



Preparation for Worship

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

*That I am not my own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death –
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.*

– The Heidelberg Catechism, question 1

Voluntary

Concerto in A major: Tempo giusto – Vivace

Georg Philipp Telemann
(1681–1767)

Greeting

Please sign and pass the friendship folder.

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

✦ Opening Sentences

Let us give thanks to the Lord

Let us call on the name of our God.

Let us sing praises.

Let us tell of God's wonderful works.

Let our lips speak of the glory of God.

Let our hearts rejoice with thanksgiving.

Let us worship God!

✦ Hymn 5 [\(see page 11\)](#)

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

✦ Prayer of Confession

Dear God,

we offer ourselves to you, aware that our sins are many.

Sometimes we go too fast.

Sometimes we sit too still.

We worry about the wrong things and neglect what is important.

We struggle to find the right balance.

We seek your forgiveness.

Help us find the right measures of worship and service,

of caring for ourselves and caring for others,

as we seek to follow the example of Jesus.

silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the good news. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

✦ Response

Henry W. Greatorex

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

✦ The Peace

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

Conversation with Children

Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:31-39

N.T. pgs. 158-159

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

Solo

We Gott bekannt
(from Cantata 45)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

SUNG IN GERMAN	ENGLISH
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<i>Wer Gott bekennt aus wahren Herzensgrund, den will er auch bekennen. Denn der muß ewig rennen, der einzig mit dem Mund ihn Herren nennt.</i>	Who acknowledges God from the true depths of his heart, him He will also be willing to acknowledge. But that person must burn for ever who only with his mouth names Him Lord.
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words attributed to St. Patrick of Ireland, fifth century

Sermon

Questions of Faith

John Wurster

silence and stillness

✠ Hymn 816 ([see page 12](#))

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

✠ Affirmation of Faith

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments.
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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

Offertory

Concerto in A major: Adagio — Presto

Telemann

✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty and merciful God,
 from whom comes all that is good,
 We praise you for your mercy,
 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 611 [\(see page 13\)](#)

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

✦ Charge and Blessing

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

Voluntary

Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten
 BWV 642

J. S. Bach

SERVING TODAY

Pastor

John Wurster

Liturgist

Tim Burgess

Musicians

Cecilia Duarte, mezzo-soprano — soloist | Colin St Martin — baroque flute
 Matthew Dirst — organ and harpsichord

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Melissa and Guy Aldrich to the glory of God and in loving memory of Melissa's father Emmett F. Barnes, Jr.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's readings and prayers are borrowed from various sources such as:

- 1 Kings 3:5–12—*The young king Solomon asks God for wisdom and discernment.*
- Psalm 119:129–136—*Your law is wonderful; the unfolding of your words gives light.*
- Romans 8:26–39—*The Spirit helps us; nothing can separate us from God's love.*
- Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52—*God's kingdom is like a tiny seed, yeast, a treasure, a pearl, a net.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Micah Meyers.

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MUSIC NOTES

Instrumental Music

Georg Philipp Telemann, one of the most prolific composers of all time, created chamber works for practically any combination of instruments in use in the early eighteenth century. Today's opening and offertory voluntaries comprise two movements each from one of his "concertos" for for transverse flute and obbligato harpsichord. (The latter qualification indicates a fully realized part for both hands at the keyboard, unlike most "figured-bass" accompaniments of this era.) The division of labor in such a piece is what makes them atypical: unlike a Baroque trio sonata with two melody instruments plus continuo players, this piece assigns three musical lines to two players instead.

Vocal Music

The Bach aria "Wer Gott bekennt" comes from a cantata first heard in Leipzig on 11 August 1726. Set to an anonymous libretto, the work as a whole reinforces that Sunday's Gospel (from Luke 12), which obliges the faithful to recognize our obliga-

tion to God. The aria—scored delicately for flute, alto, and continuo—makes a sobering distinction between those who truly love God and those who fail to fully engage with God.

Organ Music

In 1641 the Thuringian poet Georg Neumark composed both the text and tune of *Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten*. An example of the newly fashionable *Trostlied* (a song of consolation), its first two lines nicely summarize the chorale's entire message: "Let God be God and trust in Him." A favorite of Lutherans since the late seventeenth century, it remains popular among German composers especially; one finds it in everything from concerted works to contemporary film soundtracks. Bach treated its sturdy melody multiple times, including a concise setting heard at the close of today's service.

— Matthew Dirst

EQUAL EXCHANGE
FAIR TRADE
COFFEE
SUMMER SALE
TODAY
BEFORE AND AFTER THE 11AM SERVICE.

[IN THE GATHERING AREA]

ALSO OFFERING TEAS
CHOCOLATES
& OLIVE OIL.

Build a more just world one bite/sip/tablespoon at a time!

Consider this: Your kitchen can become a place that enables God's work to happen. Equal Exchange, the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s fair trade partner, works directly with small-scale farmers, organized into co-ops, who earn a fair price for their crops. The sale of every Equal Exchange product generates a "social premium," additional money that goes directly to the farmers so they can choose to reinvest in their own community development, in ways ranging from community centers, hospitals, and schools to capital investment. In addition, Equal Exchange farmers use sustainable practices that restore and preserve our planet. And you help make all this possible with every purchase!

St. Philip is offering Equal Exchange fair trade chocolates, coffees, teas, and other products (including the ever-popular olive oil – come early!) in the gathering area.

If you would like to give back to this project and can help with set-up, sales, or closeout, please email welcome@saintphilip.net with *EE* in the subject line.

Your support and participation help create a better life for small farmers around the world and help care for God's creation. Good food tastes even better when it supports good work!

IN OUR PRAYERS

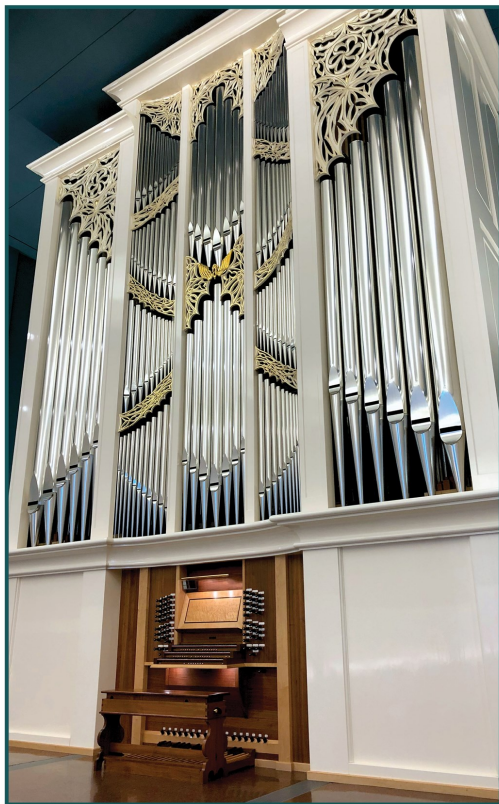
The family of Ellen MacDonald upon her death on June 13. A memorial service will be August 26 at 11:00 a.m.

St. Philippians and their families — Nancy Johnson; Bill Camfield; Sandra Truxillo; Cynthia Shoupe; Deb Burks; Sharon Webb; Shirley Coffman; Kathryn Harwood; Robin & Gary Willis; Beverly Baker; Beverly Hudson; Mary Sinderson; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Austin Lippincott; Richard Johnson; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson & John Bonica ; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Paige Everhart, sister of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Leonardo Knowles Richard “Leo” – grandson of Beth & Fort Flowers; Halley Delany – sister of Nina Lambricht; Truxillo family – Wayne and Sandra Truxillo; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart – niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Warren Cash – brother of Kay Cash; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; Darryl Cazes – brother of Pam Taylor; Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine; John Anderson – brother of Tom Anderson; and Elizabeth Carlton Lithio – granddaughter of Jeanie Flowers.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians – Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach– friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Boyd – friend of Kate Burkart; Carol Gilliland - friend of Orlean Anderson; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; 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.



Fritts Organ, Op. 29 (2010) 3 manuals/48 stops
St Philip Presbyterian Church • Houston, Texas

2023 SUMMER ORGAN FESTIVAL



PROGRAM NO. 2

MARIE RUBIS BAUER

Director of Music and Organist of St Cecilia Cathedral • Omaha

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 | 5:00 PM

Blessed Is She Among Women

MUSIC BY, ABOUT, AND IN HONOR OF WOMEN — WITH WORKS BY

Fanny Mendelssohn, Florence Price, Cecilia McDowall,
Rachel Laurin, Nicolas de Grigny and Dan Locklair

FOLLOW US ONLINE
Music at St Philip



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

(Are on recess until September 10)

CHURCH & SOCIETY - Church & Society is taking a summer break and will return on Rally Day - **September 10**, for a class reunion and preview of the fall 2023 term.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster **meets weekly**. The class meets at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphilip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

LAMBETH STUDY—Keatan King leads young adults in bible study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan King at:

keatan@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **August 10** at 7:00 p.m. which will be a social gathering. Watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Class is on a break until **September 15**. If you would like to join them, please contact Gary Gardner at:

ggardne148@aol.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY—All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate; to be directed to a group leader please email welcome@saintphilip.net. Circles are on recess until Sunday, **September 17** for the Joint Circle Luncheon.

CALLING ALL WORSHIP LEADERS!

Whether you love any opportunity to lead liturgy or you're a first-timer we need you. If you would to be the Liturgist at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service this year; there are only a few Sundays left! They are: **October 1** (Worldwide Communion Sunday); **October 8**; **October 29**; and **December 23**. If you would like to be Liturgist on any of these days please contact Roderick James via text at 713-503-0785 or by email at jamesrv@me.com.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL COLLECTION

It's SUMMERTIME....and we are already thinking about back-to-school. Several of our Mission Partners are providing back-to-school items for children in our communities and have packing and distribution programs on the calendar for this summer. We have the opportunity to volunteer for various associated tasks.

MISSION PARTNERS & HOW YOU CAN HELP

- **Christian Community Services Center (CCSC)**—a mission formed by numerous Houston churches to serve those in need. CCSC - **August 4-5** distribution. *Register in advance to volunteer at* <https://bit.ly/CCSCBTS23>. Donate online at ccshouston.org/back-to-school.
- **Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS)**--provides a variety of Christ-centered services to children in need and their families. Back pack stuffing party **August 3**. Contact Marla Endieveri: 832-241-5921 or mar-la.endieveri@pchas.org.
- **The Women's Home** -provides residential treatment services and transitional housing for women in crisis and their families. Supply Distribution Fair on **August 9**. Contact Jenna DeWitte: jjackson@thewomenshome.org or call 713-328-1964.

We are tasked to be Christ's hands and feet, helping both neighbor and stranger. Consider how you can respond to that call.

St. Philip Presbyterian Church

2023 SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

FOLLOWING JESUS



REV. KYLE MEYAARD-SCHAAP

IN A WARMING WORLD

CLIMATE CHANGE
THE GOSPEL & THE CHURCH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5 | 2023

VISIT: SAINTPHILIP.NET

Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap,

Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network and author, *Following Jesus in a Warming World*

Have you ever looked at the effects of climate change and the apathy of so many Christians around you and wondered, "What are we missing here?" Why has the U.S church struggled so mightily to understand the climate crisis as a moral and gospel issue, and instead so often abandoned it to the domain of the culture wars? In these lectures, we will trace some of the historical reasons for the U.S. church's lukewarm engagement with climate change, explore how Scripture might be able to guide us toward a more faithful way forward, and plot out an active and hopeful path for the church as we all strive to follow Jesus more closely in a warming world.

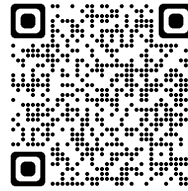
Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schaap serves as the Vice President of the Evangelical Environmental Network. He holds an undergraduate degree in religious studies from Calvin University (B.A. '12), a Master of Divinity degree from Western Theological Seminary (M.Div. '16), and is ordained in the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA). For the last eleven years, he has educated and mobilized Christians around the world to address the climate crisis as an act of discipleship and neighbor-love.

The St. Philip Education Committee invites you to join for our annual Summer Lecture Series on Saturday, August 5 when Rev. Meyaard-Schaap will present three lectures. This event is free and open to the public, and lunch will be on your own. Contact Omar Rouchon or David Castro with any questions.

Saturday Schedule

9:00.....	Breakfast Fellowship
9:15-10:15	Lecture #1
10:30-11:30	Lecture #2
11:30-1:00	Lunch on your own
1:00- 2:00	Lecture #3

All lectures will be held in the Fellowship Hall.



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 in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway 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 HYMNS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.**

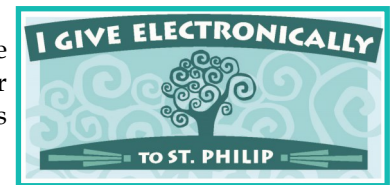
Connect with St. Philip through saintphilip.net and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to lorrie@saintphilip.net.

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 Room 100 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. We also live-stream a midweek prayer on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. 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, text “SPPC” to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

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.



Hymn 5

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

JENNINGS-HOUSTON



1 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains, God the
 2 God the nui - sance of the Pha - raoh, God the
 3 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the
 4 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the



mill - er of the sand, God the jewel - er of the
 cleav - er of the sea, God the pil - lar in the
 plant - er of the wheat, God the reap - er of the
 calm, de - ter - mined youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing



heav - ens, God the pot - ter of the land:
 dark - ness, God the bea - con of the free:
 har - vest, God the source of all we eat:
 proph - et, God the res - ur - rect - ed truth:



you are womb of all cre - a - tion;
 you are fount of all de - liv - erance;
 you are host at ev - ery ta - ble;
 you are pres - ent ev - ery mo - ment;



we are form - less; shape us now.
 we are aim - less; lead us now.
 we are hun - gry; feed us now.
 we are search - ing; meet us now.

Despite the great sweep of these stanzas, each one ends by describing how our human condition needs God's help: formless, aimless, hungry, searching. Each of these adjectives is followed by a related three-syllable petition: shape us now, lead us now, feed us now, meet us now.

TEXT: John Thornburg, 1993, alt.

MUSIC: Amanda Husberg, 1995

Text © 1993 John Thornburg

Music © 1996 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

8.7.8.7.8.7

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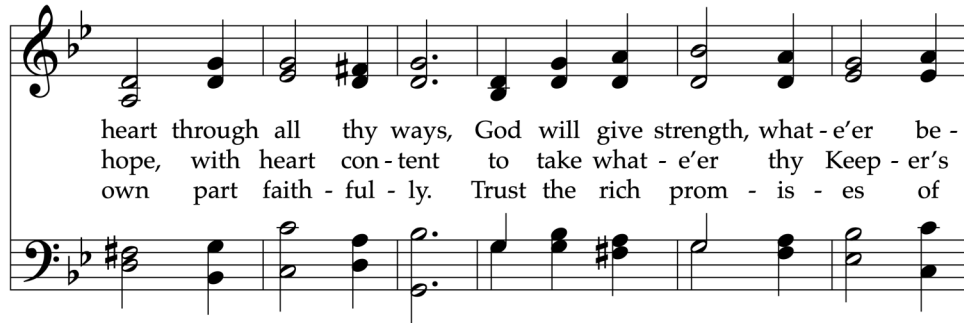
Hymn 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

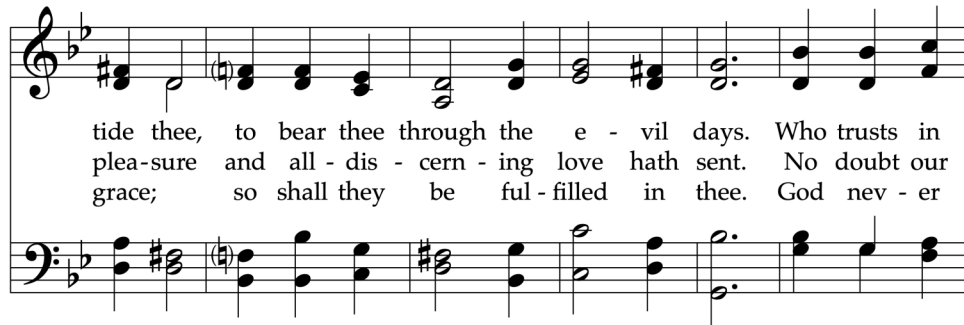
WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT



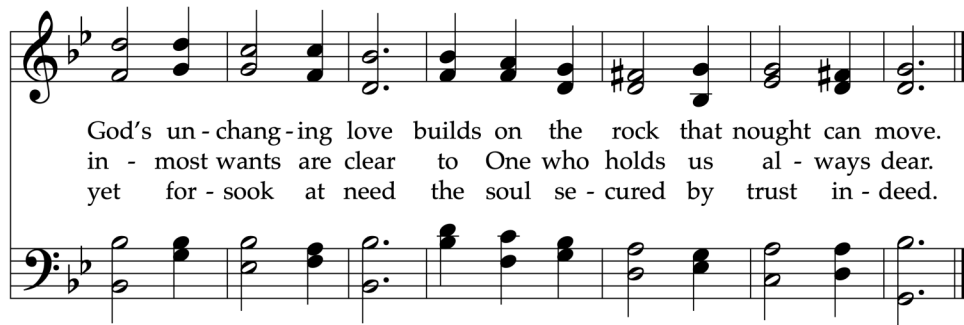
1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful
 2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful
 3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine



heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -
 hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's
 own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of



tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in
 plea-sure and all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent. No doubt our
 grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er



God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
 in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.
 yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

TEXT: Georg Neumark, 1641; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Georg Neumark, 1641

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT
 9.8.9.8.8.8

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Hymn 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a-bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.

Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

TEXT: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt.

HYMN TO JOY
 8.7.8.7.D

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