



NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 10, 2025

Preparation for Worship

*God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you,
and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory
and worship you in spirit and truth. Amen*

Voluntary

Chorale Trio on "Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr"
BWV 664

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Introit

Come and Worship the Lord

Hal H. Hopson
(1933-2025)

Come and worship the Lord our God.
Alleluia.
Praise God on the holy mountain.
Psalm 99:9

✠ Opening Sentences

✠ Hymn 32 [\(see page 9\)](#)

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

✠ Prayer of Confession

God of perfect love,
you continually bring forth life,
transforming sadness to joy,
and despair to hope.
We are weak, but you are strong.
Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true.
We are seldom right, but you are never wrong.
Forgive us, redeem us, transform us.
Take away the sin that burdens us,
and restore us to the people you would have us be,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

silent prayer

✦ **Response** *(sung twice)*

Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall
be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

TEXT and MUSIC: John L. Bell, 1995

Text and music © 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group (WGRG), Iona Community (administered by GIA Publications, Inc.)

TAKE ME AS I AM
7.7.7.4.

✦ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Believe the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

✦ **Response**

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise
God, all crea - tures high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia! Praise God in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre -
a - tor, Word, and Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

✦ **The Peace**

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

Conversation with Children

Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 100.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

O.T. pgs. 630-631

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem*The Lord Is My Light*

Justin Langham

The Lord is my light and my salvation.
 Whom shall I fear?
 The Lord is the strength of my life,
 Of whom shall I be afraid?

Thy wicked enemies stumble and fall.
 If hosts should encamp against me,
 My heart shall not fear!

Adap. Psalm 27:1-3

Sermon

True or False

John W. Wurster

silence and stillness✠ **Hymn 739** ([see page 10](#))*O for a Closer Walk with God*

CAITHNESS

✠ **Affirmation of Faith***The Apostles' Creed*

Do you believe in God?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come
 to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Prayers of the People**The Lord's Prayer**

**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 forever. Amen.**

Offering

Gifts may be given any time at saintphilip.net

Offertory

Die Seele ruht in Jesu Händen (excerpt)
BWV 127/3

J. S. Bach

*Die Seele ruht in Jesu Händen,
Wenn Erde diesen Leib bedeckt.
Ach ruft mich bald, ihr Sterbeglocken,
Ich bin zum Sterben unerschrocken,
Weil mich mein Jesus wieder weckt.*

[In the “sleep of death,”] the soul will rest in Jesus’[eternal] hands,
Ah, summon me soon, you death bells;
I am unafraid of dying,
Because [at the end time] my Jesus will resurrect me [in a spiritual body].

Unknown
Transl. Michael Marissen and Daniel R. Melamed

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty and merciful God,
from whom comes all that is good,
**We praise you for your goodness that has created us,
your patience that has borne with us,
and your love that has redeemed us.
Help us to love you,
and to be thankful for all of your gifts
by serving you and delighting to do your will,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ Hymn 53 [\(see page 11\)](#)

O God, Who Gives Us Life

NOEL

✠ Charge and Blessing

Please be seated in silence for the closing voluntary, or kindly depart quietly.

Voluntary

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr
BWV 715

J. S. Bach

*Join us in the Gathering Area after worship for a reception
celebrating Lorrie Castle's ten years of service as office manager at St. Philip.*

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | John Wurster

Liturgist

Rhonda Sands

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | Cindy Judson, Diana Weiss, & Lee Ardell, handbells | St. Philip Choir
Julia Fox, soprano | Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers on the chancel are given today by Jane Larkin to the glory of God and in memory of Lee Larkin and in honor of all the August birthdays.

The flowers in the Gathering Area are given by Joyce Fox to the glory of God and in celebration of husband David Fox's 90th birthday.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Isaiah 1:1, 10–20 – *Wash yourselves clean; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice.*
- Psalm 50:1–8, 22–23 – *God speaks and summons the earth: Gather to me my faithful ones!*
- Genesis 15:1–6 – *God promises Abram many descendants; Abram believes the Lord.*
- Psalm 33:12–22 – *Happy are those whose God is the Lord; God is our help and hope.*
- Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16 – *Faith is the assurance of things hoped for; Abraham is an example.*
- Luke 12:32–40 – *Where your treasure is, there is your heart also; be alert and ready.*

MUSIC NOTES

Today's **organ voluntaries** are both settings of the German chorale *Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr*, ("All Glory Be to God on High") an appropriate sentiment for the Sunday following the Feast of the Transfiguration. At the opening of our service we hear Bach's paraphrase of the hymn melody in a whirling trio (BWV 664), with the tune finally entering in slow notes in the bass at the very end. His *organo pleno* arrangement (BWV 715), in contrast, presents the chorale tune as it might accompany congregational singing, with some elaborate organ interludes between each phrase.

Composer and fellow Texan Hal Hopson, who passed away just weeks ago at age 92, has long been recognized as a prolific contributor of church music, penning over 3,000 published works spanning nearly every musical form in church music. *Come and Worship the Lord* is taken from his collection of choral introits including bells, each paired with certain occasions in the church calendar—today's selection commemorates Transfiguration Sunday.

Our **anthem** examines the opening passage from Psalm 27, in which David proclaims his faith in the Lord as his light and strength in the face of darkness and evil. In this three-part setting, the "light" is represented by a driving rhythmic texture and confident melody, which returns in a higher key after overcoming a short contrasting middle section.

Originally written for the last Sunday before Lent in 1725, *Herr Jesu Christ, wahr' Mensch und Gott* ("Lord Jesus Christ, true Man and God"), BWV 127 highlights the imagery of Jesus as both human and divine proclaiming a rooted faith in eternal life through Jesus' promise of the resurrection.

Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

NEW CURRICULUM STUDY GUIDE FOR 2025 -2026!

We will have the first lesson from our new bible study at the fall luncheon on **Sept. 21**. Our study for this year is based on the book "Short Stories by Jesus- The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi" by Amy Jill Levine.

You have several options for obtaining a copy of this book.

- The book is also available from Bookshop.org.
- The book is available from Amazon in a paperback book, an e-book or an audio book. This book is not available in large print.
- We will be placing a bulk order. Beginning **today** we will have a table in the Gathering Area and you can sign up and pay to be included in the bulk order. The price for the bulk order book is \$15. There will be no charge for shipping. You can also call the Church Office (713-622-4807) to place your order, email welcome@saintphilip.net or visit saintphilip.net click on Make a contribution and choose the PW Study Book Fund.

FALL LUNCHEON COMMITTEE

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the fall luncheon on **September 21**. We need people to help plan, sell tickets in the Gathering Area, set up table decorations, clean up, etc. We also need some people to help provide desserts such as cookies, etc. If you would like to help out you can call the Church Office (713-622-4807) to be added to the list or you can email : sleonard1900@gmail.com or meghansankowski@hotmail.com.

IN OUR PRAYERS

The family of Nan Schissler upon her death. A memorial service will be held August 16 at 11:00 a.m.

St. Philippians and their families – Marcia James; Judith Crane; Jane Larkin; Joy Maguire; Stewart Coffman; Bonnie Moore; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Charlotte Kibler; Carolyn Vestal; Diane Clarke; Barbara Cavanaugh; Mary Herlitz; Dick Nunn; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebrey; Shannon Butler – sister of Amy Morriss; JoAnn Moss-Ayres – mother of Casey Lambright; John Palisin – brother of Peg Palisin; Kathy Bailey and family – sister of Peg Palisin; Jo Hadley Smith – cousin of William Rowe; Katie Forbes – daughter of Marise Robbins-Forbes; Jacqui – cousin of Angelina Fonseca-Grewal; Terese Murphy – cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine. Lind Butler (wife of Bill Connolly) and her family in Israel.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; Carolyn Keeble; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Jan Ostendorf; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians – Mary Ann Thomas; the family of Peter Tyler friend of Roderick James; Erin McDougal – friend of Kate Burkart; Elaine Ende – friend of Beth Atkinson; Marianne Keeswood – friend of Kate Burkart; Al & Kathleen Wiesenthal – friends of Pam Keever; Audrey Eubank Harris, Jennifer McCrea, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte, friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash – friend of Jane Cooper; Mary Watters and Mindy Cooper-Smith – friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rowe; Patty Ryan and Tom Barnett – friends of Robin and Gary Willis; Jackie Janacek, Joyce Freudenberg – friends of Stephen Paine; and Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email:

deacons@saintphilip.net

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES ARE ON RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 7

Visit our website at saintphilip.net to see the classes we offer in the fall.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP – Social Justice Study Group - This group meets by zoom on first Monday nights, 7-8 p.m., to discuss social justice issues of our day (racism, Christian Nationalism, immigration, etc.) within the context of our faith. Interested persons who want to be added to our mailing list can contact Sara Jean Jackson: sjj10223@gmail.com.

LAMBETH STUDY – Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 PM via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan at: keatan@saintphilip.net.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – On recess until further notice. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to: john@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. Please watch your email for details on the next meeting on **Aug. 14** at 7:00 p.m. This will be a social gathering. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at:

nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP – On recess until **Sept. 12**. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at: ggardne148@aol.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women (PW) study year has ended for this year. We look forward to seeing you again in September. Save **Sept. 21** on your calendar for the PW All Circle Luncheon after worship. If you would like to join a circle or know more about PW email:

welcome@saintphilip.net

MAHJONG ANYONE?


St. Philippians are invited to play Mahjong on Friday mornings from 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. at St. Philip in the Choir Lobby in Administration Bldg. We are interested in substitutes with the possibility of forming more sets if there is enough interest. If you're interested in playing Mahjong sometimes or often or in learning how to play, text Judith Hiott at 832-277-8676.

PEACEMAKING & SOCIAL JUSTICE PRESENTS 5TH SUNDAY

JOIN US FOR A GREEN EVENT: ELECTRONICS RECYCLING & COMPOSTING!

Join us for a special event hosted by St. Philip's Earth Care Team, focusing on electronics recycling and composting. On Saturday, **Aug. 30**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and Sunday, **Aug. 31**, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., drop off your old electronics at the porte-cochère by the Sanctuary.

Then, on Sunday, **Aug. 31**, after worship, attend a composting presentation in Room 201 featuring the organization Zero Waste to learn how to turn organic waste into nutrient-rich soil. This event is a wonderful opportunity to care for God's creation, reduce waste, and connect with other St. Philippians and friends. Light refreshments provided. All are welcome! For more information, check out the August edition of the *Philip-Eye*. Light bites provided.



**PEACEMAKING
& SOCIAL JUSTICE
OPEN HOUSE**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
FOLLOWING WORSHIP | RM 205

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT WITH MEMBERS
OF THE COMMITTEE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR
MINISTRIES AND HOW WE ARE STRIVING TO
CREATE JUSTICE.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DENISE WILBORN
AT DWILBORN55@GMAIL.COM

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER

On various Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m., youth of St. Philip set up packing lines in the Sandra and James Cooper KAH Packing Facility, located off the Dining Room at the back of our property. Youth teach participants the process for scooping ingredients, weighing the bags, and sealing them for delivery to hungry children in Houston. Our youth invite the congregation the chance to pack twice a month, complete schedule on the website. Please check your calendars and join us from 9:30–10:30 a.m. on Aug. 24. RSVP to Keatan at keatan@saintphilip.net.

ENNEAGRAM—NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL

In September we will begin a new church school class on the Enneagram. You may wonder what that is, and why we are offering this class at St. Philip. The Enneagram is a “power tool” for self-awareness, compassion, leadership and personal development. But the Enneagram is old. It has roots in several wisdom traditions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Seven of the nine Enneagram types are associated with the “capital” or “deadly” sins which originated with the Desert Fathers. It was used in monastic circles as a guide for spiritual direction. But today it is taught as a system of looking at nine distinct human personality patterns.

Rev. Holly Heuer, who worships here at St. Philip will be teaching the class. She is a certified instructor and has taught the Enneagram widely in church settings. She uses the Enneagram in her spiritual direction practice and constantly in her daily life. She believes that it is one of the best maps for knowing ourselves and moving towards our greatest potential.

The aim of the class is to develop self-awareness and self-knowledge through the practice of presence. That is, being aware in each moment of the presence of God. No prior experience is necessary, only a willing and curious spirit. If you think you might attend the class, Holly will share a bibliography of online resources, so that you can get acquainted with the Enneagram. And if you are interested in identifying your “type pattern,” she is happy to chat with you in person or over zoom. You can contact her at: hollyheuer@ecentral.com.

The class will be held on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in Room 202, beginning **September 14**.



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at saintphilip.net.

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST,
we seek to be an inclusive,
grace-filled community,
engaging the world with open minds,
willing hands and generous hearts.

WE LONG
for deeper faith,
vibrant hope
and boundless love
for everyone, every day, everywhere.

Thank you for joining us today! We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. **Children of all ages** are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available throughout the morning from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery has returned to the Education Bldg. and can be accessed from the hall off the Gathering Area on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

A Hearing Loop is installed within the sanctuary. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil, please activate your “T switch” to hear the worship service most clearly. If you need assistance with hearing the service clearly and do not have a t-coil equipped hearing aid, please ask an usher for wireless headphones. **LARGE PRINT COPIES OF TODAY’S BULLETINS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.**

Connect with St. Philip through saintphilip.net and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to lorrie@saintphilip.net.

If you are interested in joining St. Philip Presbyterian Church by profession of faith, by reaffirming your faith, or by transferring your membership, please speak with one of the ministers today or call the church office during the week. **The Session meets the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 worship service in the Library for the purpose of receiving new members.**

Worship with us, whenever, wherever. Our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service is live-streamed at saintphilip.net. Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

Contributions, pledge payments, communion gifts and other donations to support the Church can be made anytime through our website, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056. To make stock contributions contact Denise Ferrell at denise@saintphilip.net.



St. Philip Day School is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high-quality childcare at no cost to low-income families. To support the school, **please make all contributions directly to St. Philip Day School**, rather than to St. Philip Presbyterian Church. If you wish to make a contribution in the future, please make checks payable to “St. Philip DAY SCHOOL” You are welcome to leave in the church offering plate or mail to St. Philip Day School, 4807 San Felipe, Houston, 77056. At this time the school cannot accept electronic gifts. If you have any questions, please contact Candice Harris, Program Director, at Director@stphilipdayschool.org.

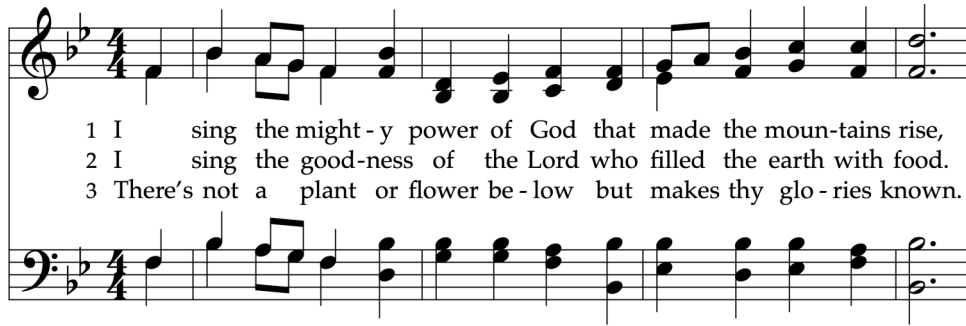
Lost & Found—did you leave a pair of glasses, umbrella, or other item during worship? There is a canvas basket in the library where these items may be found. Jewelry, phones and more valuable items are turned into Lorrie Castle in the Church Office, lorrie@saintphilip.net or 713-622-4807.

I Give Electronically—in response to parents’ hopes that their children might be able to see their ongoing commitment to St. Philip and with the intent to better represent the totality of our giving as a congregation, we have available in the pews giving cards that can be placed in the offering plate by our electronic givers.

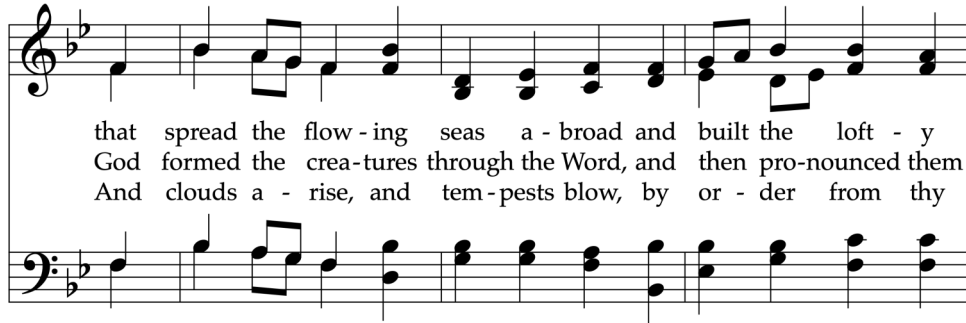


Nametags—Please wear your nametags not just in the sanctuary, but as you socialize before and after worship and at other events. To make it easier, if you don't want to bring your nametag home, there are labeled wicker BASKETS by several exit doors for you to return your nametag at the last possible moment! Those returned tags will be replaced on the boards in the narthex before the following Sunday morning. Visitor nametags are available in the pews and from an usher.

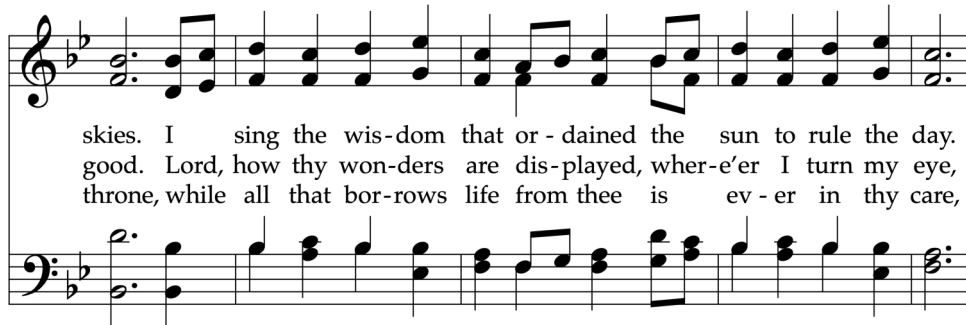
Hymn 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God


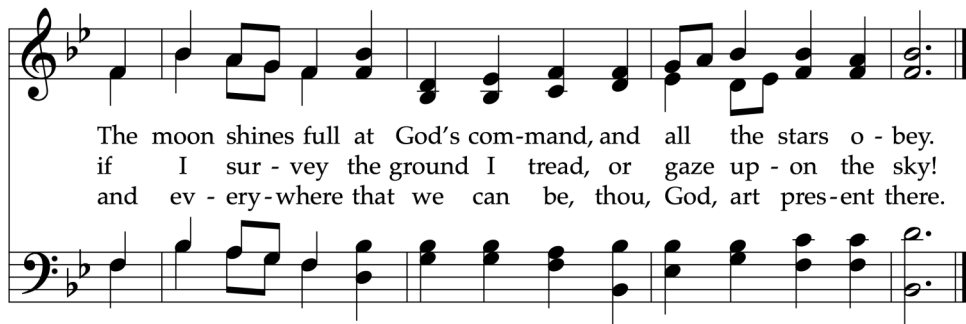
1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes thy glo - ries known.



that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
 And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy



skies. I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day.
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,



The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
 and ev - ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt.

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt. 1868

ELLACOMBE
CMD

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Hymn 739

O for a Closer Walk with God

1 O for a clos - er walk with God, a
 2 Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, sweet
 3 The dear - est i - dol I have known, what -
 4 So shall my walk be close with God, calm

calm and heaven - ly frame, a light to shine up -
 mes - sen - ger of rest! I hate the sins that
 e'er that i - dol be, help me to tear it
 and se - rene my frame; so pur - er light shall

on the road that leads me to the Lamb!
 made thee mourn and drove thee from my breast.
 from thy throne, and wor - ship on - ly thee.
 mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Merely longing for a restored relationship with God is not enough; real repentance requires amendment of life (stanza 3). The similarity of stanzas 1 and 4 suggests both continuity and improvement. This tune was one of the new common tunes in the Scottish Psalter of 1635.

TEXT: William Cowper, 1769

MUSIC: Scottish Psalter, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

CAITHNESS

CM

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Hymn 53

O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
 2 O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare,
 3 O God of covenant and law, revealed in cloud and flame,
 who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
 to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there:
 your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your name.
 de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
 when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,
 Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
 re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
 as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1990
 MUSIC: English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874
 Text © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

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