



covenant

children's ministries

Sunday, July 5, 2026

Dear parents of young worshipers,

Welcome! We are delighted to have you and your children worshipping with us this morning. Our goal each Sunday is to glorify and enjoy the God Who made us and saved us by His grace.

This bulletin was designed to help your children follow along with this morning's worship service. Here are some ideas to guide you:

- * Have children use the **stickers** provided as they follow along with this morning's liturgy. We've included some **brief definitions** for various parts of the liturgy to help you as you guide your child through the worship service.
- * Encourage your children to **color (or draw)** the main points of this morning's sermon as you listen together.
- * Help your children as they listen for the answer to the **question for young worshipers** during the sermon.
- * Check out the back of the bulletin for suggestions on **preparing for next week's worship service!** (Practicing can be especially helpful for young worshipers who cannot yet read!)

If you have any questions about our church, please do not hesitate to ask.

**In Christ,
Pastor Wiersema**

MORNING WORSHIP



Prelude: Break Thou The Bread Of Life

Think about why we are here. Get ready to worship!



Call to Worship: from Psalm 31

God calls us to worship Him from His Word

PASTOR: *Blessed be the LORD,*

PEOPLE: For he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me
when I was in a besieged city.

PASTOR: *I had said in my alarm, "I am cut off from your sight."*

PEOPLE: But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy
when I cried to you for help.

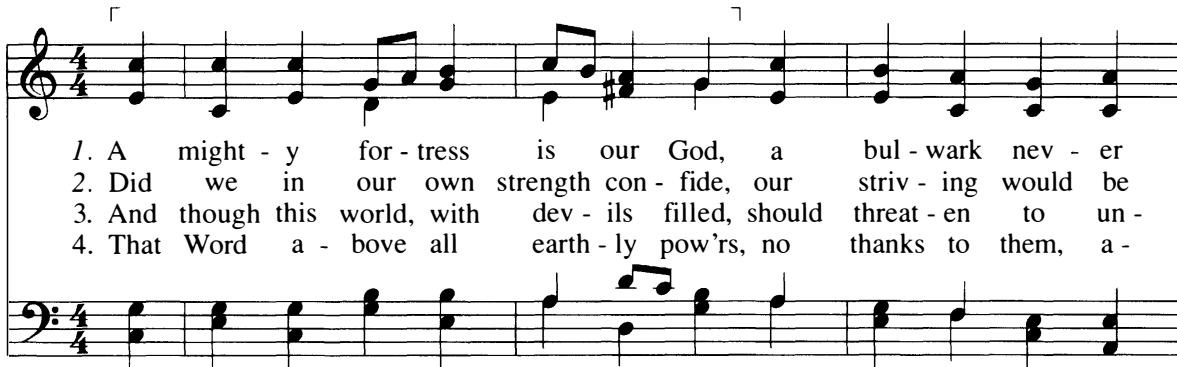
PASTOR: *Love the LORD, all you his saints!
The LORD preserves the faithful
but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.*

ALL: **Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD!**

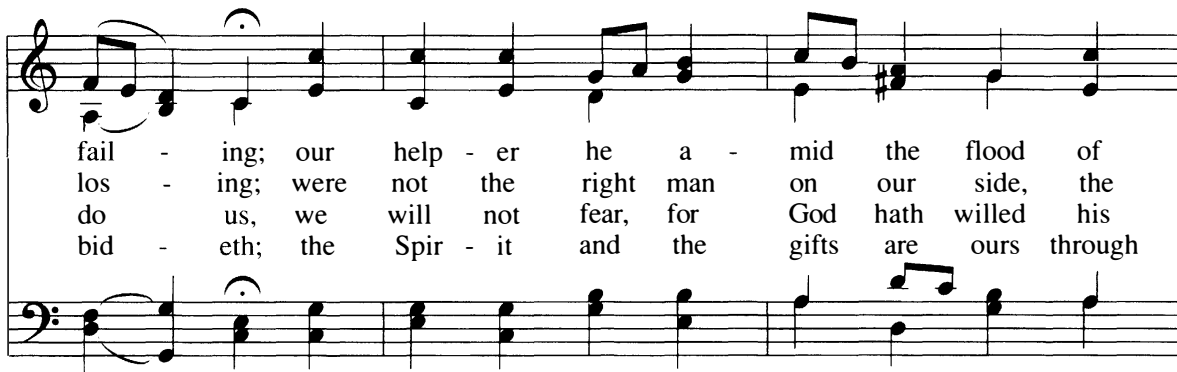


Hymn of Adoration: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God #92

We respond to God's call to worship in praise and love!



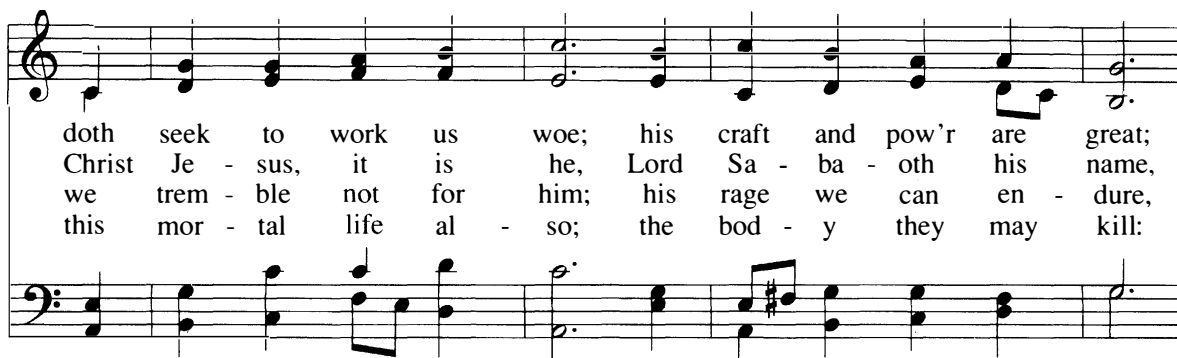
1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a -



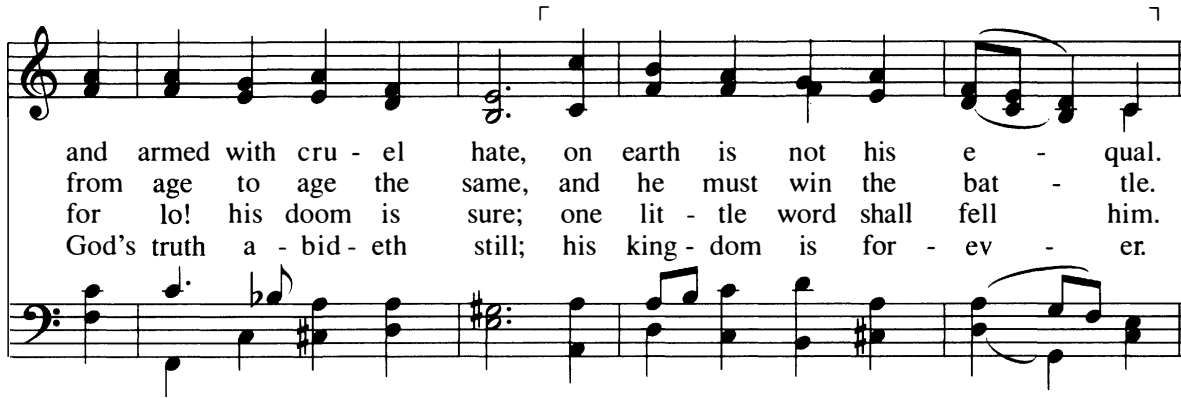
fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood of
los - ing; were not the right man on our side, the
do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be?
truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,



doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great;
Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:



Based on Psalm 46
Martin Luther, 1529
Tr. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1853

EIN' FESTE BURG 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7.
Martin Luther, 1529



Invocation

We ask God to be present with us as we worship Him.



Profession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**We declare what we believe about God —
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

ALL: I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

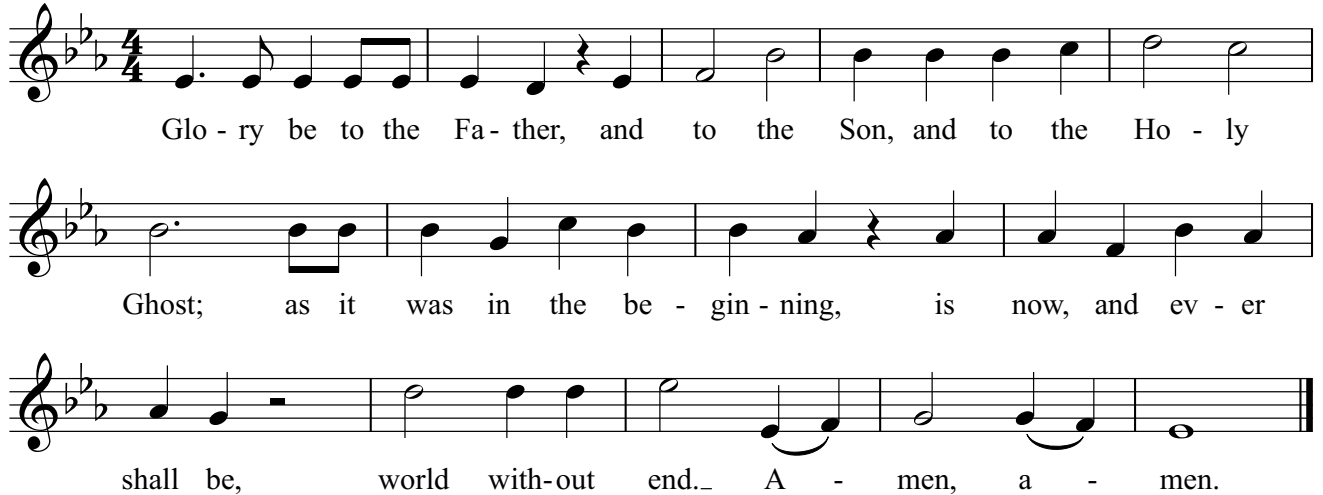
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen



Gloria Patri

We praise God for who He is.



2nd Cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)
Henry W. Greatorex, 1851



Corporate Confession of Sin: from Psalm 51

We confess our sins together as God's people.

ALL: Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.



Silent confession

Confess your own sins quietly to God.



Assurance of Pardon: from Psalm 31 and Galatians 4

God promises to forgive all those who trust in Jesus!

PASTOR: *The LORD our faithful God has redeemed us! He has seen our affliction; He has known the distress of our souls. When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.



Hymn of Assurance:

Jesus! What A Friend For Sinners #498 (vv.1-3, 5)

We sing that we are forgiven and held secure by God.

1. Je - sus! what a Friend for sin - ners! Je - sus! lov - er of my soul;
2. Je - sus! what a strength in weak - ness! Let me hide my - self in him;
3. Je - sus! what a help in sor - row! While the bil - lows o'er me roll,
4. Je - sus! what a guide and keep - er! While the tem - pest still is high,
5. Je - sus! I do now re - ceive him, more than all in him I find;

► friends may fail me, foes as - sail me, he, my Sav - ior, makes me whole.
► tempt - ed, tried, and some-times fail - ing, he, my strength, my vic - t'ry wins.
► e - ven when my heart is break - ing, he, my com - fort, helps my soul.
storms a - bout me, night o'er - takes me, he, my pi - lot, hears my cry.
► he hath grant - ed me for - give - ness, I am his, and he is mine.

REFRAIN

Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior! Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Friend!

Sav - ing, help - ing, keep - ing, lov - ing, he is with me to the end.



Scripture Reading: Luke 23:39-49

We hear God's word being read and thank him for it.

PASTOR: *This is the word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**



Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

The pastor prays for God's Church, locally and globally, then we pray the prayer Jesus taught His disciples.

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen



Offertory: In You Lord My Refuge Take

We give back to God a portion of what He has given us.



ENSEMBLE: In you Lord I refuge take
Let me not be put to shame
Turn your ear and quickly make
Safety for my trembling frame
You're a rock and fortress strong
I am lost and cannot see
For your name's sake lead me on
In your hands my soul redeem

My eyes weak with sorrow grow
And my body fills with grief
All my years pass with a groan
My strength fails my bones are weak
Those who see me turn to flee
My friends' eyes are filled with dread
Like a potter's broken dream
In their gaze a shade of death

But I trust you are my God
All my days are in your hands
Let your face upon me shine
Make me in your love to stand
Great the steadfast love you've stored
For the poor who refuge seek
In your presence gracious Lord
In your dwelling they find peace

When I cried in my alarm
I am cut off from your sight
Praise the Lord whose saving arm
Was my rescue and my light
Love the Lord all you his saints
You who in him refuge take
Though in darkness you may wait
All who hope in God are saved

Children's Worship (8:30 service only)



*Parents, please bring participating **children ages 4-1st grade** to meet their Worship leader in the Narthex during the following hymn. Children can be picked up downstairs in Room 13. They are also invited stay with us during the remainder of the service!*



Hymn of Preparation:

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

We praise God as we prepare to listen to His Word.

Dm A⁷ Dm A Dm A⁷ Dm A

1. Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bo - som fly,
2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on thee;
3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find;
4. Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

Dm A⁷ Dm A Dm C F C⁷ Dm A⁷ Dm

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:
leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!
raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:

F B^b F B^b C⁷ F C⁷ F Dm A Dm C F E⁷ Am

hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness;
thou of life the foun - tain art, free - ly let me take of thee;

B^b F Dm Gm A Dm A⁷ Dm 7

safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!
cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.
false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.
spring thou up with - in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.



Sermon: Psalm 31

Our Refuge in Distress (Pastor Noah)

We listen to God's Word preached to us.

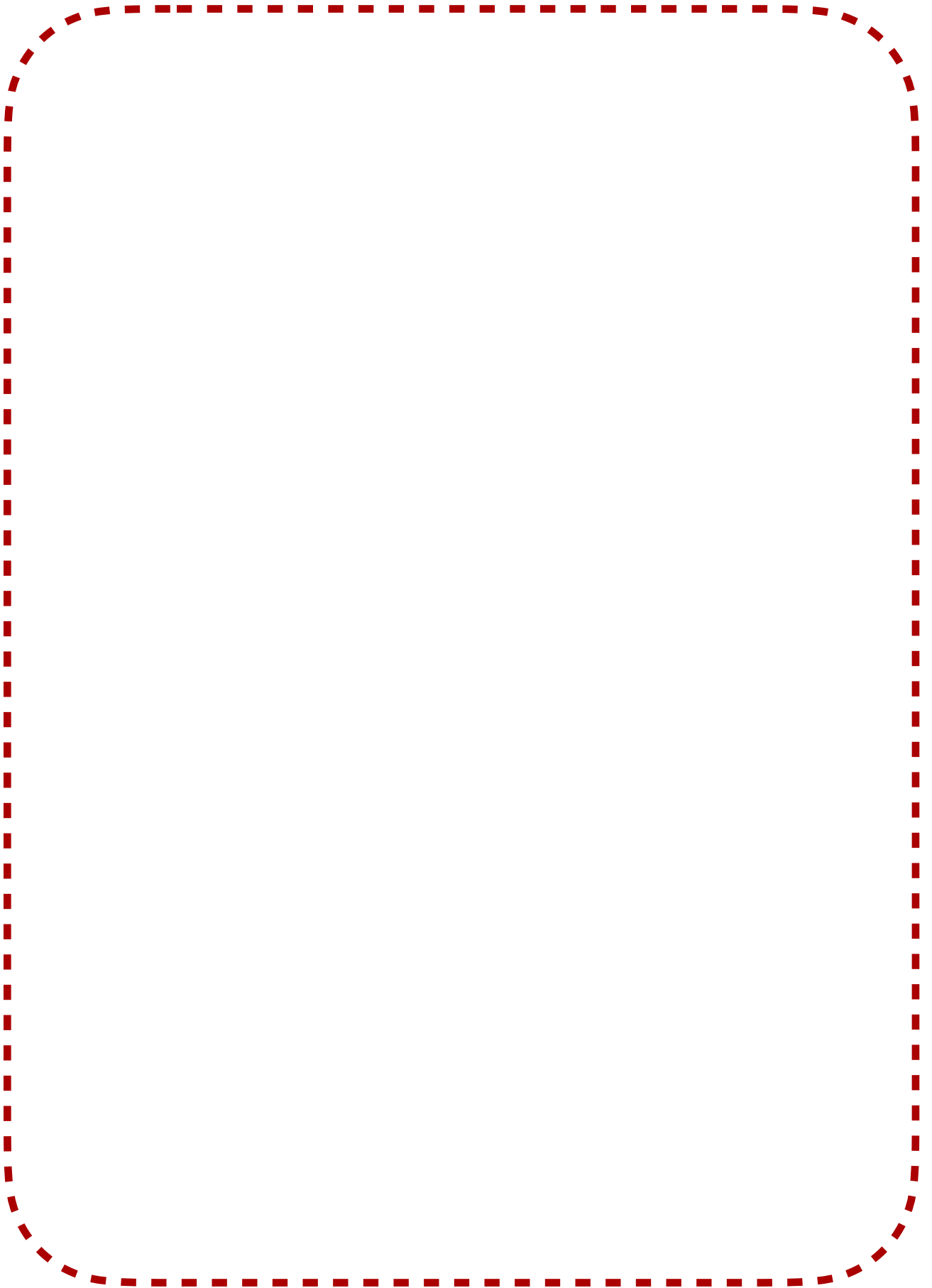
TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID.

- 31** In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me!
- 2 Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily!
Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!
- 3 For you are my rock and my fortress;
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;
- 4 you take me out of the net they have hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.
- 5 Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.
- 6 I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols,
but I trust in the LORD.
- 7 I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love,
because you have seen my affliction;
you have known the distress of my soul,
- 8 and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;
you have set my feet in a broad place.
- 9 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
my eye is wasted from grief;
my soul and my body also.
- 10 For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away.
- 11 Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach,
especially to my neighbors,
and an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.
- 12 I have been forgotten like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.

- 13 For I hear the whispering of many—
 terror on every side!—
 as they scheme together against me,
 as they plot to take my life.
- 14 But I trust in you, O LORD;
 I say, “You are my God.”
- 15 My times are in your hand;
 rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!
- 16 Make your face shine on your servant;
 save me in your steadfast love!
- 17 O LORD, let me not be put to shame, for I call upon you;
 let the wicked be put to shame;
 let them go silently to Sheol.
- 18 Let the lying lips be mute,
 which speak insolently against the righteous in pride and contempt.
- 19 Oh, how abundant is your goodness,
 which you have stored up for those who fear you
 and worked for those who take refuge in you,
 in the sight of the children of mankind!
- 20 In the cover of your presence you hide them from the plots of men;
 you store them in your shelter from the strife of tongues.
- 21 Blessed be the LORD,
 for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me
 when I was in a besieged city.
- 22 I had said in my alarm, “I am cut off from your sight.”
 But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy
 when I cried to you for help.
- 23 Love the LORD, all you his saints!
 The LORD preserves the faithful
 but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
- 24 Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
 all you who wait for the LORD!

Question for young worshipers:

Who in the New Testament quotes this Psalm?





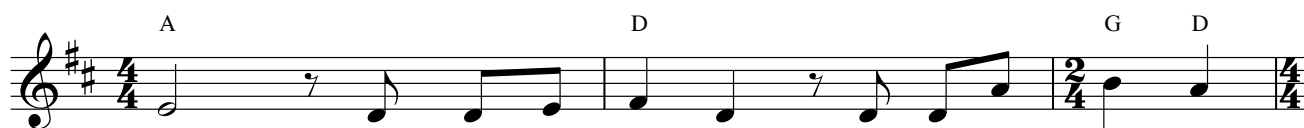
Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

Abide with Me: Fast Falls the Eventide

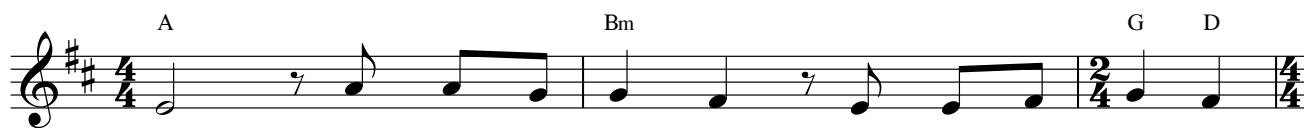
As Christians, we share this meal - reminding us of and strengthening our union with Christ and with one another - as Jesus told His disciples to do before He was crucified.



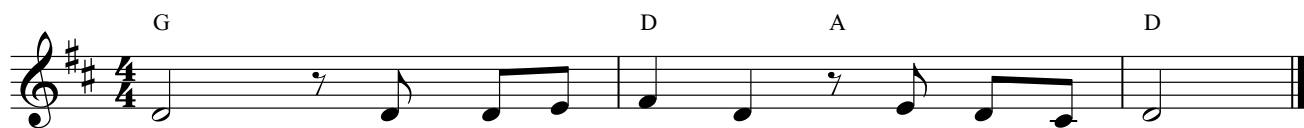
1. A - bide with me; _____ fast falls the e - ven -
2. Thou on my head, in ear - ly youth didst
3. I need Thy pres - ence, ev - 'ry pass - ing
4. I fear no foe, _____ with Thee at hand to
5. Hold Thou Thy cross, _____ be - fore my clos - ing



tide; The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord with me a -
 smile; And, though re - bel - lious, and per - verse mean -
 hour. What but Thy grace, can foil the tempt - er's
 bless; Ills have no weight, _____ tears lose their bit - ter -
 eyes; Shine through the gloom, and point me to the



bide. When oth - er help - ers, fail and com - forts
 while, Thou hast not left me, oft as I left
 pow'r? Who, like Thy - self, my guide and stay can
 ness. Where is thy sting, death? Where grave thy vic - to -
 skies. Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows



flee, Help of the help - less, a - bide with me.
 Thee, On to the close Lord, a - bide with me.
 be? Through cloud and sun - shine, a - bide with me.
 ry? I tri - umph still, _____ a - bide with me.
 flee; In life, in death, Lord, a - bide with me.

★ **Parents, if you think your child or children are ready to come to the table, please contact your fold elder or a pastor.**



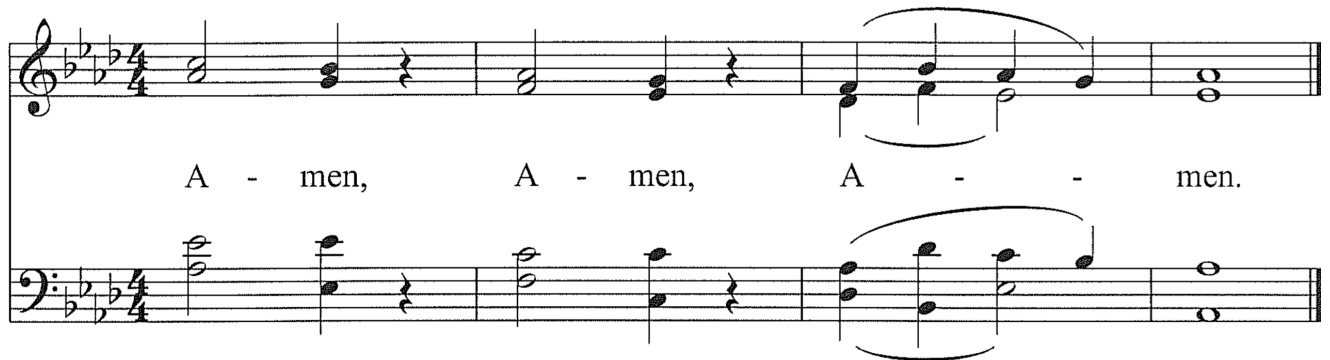
Benediction

The pastor proclaims a blessing on God's people



Threefold Amen

"Amen" means "Let it be so" or "It is true"



The Peace of Christ

We greet one another and are sent out on our way.

PASTOR:: *The peace of Christ be with you.*

ALL: **And also with you!**

Musicians – Evelyn Larter*, Guest Organist; Bekah Marsh, Piano & Vocals;
Dan Fager, Guitar & Vocals

* Scottish born composer Evelyn R. Larter has been the Director of Music at historic Deerfield Presbyterian Church in Southern New Jersey since 2003. An active performer on concert piano and organ, she has recorded three CDs and was the featured composer on a CD by a Steinway Artists piano trio in Taiwan. The recipient of several awards, her anthems and sacred instrumental music can be found in the catalogs of multiple leading publishers and on her own website, www.evelynlartermusic.com.

Unless noted otherwise, all Scripture notations are from The ESV Bible
[The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, © 2001 Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.
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Offertory (“In You Lord I Refuge Take”): Words & music by Wendell Kimbrough. © 2011 Kimbrough, Wendell. CCLI Song #7023040.

Communion Hymn (“Abide With Me”): Words by Henry Francis Lyte (PD), alt. Justin Smith. Music by Justin Smith. © 2007 Justin Smith Music. *RUF Hymnbook*. CCLI Song #6175058.

Join us for Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.!

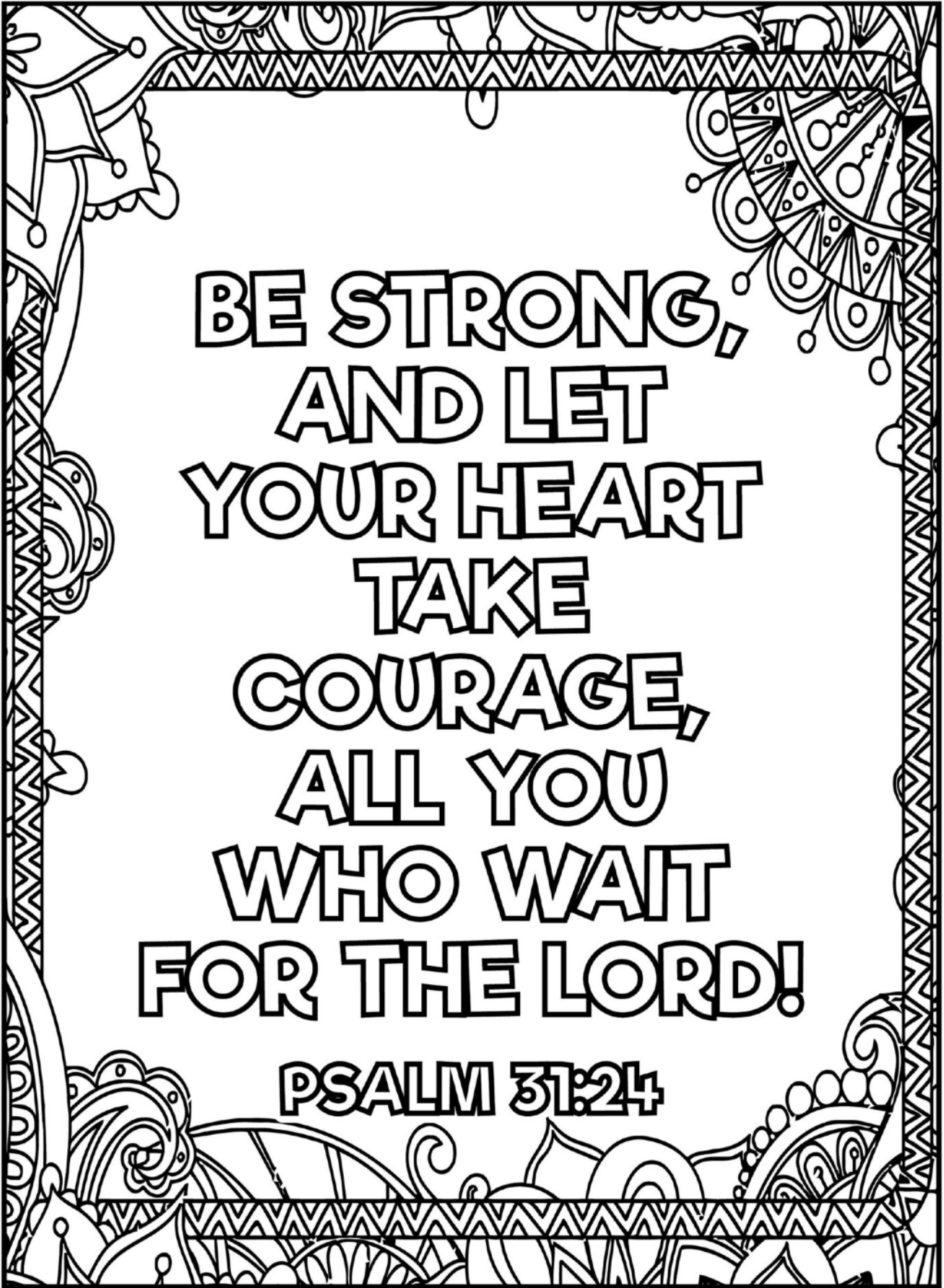
Check in downstairs at the Children's Ministry Desk to learn more!

Preparing for next week's worship service

We know that **training our children to worship** does not happen overnight. Especially for children who are not yet able to read, worship services can be difficult to follow, much less participate in! By practicing some of the elements of the service at home as a family during the week as you are able, your child(ren) can be prepared for what to say and sing along with the congregation.

- **PRAY:** We need the Lord's help as we train our children in worship. Even our best efforts to prepare them will fall flat without His aid!
- **MEMORIZE:** Work on memorizing **The Apostles' Creed** and **The Lord's Prayer** with your child(ren). We say these almost every week! In addition, we almost always include one or more of the following songs: the **Doxology**, the **Gloria Patri**, and the **Threefold Amen**.
- **PRACTICE:** You can scan the QR code to find a Spotify playlist with hymns commonly sung in our service and other worshipful hymns.





**BE STRONG,
AND LET
YOUR HEART
TAKE
COURAGE,
ALL YOU
WHO WAIT
FOR THE LORD!**

PSALM 31:24



By the grace of the Triune God, Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to form and send disciples with passion for God and compassion for people.

Statement of Faith

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), which believes that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible Word of God and holds to that system of doctrine summarized in the Westminster Confession of Faith & Catechisms.

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