Westminster
Presbyterian Church

353 E. Pine St., Wooster, OH 44691
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2nd Sunday after Easter
Communion
April 7, 2024

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

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

Minute for Mission for Open Arms Fundraiser
Lynn Hamrick

Prelude **"Fun at Church"** **Aram Khatchaturia (1903-78)**
(originally published as "Fun at Home" from "The Adventures of Ivan")

***Gathering Words** **Linda Barbu**

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

Jesus said,
"Follow me."
Jesus said,
"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."
Jesus said,
"Forgive seventy times seven."
Jesus said,
"Feed my sheep."
In response, we say:
"Here's my heart.
Take and seal it.
Seal it for thy courts above."
Let us worship God with all our hearts.

Opening Prayer **Linda Barbu**

Let us pray…

God of second chances and God of new life,
we have spent our days wandering.
Like Peter, we have had milled about
through nearly every state of faith.
We have had courageous days
and convicted days, learning days, and questioning days.

We have had days where we run to you,
days for diving out of the boat, days for deep joy,
and days where the pain of the world feels too close to bear.
So as we bring our wandering hearts to you,
we ask that you draw us in.

Allow this story to spark something new in us.
Allow this story of grace to give us hope. Amen.

***Opening Hymn No. 475 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"** **Nettleton**

Call to Confession **Greg Barbu**

For the last seven weeks we have been following the life and faith of Peter.
He was faithful and messy, humble and afraid, loving and cautious.

Friends, we're a lot like Peter.
Despite our faith, we make mistakes.
Despite our belief, we carry unbelief.
Despite our love, we can cause hurt.

So like Peter, let us return to God in prayer, confessing the truth of our lives.
God's grace does not stop with that humble yet fearful disciple.
God's grace reaches all the way to us. Join me in praying:

Prayer of Confession **Greg Barbu**

Gracious God,
Like Peter, we crawl out of the boat only to sink.
You tell us your truth and we push it away.
We ask about forgiveness and are surprised by abundance.
We profess our faith and deny it three times.
We run to the empty tomb and leave in silence.
Over and over again, we find ourselves wandering along the journey of faith.
Tether us to your heart. Forgive our surprise, our denial, and our limited imagination.
Call us out of the boat once more. We are eager to return to you.
With humble hearts we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

***Musical Response No. 69** **"Take, O Take Me as I Am"** **J.Bell/Iona**
(sung multiple times)

***Assurance of Forgiveness** **Greg Barbu**

Friends, the last time Jesus and Peter were together, Peter said three times,
"I do not know that man." So when Jesus returned, he asked Peter, "Do you love me?"
And in that moment, he allowed Peter to turn his denials into love.

So it is with us. When we stumble, when we fall, when we deny God or cause harm,
Jesus meets us where we are and offers us a second chance.
So rest in this good news. Does God love us? Yes, yes, yes.

We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God for a love that never ends. Amen!

Musical Offering **"Gymnopédie No. 3"** **Erik Satie (1866-1925)**

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. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading **John 21:1-19** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

21 Later, Jesus himself appeared again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how it happened: [2] Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two other disciples were together. [3] Simon Peter told them, "I'm going fishing." They said, "We'll go with you." They set out in a boat, but throughout the night they caught nothing. [4] Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples didn't realize it was Jesus.

[5] Jesus called to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?"
They answered him, "No." [6] He said, "Cast your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some."

So they did, and there were so many fish that they couldn't haul in the net. [7] Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself (for he was naked) and jumped into the water. [8] The other disciples followed in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they weren't far from shore, only about one hundred yards.

[9] When they landed, they saw a fire there, with fish on it, and some bread. [10] Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you've just caught." [11] Simon Peter got up and pulled the net to shore. It was full of large fish, one hundred fifty-three of them. Yet the net hadn't torn, even with so many fish. [12] Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples could bring themselves to ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. [13] Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish. [14] This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

[15] When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." [16] Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you."

Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep." [17] He asked a third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Sermon **Wandering Heart: "Here's My Heart"** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Hymn No. 536 **"Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"** **Surge Ecclesia**

Communion **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of second chances, God of grace, meet us here.
Just as you met the disciples at the beach, meet us here.
Meet us now. Walk toward us and gather us in.

For God, like Peter, we have known storms.
This week, people in this room have grieved.
This week, people in this room have felt overwhelmed by the news cycle and helpless to make a difference.
This week, people in this room have been lonely, stressed, or uncertain.

We lift prayers of lament or petitions from your community…

You know what our wind and waves look like.
You know the nature of our storms,
so just as you walked toward Peter, walk toward us.
Meet us here. Meet us now. Gather us in.

Fortunately, like Peter, we have also seen you stop the storms.
We have seen your fingerprints in our lives in ways we did not always expect. So with gratitude in our hearts, we come to you today to say thank you. Thank you for this church family that feels like a home.

We lift in prayers of gratitude and joy from your community...

Thank you for the stars in the sky that remind us of your vastness.
Thank you for stories of hope and forgiveness that inspire us to love.
And thank you for the unending grace that encircles our wandering hearts.
At this Table, may we recognize that in every stage of our wandering,
you are near to us.
Pour out your Spirit on this bread and cup and those gathered here,
Nourish us so that we might remember and trust even when we don't fully understand.
May we live as children of hope until you make all things new.

We pray together using the words you 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
Prayer after Communion

***Closing Hymn No. 720 "Jesus Calls Us" Galilee**

Benediction Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy

Postlude "Thine Be the Glory" (part II) G.F. Handel, arr. L. Smith

"No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through they deathless love
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above." (Hymn No. 238)

The service continues with fellowship.

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*Please stand in body or in spirit.
*The prayers were adapted from the Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Bob Iams, piano
*Sunday assistant: Sherry Hatter-Miller

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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.

GIVE NOW

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.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 7

- Choir rehearsal – 9 am – Mackey Hall
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place
- Documentary "Israelism" Screening – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Monday, April 8

- **Eclipse**
- Scout Troop 61 – 6:30 pm – Mackey Hall

Tuesday, April 9

- Worship Committee – 1 pm – The Lounge

Wednesday, April 10

- Benevolence Committee – 2 pm – The Lounge
- Evening Vespers – 7pm – The Chupp's Home (157 Park Ave.)

Thursday, April 11

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place
- Housing/Homelessness in Wayne County – 7 pm – First Presby. Church

Sunday, April 14

- Choir rehearsal – 9 am – Mackey Hall
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
Tech/Media Administrator Jack Veney
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola

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

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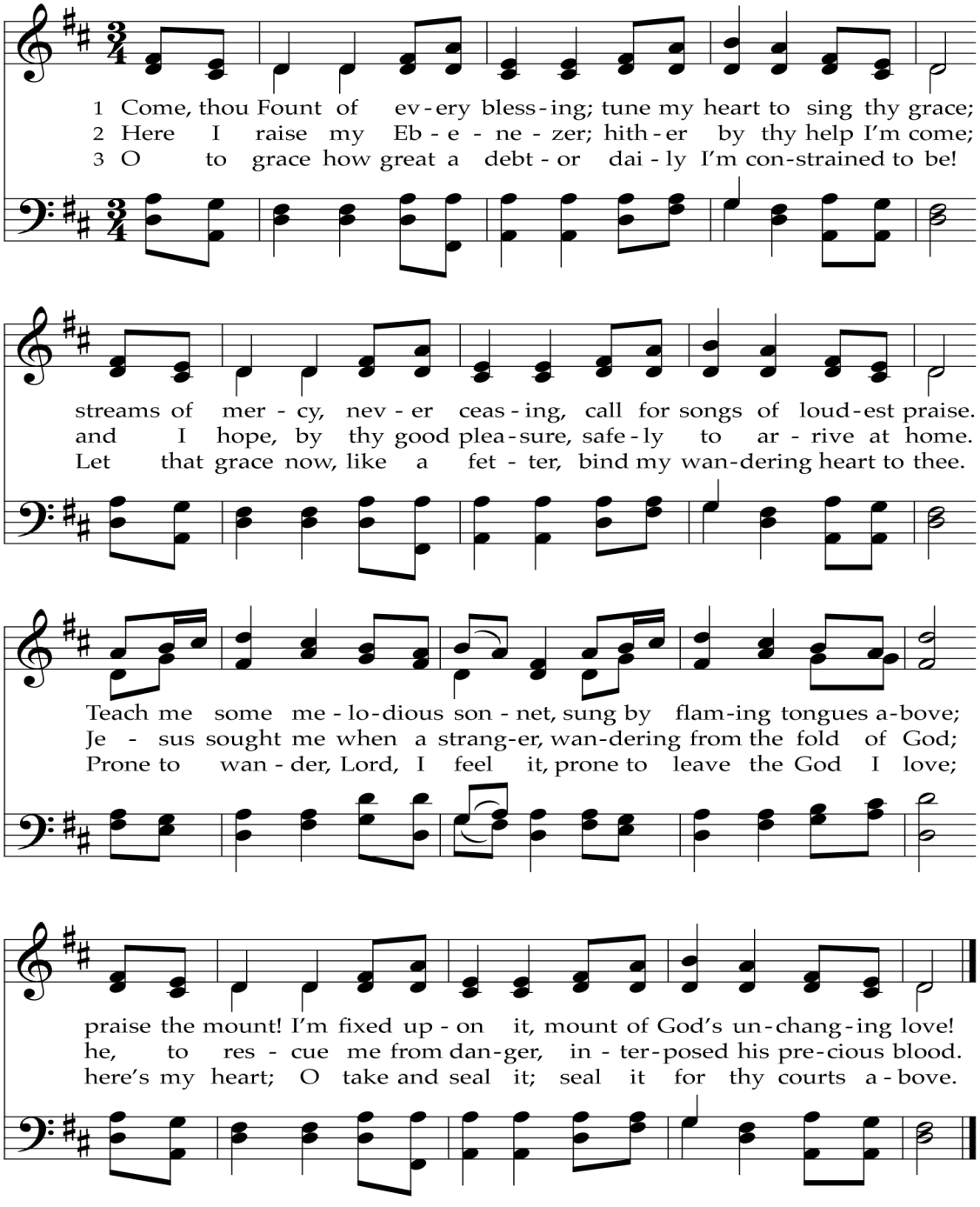
Our 150th year celebration, May 5, 2024

1874 2024

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(link to the WPC 150th Anniversary webpage: **https://wpcwoo.org/150)**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



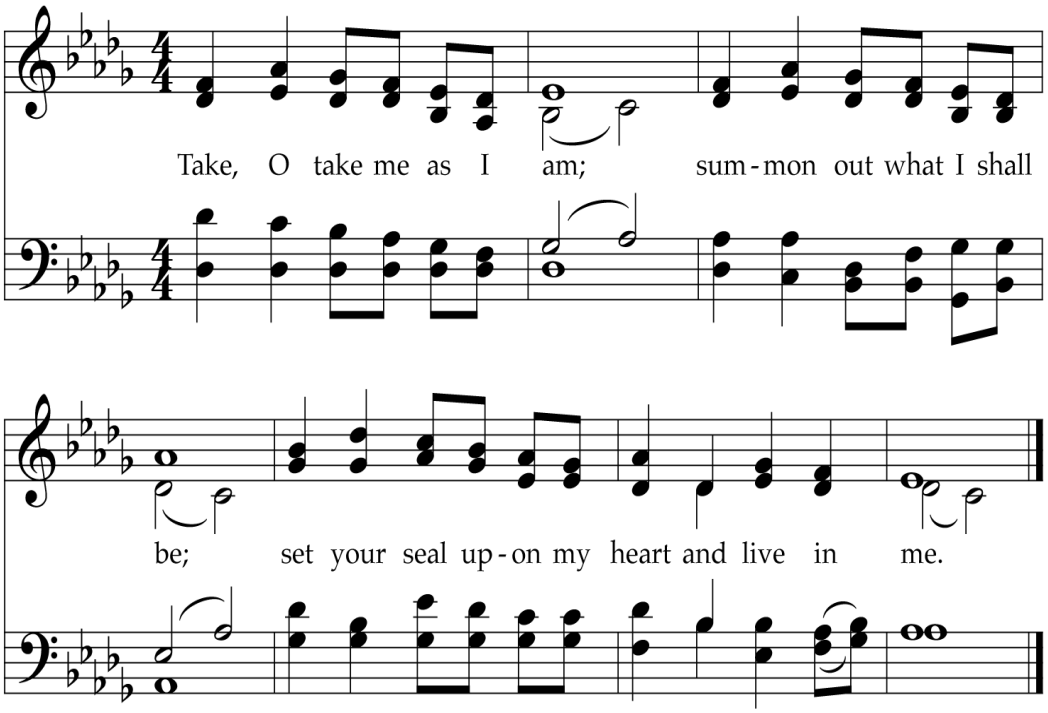
Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.
MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second,* 1813

NETTLETON
8.7.8.7.D

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

698 Take, O Take Me as I Am
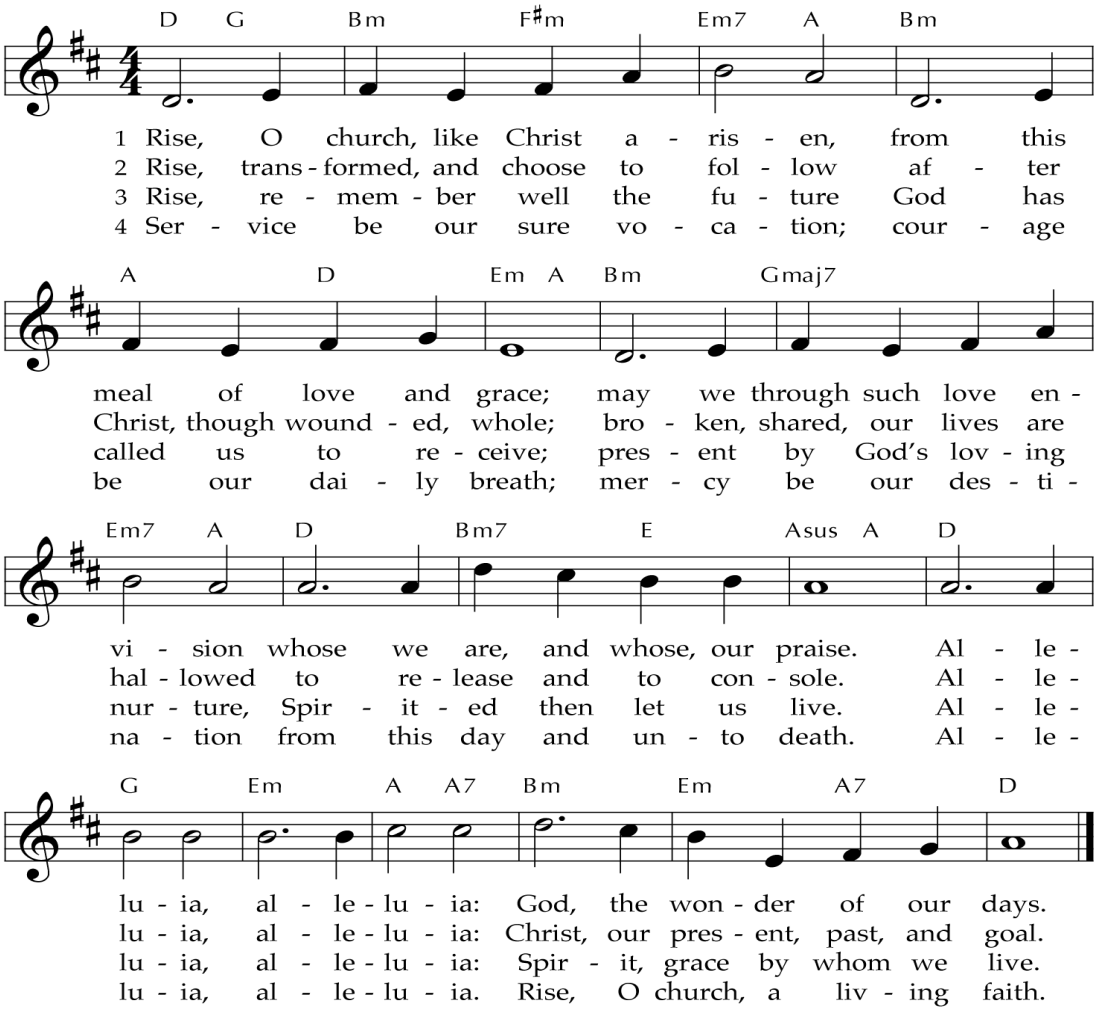


The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication evident in older hymns such as "Just as I Am" (see no. 442).

TEXT and MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1995
Text and Music © 1995 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

TAKE ME AS I AM
7.7.7.4

LORD'S SUPPER

536 Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen
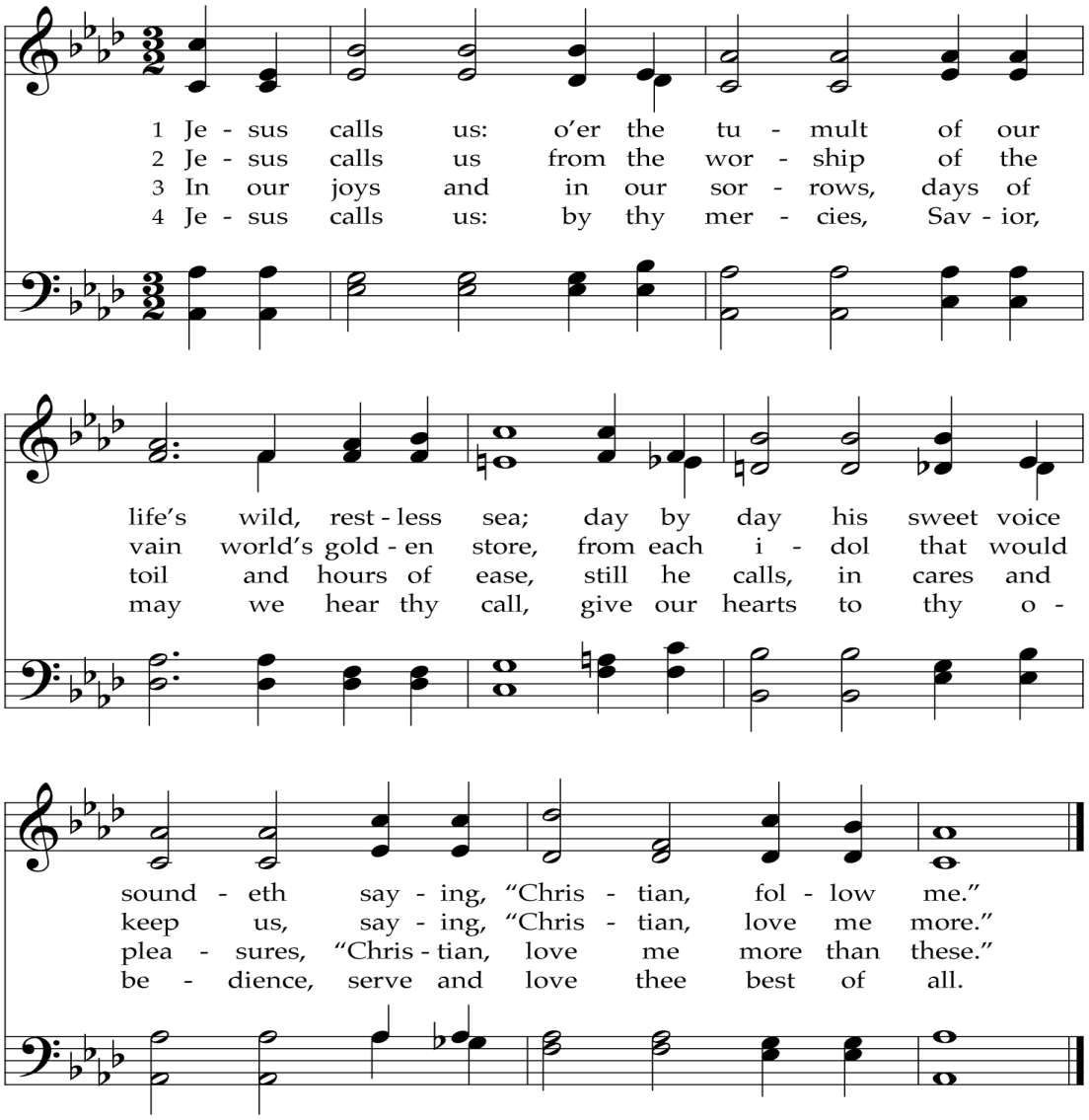


Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The second line of the first stanza shows that this hymn is meant for use in the context of the Lord's Supper, but the last stanza further clarifies its special purpose as a sending hymn celebrating the values guiding the work of the church in the world: service, courage, mercy.

TEXT: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1997
MUSIC: Timothy J. Strand, 1997
Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien (admin. Augsburg Fortress)
Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

SURGE ECCLESIA
8.7.8.7.8.7

Jesus Calls Us 720



Like many hymns that adults have come to cherish, this text based on Jesus' calling of the disciple Andrew was written for a 19th-century collection of hymns for children. The popular tune used here was composed for these words more than a quarter of a century later.

TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1852
MUSIC: William H. Jude, 1887

GALILEE
8.7.8.7