



DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We live into
Jesus' inclusive call
to love every person,
care for creation,
and work for
God's justice.

Celebration of Worship
July 20th, 2025, 10:00 AM
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[Click Here to Watch](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share.*

*Prayer Requests will be collected during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Improvisation on Traditional Tunes

Words of Welcome

Rev. Jim Renfrew

Announcements

Sally Allison

Chime

Introit

Let Us Build a House

Marty Haugen

Please join in singing the refrain:

"All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place."

*Call to Worship

One: We are invited into this holy place, an intersection of the human and the divine, and welcomed to enjoy everything that God gives.

All: We come with joy and anticipation for God knows our every need.

One: Come, sisters and brothers, to experience the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

All: We come with hearts open to receive all that God gives.

One: We are welcomed with every facet of God's love displayed before our eyes.

All: Invited and welcomed! Amen!

*Invocation (*Luke 10:38*)

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.

*Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

(Verses 1, 4 and 5—Music may be found on page 8.)

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Dear God, You know that we come to this place from many different directions. Some of us were at the head of the line from the start. Some of us have had to work long and hard through many obstacles and distractions to find our way here. Some of us come out of curiosity, wondering what you might have to offer. Some of us come because nothing else has worked, and we are desperate. Some of us come with lots of love to share. Some of us come filled with worries and anxieties. Some of us are happy to be here, but frightened that we could be seized and deported without warning. Some of us are happy to be here, and Working hard to smooth the way for others. Some of us come, having been here countless times before. Some of us are here for the first time. How we got here is not as important as the fact that we are here, ready to receive from you like never before. Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Words of Grace

One: The baptism of the Holy Spirit prepares us to receive all that God offers in Jesus Christ. Purified, cleansed, eyes open, and hearts readied. It's hard to believe that the Spirit does such things in people like us!

All: But it's true. The Spirit has this power, and we are all included.

We're praying in Jesus' name. Amen.

Reading

Colossians 1:1-10

Time With Children and Youth

"Strings"

Music for Reflection

Deep in Our Hearts

Ron Klusmeier

*"Deep in our hearts there is a common vision; deep in our hearts there is a common song;
Deep in our hearts there is a common story, telling Creation that we are one.
Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose; deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
Deep in our hearts there is a sacred message, justice and peace in harmony.
Deep in our hearts there is a common longing; deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
Deep in our hearts there is a common current, flowing to freedom like a stream."*

Words: John Oldham

Reading

Luke 10:38-42

Message

"M & Ms"

Rev. James R. Renfrew

We Believe

All: We believe that every word of Jesus has power to heal, to uplift, and to change. We believe that a mustard seed, leaven, and a pearl capture the power of Jesus' teaching, that the greatest progress of Christian ministry and mission begins in the small. We believe that Jesus' words are not ancient history, but powerful levers of spiritual hope in the present moment. We believe that the world is not stuck, but able to respond, to grow, and to reach, in the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Hymn

God, How Can We Forgive

LEONE

(Music may be found on page 9.)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

† Prayer of Jesus (unison)

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music Adagio from Sonata in G Minor, BWV 1020

J.S. Bach

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bless these gifts, O God. Bless our hearts, O God. Bless our hope,
O God. Bless our faith, O God. Bless the new community that we are
building with you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Hymn

Light Dawns on a Weary World
(Music may be found on page 10.)

TEMPLE OF PEACE

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Improvisation on Ash Grove

*Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Preacher's Note: Do you have a favorite M&M color? Are you a worker, or a dreamer? What special role do you think God has equipped you for in the grand scheme of things? Let's chat after the service and compare notes! Not sure about which M&M you prefer? Let's talk about that, too!

Thank you to...

Guest Worship Leader: Rev. Jim Renfrew

Liturgist: Sally Allison

Musicians: Alan Jones, Tony Sun, and Lee Wright

Live Stream Team: Don Fairman, David McDowell, Jim Parks, Sally Allison

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Rev. James Renfrew retired from full-time ministry in 2022, having served congregations in Rochester (Christ Presbyterian Church, Grace Presbyterian Church), Bergen (Stone Church Presbyterian Church) and Byron (First Presbyterian Church). In 2015 he served as Presbytery Moderator. In retirement he serves as Parish Associate at Gates Presbyterian Church and frequently preaches in our other churches. Jim is a graduate of Severna Park High School (Maryland), Colgate University (Hamilton, NY) and Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. He gives credit to the Rev. Tom Heger of DUPC, among others, for showing a path that led him to ordained ministry. Jim and Robin live in Clarendon with their two cats, while their son's family lives in Rochester.



Coming up at Downtown United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, July 20

9:00AM Musicians Warm-up
9:45AM No Nursery this week
10:00AM Worship,
Rev. Jim Renfrew
10:45AM Refreshments, Sanctuary
11:00AM Safety Training-Shaw Rm

Sunday, July 27

9:00AM Musicians Warm-up
9:45AM Nursery
10:00AM Worship,
Rev. Rev. Sam Kinsman
11:00AM Refreshments, Sanctuary

Friday, July 25

3:00PM Space Use Mtg. via Zoom

Building Safety Training

With Cassandra Bocanegra
from the NY Immigration Coalition

Today after Worship

11:00 AM—12:30 PM

Shaw Room—2nd Floor

Guidelines for keeping everyone safe
And role play for all who want to volunteer.

For the Beauty of the Earth 14

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

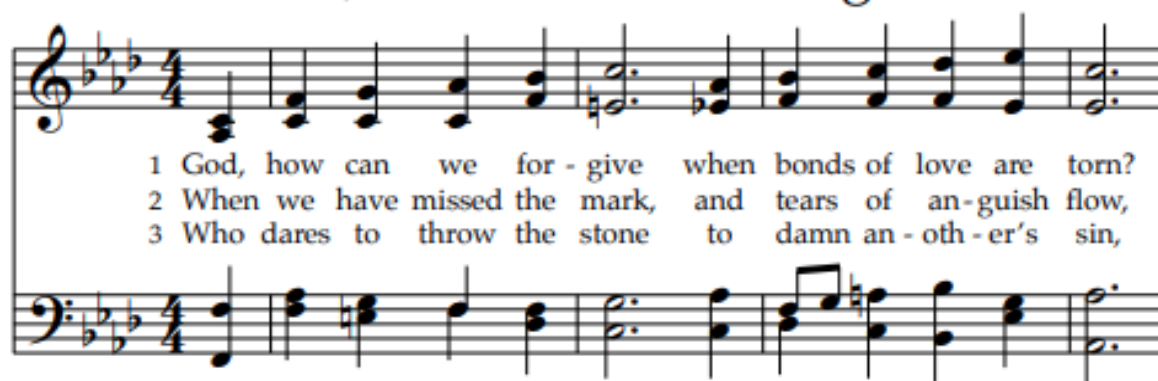
for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

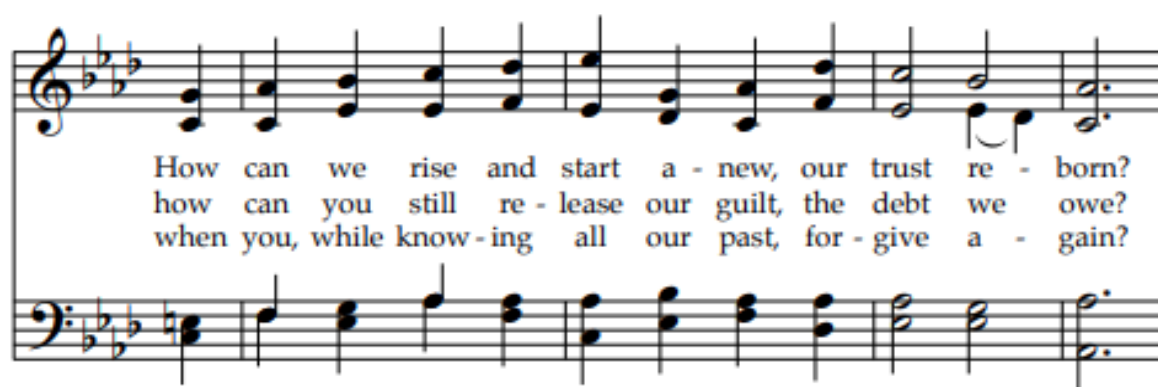
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

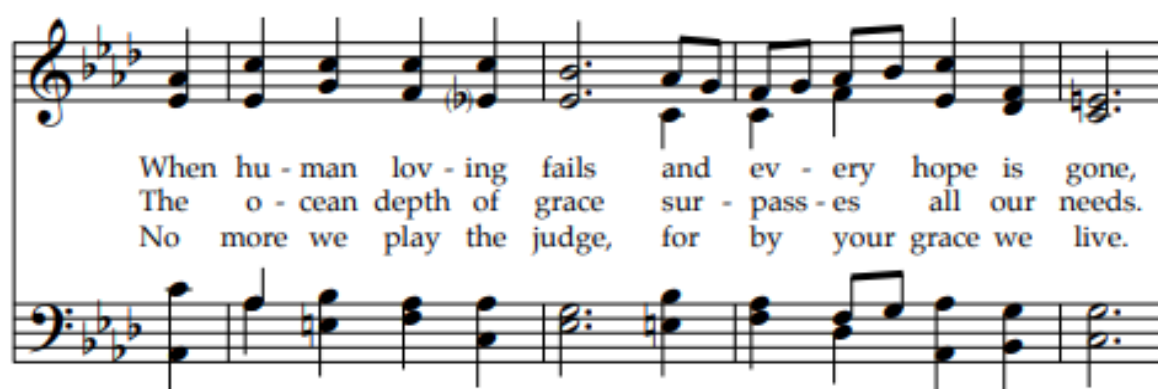
445 God, How Can We Forgive



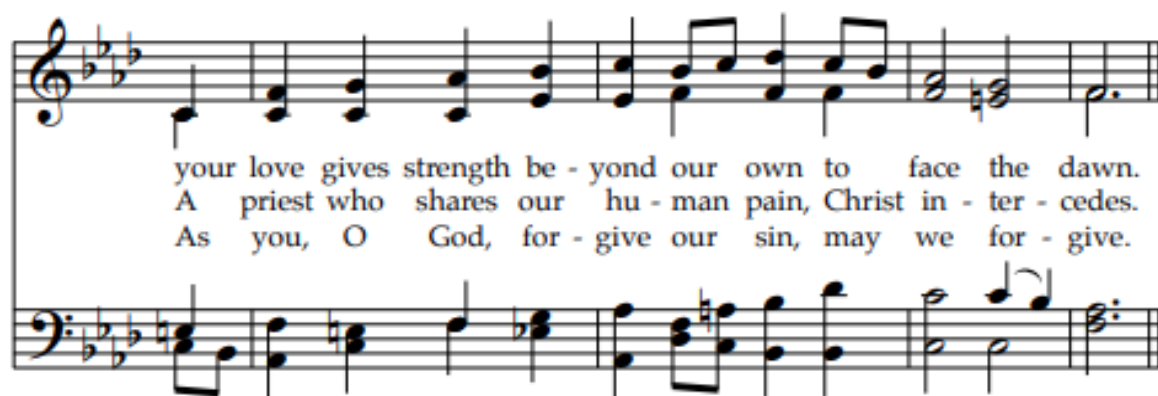
1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
 2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,
 3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,



How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
 how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
 when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?



When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
 The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
 No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.

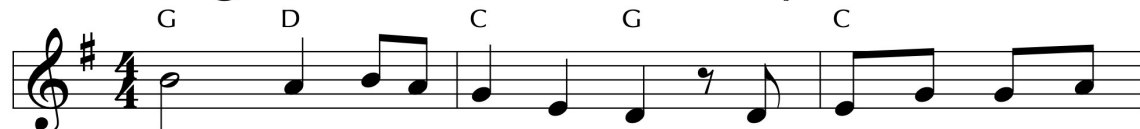


your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
 A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
 As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

This text reflects both the struggle to deal with a deep personal hurt and a keen awareness of biblical language and content. The opening line of stanza two, for example, draws on the root meaning of the Greek word for sin, and the beginning of stanza three alludes to John 8:3-8.

79 Light Dawns on a Weary World

G D C G C



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

G D G D



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

C G C G D G



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
 wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain G C G



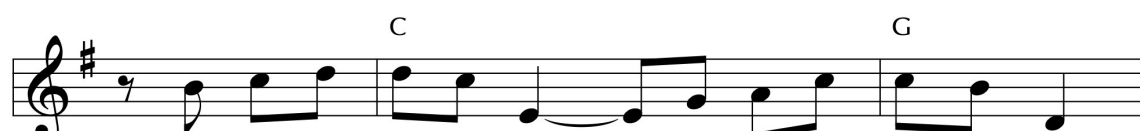
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;

G Em D C G



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!

C G



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,

G C D G



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

This is a hymn whose tune came first. Upon hearing it, the author recalled the watered garden of Isaiah 58:11, which in turn led to Isaiah 55:12, paraphrased in the refrain. Then came the stanzas, organized around their first two words: Light dawns, Love grows, Hope blooms.

We live into Jesus' inclusive call to love all people,
care for creation, and work for God's Justice.

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care is available for children up to 2nd grade either in the library or C-23 upstairs. Check with the receptionist or a greeter.

Sunday School is on summer recess.

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online, you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



† **We seek** to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position.

* **An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Joys and Concerns – If you have a joy or concern that you would like to lift in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request card (available by the worship bulletins) naming the person (s), situation or event, and any other information that you would like to be shared. The requests will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the Deacons.

The Downtown Church Staff

Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
David Mear, Business Manager
Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Penelope Paredes,
Nursery Coordinator
Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper
& Receptionist Coordinator

Maria Servian Dalmas,
Office Administrator
Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Michael Stagles, Maintenance Lead
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet - Clerks of Session
Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock - co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Val Fowler,
Moderator
Nancy Brown
John DeHority

Lea Kone
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper
Pat Tweet
Mary Rees

Deacons

Bob Carlisle
Andrea Folan
Helen Ganotis
Cindy Hamilton

Jacqueline Hancock
Elizabeth Katz
Stephen Lloyd
Grania Marcus
Sandy Morales

Becky Parks
Susan Richane
Kelley Sheils
Marilyn Terpening

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