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

September 18, 2022
15th Sunday after Pentecost

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 "Reverie" P. I. TCHAIKOVSKY

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

God's voice speaks, "Go where I will show you."
To those who are comfortable where we are
To those who are stuck in a rut
To those who have never heard God's voice before
To those who think they know God best.

The call and promise comes to us all,
"Go, and I will bless you, and I will make you a blessing."
Together we seek what God will show us today.
Today we respond to God's call.

Opening Prayer **Candy Relle**

Let us pray…

You are a God who blesses,
a God who risks being in relationship,
a God who creates beginnings out of endings.

Because of who you are,
you call us to be who we truly are.
And in your choice to pour out your grace,
you push us to be a blessing beyond ourselves.

Move us today, O God —
to pull up the stakes, to take the first step,
to go and look for what you will show us next,
to be among this world as your covenant people.
Amen.

***Gathering Hymn No. 49** "The God of Abraham Praise" LEONI

Call to Confession **Ferenc Relle**

When we least expect it, even when we are not ready, God comes to us, calling us to trust, calling us to follow, calling us to set aside our foolish lives, for the grace-full ones which are offered to us. Let us confess how often we choose not to follow, as we pray together our prayer of confession…

Prayer of Confession **Ferenc Relle**

O Holy God, we hear you calling,
but we confess that we like the place we have come to rest.
It is comfortable to stay here
where we can remember those who have gone before,
and we can keep things as they are.

We hear you calling,
but we confess that we love the altar we have built,
this memorial to our encounters with you.
We do not want to move on from here,
where we have celebrated and mourned,
found comfort and hope and friendship and help.

We hear you calling,
but we do not trust that we will encounter you out there.

Forgive us.
Forgive us for our fear and distrust,
for our sense that you are best contained in one special place.
Forgive us for our inability to carry our experiences of your grace
into other places and situations.
Forgive us for hiding behind the buildings,
institutions, and traditions we have built.

Give us again the blessing of your call
to go and be a blessing to others, in your name. Amen.
Amen.

Silent Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness (~ based on Genesis 12:2) **Ferenc Relle**

God's love for us is relentless. This is the promise for us:
"I will make your name respected, and you will be a blessing."

We are forgiven
and called into new relationship with God and all creation
to build God's Shalom. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Musical Response "The Sick Doll" P. I. TCHAIKOVSKY
from *Children's Suite*

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

Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-9 **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**
Common English Bible translation

12 The Lord said to Abram, "Leave your land, your family, and your father's household for the land that I will show you. **2** I will make of you a great nation and will bless you. I will make your name respected, and you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you,
those who curse you I will curse;
all the families of the earth
will be blessed because of you."

4 Abram left just as the Lord told him, and Lot went with him. Now Abram was 75 years old when he left Haran. **5** Abram took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all of their possessions, and those who became members of their household in Haran; and they set out for the land of Canaan. When they arrived in Canaan, **6** Abram traveled through the land as far as the sacred place at Shechem, at the oak of Moreh. The Canaanites lived in the land at that time. **7** The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "I give this land to your descendants," so Abram built an altar there to the Lord who appeared to him.**8** From there he traveled toward the mountains east of Bethel, and pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and worshipped in the Lord's name.**9** Then Abram set out toward the arid southern plain, making and breaking camp as he went.

Sermon **To Be a Blessing** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

***Hymn No. 727** "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" THE SERVANT SONG

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Candy and Ferenc Relle**

Prayer of the People **Candy and Ferenc Relle**

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ with the words that you 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.

*** Closing Hymn No. 547** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" AR HYD Y NOS

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

Postlude Chorale Prelude on *O Gott, du frommer Gott* JOHANNES BRAHMS

* Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
* The Gathering Words, the Opening Prayer, and the Prayer of Confession were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, writing for the *Bibleworm* collective.

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	Ken Shafer
Tech. Assistant/Event Steward		Tony Mendiola
Sunday Assistant		Candy Relle
Flowers		Candy Relle
Refreshments		Candy Relle

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Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 21
- Immigration Justice Committee Meeting – 3:00 pm – The Lounge
- Session Meeting – 6:30 pm – The Lounge

Thursday, September 22
- Dance & Exercise – 8:30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, September 25
- 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
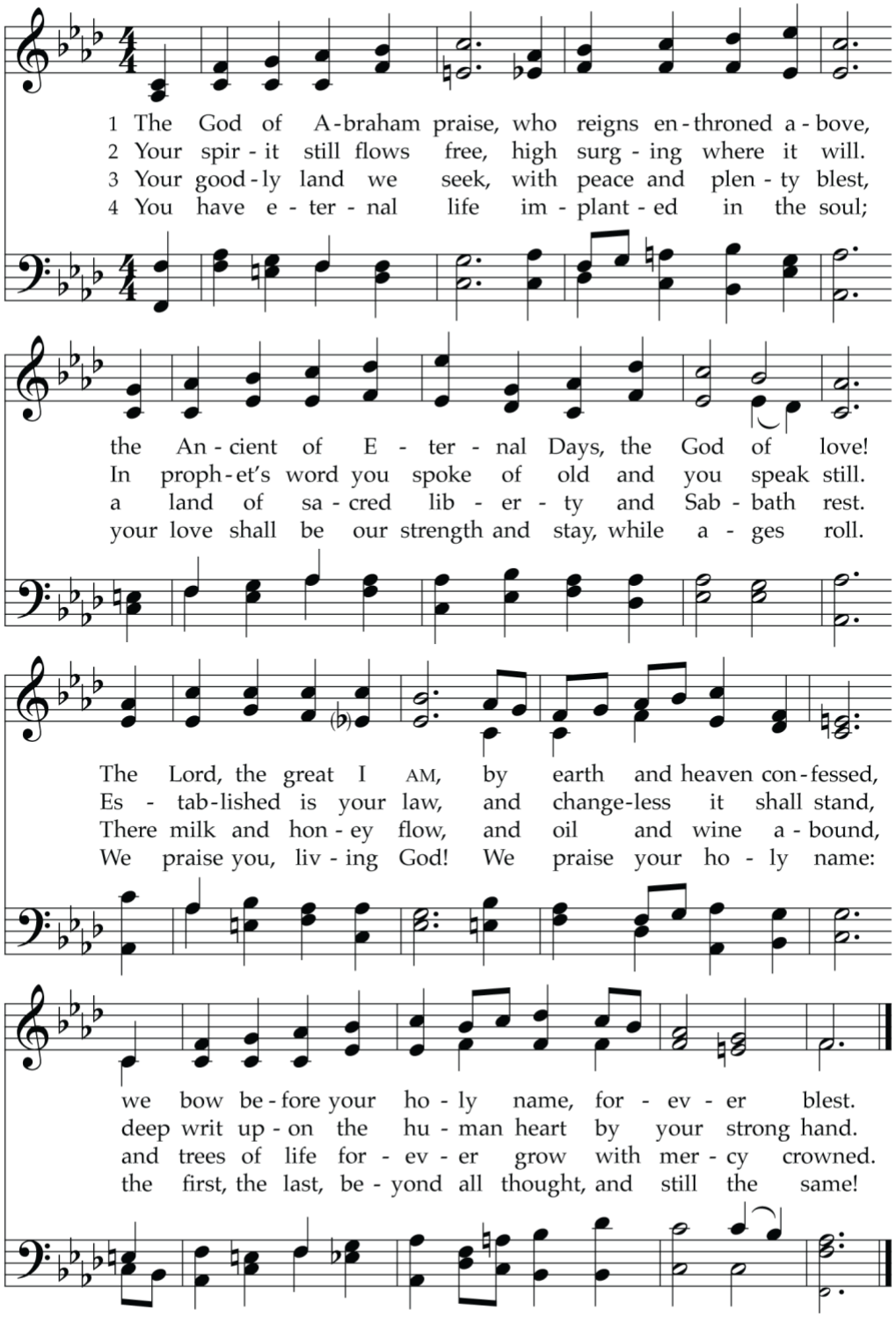
Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday

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!

www.facebook.com/wpcwooster / www.instagram.com/wpc_wooster/

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.

49 The God of Abraham Praise
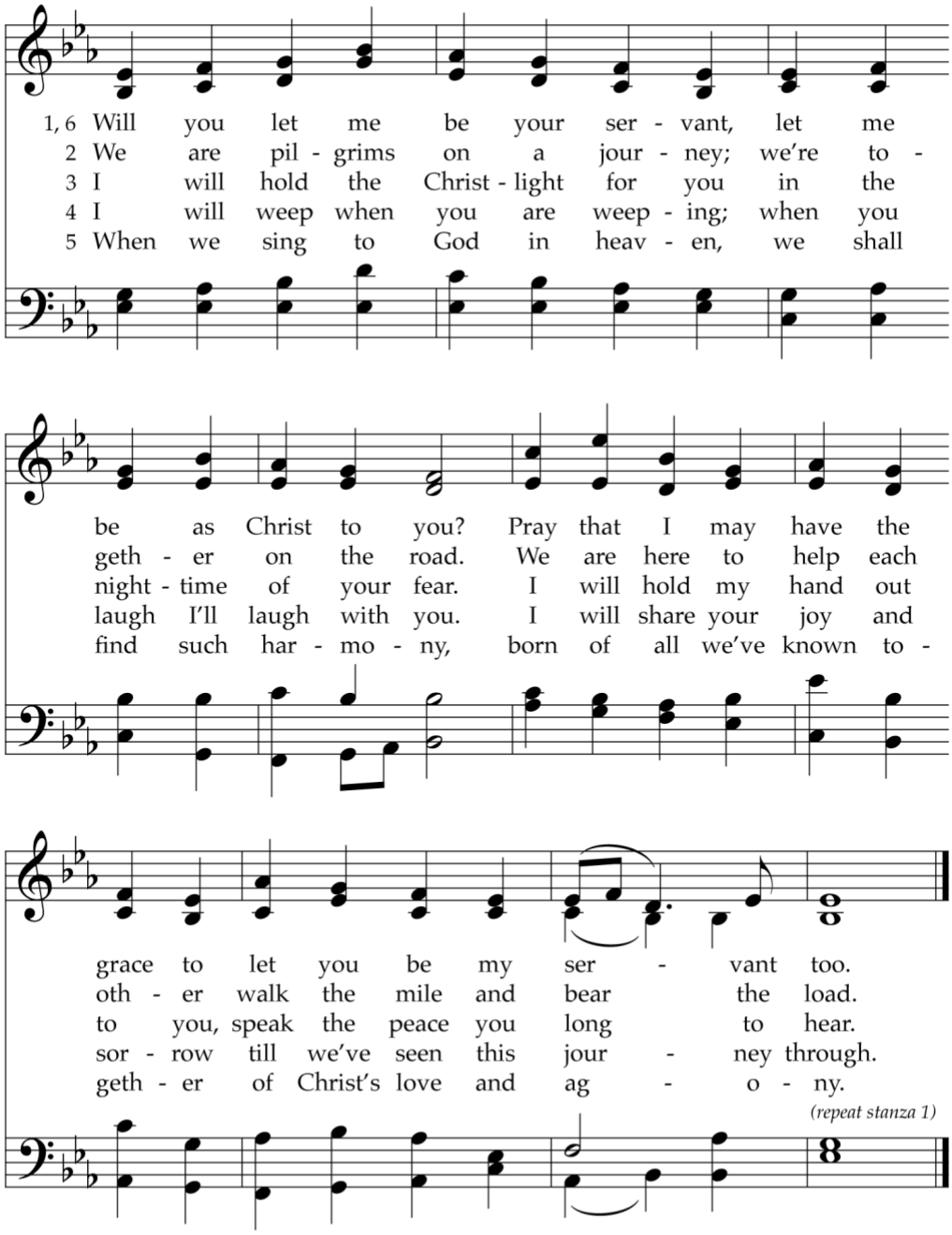


Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

TEXT: Moses Maimonides, 12th cent.; vers. Daniel ben Judah Dayan, 1404; stanzas 1, 3, trans. Thomas Olivers, c.1770, alt.; stanzas 2, 4, trans. Max Landsberg, Newton M. Mann, and William C. Gannett, 1884, 1910, alt.
MUSIC: Jewish melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Meyer Lyon and Thomas Olivers, 1770

LEONI
6.6.8.4.D

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 727

The Servant Song
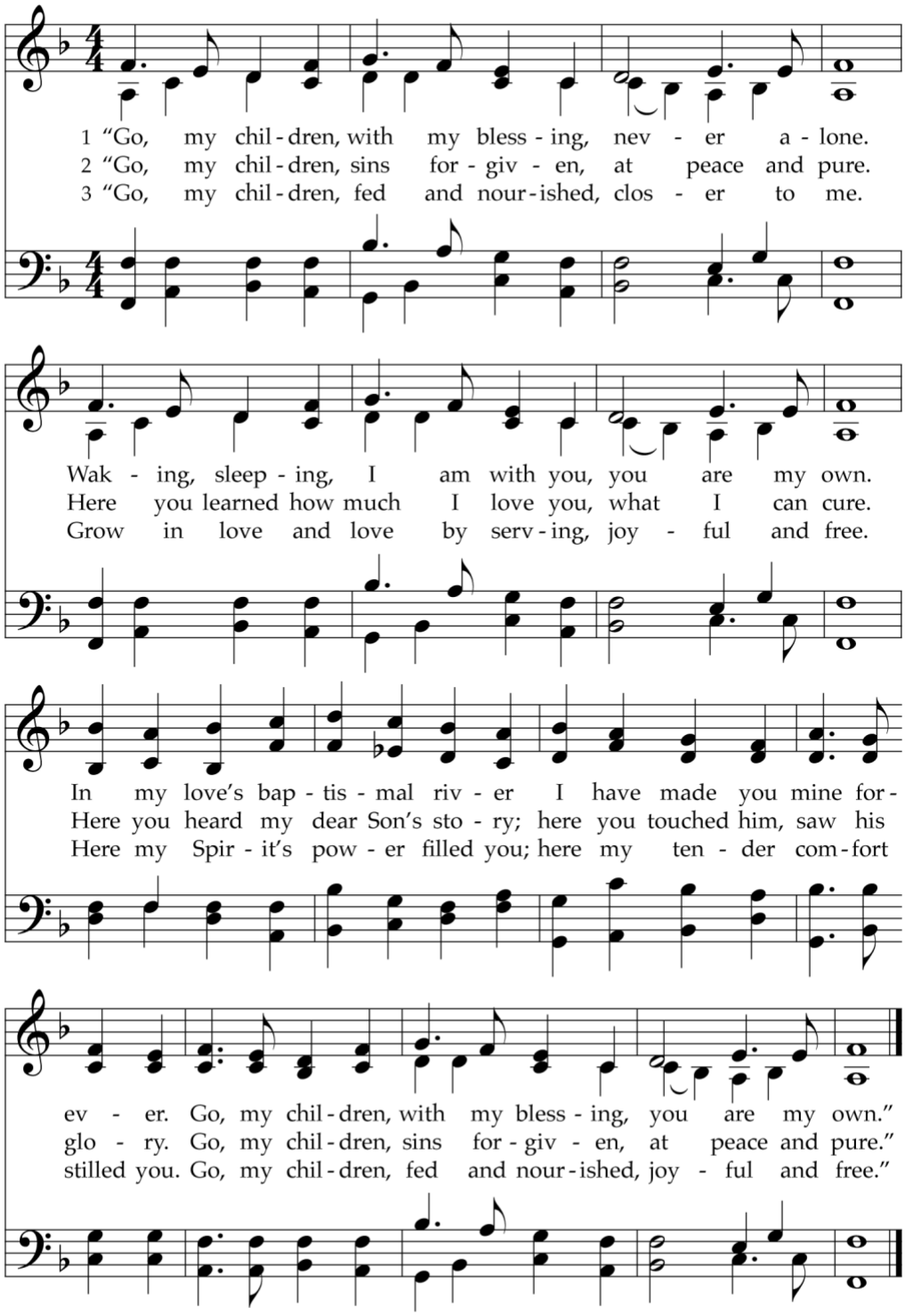


The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to "wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).

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

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

TEXT: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983
MUSIC: Welsh melody
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

AR HYD Y NOS
8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4