Westminster
Presbyterian Church

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330-263-2398 / wpcwooster@gmail.com

7th Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024

Welcome and Announcement **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 **"Great is Thy Faithfulness"** **W. Runyan; arr. M. Hayes**
Ben Low (COW '26), piano

***Gathering Words** **Candy Relle**

Let us rejoice in God's faithfulness and companionship.
We come to praise God's steadfastness in silence and song.

Our God is constant and kind, closer to us than our very breath.
We come with open and thankful hearts to worship Holy God!

***Opening Prayer** **Candy Relle**

Let us pray …

Holy One,
in your faithfulness you guide us.
Steady our breath to the rhythm of your sacred invitation.
As we worship and remember your presence in our midst through the generations,
root us anew in the soil of your goodness
so we go forth boldly sowing your love, peace and justice in the world.
In your name, we pray. Amen.

***Opening Hymn No. 401** **"Here in This Place"** **Gather Us In**

Call to Confession **Ferenc Relle**

We know our foolishness, our hurtful words, the rejection we offer to others. And we think God wants nothing to do with us. But in Jesus, God holds our hands and will never let go, as we journey together through life into grace and forgiveness. Let us pray together our prayer of confession, saying,

Prayer of Confession **Ferenc Relle**

Holy and gracious God,
we confess to you and to each other that we are rarely just in all our ways,
and far from being kind in all our doings.
What we want to be and what we actually are do not overlap exactly.

Our lives are a miss-mash of astuteness and foolishness,
of moral strength and cowardice, of kindness and meanness,
of openness and cunning, of sincere love for you yet also of conniving self-interest.

We need both your justice and your kindness to convict us of our sins,
to forgive and cleanse us, and to save us from the power of evil in the days that lie ahead.
We need your mercy to wipe away shame and disabling regrets,
your light to give us our bearings,
and your friendship to delight with us in our happiness
and to comfort us in our sorrows.

Grant to us, loving God,
the grace of a new beginning and the joy of an enlarged love for you.
Give us a passion for all your loving ways.
We ask these things in the name of Christ Jesus, our friend and redeemer.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" In Babilone
Hymn No. 435

***The Peace** **Ferenc Relle**

In God's amazing grace is our only peace.
Forgiven once again by grace, let us participate in God's peace together.
I invite you to turn to the people to your left and to your right, behind you and before you, and share the peace of God with one another using the greeting:

"The Peace of Christ be with you."
And also with you.

Musical Offering Hymn No. 626 **"As the Deer"** **As the Deer**

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 **Psalm 145 (translation from the Iona Community)**
Ferenc Relle and Enikö Ferenczy

Oh God, our God, mighty and majestic. We will praise you forever.

Great are you, O God, and greatly to be praised; your greatness is beyond measure.
Age to age will praise your works and proclaim your mighty deeds.
I will meditate on your splendor and glory; I will ponder the story of your wonders.
People will speak of your awesome power, and I shall tell of your greatness.
They will recall your abundant goodness; age to age will ring out your justice.
You are gracious and compassionate, patient and ever faithful.
Your compassion rests on every creature; how good you are to all.
Let your creatures thank you, God, and your loyal servants bless you.
Let them speak of your glorious reign, and declare your power, O God.
Let them make known to the whole human race the glory and might of your reign.
Yours is an everlasting dominion, your rule lasts for all generations.
You are just in all your ways, and gracious in all your deeds.
You are close to those who call on you, who call on you from their heart.

Let our mouth speak out your praise, O God.
Let all people, all creatures bless your holy name. Now and forever. Amen.

Hymn No. 53 **"O God, Who Gives Us Life"** **Noel**

"Out of the Past into the Future" – Reflections about the 150th Anniversary Celebration of Westminster

Hymn No. 649 **"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"** **Amazing Grace**

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

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

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. 744** **"Arise, Your Light Is Come"** **Junkanoo**

Benediction **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Postlude **"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"** **L.V. Beethoven**
Ben Low (COW '26), piano **arr. D. Archer**

The service continues with fellowship.

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*Please stand in body or in spirit.
* The Prayer of Confession was adapted from Bruce Prewer. All other prayers were written by Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Ben Low (COW '26), 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, May 12
•Choir Rehearsal – 9 am – Mackey Hall
•Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
•Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, May 13
•Scout Troop 61 – 6:30 pm – Mackey Hall

Tuesday, May 14
•Worship Committee Meeting – 1 pm – The Lounge
•Faith & Sustainability Network Meeting – 5-7 pm – Broken Rocks

Wednesday, May 15
•Immigration/Justice Committee Meeting – 2 pm – The Lounge

Thursday, May 16
•Dance and Exercise – 8:30 am – Mackey Hall

Sunday, May 19
Pentecost Sunday
•Choir Rehearsal – 9 am – Mackey Hall
•Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
•Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Westminster Presbyterian Church

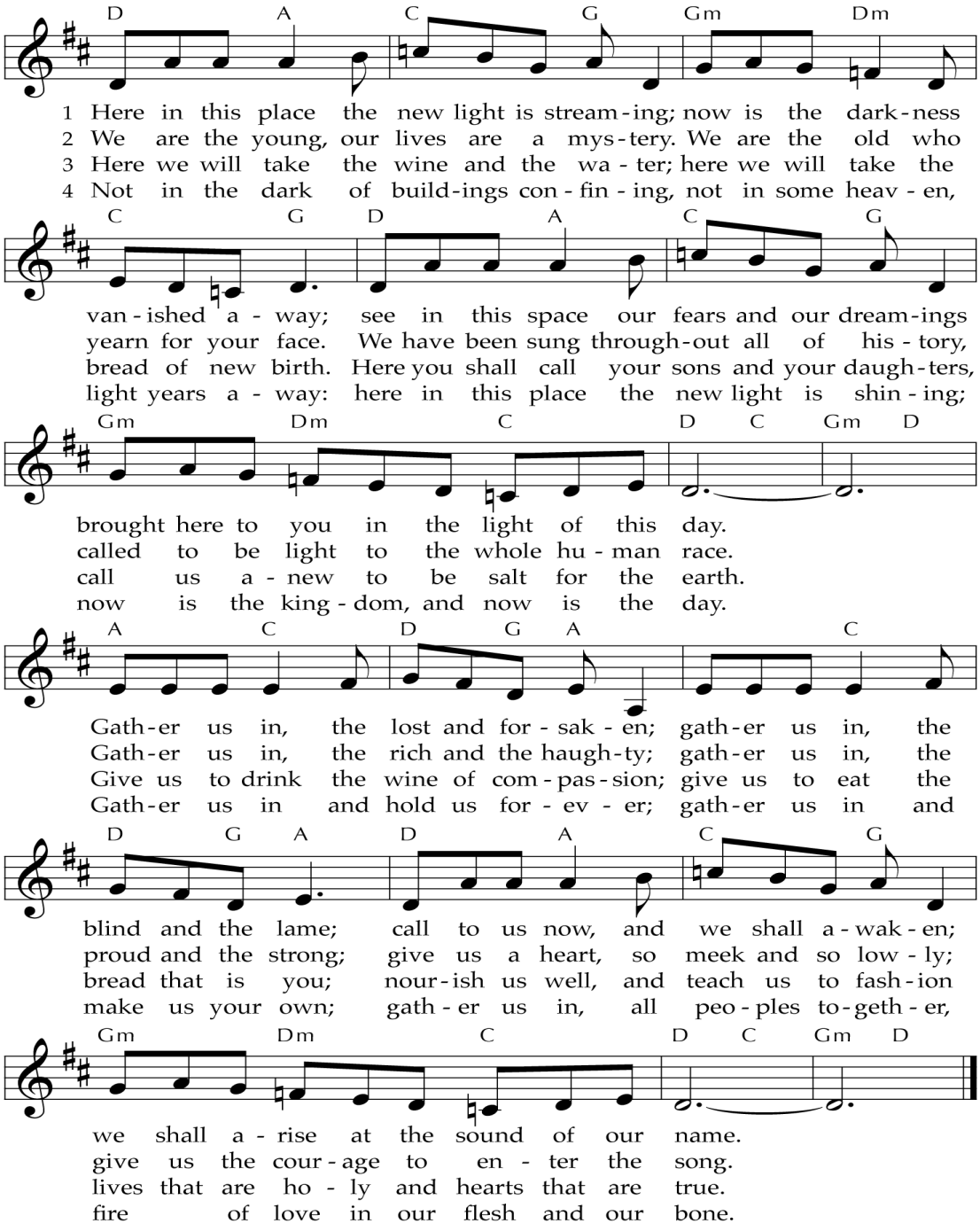
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
Tech/Media Administrator Jack Veney
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola

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

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Here in This Place 401

Gather Us In
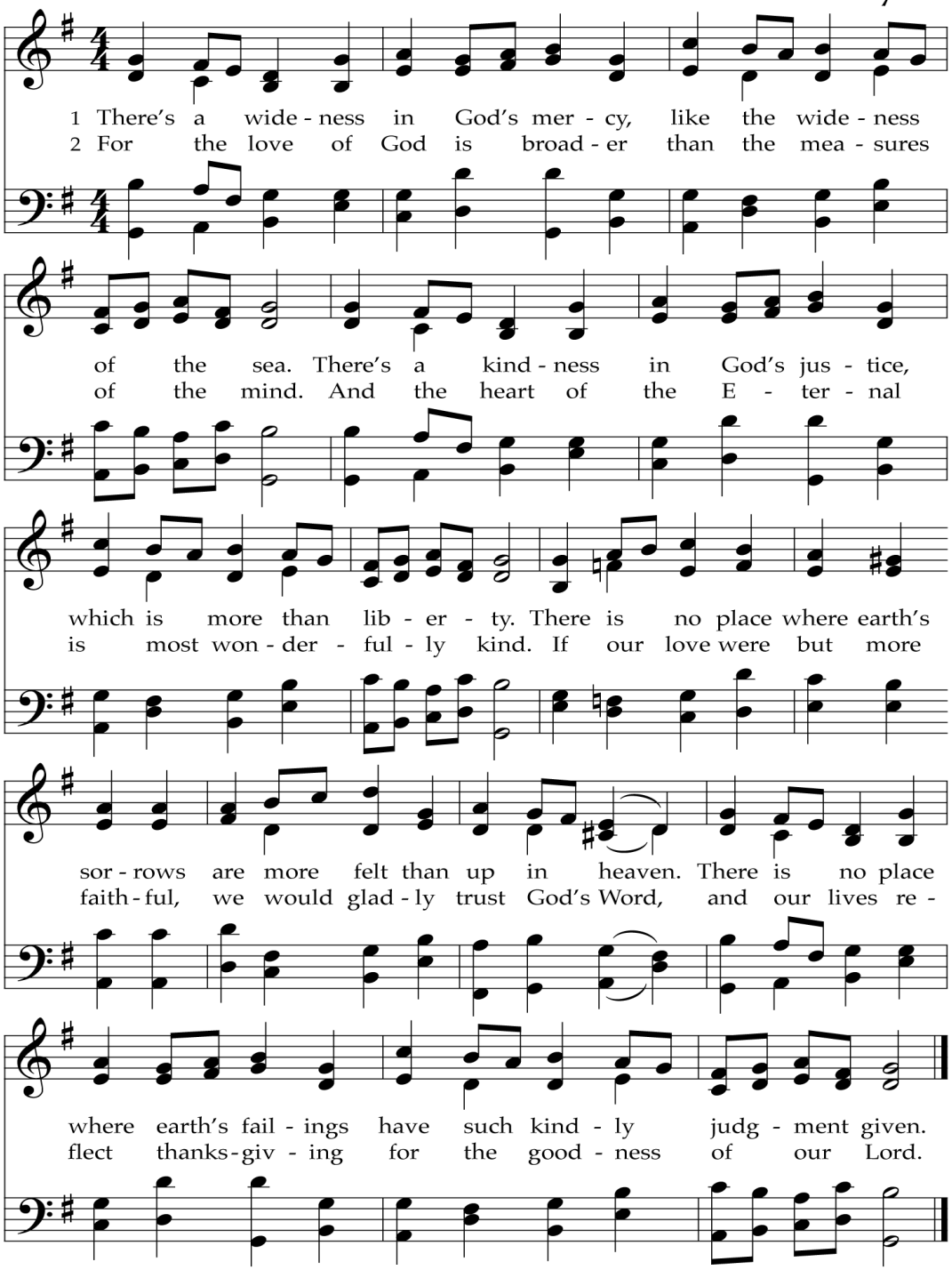


The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

TEXT and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1979
Text and Music © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

GATHER US IN
10.9.10.10.D

FORGIVENESS

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
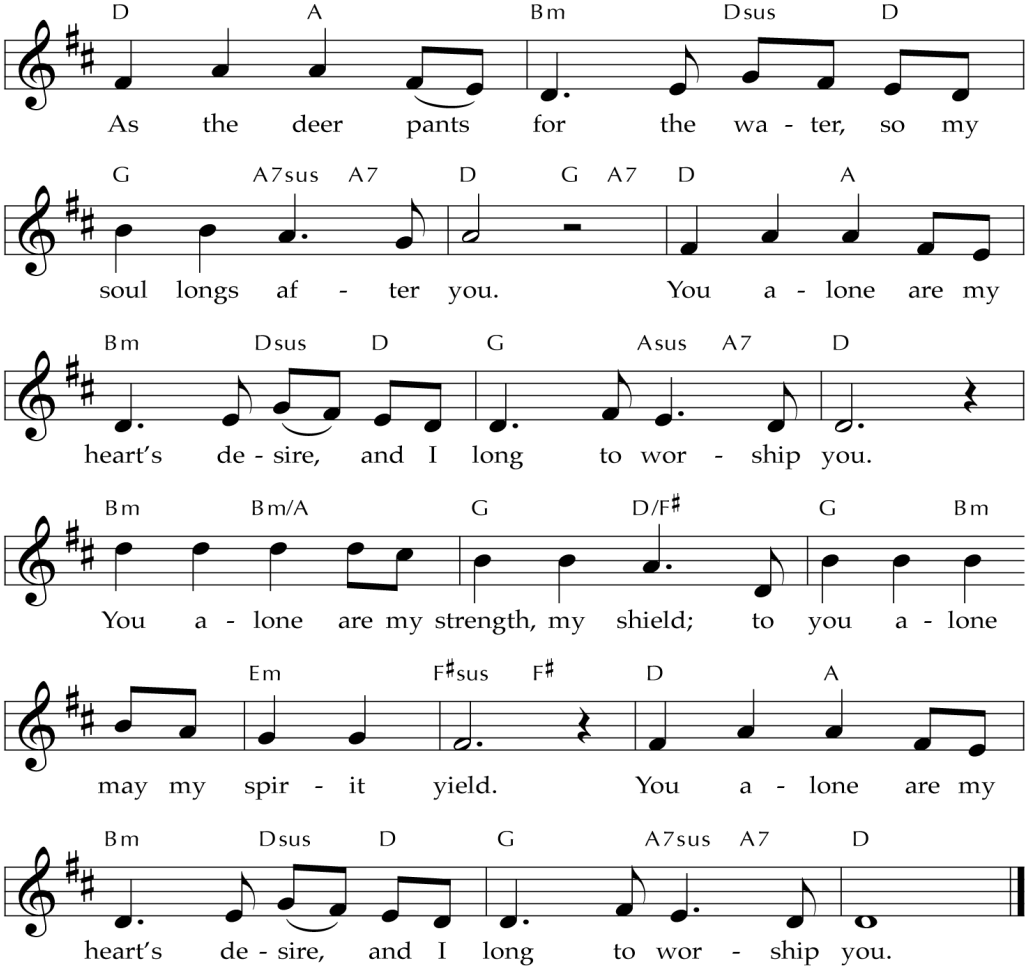


These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

TEXT: Frederick William Faber, 1854, alt.
MUSIC: Dutch melody; arr. Julius Röntgen, c. 1906

IN BABILONE
8.7.8.7.D

ADORATION

626 As the Deer
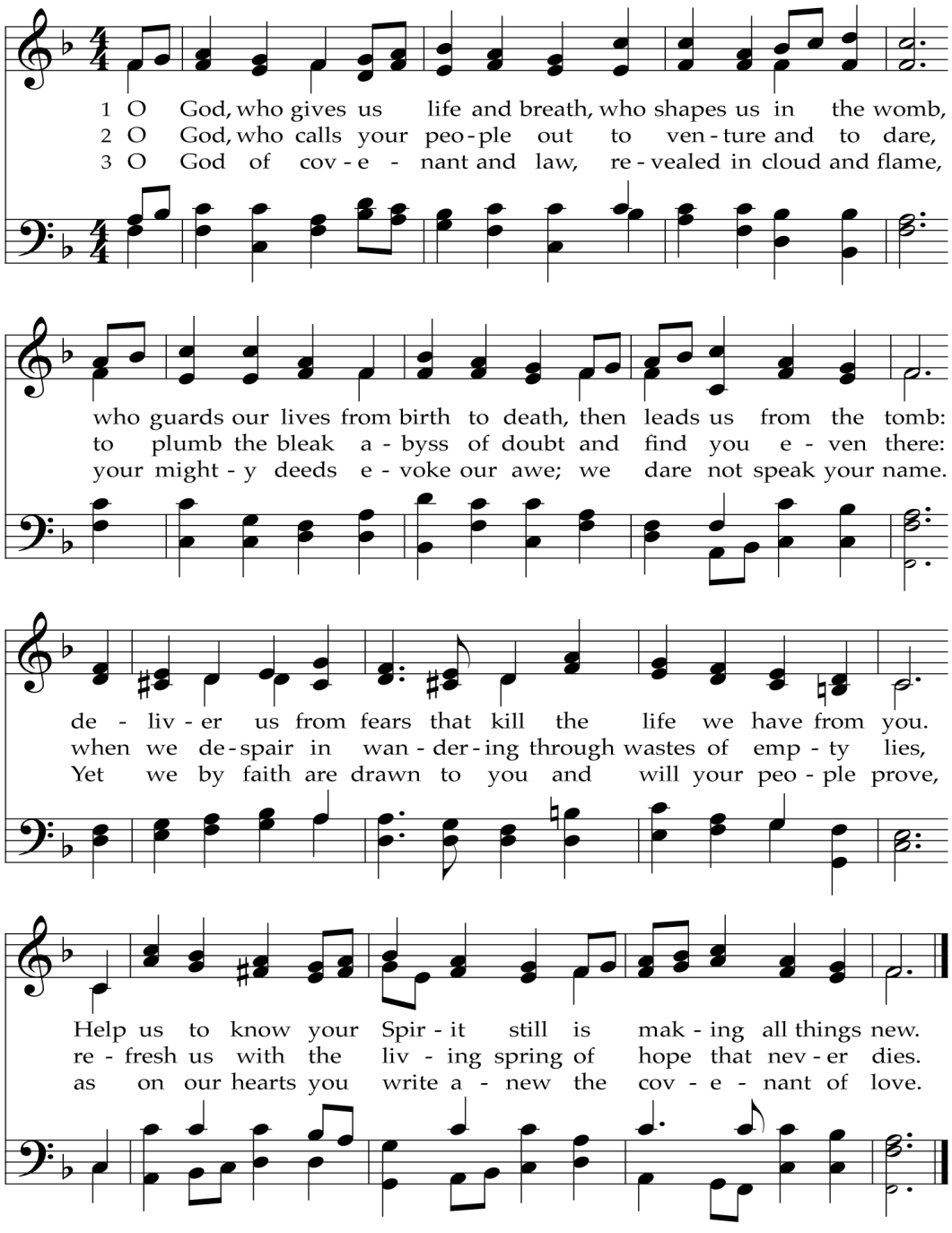


This praise chorus begins as a paraphrase of Psalm 42:1 and later incorporates parts of Psalm 28:7. In some early Christian communities, people chanted or sang Psalm 42 on their way to be baptized, and many early Christian baptisteries were decorated with deer drinking water.

TEXT and MUSIC: Martin J. Nystrom, 1984
Text and Music © 1984 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

AS THE DEER
Irregular

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

53 O God, Who Gives Us Life
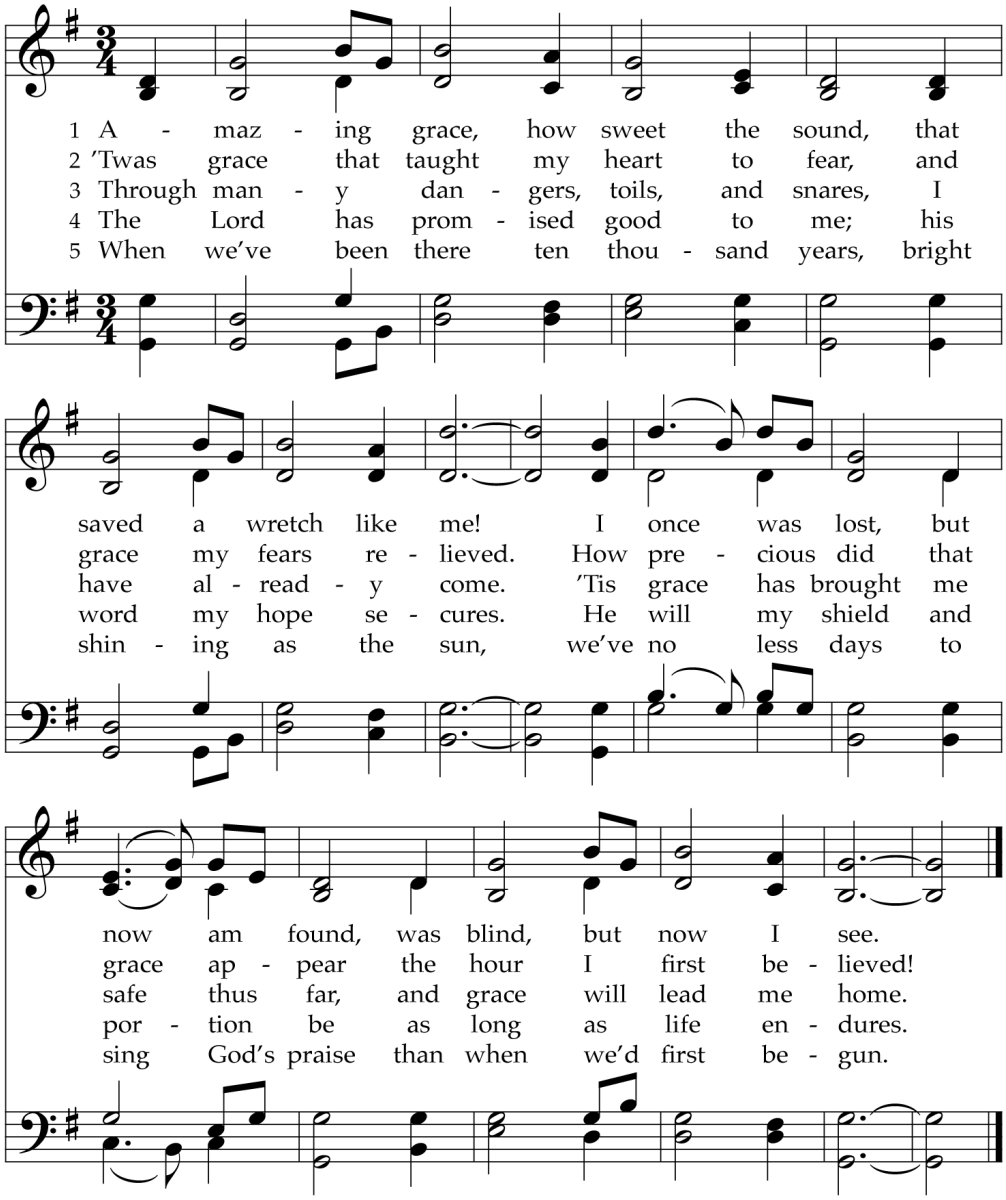


Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31–34).

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1990
MUSIC: English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874
Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

NOEL
CMD

THANKSGIVING

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

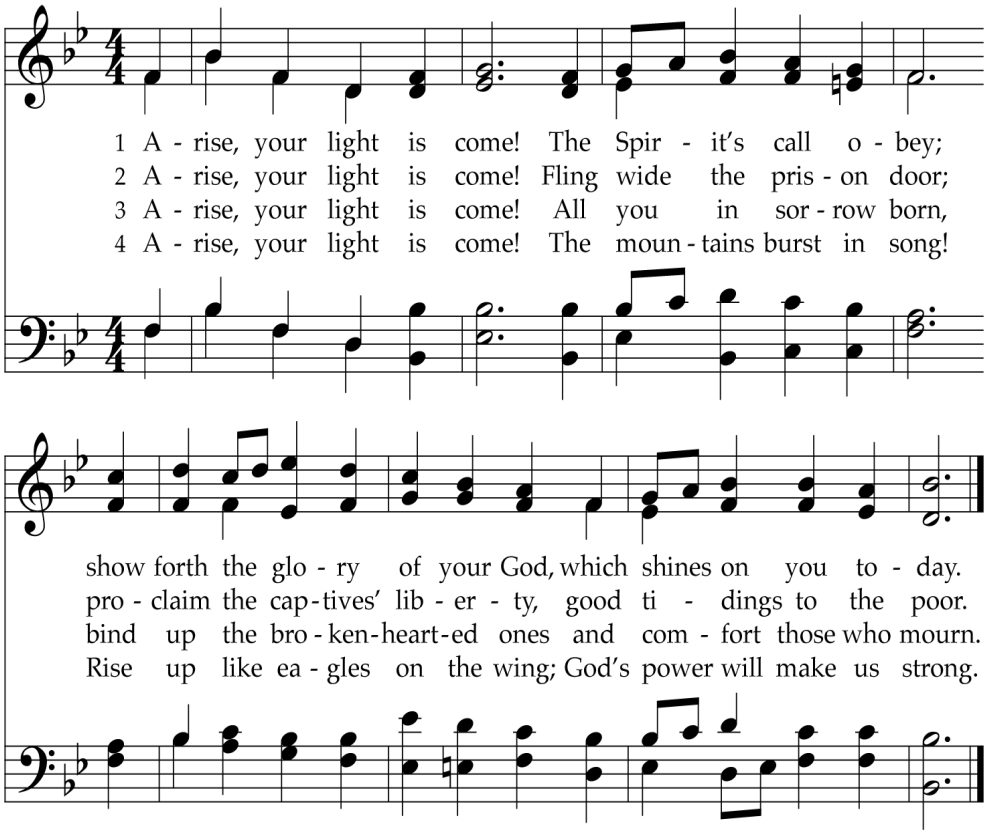
Nizhónígo joobá diits' a'
yisdáshtítinigíí,
lah yóóiiyá, k'ad
shénáhoosdzin,
doo eesh'íį da ńt'éé.

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

744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!



Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1–2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894
Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG
SM
(this tune in a lower key, 815)