Westminster
Presbyterian Church
353 E. Pine St., Wooster, OH. 44691
330-263-2398 / wpcwooster.org

October 2, 2022
World Communion Sunday

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Dr. Enikő 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.

Prelude "Oriental Dance" VLADIMIR REBIKOV
Country of Origin: Russia

***Gathering Words** (~ adapted from Isaiah 55) **Dorothy Iams**
*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

From north and south and east and west,
all Creation sings forth your praises!
The mountains and the hills burst into song;
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Your steadfast love never ceases.
With joy and peace, let us worship God together.

Opening Prayer **Dorothy Iams**

Let us pray…

God of all nations,
you have poured out your blessings upon all the peoples of the earth.

Grant us eyes to see your gifts of faith and love.
Appoint us as heralds of your mercies that are new every morning.
Empower us to write the vision of your peaceable kingdom,
where destruction and violence are no more,
where suffering and wars shall cease.

Through our worship empower us to be sent out with joy
as bearers of your hope in a hurting world; through Christ. Amen.

***Gathering Hymn No. 789** "Jesus, Savior, Lord, Now to You I Come" SARANAM
Country of Origin: Pakistan

Call to Confession (~ From 2 Timothy 1:1–14) **Dorothy Iams**

God's grace was given to us in Christ before the ages began. In spite of God's love for us and gift of love to us, we often act in destructive and hateful ways. Trusting in Christ's mercy that never ends, let us with honesty confess our sins before God and one another, praying together…

Prayer of Confession **Dorothy Iams**

Gracious God,
you created the whole world and called it good,
but we look out at your world and see division and suffering.
You call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace,
but we choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility,
conflict over peace born from justice.
You call us to love the least of these among us,
but we hear the cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort.
We allow senseless suffering rather than sacrifice for our neighbors.

Forgive us.
Grant us fresh vision to see one another as siblings in Christ.
Rekindle in us your gifts —
the spirit of power, love and self-discipline —
that with faith in Christ, we might be made new
and be part of bringing forth your peaceable kin-dom. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness (~ Lamentations 3:22-23) **Dorothy Iams**

We call to mind your promises and therefore we find hope:
The steadfast love of the God never ceases.
God's mercies are new every morning.

Believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Musical Response "Nothing Can Trouble" NADA TE TURBE
Country of Origin: France

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading Isaiah 55:8-12; 56:1-7 **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

12 For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

56 Thus says the Lord:
Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

2 Happy is the mortal who does this,
the one who holds it fast,
who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it,
and refrains from doing any evil.

3 Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say,
"The Lord will surely separate me from God's people,"
and do not let the eunuch say,
"I am just a dry tree."
4 For thus says the Lord:
To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me
and hold fast my covenant,
5 I will give, in my house and within my walls,
a monument and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name
that shall not be cut off.

6 And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to God, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be God's servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

[7] these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

Sermon **The Peaceable Kin-dom** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

People who shared reflections for World Communion Sunday:

Cindy Corell - Mission co-worker in Haiti

Douglass Dicks - Mission co-worker in Israel/Palestine

Rev. Martin and Sandy Garcia - Co-pastors of Amistad Presbyterian Church, a bilingual Spanish-English 1001 New Worshipping Community, Fort Wayne, IN

Rev. Joshua Heikkilä - Regional Liaison for West Africa - based in Akra, Ghana

Rev. Ryan and Alethia White - Co-regional liaisons for Central and Northern Europe - Serving with the Iranian Presbyterian Church, Berlin, Germany

***Hymn No. 526** "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" LINSTEAD
Country of Origin: Jamaica

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

You, O Great Creator, started providing your gifts for us from the very beginning…
long after Jesus first gathered his friends around a table in an upper room,
your Holy Spirit has continued meeting us at tables:
hand-crafted tables painted with intricate designs
and weathered park benches that serve as a place to eat when needed;
tables that are surrounded by friends and families
and tables where only one seat is filled.

No matter what each table looks like,
the food that is served,
or the people gathered around it,
your Spirit meets us still.
For your ever-present Spirit, O God, we give you thanks.

As we celebrate your joyful feast today with our siblings in Christ around the world,
we are aware that no amount of singing
can hide the sound of grumbling stomachs
and parched throats.

Help us to trust in your promises.
As we eat this bread and drink this cup,
may we trust that there is enough to go around.
Keep us from hoarding what you have provided
so that all of your children might taste and see,
drink and be satisfied.

God of abundance and of peace,
we pray for all eating spaces around the world today,
where believers are gathering despite risk and suffering.
We pray for chairs that are empty where loved ones used to sit:
for tables in places of conflict where bullets fly and bombs rain down;
for spaces that have been ravaged by hurricanes, floods and fires.

We also pray for eating spaces that are emotionally unsafe this day:
tables where tensions are high and certain topics are off limits;
placemats that are not set for someone because of the way they look,
who they voted for or who they love.
For all these spaces, tables and chairs where your children gather,
Lord, we pray for your peace.

God of the joyful feast,
today in the north and the south, in the east and the west,
we are grateful as we meet you around tables full of gifts you have given us.
Continue to pour out your Spirit upon us
so that when the meal is over and we leave this table,
we might be a part of extending every table around the world.
Help every meal we share look more and more like your heavenly feast;
everyone welcomed,
everyone fed,
everyone nourished.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

And now we pray with the words that Jesus taught us to pray together:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

*** Closing Hymn No. 853** "We Are Marching in the Light of God" SIYAHAMBA
Country of Origin: South Africa

***Benediction** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Postlude "We Will Walk with God" SIZOHAMBA NAYE
Country of Origin: Swaziland

* Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
* The Opening Prayer, and the Prayer of Confession were adapted from Rev. Katie Owen Aumann, senior pastor, Morningside Presbyterian Church, Atlanta. The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving is adapted from Rev. Molly Spangler.

The service continues with fellowship.



To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located 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 go on-line 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.

Music:	Piano	Bob Iams
	Organ, Piano	Tom Shaw
	Drums	Pong Thiemmedh

Tech. Assistant/Event Steward	Tony Mendiola
Sunday Assistant	Lemoine Peart & Tim Mendiola
Flowers	Lemoine Peart & Tim Mendiola
Refreshments	Barbara Tartir

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Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 6
- Dance & Exercise – 8:30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, October 9
- Walking in Mindfullness – 7:30 am – Oak Hill Park
- Worship Service – 10:00 am – Mackey Hall

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Worship Accompanist Ken Shafer
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday

As we move forward to searching for our next office administrator, our office hours may be irregular for the next few weeks. Please contact Pastor Enikő at eferenczy@gmail.com or (804) 426-9392 with questions. Thank you for your patience and support during this time of transition!
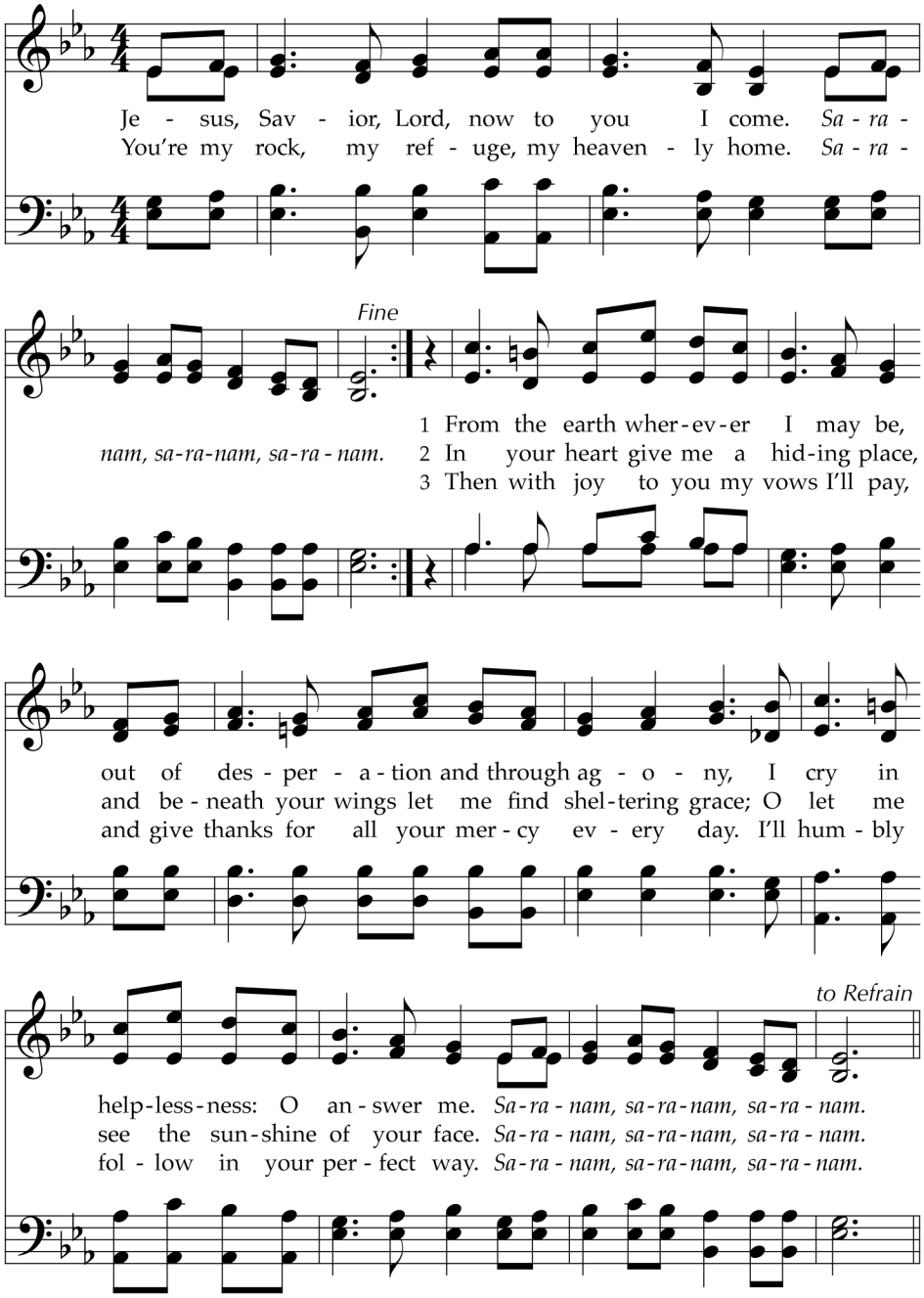
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Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

789 Jesus, Savior, Lord, Now to You I Come

Saranam, saranam

Refrain

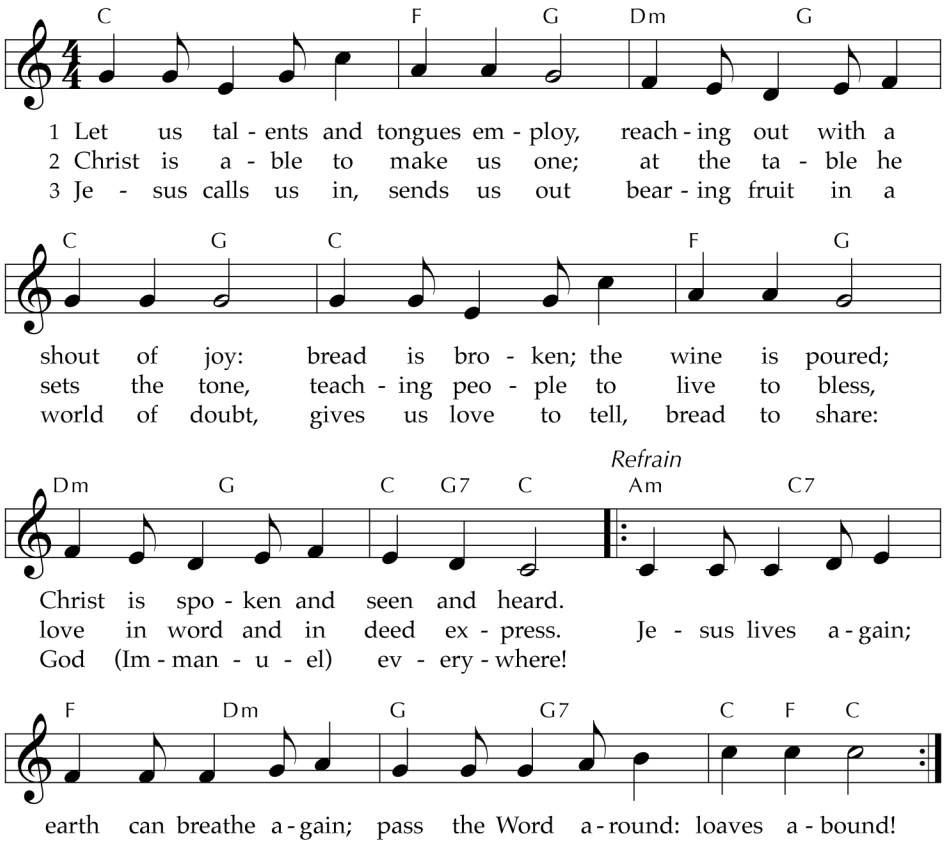


Claimed by both Pakistanis and Indians, this is one of the most popular South Asian hymns. The text represents a Christian adaptation of Psalm 61, and the psalm's theme is reinforced by the mantra-like repetition of the word "saranam," meaning "I take refuge" or "surrender."

TEXT: D. T. Niles, 1963, rev.
MUSIC: Punjabi melody; arr. Geoff Weaver, 1995
Text © 1963 Christian Conference of Asia (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)
Music Arr. © 1995 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

SARANAM
Irregular

526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used.
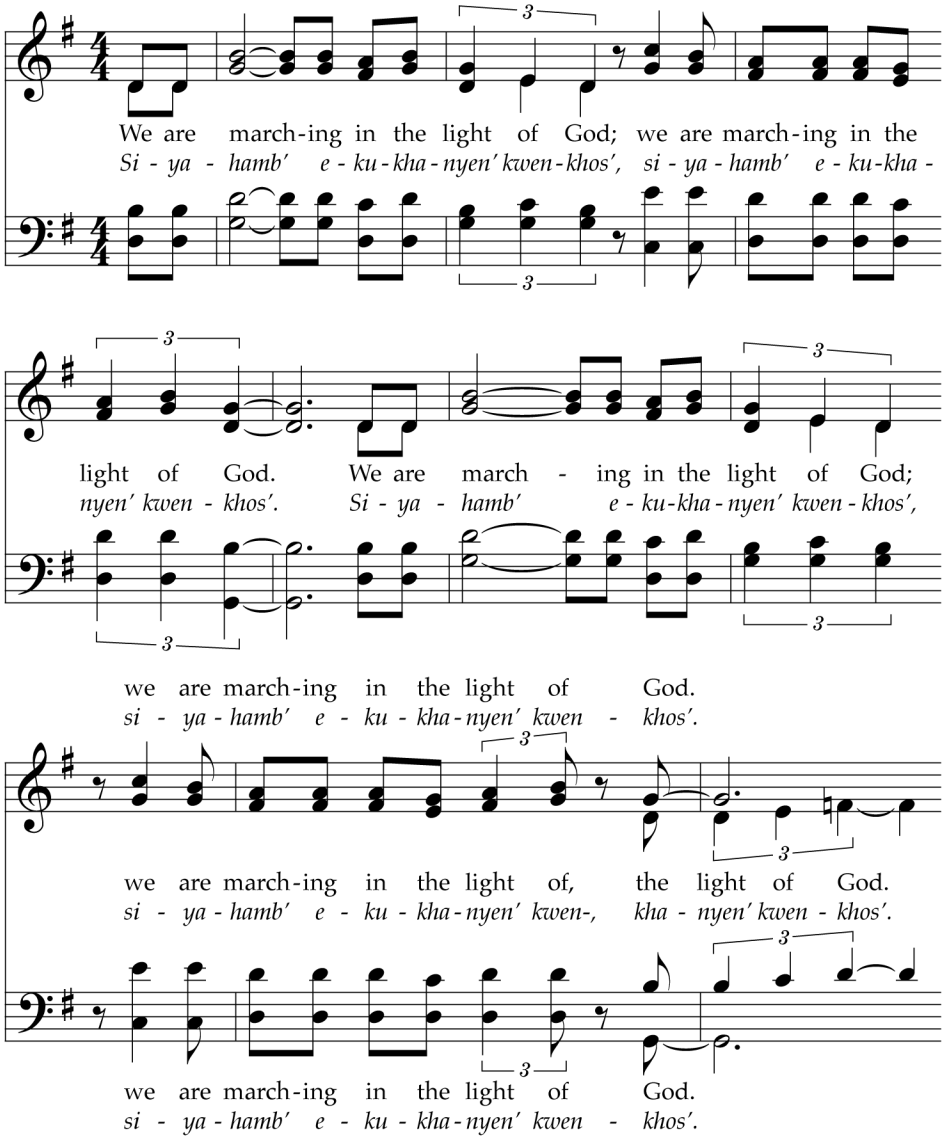
This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1975
MUSIC: Jamaican folk melody; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975
Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD
LM with refrain

853 We Are Marching in the Light of God

Siyahamba



This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.

TEXT: South African; English trans. Gracia Grindal, 1984
MUSIC: South African; arr. *Freedom Is Coming,* 1984
English Trans. and Music Arr. © 1984 Utryck (admin. Walton Music Corp.)

SIYAHAMBA
Irregular