Westminster
Presbyterian Church

353 E. Pine St., Wooster, OH 44691
330-263-2398 / wpcwooster@gmail.com

5th Sunday of Easter
April 28, 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 **"Rondo"** **Muzio Clementi (Opus 36)**

***Gathering Words** **Shelley Peterson**

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

In resurrection faith, we join together —
called by Christ from our many places and histories.
In resurrection faith, we join together —
united in Christ, to seek his purpose.
In resurrection faith, we join together —
to share the work of proclaiming Christ's good news.

Opening Prayer **Shelley Peterson**

Let us pray…

You, Holy God, are three in one,
bound together,
and we pray for the unity of the Spirit
binding us together in Christ,
in whom we have been baptized.
As you write your word on our hearts again this day,
may we too be written on your heart,
that together we may pursue only your way.
Amen.

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

Call to Confession **Shelley Peterson**

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who labor
and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and
lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."
Let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

Prayer of Confession **Shelley Peterson**

Creator God, we ask that you forgive us for our failure to accomplish
what you have wanted to do through us. Too often we have allowed our faith to grow weak,
not sustaining it with honest questions addressed to you in your church and in your word.
Like so many before us, we have had doubts out of a lack of understanding
but not the same readiness to get our questions answered.
Forgive our wandering, our fuzzy mindedness, our lack of vitality
when you have given us Jesus to be for us the way, the truth and the life. Amen

Silent Confession

***Assurance of Forgiveness** **Shelley Peterson**

Friends, hear the Good News!
Our faith in God is counted as righteousness.
Our salvation is a matter of sheer grace.
Friends, believe the Good News!
In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

***The Peace** **Shelley Peterson**

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 No. 837 "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine" *Showalter*

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. Gary R. Friend**

Scripture Reading **1 Corinthians 1:10-19 (NRSV)** **Rev. Gary R. Friend**

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **15** so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Sermon **Divisions in the Church** **Rev. Gary R. Friend**

Hymn No. 749 **"Come! Live in the Light"** *We Are Called*

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Shelley Peterson**

Prayer of the People **Shelley Peterson**

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. 317 "In Christ There Is No East or West"** *Mc Kee*

Benediction **Rev. Gary R. Friend**

Now go out into the world in peace.
Be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; rendering to no one evil for evil.

We will go from this place strengthening the fainthearted,
Supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, and honoring all people.

May the peace and grace of Christ Jesus, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. Amen.

Postlude **"My Faith It Is an Oaken Staff"** **arr. Lani Smith**

My faith, it is an oaken staff, oh let me on it lean;
My faith, it is a trusty sword, may falsehood find it keen!
Thy Spirit, Lord, to me impart, O make me what Thou ever art
Of patient and courageous heart, As all true saints have been.

The service continues with fellowship.

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*Please stand in body or in spirit.
*The Gathering Words, Opening Prayer and Prayer of Confession were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson. The Call to Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness were adapted from Rev. Thom Shuman.
*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, April 28

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

Monday, April 29

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

Wednesday, May 1

- WAIP – 9 am – Zoom
- COW Preschool Open House – 4 pm -6 pm – Preschool Classroom

Thursday, May 2

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place

Saturday, May 3

- Westminster 150th Anniversary Weekend
- Anniversary Welcome Reception – 5.30 pm - 8 pm – Mackey Hall Patio

Sunday, May 4

- 150th Anniversary Celebration and Worship
- Choir rehearsal – 9 am – Mackey Hall
- Anniversary Worship Service– 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place
- 150th Banquet and Program – 12.30 pm – Kittredge Dining Hall

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.
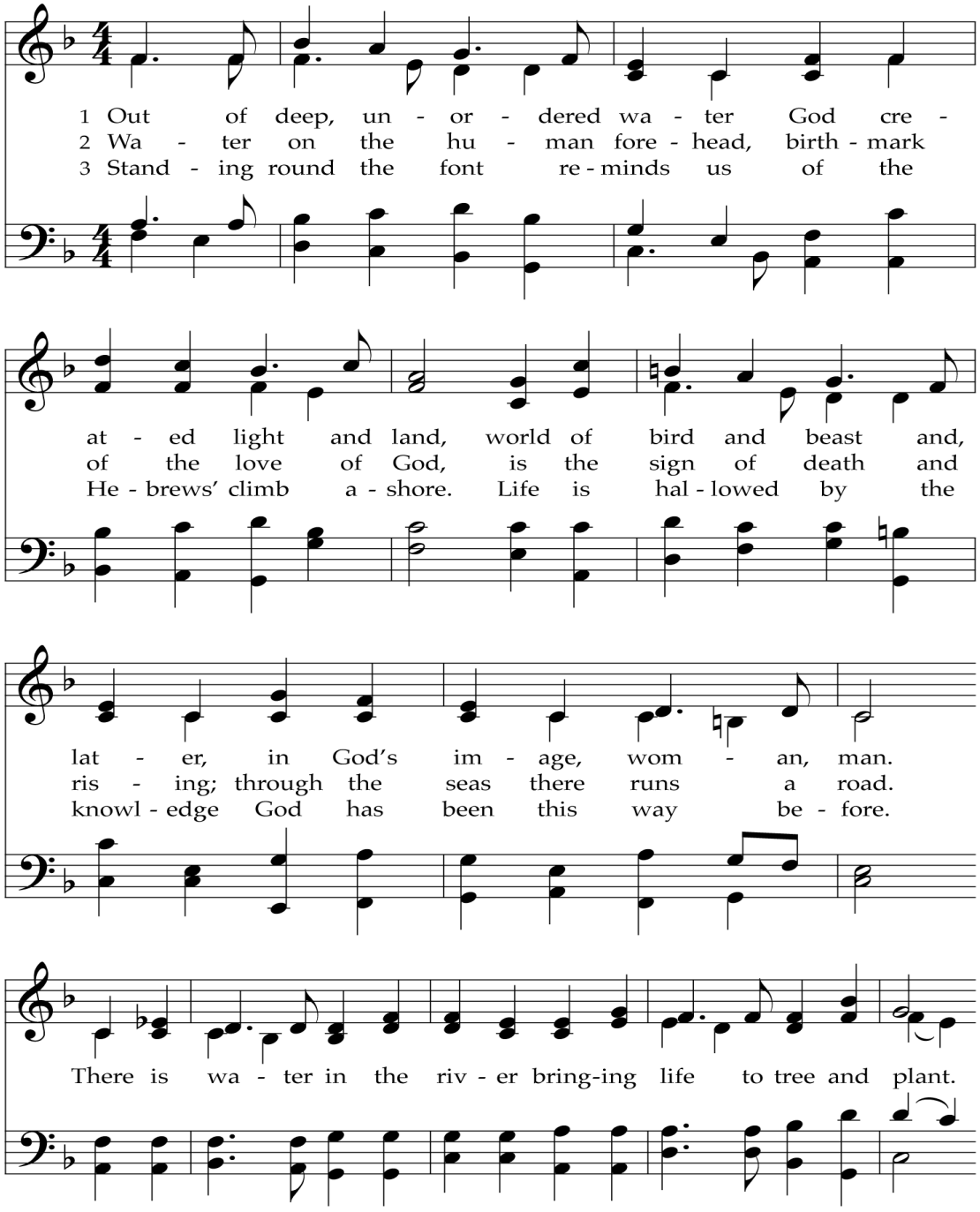
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(link to the WPC 150th Anniversary webpage: **https://wpcwoo.org/150)**

BAPTISM

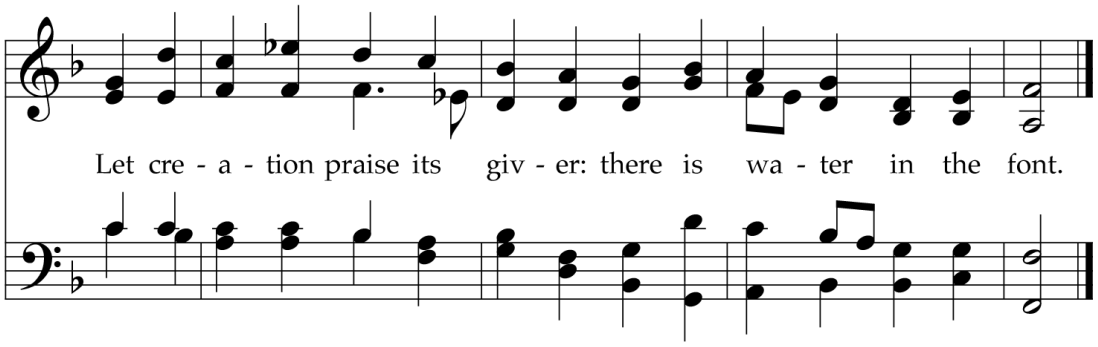
484 Out of Deep, Unordered Water



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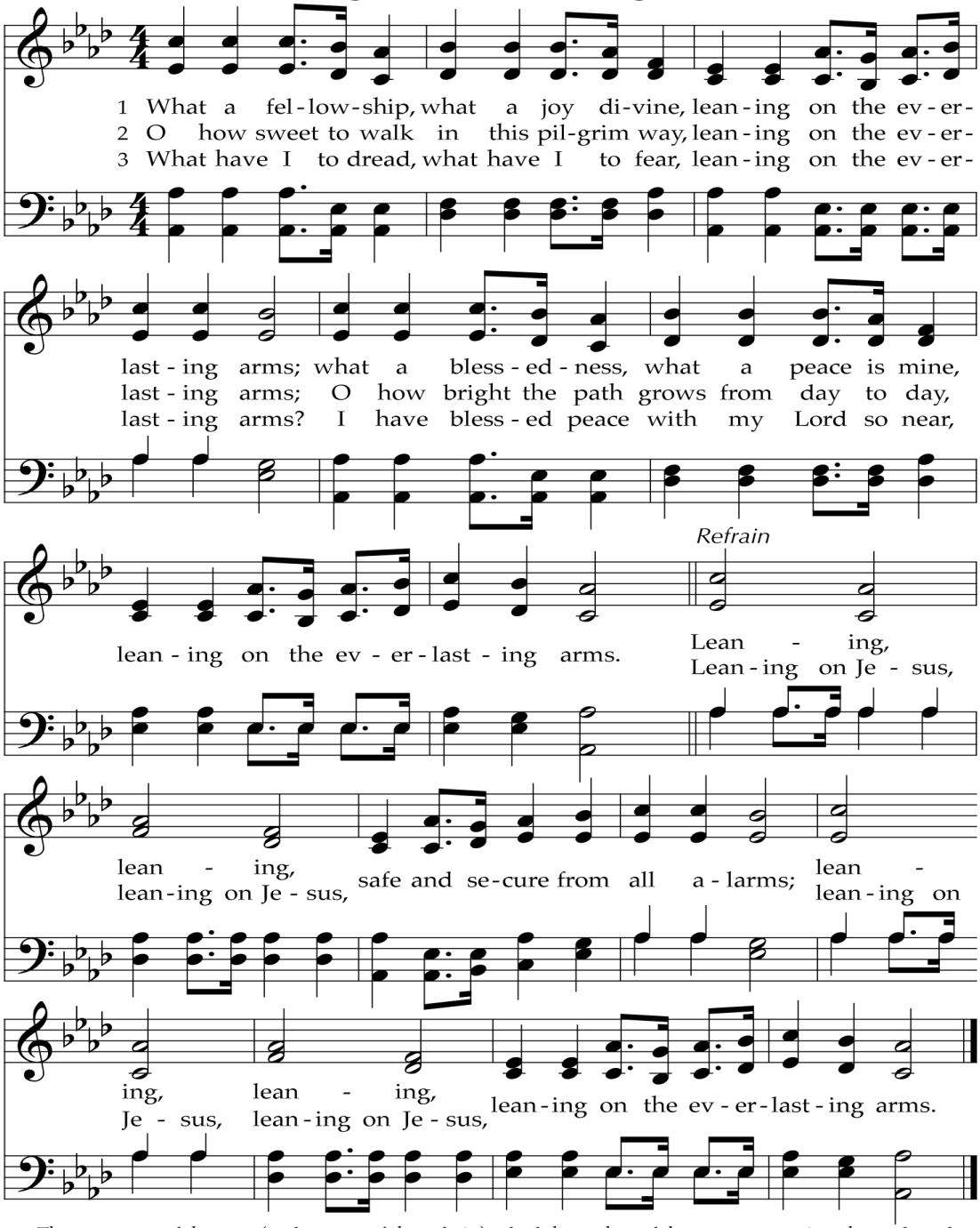
TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1965
MUSIC: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1897
Text © 1968 Hope Publishing Company

RUSTINGTON
8.7.8.7.D


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

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.
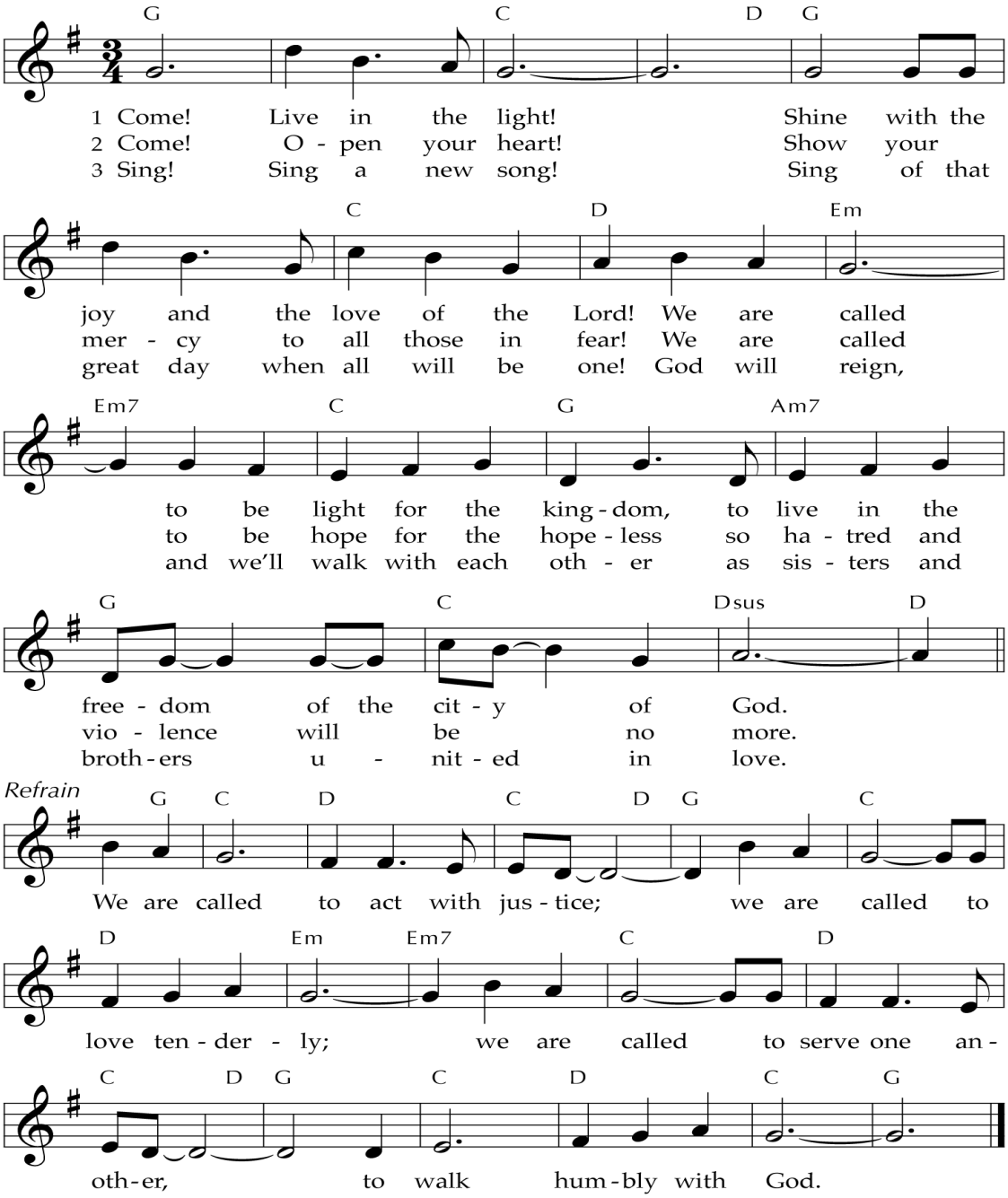
TEXT: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887
MUSIC: Anthony J. Showalter, 1887

SHOWALTER
10.9.10.9 with refrain

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

749 Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called
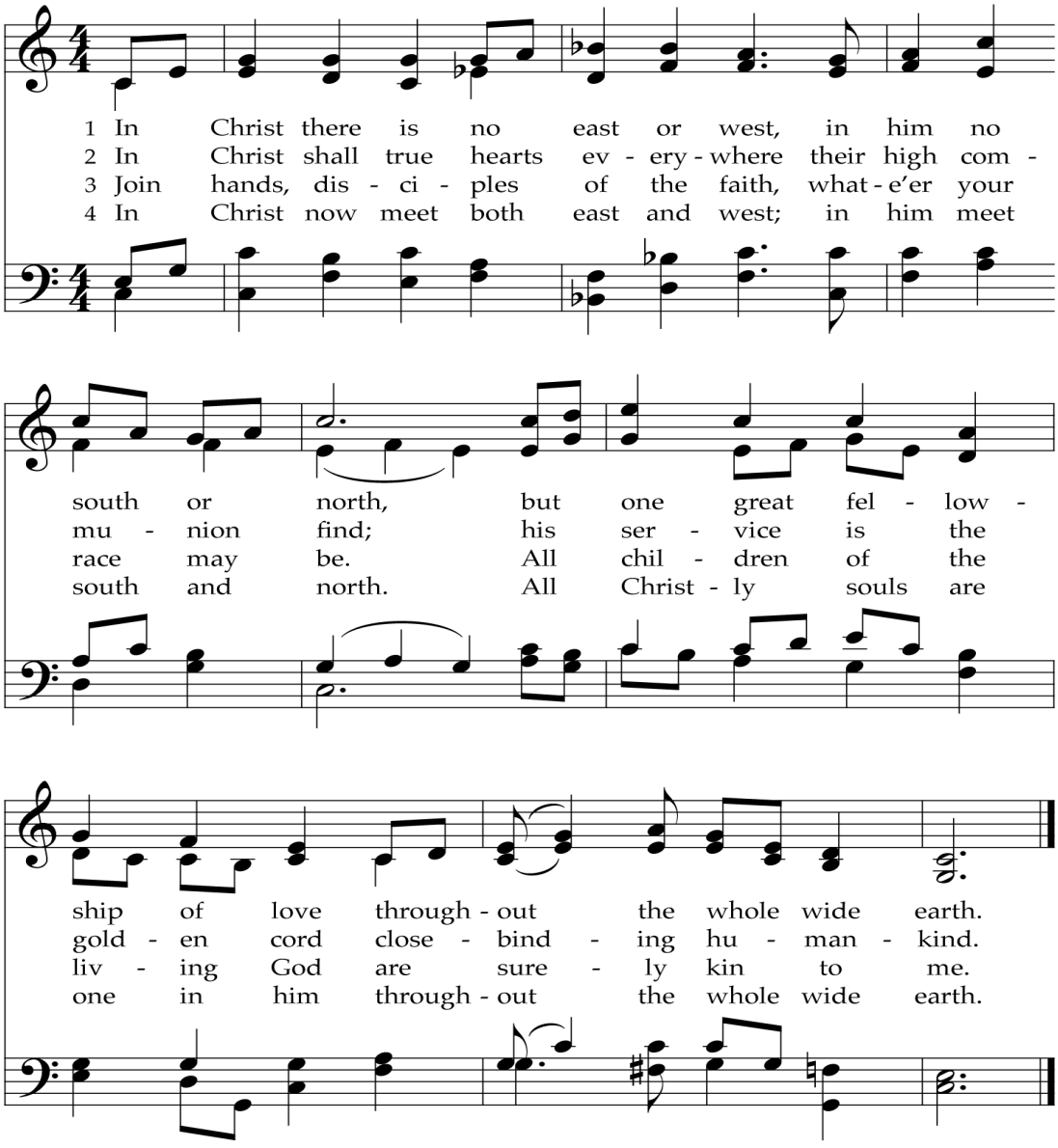


The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

TEXT and MUSIC: David Haas, 1988
Text and Music © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

WE ARE CALLED
Irregular

THE CHURCH

317 In Christ There Is No East or West



This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.

TEXT: John Oxenham, 1908, alt.
MUSIC: African American spiritual; *Jubilee Songs,* 1884; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940

MC KEE
CM
(alternate tune: ST. PETER, 318)