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

January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday
After Epiphany

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 — **"In dulci jubilo" (in Canone all' ottava – BWV 608)** — ***J. S. Bach***

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

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

When we hunger for justice and thirst for the liberation of all life...
When we want for collective flourishing with the entirety of your spirit...
Blessed are we, for our longings will birth the dreams of God.

When we weep with all the world's aches.
When we find ourselves filled with sorrow
because of what is cruel, what is lost, what is forgotten...
Blessed are we, for God weeps through us.

When we are punished socially or economically
for our refusal to go with the flow of normalized evil.
When our truth-telling or practices of love leave us isolated or condemned.
Blessed are we, for we offer a glimpse of God's reign of heaven here on earth.

God draws near wherever hearts are open.
Love, come and shape our understanding!

***Opening Prayer** — **Linda Barbu**

Let us pray...

Holy One, your Spirit moves in provocative ways.
Though evil seeks false peace, you shake things up.

You turn things upside down. You leave us surprised and inspired.
When we are confronted by the radical nature of your love,
do not let us push you away or remain unchanged.
Turn us into a people who reveal your love, your reign here on earth. Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 286 **"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"** ***Trentham***

Call to Confession **Greg Barbu**

We worship a God who desires our wholeness, who stands ready to forgive our waywardness and draw us back to the ways of life. So let us come and confess the mistakes we have made, the wrongs we have done, the people we have hurt. Join me as we pray together our prayer of confession, saying,

Prayer of Confession **Greg Barbu**

Gracious and loving God, we dishonor you every time we treat another with disrespect.
We shatter your heart when we find it easier to break our word, then to take the risk to keep it.
We fill your ears with the gossip, lies, and slander we speak about those around us.

Forgive our foolishness. Overcome our weakness.
Heal the hurt we cause to you and to others.
Give us new hope and new life in Jesus Christ
so we may recognize ourselves in your image
and join again in revealing your presence and purpose.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 466 **"Come and Fill Our Hearts"** ***Confitemini Domino***
(sung multiple times)

Assurance of Forgiveness **Greg Barbu**

Spirit moves in provocative ways. She shakes things up.
She leaves us surprised and inspired.
This is good news for all of us:

Sheltered in God's gracious heart of mercy and love,

We are turned into a people who reveal God's reign here on earth.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Musical Offering "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" *Michael Praetorius*
Westminster Choir

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. Enikő Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading **Matthew 5:1-12** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

(New Revised Standard Version)

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Sermon **What Is a Blessing** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

***Hymn No. 727** **"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"** *The Servant Song*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Greg and Linda Barbu**

Prayer of the People **Greg and Linda Barbu**

We ask these things 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 kingdom 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 kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn No. 100** **"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"** ***Star of the County Down

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

Postlude **"Sortie in f minor"** ***Léon Boëllmann***
Ken Shafer - organ

*The Gathering Words and opening prayer were adapted from *Enflesh: Liturgy that Matters.* The Prayer of Confession was adapted from Rev. Thom Shuman.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Organ –Tom Shaw, Ken Shafer
Piano – Bob Iams
*Sunday Service Flowers – Dorothy Iams
*Sunday Service Treats – Lemoine Peart

The service continues with fellowship.



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.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 29

- Choir rehearsal – 9 am – The Meeting Place
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10:30 am – The Meeting Place
- Congregational Meeting following worship to elect Elders for the Class of 2025

Monday, January 30

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Thursday, February 2

- Dance & Exercise – 8:30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, February 5

- Worship Service with Communion – Scout Sunday – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10:30 am – The Meeting Place

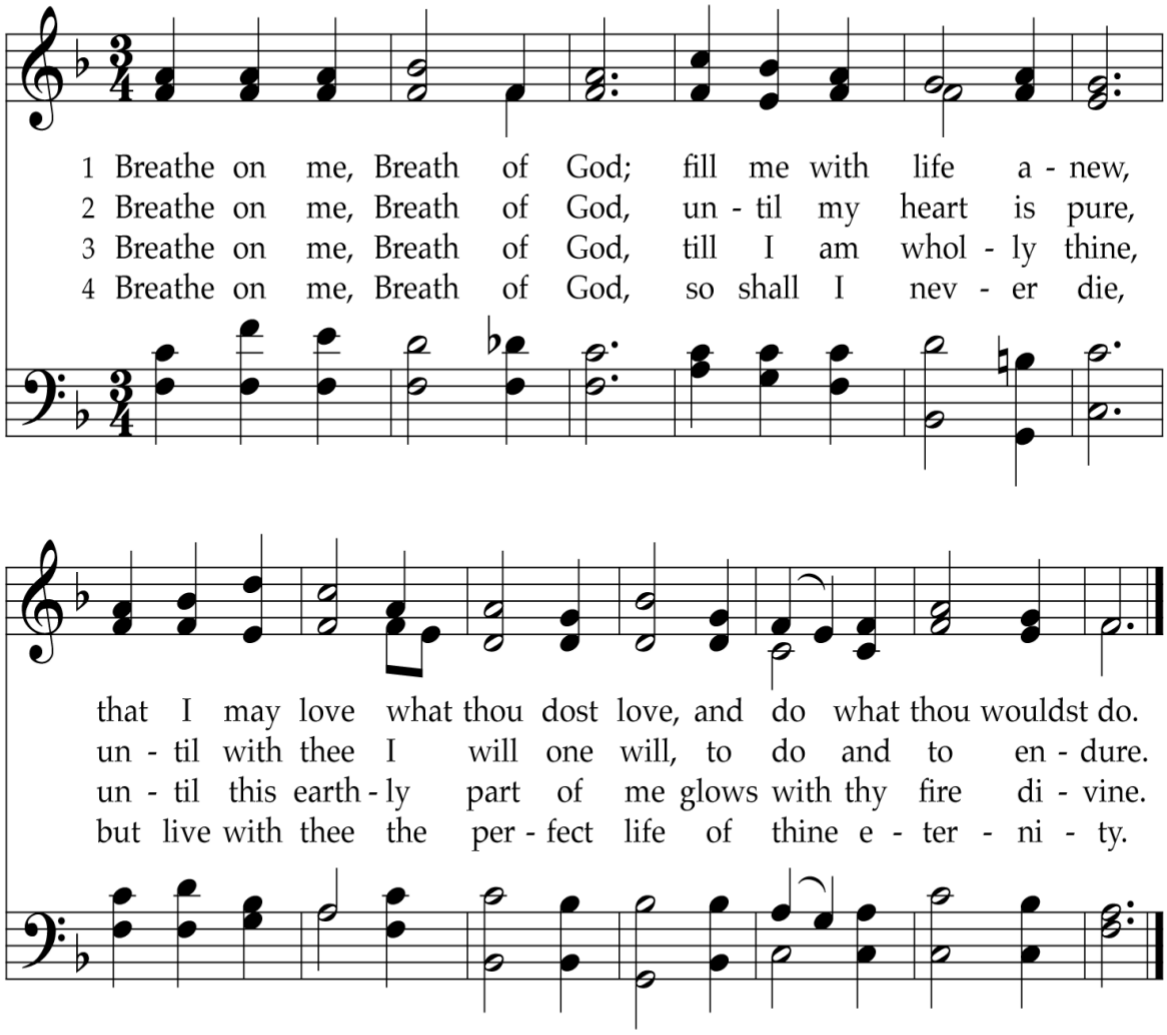
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. Jim Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

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.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God 286



In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

TEXT: Edwin Hatch, 1878
MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM
SM

Come and Fill Our Hearts 466

Confitemini Domino



This prayer chant—intended for repeated singing—was originally created for a Latin text (Psalm 106:1a and Psalm 118:1a, 29a) on which the present English text is loosely based. Chants at Taizé often use Latin because it is a language free of political overtones.

TEXT and MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982
Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

CONFITEMINI DOMINO
Irregular

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 727

The Servant Song



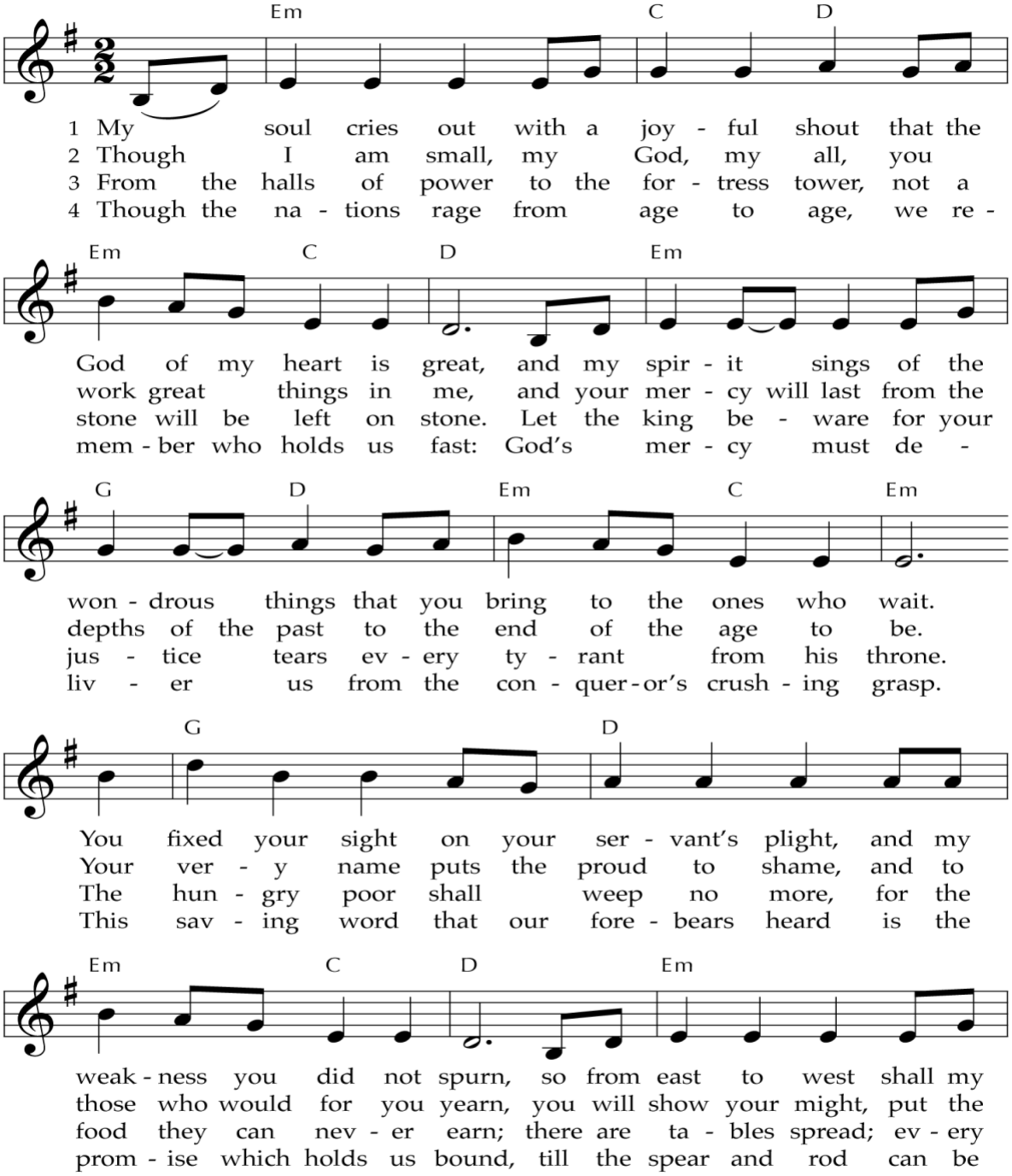
The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to "wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).

TEXT: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.
MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. Betty Pulkingham
Text and Music © 1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

THE SERVANT SONG
8.7.8.7

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

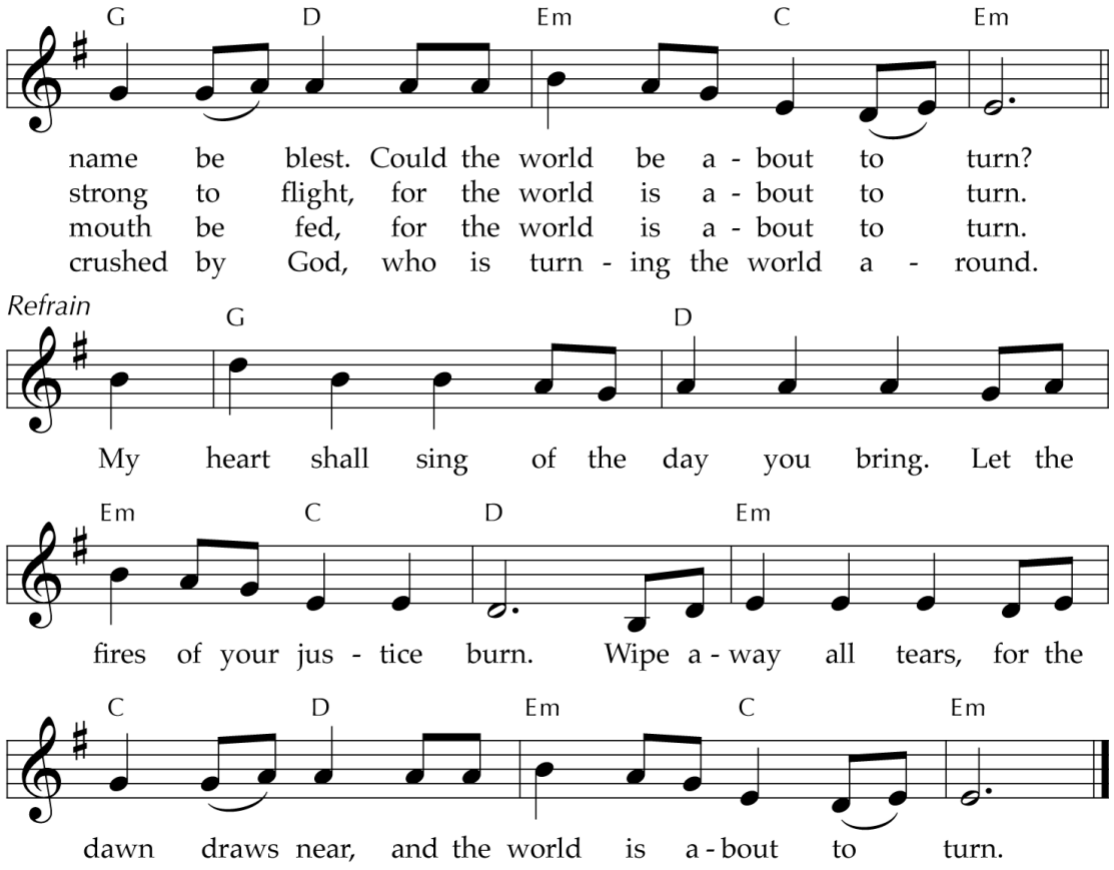
Canticle of the Turning



By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat,* Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46–55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

TEXT: Rory Cooney, 1990
MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Rory Cooney, 1990
Text and Music Arr. © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN
Irregular


G D Em C Em
name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.
Refrain
G D
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the
Em C D Em
fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the
C D Em C Em
dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.