

Service for the Lord's Day

Pledge Dedication Sunday

November 13, 2022

Westminster Presbyterian Church
400 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, Virginia
www.westminsterva.org · 434-293-3133



*W*elcome visitors, newcomers, and friends worshipping with us today! If you're interested in joining our church community, please speak to a pastor after worship or contact the church office, 434-293-3133. We hope you will worship with us again, whenever possible.

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Prelude *Wo Gott zum Haus nicht gibt sein Gunst* J. H. Ritz/G. F. Kauffmann

Welcome

◆ Call to Worship

The world belongs to God,

The earth and all its people.

How good it is

To dwell together in unity!

Love and faith come together;

Justice and peace hold hands.

Open our lips, O God,

And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

◆ Hymn 37

Let All Things Now Living

ASH GROVE

Call to Confession

*Let us be honest with God and each other as we speak our shortcomings plainly,
knowing that our creator hears us and will not turn away.*

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we have fallen short.

You call us to be bold, and we seek comfort.

You call us to love others, and we put ourselves first.

You call us to care deeply, and we choose to be numb.

We have chosen what is easy instead of what we know is right.

Forgive us.

Empower us that we may not grow weary.

Teach us that we may know what is right.

Silent Prayers

Sung Response

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

HS 69

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Beloved, we do not have to be perfect. Christ's love and God's grace cover us.
All God asks is that we love the Lord. This love changes us. It defines us.
In Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven and be at peace.*

Thanks be to God! Amen.

◆ Sung Response

GTG 583

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

◆ Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

God's Word to Us

A Time with Children and Youth (11:00)

First Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

NT p. 182

Carolyn Kelly (11:00)

Anthem (11:00)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Calvin Hampton
Helen Moak, clarinet

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.

There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this:
There is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.
But we make God's love too narrow by false limits of our own;
And we turn that love to strictness with a zeal God will not own.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
There is welcome for the sinner and more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Savior, there is healing in his blood.

Second Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

OT p. 654

Sermon

Following God's Blueprint

Lynne Clements

Responding to God's Word

Anthem (11:00)

Creation of Peace

Mark Miller

We'll build a land where we bind up the broken;
We'll build a land where the captives go free,
Where the oil of gladness dissolves all our mourning;
We'll build a promised land that can be.

We'll build a land where we bring good tidings
To all the afflicted and those who will mourn.
We'll give them garlands instead of ashes.
We'll build a land where peace is reborn!

O come build a land where children of Christ
Anointed by God then create peace,
Where justice shall flow down like the water,
And peace like an ever flowing stream!

We'll build a land where those who go hungry
Are given the food that makes a soul strong,
Restoring the balance to all of God's children.
Come build a land where all will belong!

Hallelujah! Peace flows down.

We'll build a land where cries of praises
Resound from spirits once faint and once weak,
Where like oaks of righteousness stand her people.
Come build a land, my people we seek!

Service of Commitment and Sharing Our Pledges
Invitation to Stewardship
A Litany of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Generous God, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise...
... as we offer our commitment to your Church in the coming year.*

**You have entrusted us with gifts — time, talent, energy, money—
and asked us to use them to build your kin-dom.**

**With thanks and praise, we respond to your call
and bring our pledges before you with anticipation and hope.**

◆ Hymn 301

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to bring forward your pledge card and offerings.

◆ Prayer of Dedication

*God of abundance, your goodness and mercy overflow. We stand in awe of all we have received.
Bless all in this community whose lives have been touched by your Spirit and who offered their
gift in response to your grace.*

**We pray that each one of us, and your whole Church,
may become more faithful to the call of service in Jesus Christ.**

May these pledges of our gifts and resources enable the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ to move forward through this congregation and the world.

And may we trust and hope in the abundant power of your Spirit within us to enable us to accomplish more than we can ask or imagine.

*To God be the glory in the church and in Jesus Christ to all generations, forever and ever.
Amen.*

- ◆ Hymn 712 **As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought** FOREST GREEN
- ◆ Charge and Benediction
- Postlude *Concerto del Signor Albinoni: Allegro* J. G. Walther

- ◆ Please stand, as you are able.

*The flowers today are given by Lin and Winston Harmon in memory of their parents,
Mr. and Mrs. Bayne Harmon, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Leet.*

What's Happening *at Westminster*

Sunday, November 13

Pledge Dedication Sunday

8:30 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Church School

11 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Noon UKirk and 20/30/40 CreW Bodo's Brunch at Common Grounds

12:15 p.m. Singers Rehearsal in the Choir Room

12:30 p.m. Session Meeting in the Library

Wednesday, November 16

6 p.m. 20/30/40 CreW PACEM Dinner Service

(Meet at Common Grounds at 5:45 p.m.)

7 p.m. 20/30/40 CreW Wednesday Wind-Down (off site)

Thursday, November 17

6:30 p.m. UKirk Ecumenical Friendsgiving Dinner at University Baptist

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room

Sunday, November 20

Reign of Christ

8:30 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Church School

11 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Noon UKirk and 20/30/40 CreW Bodo's Brunch at Common Grounds

12:15 p.m. Singers Rehearsal in the Choir Room

12:15 p.m. Deacons Meeting in the Upper Lounge

4 p.m. Westminster Organ Concert Series - Jonathan Schakel, harpsichord

37 Let All Things Now Living

G D G Am D

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks-giv - ing
 2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,

G C G D G

to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
 the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

G D G Am D

who fash-ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
 the hills and the moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun-tains,

G C G D G

by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.
 the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

Harmony G E Am D

God's ban-ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,
 We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;

G Em D A7 D

a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
 with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,

Written for an easy-to-sing folk melody familiar in England as well as Wales, this 20th-century North American text bears many resemblances to both Psalm 148 and the traditional canticle *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini* (Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord).

till shad-ows have van-ish-ed, all fear-ful-ness ban-ish-ed,
till all things now liv-ing u-nite in thanks-giv-ing:

as for-ward we trav-el from light in-to light.
to God in the high-est, ho-san-na and praise!

To Bless the Earth

(Psalm 65)

38

1 To bless the earth God sends us from
2 The seed by God pro-vid-ed is
3 God crowns the year with good-ness; the
4 With grain the fields are cov-ered; the

heaven's a-bun-dant store the wa-ters of the
sown o'er hill and plain, and then come gen-tle
earth God's mer-cy fills; the wil-der-ness is
flocks in pas-tures graze; all na-ture joins in

spring-time, en-rich-ing it once more.
show-ers to bless the spring-ing grain.
fruit-ful, and joy-ful are the hills.
sing-ing a joy-ful song of praise.

These four stanzas present a paraphrase of Psalm 65:9–13, a celebration of God's providential care, which in turn draws forth a song of praise from all creation. This text is set to an early 17th-century tune composed for an affirmative chorale text often used at funerals.

301

Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
C7 F C F B^b C Dm

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
F C F Dm7 Gm C

safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm

how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
Gm C F B^b

vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Although it was written for a church dedication, this text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshiping community.

Refrain

(D) (G) (F#7) (Bm) (Em) (Bm)
 F B^b A7 Dm Gm Dm

love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D) (A7)
 Am Gm F Gm C7 F B^b F (C7)

all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

When Hands Reach Out and 302 Fingers Trace

D7 G C G

1 When hands reach out and fin - gers trace the beau - ty
 2 When fin - gers spell and signs ex - press our prayer and
 3 When bro - ken bod - ies will not mend, we thank you,
 4 And when the ways we learn and grow are not the
 5 Your Spir - it gives us dif - fer - ing ways to serve you

Em Am7 D D7 G

of a loved one's face, we thank you, God, that
 praise and thank - ful - ness, we thank you, God, that
 God, for Christ our friend. In him, our heal - ing
 ways that oth - ers know, we thank you, God, that
 well and of - fer praise. When all are joined as

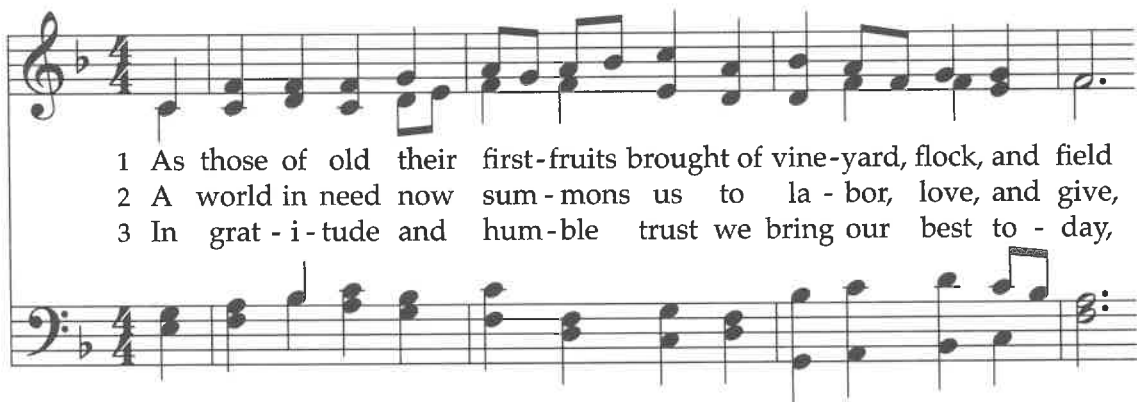
D7 Em C D D7 G

love re - lies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.
 hands can sing; you bless the si - lent songs we bring.
 can be - gin: he wel - comes all the wound - ed in.
 we have learned your love's a gift, and nev - er earned.
 one, we'll be your a - ble, strong com - mu - ni - ty.

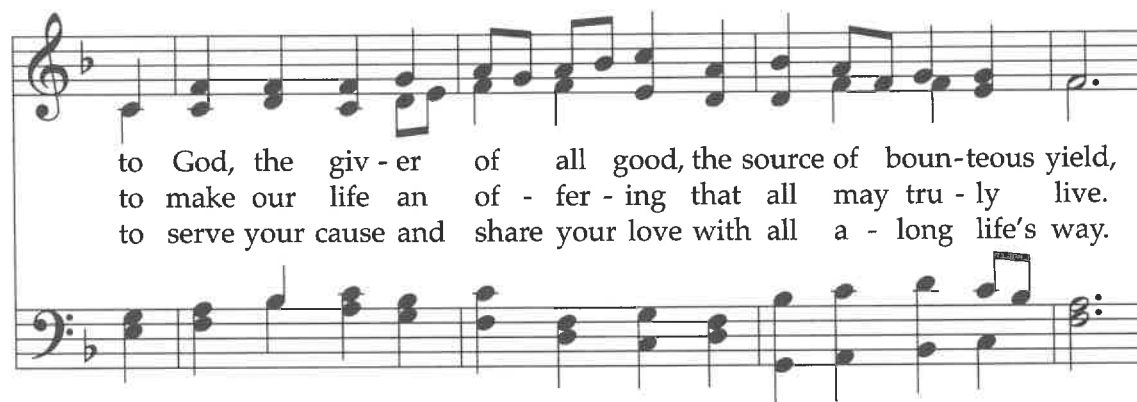
Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This hymn celebrates the breadth of human diversity and the variety of gifts and abilities through which God's people serve the church and world. Incorporating such diversity provides a vital witness to the hospitality of Christian community and to the inclusive nature of love.

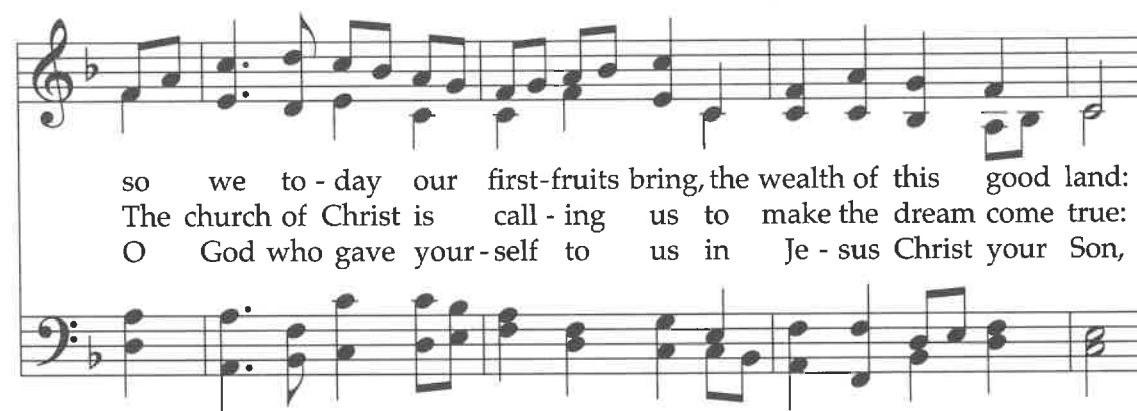
As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought 712



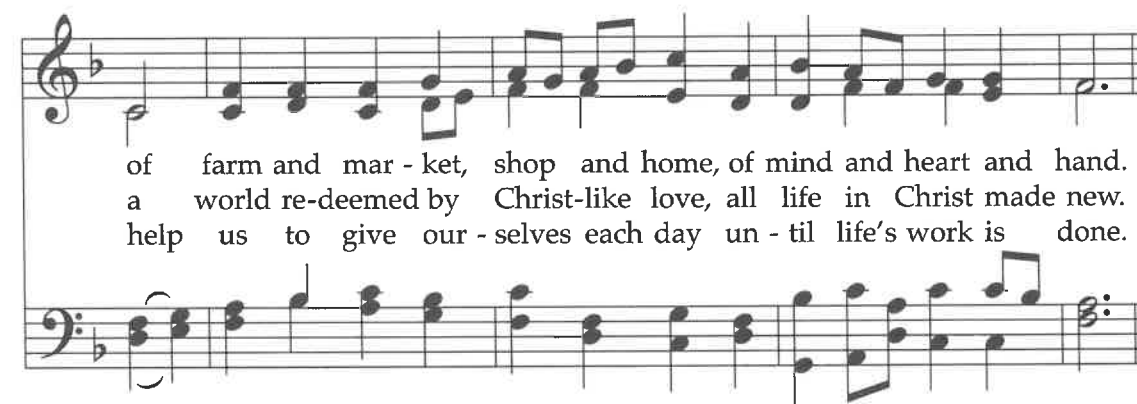
1 As those of old their first-fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum - mons us to la - bor, love, and give,
 3 In grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we bring our best to - day,



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun - teous yield,
 to make our life an of - fer - ing that all may tru - ly live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day our first-fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
 The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re - deemed by Christ - like love, all life in Christ made new.
 help us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

This text by a Presbyterian pastor in California expresses the conviction that being a good steward is an essential part of the Christian life, for self-giving is God's own nature. The tune is named for the village in Surrey where the arranger collected this tune in 1903.