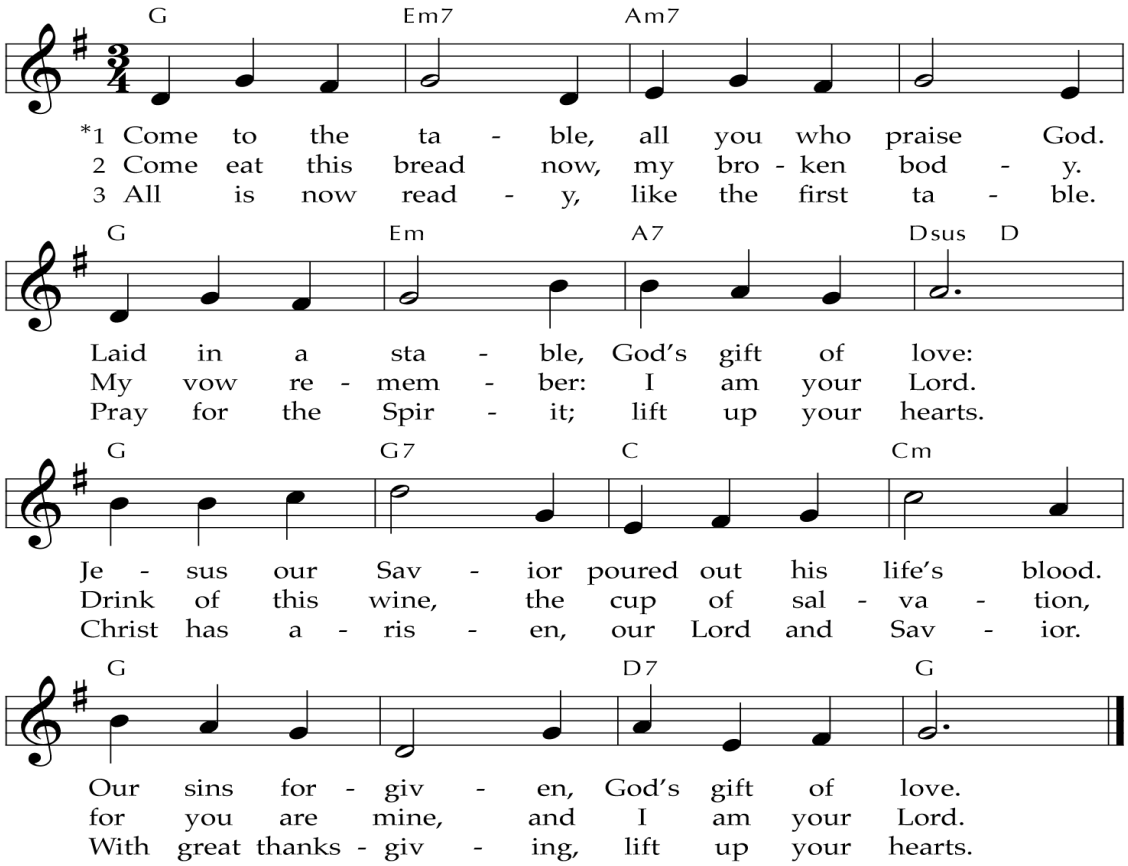
TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 1987
MUSIC: Margaret R. Tucker, 1998
Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

TODOS LOS COLORES
10.10.10.10.10.10

LORD'S SUPPER

508 Come to the Table

식탁에 와서



KOREAN

1 식탁에 와서 찬양드리세,
사랑의 선물 나누시네
주님의 몸과 주님의 피를
우리를 위해 주시었네

2 너희를 위한 나의 몸이니
받아서 먹고 기념하라
이잔은 나의 새 언약이니
죄사함 위해 흘린 피라

3 주님의 성령 임-하시네,
거룩한 주의 살-과 피
나를 새롭게 바꿔주시네
새생명 주심 감사하세

**Stanza 1 may be sung by a leader.*
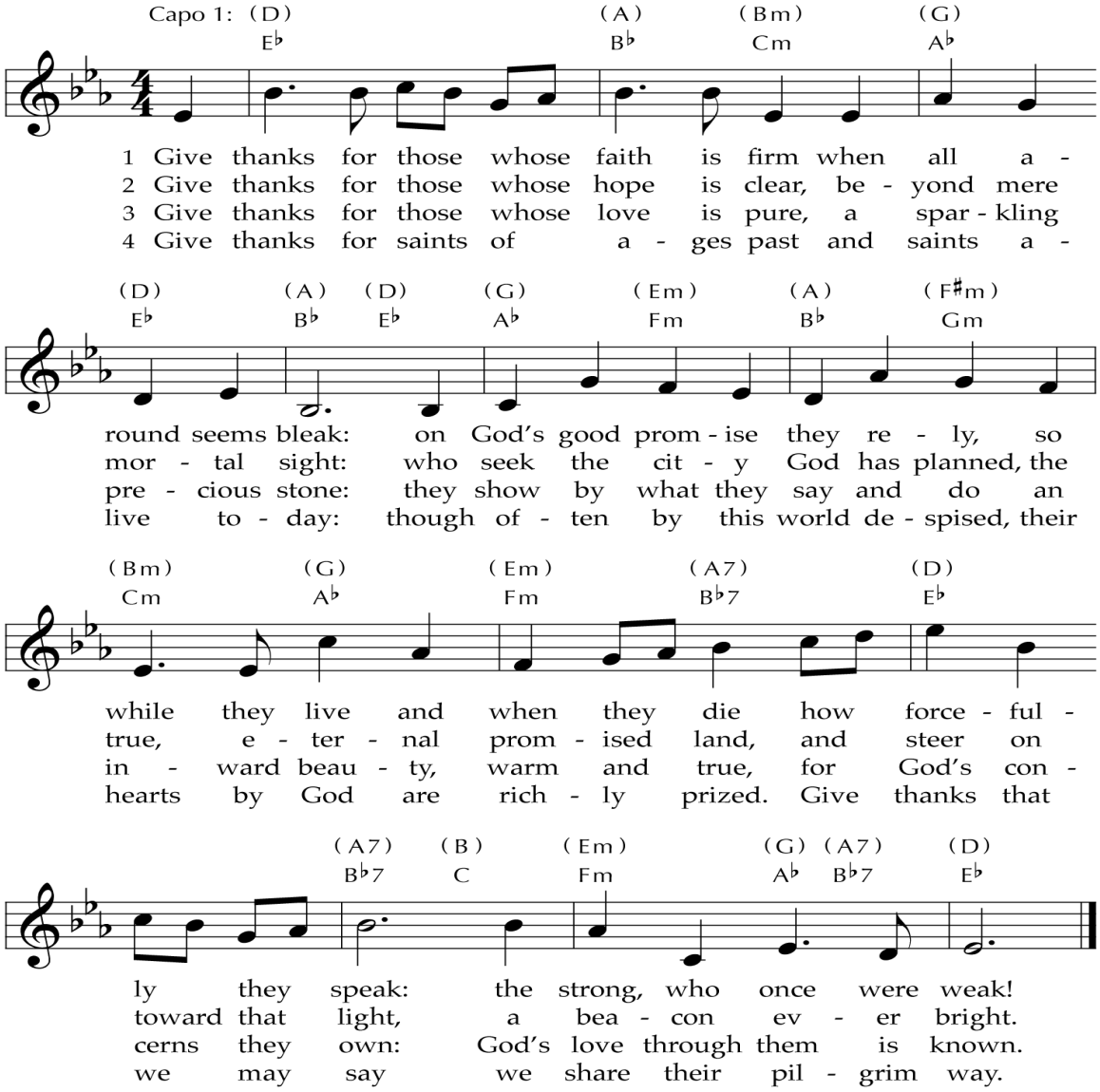
This Korean text accomplishes a rare feat in a Lord's Supper hymn by dealing with the full range of Christ's life from the Nativity to the Resurrection. The first and third stanzas are in the voice of the congregation, while the middle stanza recalls Christ's words of institution.

TEXT: Paul Junggap Huh, 2007; English trans. Paul Junggap Huh, 2011, alt.
MUSIC: Hyun Chul Lee, 2007
Text © 2007 and English Trans. © 2011 Paul Junggap Huh
Music © 2007 Hyun Chul Lee

COME TO THE TABLE
5.5.5.4.D

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

731 Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The first three stanzas of this text are organized around the three great virtues—faith, hope, and love—mentioned in 1 Corinthians 13:13. These have indeed been the marks of the faithful people of God always and everywhere, and the final stanza sums up our gratitude for them.

TEXT: Martin E. Leckebusch, 1998
MUSIC: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1888
Text © 2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

REPTON
8.6.8.8.6.6