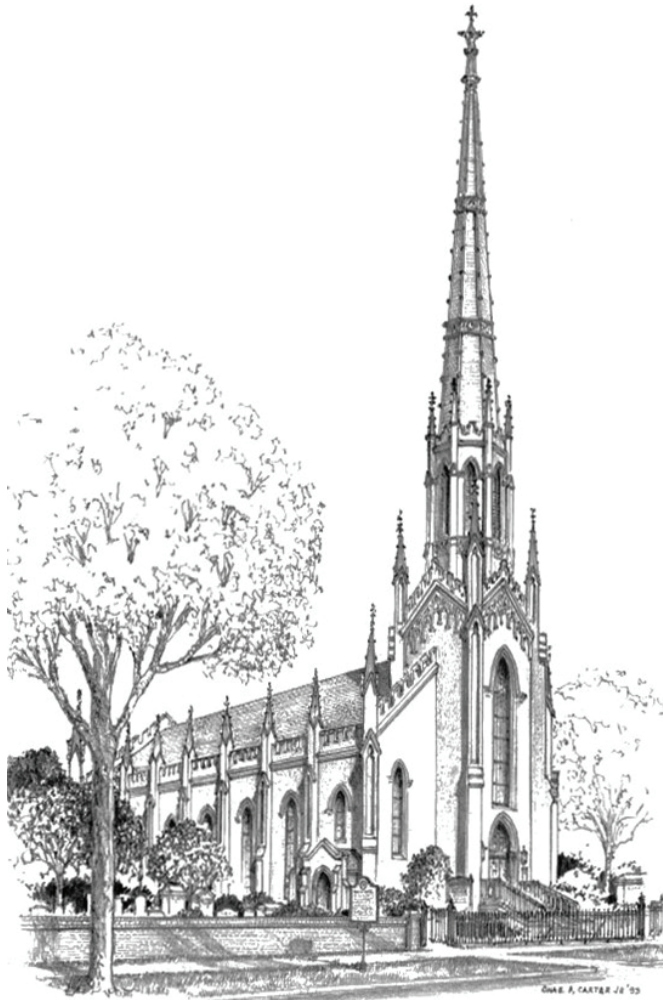


ESTABLISHED 1795

First Presbyterian Church



Lord's Day, September 20, 2026

8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

1324 Marion Street, Columbia, SC

DIVINE WORSHIP

8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*

2 PETER 3:18, ESV

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

VOLUNTARY *Psalm XIX*
Festive Trumpet Tune

Benedetto Marcello
David German

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Josh Squires (8:30 A.M.)
Rev. David Henderson (11:15 A.M.)

INTROIT *Be Thou My Vision*

Richard Peek

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art,
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always:
Thou and Thou only first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'ns sun!
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Primary Choir
Sally Tackett, director
The Junior Choir
Ann Forrest Bowers, director

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ **HYMN 100** *Holy, Holy, Holy!*

NICAEA

Please find the music on page 6 of your bulletin.

+ INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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, forever. Amen.

+ CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ GLORIA PATRI

LADY STREET

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to the Holy Spirit,
Binding all the church as one!
As it was in the beginning
As is now and e'er shall be,
World without end! Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON 8:30 A.M.

CATECHISM HYMN 478 8:30 A.M. *I Love to Tell the Story*

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, You have been righteous in all that has come upon us, for You have dealt faithfully and we are the ones who have acted wickedly. Our transgressions are multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us. We have sinned with our fathers; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedly. Yet act, O Lord, for Your own Name's sake. We remain children, tossed about by every wind, quick to speak and slow to love. Put to death in us what is earthly, and by the blood of Christ, who offered Himself without blemish to God, purge our consciences from dead and defiled works to serve the living God. Train us by Your grace to renounce ungodliness and to grow up in every way into Him who is our Head. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

(Colossians 1:21–22, ESV)

MORNING PRAYER

+ **HYMN 629** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

WHAT A FRIEND

Please find the music on page 7 of your bulletin.

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Your Servant I Will Be*

Mark Patterson

Your servant I will be, by the gift of grace you've given me.
How I long to live my life, O Lord, for Thee.

Though I am the least of these, the least among your people,
Your grace is alive in me, that the world may know your love.

Great are the works of the Lord; great is the mercy of Christ my Savior,
Who has redeemed me and fills me with joy all the days of my life.

I will live my life, O Lord, for Thee.

+ **DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(During the 11:15 a.m. service, K4 and K5 children may leave for Children's Church.
Parents should come for them in the Education Building, Room 107.)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 4:7–16, NASB95
(Please find the Scripture on page 9 of your bulletin.)

SERMON “Grow Up, Why Don’t You!”

Dr. Neil C. Stewart

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

+ **HYMN 519** *I Asked the Lord that I Might Grow*

ROCKINGHAM OLD

Please find the music on page 8 of your bulletin.

+ **BENEDICTION**

+ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** From *Psalm 139*

HIGHLAND CATHEDRAL

Search me, O God, search me and know my heart.
Try me, O God, my mind and spirit try.
Keep me from any path that gives Thee pain.
And lead me in the everlasting way.

POSTLUDE *Toccata on “Amazing Grace”*

J. Christopher Pardini

Lenora Jeffcoat, organ

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." Rev. 4:8

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

629

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Phil. 4:6

1. What a Friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3. Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged: take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer!

O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer.
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

I Asked the Lord That I Might Grow

1. I asked the Lord that I might grow in faith and
 2. 'Twas he who taught me thus to pray, and he, I
 3. I hoped that in some fa - vored hour at once he'd
 4. In - stead of this he made me feel the hid - den
 5. Yea more, with his own hand he seemed in - tent to

love and ev - 'ry grace; might more of his sal -
 trust, has an - swered pray'r, but it has been in -
 • an - swer my re - quest, and by his love's con -
 e - vils of my heart, and let the an - gry
 ag - gra - vate my woe, crossed all the fair de -

va - tion know, and seek more ear - nest - ly his face.
 such a way as al - most drove me to de - spair.
 • strain - ing pow'r sub - due my sins and give me rest.
 pow'rs of hell as - sault my soul in ev - 'ry part.
 signs I schemed, hum - bled my heart, and laid me low.

6. "Lord, why is this?" I, trembling, cried;
 "Wilt thou pursue thy worm to death?"
 "Tis in this way," the Lord replied,
 "I answer prayer for grace and faith.

7. "These inward trials I employ
 from self and pride to set thee free,
 and break thy schemes of earthly joy
 that thou may'st find thine all in me."

⁷ But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it says, "When He ascended on high, He led captive a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." ⁹ (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.) ¹¹ And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

SERMON NOTES

“Grow Up, Why Don’t You!”

Ephesians 4:7–16 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

JOIN US AT 6:00 P.M. FOR EVENING WORSHIP

Songs from the Far Country

“The Coronation You Might Have Missed”

Psalm 47 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

WORSHIP AT FIRST

Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service.

The Family Life Center is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask a deacon for a receiver.

Nurseries for children to the age of four are provided in the Education Building. A quiet room with a live video feed of the service is available in the Education Building, Room 113. There, mothers may attend to the needs of their children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

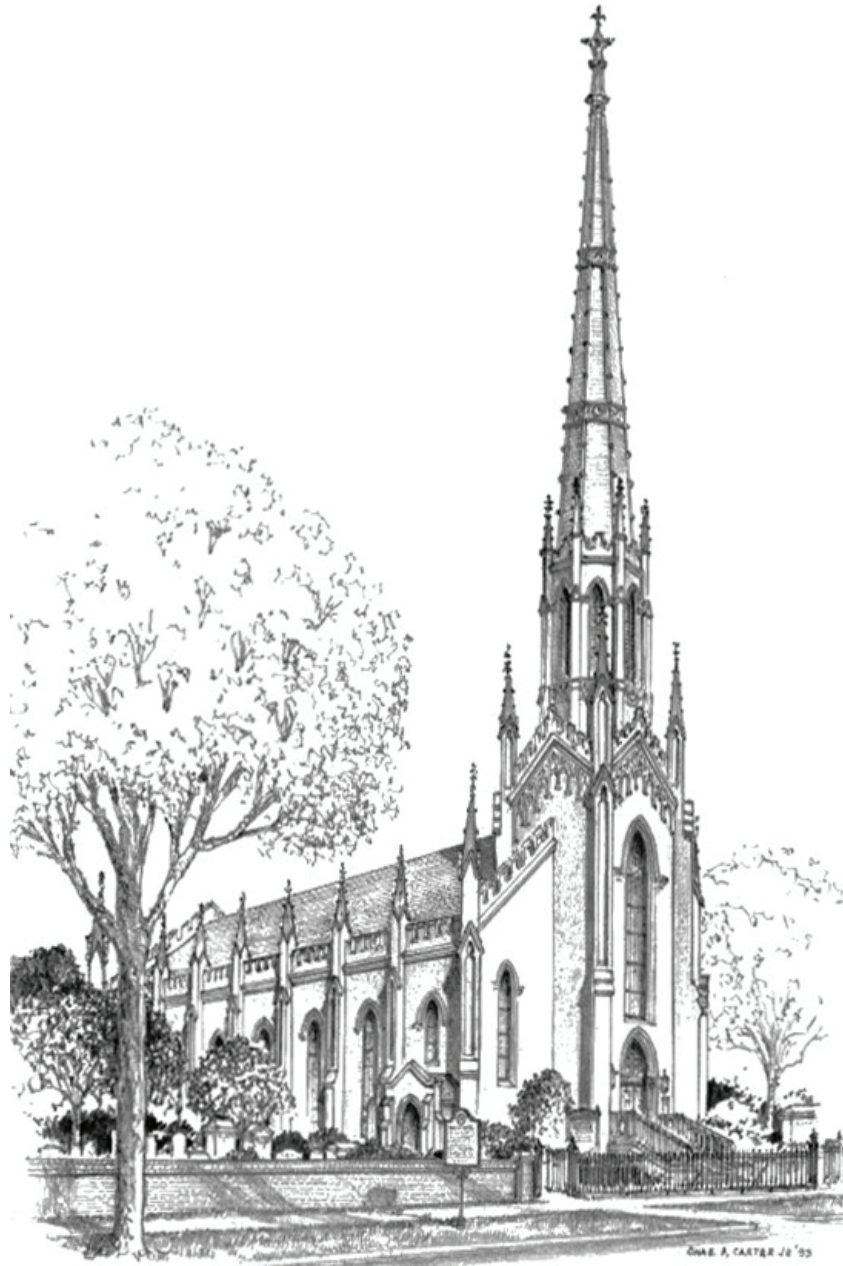
Commitment Sunday is **Sunday, September 27**. We will corporately make our pledge by placing pledge cards in the offering plate. If you are not able to join us for in-person worship, you may deliver your pledge card to The Bridge or simply mail it. There is also an option to make your pledge online through a confidential form on the church website at firstprescolumbia.org/pledge. Thank you for your generosity in the past and for what you will do in 2027.

Please join us for a **Chamber Music Concert** on **Thursday, October 1**, at 7:00 p.m. in Jackson Hall. First Presbyterian Church's own Joe Eller, professor of clarinet at the USC School of Music, will be joined by violinist Brandon Ironside and pianist Kristen Ironside, both faculty members at Bob Jones University, for an evening of chamber music.

For information on upcoming events, please visit firstprescolumbia.org/calendar.

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First Presbyterian Church



LORD'S DAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

1324 Marion Street, Columbia, SC

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To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.*

2 PETER 3:18, ESV

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

VOLUNTARY

Psalm XIX

Festive Trumpet Tune

Bendetto Marcello

David German

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Richard Peek

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Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always:
Thou and Thou only first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'ns sun!
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Primary Choir
Sally Tackett, director
The Junior Choir
Ann Forrest Bowers, director

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ **HYMN 100** *Holy, Holy, Holy!*

NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

+ **INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, which 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, forever. Amen.

+ **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ **GLORIA PATRI**

LADY STREET

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to the Holy Spirit,
Binding all the church as one!
As it was in the beginning
As is now and e'er shall be,
World without end! Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON 8:30 A.M.

CATECHISM HYMN 478 8:30 A.M.

I Love to Tell the Story

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, You have been righteous in all that has come upon us, for You have dealt faithfully and we are the ones who have acted wickedly. Our transgressions are multiplied before You, and our sins testify against us. We have sinned with our fathers; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedly. Yet act, O Lord, for Your own Name's sake. We remain children, tossed about by every wind, quick to speak and slow to love. Put to death in us what is earthly, and by the blood of Christ, who offered Himself without blemish to God, purge our consciences from dead and defiled works to serve the living God. Train us by Your grace to renounce ungodliness and to grow up in every way into Him who is our Head. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

(Colossians 1:21–22, ESV)

MORNING PRAYER

+ **HYMN 629** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* WHAT A FRIEND

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Your Servant I Will Be

Mark Patterson

Your servant I will be, by the gift of grace you've given me.
How I long to live my life, O Lord, for Thee.

Though I am the least of these, the least among your people,
Your grace is alive in me, that the world may know your love.

Great are the works of the Lord; great is the mercy of Christ my
Savior,
Who has redeemed me and fills me with joy all the days of my life.
I will live my life, O Lord, for Thee.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 4:7–16, NASB95

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SERMON

Dr. Neil C. Stewart

"Grow Up, Why Don't You!"

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

+ **HYMN 519** *I Asked the Lord that I Might Grow* ROCKINGHAM OLD

I asked the Lord that I might grow
In faith and love and ev'ry grace;
Might more of his salvation know,
And seek more earnestly his face.

'Twas he who taught me thus to pray,
And he, I trust, has answered pray'r,
But it has been in such a way
As almost drove me to despair.

I hoped that in some favored hour
At once he'd answer my request,
And by his love's constraining pow'r
Subdue my sins and give me rest.

Instead of this he made me feel
The hidden evils of my heart,
And let the angry pow'rs of hell
Assault my soul in ev'ry part.

Yea more, with his own hand he seemed
Intent to aggravate my woe,
Crossed all the fair designs I schemed,
Humbled my heart, and laid me low.

"Lord, why is this?" I, trembling, cried;
"Wilt thou pursue thy worm to death?"
"Tis in this way," the Lord replied,
"I answer prayer for grace and faith.

"These inward trials I employ
From self and pride to set thee free,
And break thy schemes of earthly joy
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+ **BENEDICTION**

+ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

From *Psalm 139*

HIGHLAND CATHEDRAL

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POSTLUDE *Toccata on “Amazing Grace”* J. Christopher Pardini

Lenora Jeffcoat, organ

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