Westminster Presbyterian Church

March 20, 2022
3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

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

Prelude "O Welt, ich muss dich lassen" JOHANNES BRAHMS

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

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

Come, all who are thirsty.
Come, all who are seeking.
Come, all who are waiting.
Come, all who labor.
Come, all who need rest.
Come, all who dream dreams.
Come—
whether you're young or old,
confident or curious,
lonely or hopeful.

This is God's house. All are welcome here.
Let us worship holy God.

***Opening Prayer** **Ferenc Relle**

God of fig trees and foxes,
of today and tomorrow,
we would like to ask that you scoop us up.
Pick us up like a great gust of wind.
Startle us awake like a first love.
Light a fire in us like tomorrow depends on today.
Do all of this to get our attention and then turn us toward you.

We are a scattered people, God.
The world is moving faster than we can keep up.
So we pray—scoop us up.
Catch our eye.
Open our ears.
Capture our attention.
We are here. We long to be close to you. Amen.

***Opening Hymn No. 15** "All Creatures of Our God and King" LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Verses 1 thru 4 and 6

Call to Confession **Candy Relle**

There is something so healing, so life-giving, about telling our stories.
In the prayer of confession, that is what we get to do.
The mask comes off. Any pretense of perfection is removed.
We let the pressure to perform slip away and we sit here, face to face with God, sharing honestly who we long to be.

Friends, there is healing here. There is life to be gained here.
So join me in this moment of honesty. Join me in the prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession **Candy Relle**

Holy God,
we treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store;
but you know this even better than we do.
Instead of trusting that we are made good,
instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are,
we stockpile our value in earthly things—
in trophies and awards, in likes and follows, in wealth and power.

Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick.
Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts
that we won't be forgotten if we slow down.
We won't be forgotten if we rest.
Gratefully we pray, amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness **Candy Relle**

Friends, take a deep breath.
Release the tension in your jaw.
There is good news here.

For even when we stumble,
even when we take the easy way out,
even when we forget our own self-worth,
even when we lose our way—we belong to God.

Say it with me—

We are loved. We are claimed.

We are under God's wing. We are worthy of grace.
We belong to God. Amen.

Musical Response "Mida Akpe Mawu" (give Thanks to God) KENN KAFUI

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

Scripture Reading **Luke 13: 1-9** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

13 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. [2] He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? [3] No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. [4] Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? [5] No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

[6] Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. [7] So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' [8] He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. [9] If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Sermon **Fruitful Creation** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Hymn No. No. 800 "Sometimes a Light Surprises" SALLEY GARDENS

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

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

We ask 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. 649** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" AMAZING GRACE

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

Postlude "Fugue in C major" DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE

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.

Note: Prayers were adapted from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Music:	Piano	Divine Gbagbo
	Organ	Ken Shafer
	Guitar	Pong Thiemmedh
Tech. Assistant/Event Steward		Tony Mendiola
Sunday Assistant		Candy Relle

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Office Administrator Judy Mowrer
Minister of Music and Worship Arts Dr. Divine Gbagbo
Worship Accompanists Mary-Marie Deauclaire, Ken Shafer
AV Assistant/Event Steward. Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

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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.

Verses 1 thru 4 and 6

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

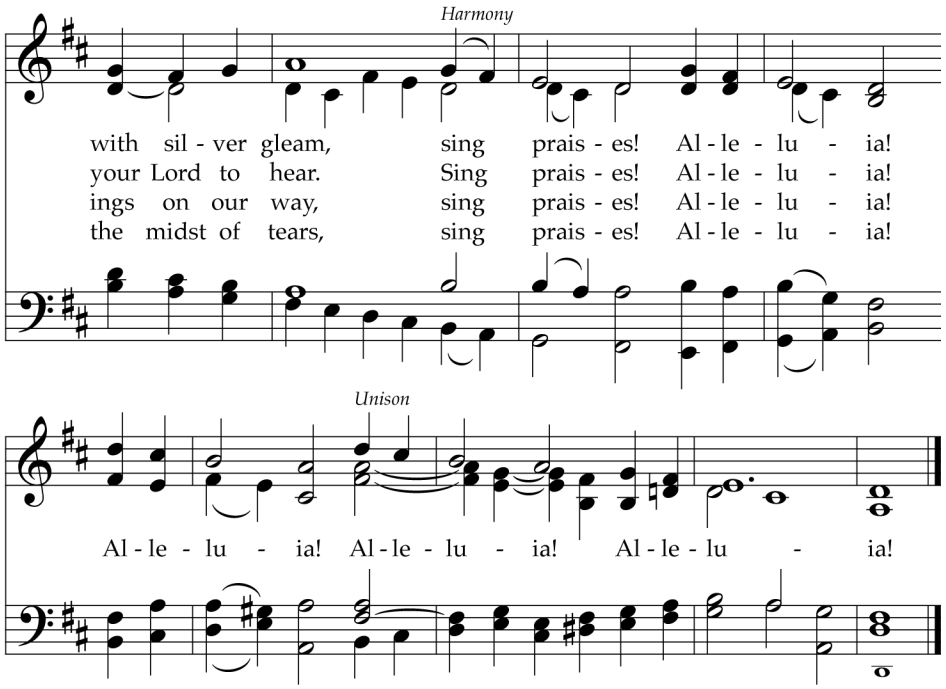
15 All Creatures of Our God and King



Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

TEXT: Francis of Assisi, 1225; trans. composite
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623, alt.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
LM with alleluias
(this tune in a higher key, 327)



5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

LAMENT AND LONGING FOR HEALING

800 Sometimes a Light Surprises



This is one of the few hymns rooted in what can happen during worship, and that experience—gaining a spiritual insight while singing—is no less possible now than when this text was written in the 18th century. It is set here to a folk song variously labeled Irish or English.

TEXT: William Cowper, 1779, alt.
MUSIC: Irish folk melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011
Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

SALLEY GARDENS
7.6.7.6.D

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



CHOCTAW

Shilombish holitopa ma!
Ishmminti pulla cha
hatak ilbusha pia ha
is pi yukpalashke.

CREEK

Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
ah non ah cha pa kas
cha fee kee o funnan la kus
um e ha ta la yus.

NAVAHO

Nizhónígo joobá diits' a'
yisdáshtítinigíí,
lah yóóiiyá, k'ad
shénáhoosdzin,
doo eesh'íí da ńt'éé.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads,* 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony,* 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.
AMAZING GRACE
CM

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;
Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie