Westminster
Presbyterian Church

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330-263-2398 / wpcwooster@gmail.com

Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 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.

Prelude ***Prelude* on "Old Hundredth"** ***L. Bourgeois, arr. K. Uppercue***

***Gathering Words** **Joel Chupp**

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

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,
the courageous and the fearful,
the hungry and the hopeful,
the impatient and the reserved.
God welcomes the young and the old,
the poets and the prophets,
the faithful and the tired,
the curious and the convicted.
Wherever you are on your journey, wherever your boat is at sea,
there is room for all to gather here.
This is God's house.
Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

Opening Prayer **Joel Chupp**

Holy God,
There are days where the wind is loud.

There are days where the rain tears through the trees
and the storms of life beg for our attention.
So just as you stilled the wind and the sea, still our wandering hearts.
Quiet our restless minds.

Reach out your hand to us and pull us into your Word
so that we might hear, *really hear*, your message to us today.
May we be transformed by it.
With one foot out of the boat, we pray, amen.

Opening Hymn No. 484 "Out of Deep, Unordered Water"** ***Rustington

Call to Confession **Joel Chupp**

In the prayer of confession, we are honest about the storms that rage within and around us.
In this prayer, we speak with honesty in an effort to move closer to God.
So friends, join me in being courageous.
Join me in truth-telling.
Join me in prayer.
It's time to get our feet wet.
Let us pray together:

Prayer of Confession **Joel Chupp**

Gracious God,
There are days that threaten to swallow us,
days when the storms of life feel too big.
In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear,
spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.

Forgive us for doubting ourselves.
Forgive us for doubting you.
Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us.
With hope in our hearts, we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 834 **"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"** *Precious Lord*

Assurance of Forgiveness **Joel Chupp**

Family of faith,
No matter what you do,
Christ's love for you is unchanging.
Fearful or brave, faithful or doubting,
Christ is always walking toward you.
So hear and believe this good news:

God's love is stronger than any storms.
On our best days, and on our worst days,
we are seen, forgiven, and loved.
God is always walking toward you.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Musical Offering **"A Summer Reverie"** *Trygve Torjussen*
Bob Iams, piano

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 **Matthew 14:22-33** ***(CEB)*** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

22 Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the
lake while he dismissed the crowds. 23 When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain
by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. 24 Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong
headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. 25 Very early
in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him
walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, "It's a ghost!" They were so frightened they
screamed.

27 Just then Jesus spoke to them, “Be encouraged! It’s me. Don’t be afraid.”

28 Peter replied, “Lord, if it’s you, order me to come to you on the water.”
29 And Jesus said, “Come.”

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. 30 But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, “Lord, rescue me!”

31 Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, “You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?” 32 When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

33 Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, “You must be God’s Son!”

Sermon **Wandering Heart: Rescue Me from Danger** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Hymn **“Into the Waters”** ***(Words/Rev. Anna Strickland; Tune/Herzliebster Jesu)***

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Joel Chupp**

Prayer of the People **Joel Chupp**

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 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.

Closing Hymn No. 463** **"How Firm a Foundation"** ***Foundation

Benediction **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Postlude **"Postlude on 'Halifax' "** ***Lani Smith***

The world abounds with God's free grace;
What wonders bless the land!
And on through boundless starry space,
God's matchless works expand.

The service continues with fellowship.

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*Please stand in body or in spirit
*The prayers were adapted from *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

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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, Feb. 25

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

Monday, Feb. 26

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

Thursday, Feb. 29

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place
- Lenten study – 7 pm – The Lounge

Sunday, March 3

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

Westminster Presbyterian Church
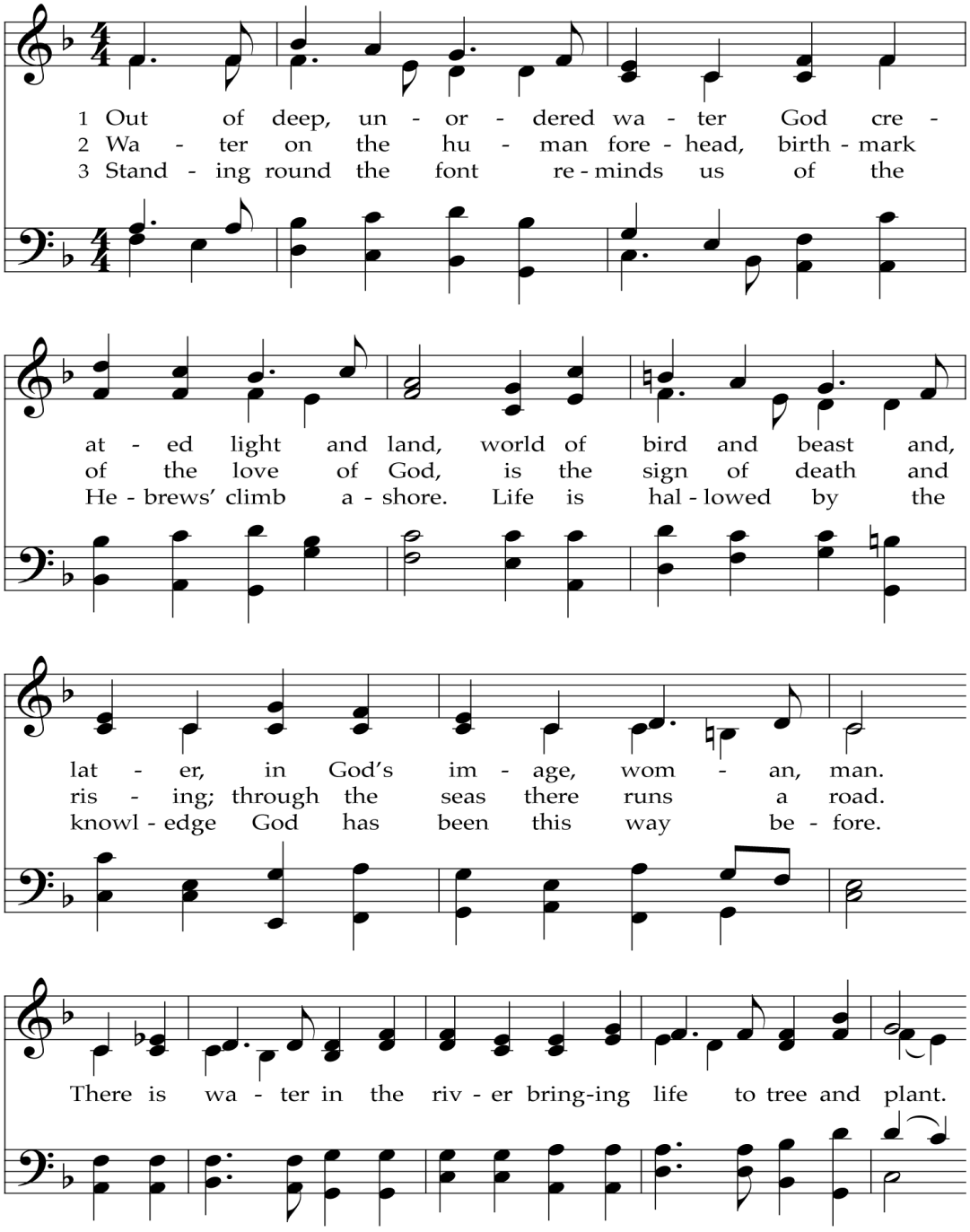


Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
Tech/Media Administrator Jack Veney
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola

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

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BAPTISM
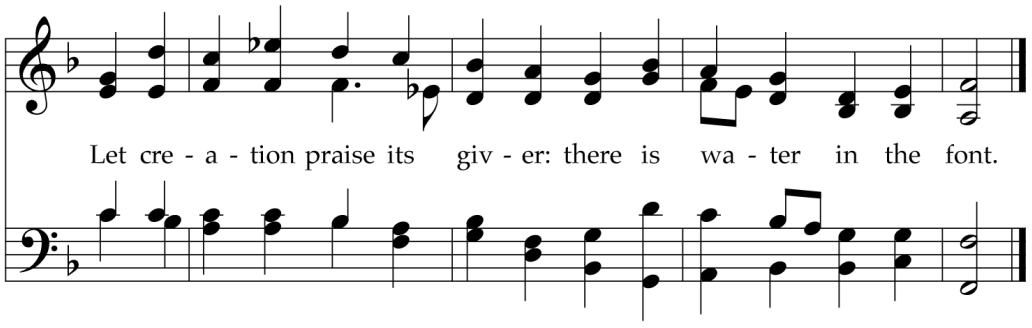
484 Out of Deep, Unordered Water
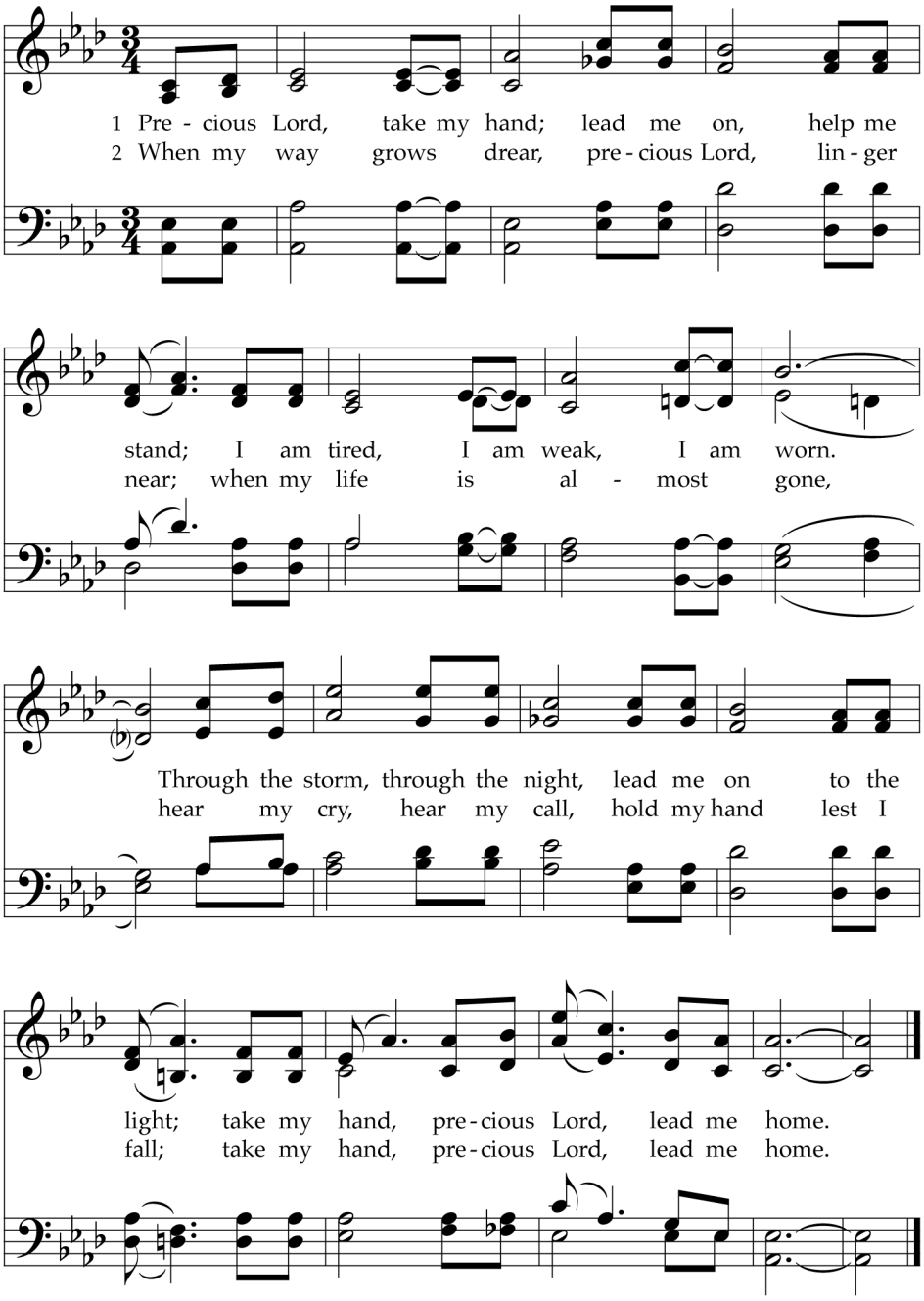


By connecting the water in the font with the waters of creation, the parted waters through which the Israelites were set free, and the rivers that sustain life everywhere, this hymn reminds us that baptism incorporates us into God's creative, redemptive, and sustaining activity.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1965
MUSIC: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1897
Text © 1968 Hope Publishing Company

RUSTINGTON
8.7.8.7.D


Let cre - a - tion praise its giv - er: there is wa - ter in the font.

834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand



This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

TEXT: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938
MUSIC: George N. Allen, 1844; arr. Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938
PRECIOUS LORD
6.6.9.D
Text and Music Arr. © 1938, ren. Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. (admin. Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
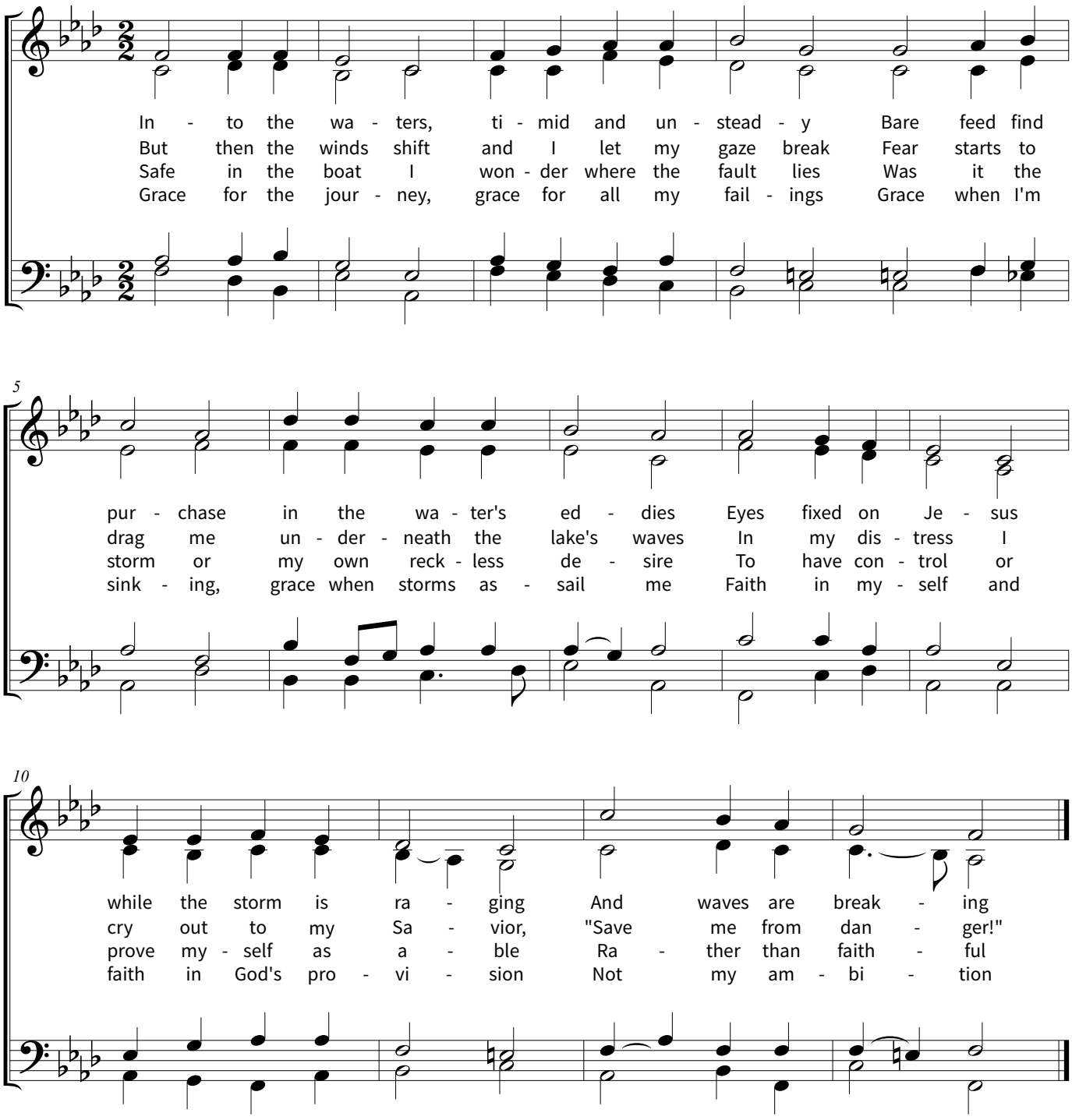
Wandering Heart: *"Rescue me from danger"* | MATTHEW 14:22-33

Into the Waters

HERZLIEBSTER JESU 11.11.11.5
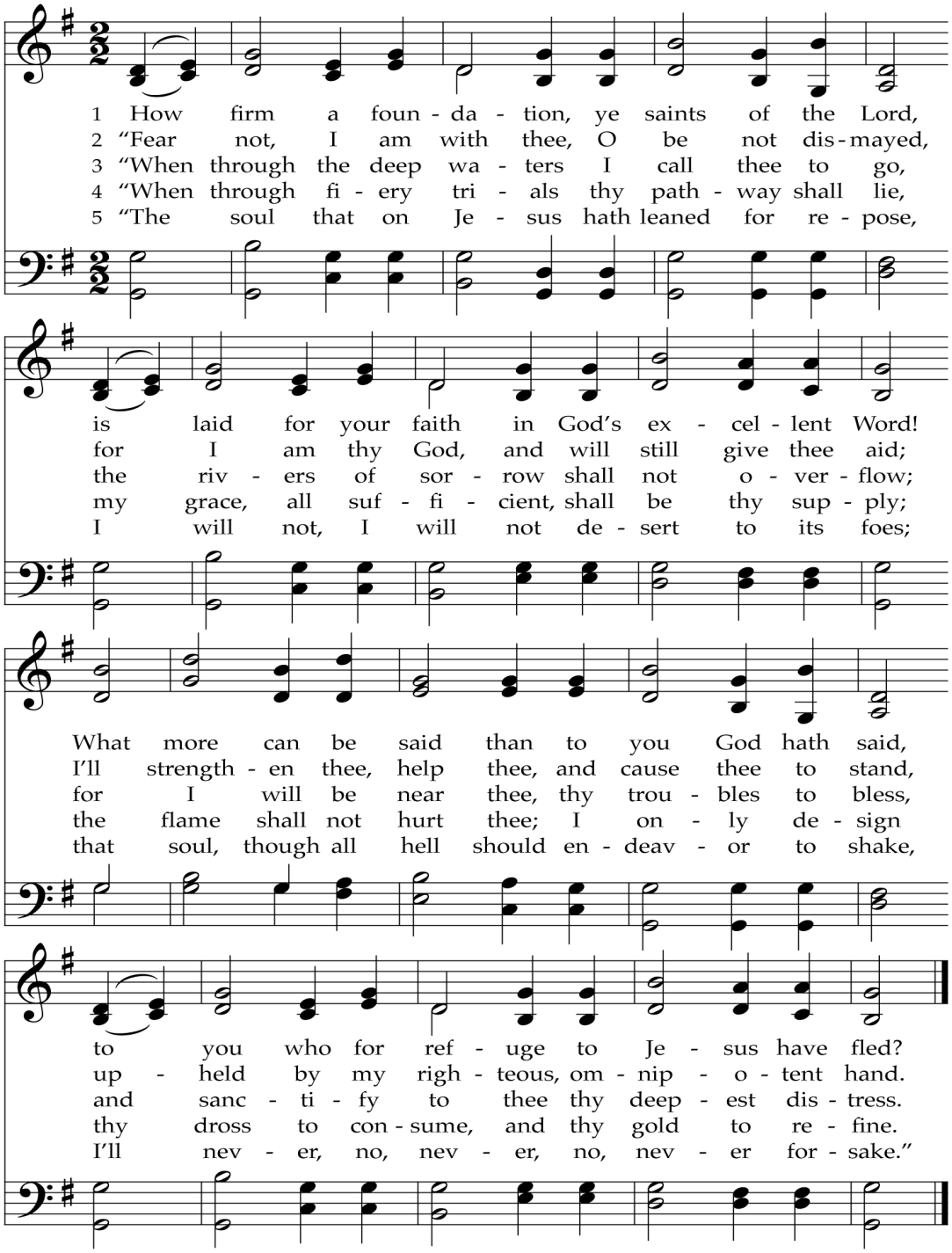
Words by Anna Strickland, 2023

Music by Johann Crüger, 1640



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463 How Firm a Foundation



It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

TEXT: "K" in John Rippons's *A Selection of Hymns,* 1787, alt.
MUSIC: American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music,* 1832, alt.

FOUNDATION
11.11.11.11