



"Lift Off" by Nicolette Peñaranda | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

2nd Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

Wandering Heart: "Rescue me from danger"

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

I'd rather not need rescue.
I'd prefer a five-step plan
and a quick-fix solution.
I'd prefer stubborn insistence
over honest vulnerability,
because rescue requires
asking for help.
Rescue names
the rising water.
Rescue sees
the tired, treading feet.
Rescue feels
the swell of the wind
and the rain at a slant.
But when the floor falls out
and the world is on fire
and my small hands
cannot fix the hurt welling in me,
the prayer that slips out
is *rescue*
rescue
rescue me.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Solemn Melody

H. Walford Davis

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,
the courageous and the fearful,
the hungry and the hopeful,
the impatient and the reserved.
God welcomes the young and the old,
the poets and the prophets,
the faithful and the tired,
the curious and the convicted.
Wherever you are on your journey,
wherever your boat is at sea,
there is room for all to gather here.
This is God's house.
Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

*SONG OF PRAISE

The God of Abraham Praise

Hymnal, No. 49

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Let us pray together:

Gracious God,

There are days that threaten to swallow us,

days when the storms of life feel too big.

In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear,

spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.

Forgive us for doubting ourselves.

Forgive us for doubting you.

Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us.

With hope in our hearts we pray,

amen.

(Time of silent reflection)

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (v.1)

Hymnal, No. 169

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,

forgive our foolish ways;

reclothe us in our rightful mind,

in purer lives thy service find,

in deeper reverence, praise.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Larry Upton

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 22:23-31

Page No. 435

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

His Name Was Jesus

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14:22-33

Page No. 796

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rescue Me from Danger

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Into The Waters

Bulletin P. 7

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Col. 1:15-20

I believe in a God who moves toward me when storms rage.

I believe in a God who invites me to be brave.

I believe in a God whom the wind and waves obey.

I believe in a God who knows my name.

I believe in a God of love. I am not afraid.

Amen.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

To Ruling Elder: Trudy Beard

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

I Cor. 12:4-7, 27

There are varieties of gifts,
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit
to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of it.

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, p. 35

*Please pray the Lord's Prayer
in the language and wording most familiar to you.*

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing (v. 3) Hymnal, No. 475

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

Will You Come and Follow Me

Hymnal, No. 726

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Canticle

Gilbert Martin

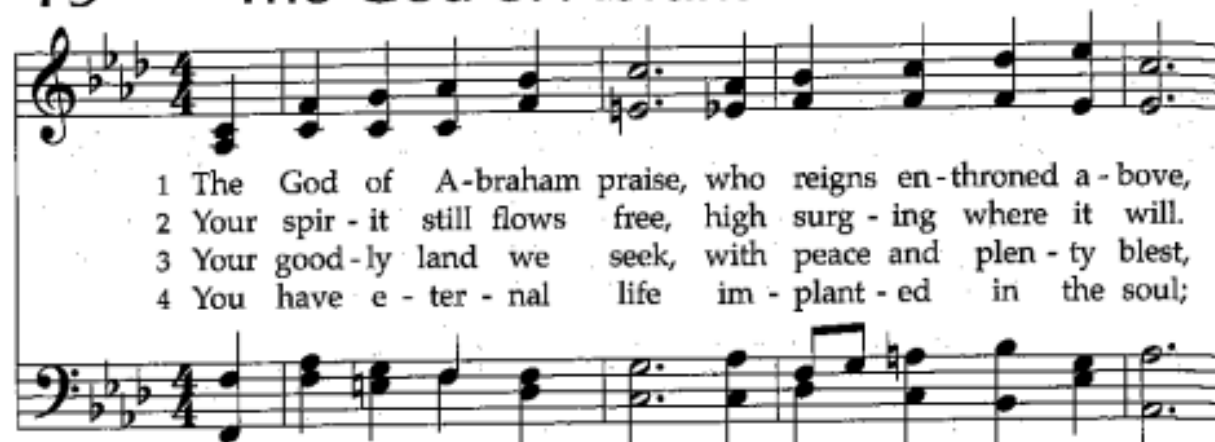
*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

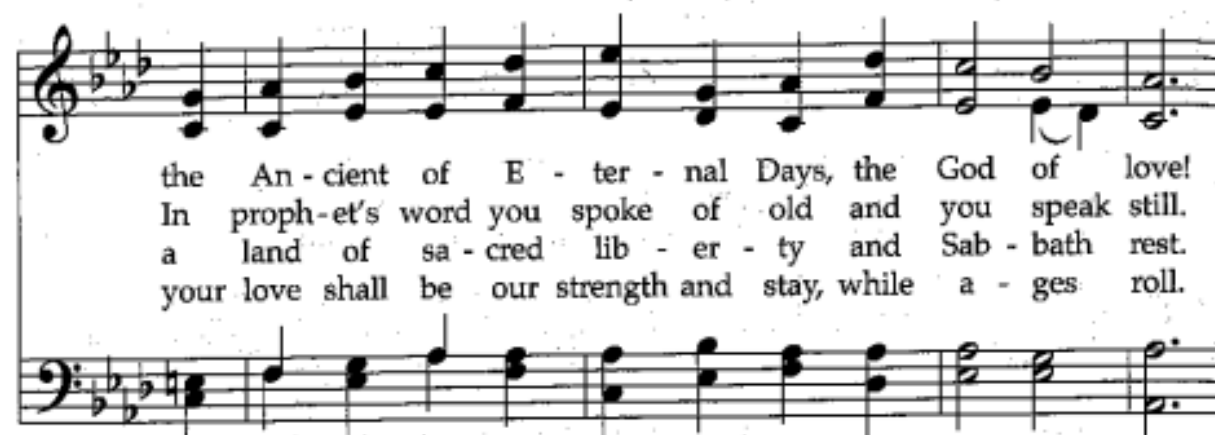
Lectionary Readings for March 3: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

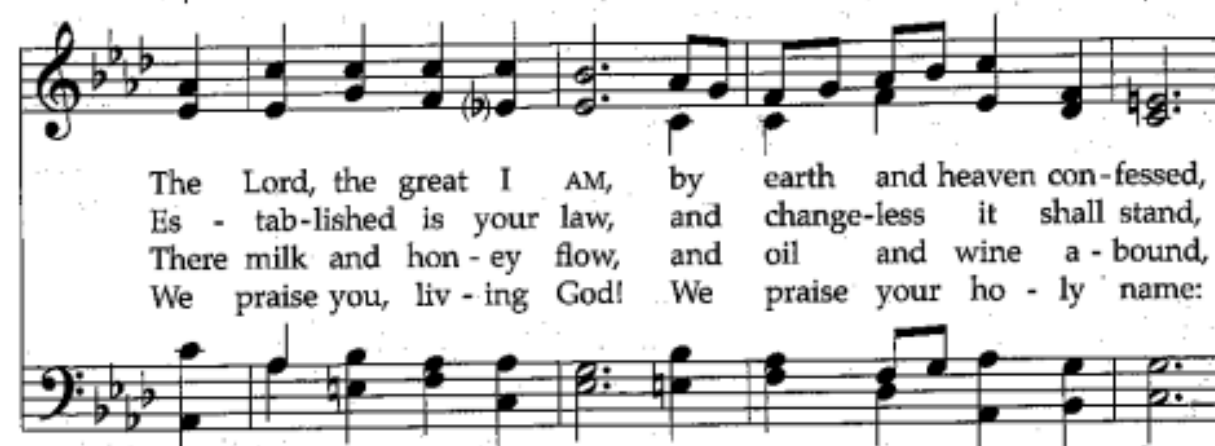
49 The God of Abraham Praise



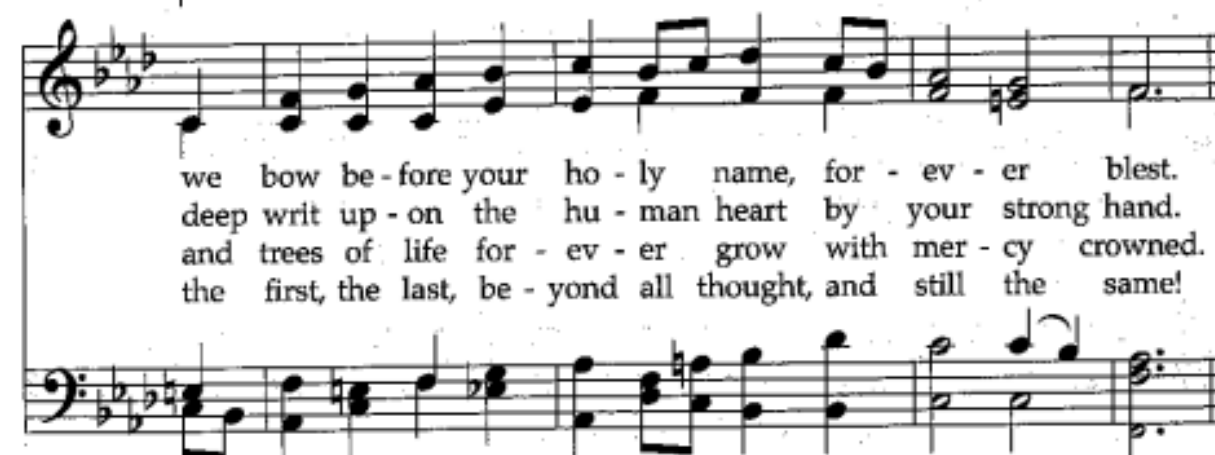
1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a-bove,
 2 Your spir-it still flows free, high surg-ing where it will.
 3 Your good-ly land we seek, with peace and plen-ty blest,
 4 You have e-ter-nal life im-plant-ed in the soul;



the An-cient of E-ter-nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa-cred lib-er-ty and Sab-bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a-ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es-tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon-ey flow, and oil and wine a-bound,
 We praise you, liv-ing God! We praise your ho-ly name:



we bow be-fore your ho-ly name, for-ev-er blest.
 deep writ up-on the hu-man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for-ev-er grow with mer-cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be-yond all thought, and still the same!

Into the Waters

HERZLIEBSTER JESU 11.11.11.5

Words by Anna Strickland, 2023

Music by Johann Crüger, 1640

In - to the wa - ters, ti - mid and un - stead - y Bare feed find
But then the winds shift and I let my gaze break Fear starts to
Safe in the boat I won - der where the fault lies Was it the
Grace for the jour - ney, grace for all my fail - ings Grace when I'm

5
pur - chase in the wa - ter's ed - dies Eyes fixed on Je - sus
drag me un - der - neath the lake's waves In my dis - tress I
storm or my own reck - less de - sire To have con - trol or
sink - ing, grace when storms as - sail me Faith in my - self and

10
while the storm is ra - ging And waves are break - ing
cry out to my Sa - vior, "Save me from dan - ger!"
prove my - self as a - ble Ra - ther than faith - ful
faith in God's pro - vi - sion Not my am - bi - tion

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726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Bb F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
Gm7 Bb Am7 Bb Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Bb F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.