



September 7, 2025
13th Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 a.m.

Gathering those who fear they are not enough,
so we may experience grace, wholeness, and renewal as God's beloved.

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE

Gentle Spirit

arr. Donald Callender (1921-2010)

RINGING OF THE BELL AND INTROIT

We Are Standing on Holy Ground

Geron Davis (b. 1960)

We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around.

Let us praise Jesus now. We are standing in his presence on holy ground.

WELCOME

Megan Klose

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: We gather as the family of God,

ALL: bound together in the body of Christ.

ONE: We gather as the children of God,

ALL: called together in the presence of the Spirit.

ONE: We gather this day to worship God,

ALL: and join our lives in the life of the church.

*** GATHERING HYMN 612**

We Praise You, O God

CALL TO CONFESSION

Katharine Stewart

ONE: God knows our sinful nature, yet God calls us into God's holy presence.

Let us come before God, humbly confessing our sins before God and each other, to receive God's grace through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

** Please rise in body or spirit*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Loving God, in Jesus you reach out to us, inviting us to experience new life as his disciples. We like Jesus! We appreciate his teachings and we are drawn to him, but very often we balk at the disciple part. We would rather just affiliate with Jesus, associate with him. Gracious Savior, forgive us for being fans rather than disciples. Call to us once more, and send us your Holy Spirit, that we may discover the joy of life as your disciples.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Yena Hwang

ONE: Hear the sound of love pouring out. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see everything has become new. Siblings in Christ, I declare to you that you are forgiven. We are made new in Christ's love.

ALL: Thanks be to God for the gift of forgiveness and renewal!

* SING GLORY TO GOD 581

Glory Be to the Father

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes. The final phrase 'A - men, a - men.' is written with a long note for 'A' and a half note for 'men'.

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.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

* PASSING THE PEACE

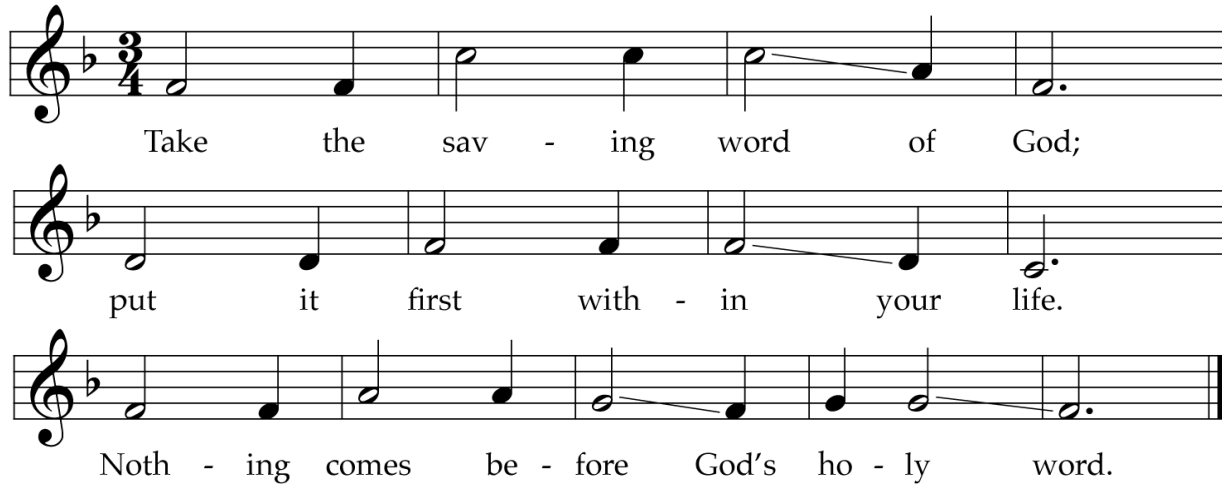
Yena Hwang

ONE: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

We Listen for God's Word

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION 454 (sung twice) *Take the Saving Word of God*



TEXT: Pawltay (Kiowa); English vers. John Thornburg, 2008

MUSIC: Kiowa melody; transcr. Carlton R. Young, 2008

English Vers. and Transcr. © 2008 General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik

DAWK'YAH TOWGYAH

7.7.9

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Deuteronomy 30:25-30

Katharine Stewart

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Children ages 3 and up are invited to continue their worship at Godly Play in Room 204.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 14:25-33

Yena Hwang

ONE: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Cost of Discipleship

Yena Hwang

We Respond to God's Word

*** SERMON HYMN 686**

God of Our Life

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(adapted from Brian McLaren)*

Yena Hwang

We believe that God the Father, Good Creator and giver of life, calls us to love all creation and care for it as respectful stewards, to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. We believe that Jesus Christ is God come to save and lead us, who teaches us to love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We see Jesus in the poor, oppressed, condemned, and forgotten, and so we embrace all people with God's true compassion. We believe that by the Holy Spirit, God unites us in the eternal dance of love, empowers us diversely to serve and love, and fills us that we may overflow with grace, truth, beauty, and life as Christ's agents in this world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Katharine Stewart

ONE: Lord in your mercy,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

The Prayers of the People are offered on behalf of and with the congregation, usually by an ordained elder. Prayer requests can be sent to Pastors Yena and Megan at prayers@fallschurchpresby.org.

Please keep in your prayers:

Phyllis Montgomery, with a recurrence of cancer

Kate Ashbrook, on her recent diagnosis and surgery for breast cancer

Linda Garvelink, on the death of her husband, Bill, on Aug. 23

The family of Mike Paup, friend of Griffin Warner, who died Aug. 20

Margie Ayers and family on the death of Margie's mother, Parker Trostel, on Aug. 16

Ongoing prayer concerns:

FCPC members: Andrea Brown, Avery Burns, Winnie Harris-Zoellner,

Ruth Mileham, Ken Waugh.

Relatives and friends: Carolyn Armstrong, Scott Armstrong's mother; Vincent

DiPerno, Paige Whitlock's nephew; Cynthia Hintze, Carol Kercheval's sister;

Ansley McCraw, Shawn Sledge's niece

MEET YOUR MINISTRY TEAMS

Gail Warner, Community Building Ministry; Karen Growney, Justice Ministry;

Sue Armstrong, Mercy Ministry; Anne Mugler, Spiritual Growth Ministry;

Katharine Stewart, Worship Ministry

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

Megan Klose

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Please support the mission and ministry of the church with your financial contributions. Offerings can be placed in the offering plate, mailed to the church office, given online through our secure giving portal (fcpc.breezechms.com/give/online), texted to give at 7037751355, or scanned using the QR code.



OFFERTORY

Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Wesley (1810-1876)

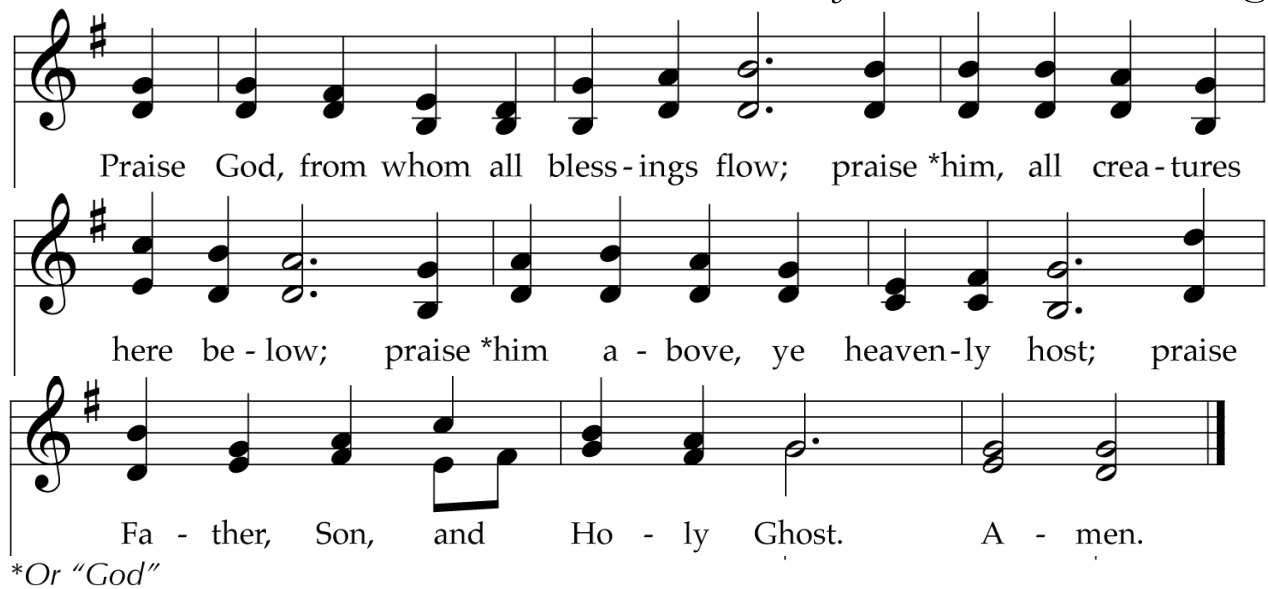
Chancel Choir

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only that makest me dwell in safety.

*** DOXOLOGY 606**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.
*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Yena Hwang, Megan Klose

Invitation to the Lord's Table and Great Thanksgiving

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.

Words of Institution and Distribution of the Elements

Come forward by the center aisle, take bread, dip it into the cup and eat, then return to your pew by a side aisle. Bread is gluten-free, cup is non-alcoholic, and yeast-free wafers are available. A tray with bread and cups will be brought to those who wish to remain seated.

Prayer after Communion

Yena Hwang

We Are Sent into the World

*** SENDING HYMN 547**

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Yena Hwang

*** CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Go With Us, Lord (Tallis Canon)

*Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.*

POSTLUDE

Sonata in D Major

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

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Supporting Us in Worship

Worship Leader	Katharine Stewart
Ushers	John Moses, Elizabeth Shipley-Moses
Communion Team	Susan Beeman, Jenneke Fijn van Draat
Sexton	Katharine Stewart
Audio/Video	Alexi Hawkins
Sanctuary Flowers	The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of those who sacrificed their lives or their wellbeing for others on September 11, 2001, and in its aftermath.

A Warm Welcome

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. Please sign the red welcome pad which can be found at the end of the pew, then pass the pad along to your neighbor. There are nametag boards outside of the sanctuary side entrance. Please make a nametag and wear it as a sign of hospitality.

Large-print bulletins are available at the sanctuary entrances. Portable electronic assistive listening devices are available in the narthex.

A recording of today's service can be found at www.fallschurchpresby.org/sermon.

If you would like to learn more about our family of faith, talk to one of the pastors or email Pastor Yena (yhwang@fallschurchpresby.org) or Pastor Megan (mklose@fallschurchpresby.org). Please visit our website for more information.

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome in our services. **The Kids' Corner** at the front right side of the Sanctuary is where children and their grownups can play, read, or color quietly while in worship. **Children up to age 4:** Child care is offered in Room 201 by our paid nursery staff. **Children age 3 and up:** Godly Play is offered in Room 204 following the first scripture reading.

Fellowship Hour

Welcome Back Brunch is today! Join us in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship to kick off the new program year with a catered Welcome Back Brunch. All are welcome!

Announcements

Carol De Long portrait unveiling, Sept. 8. The Falls Church City Council will mark the City's 75th anniversary at its Council Meeting on Monday, Sept. 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Chambers with the unveiling of two commissioned portraits honoring good governance and democracy. Longtime FCPC member Carol De Long, who died in 2023, was the City's first woman mayor, serving on the City Council for 16 years (1974-1990). The portrait of Frederick Foote Jr. will also be unveiled. Foote was the first Black person to serve on the Town Council, holding office from 1880-1889.

New Director of Children and Youth Ministry. The DCYM Search Team is happy to announce Cali Bronkema for the position of Director of Children and Youth Ministry. Cali has held two positions as DCYM, first at First Presbyterian Arlington and then at Geneva Presbyterian in Rockville, MD. She grew up on the East Coast and her parents met at Princeton Theological Seminary. Her mother is a minister. Cali will begin her ministry at FCPC on October 2. We are excited for her to begin!

Youth Calendar

Sept. 14 – Youth Kick-off, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Youth (grades 6-12) and parents come together for an evening of games, food, and information sharing about the coming year. Questions? Contact Kate Degnan (kadegnan@gmail.com).

Sept. 19 – The Bridge (grades 3-6), 6:00 p.m. Dinner and stories at each other's homes. Questions? Contact Gail Ammons (ggauzza@aol.com).

Sept. 21 – Youth Group (grades 6-12), 6:00 p.m., Third Floor

Sept. 28 – Youth Group (grades 6-12), 6:00 p.m., Third Floor

Oct. 4-5 – Fall Retreat (grades 6-12), Etlan, VA. Questions? Contact Gail Ammons (ggauzza@aol.com).

A Season of Peace begins today, leading up to PC(USA)'s Peace & Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, Oct. 5. Learn more and sign up to receive a daily reflection through the link in the Friday egram.

Project 66/52. The congregation is reading the entire Bible in 2025. More information is in the Friday egram and at fallschurchpresby.org/6652. Week 36 reading plan:

Sun 9/7 Ezekiel 43, 44, 45

Thu 9/11 Daniel 7, 8, 9

Mon 9/8 Ezekiel 46, 47, 48

Fri 9/12 Daniel 10, 11, 12; Psalm 119:49-72

Tue 9/9 Daniel 1, 2, 3; Psalm 119:25-48

Sat 9/13 Hosea 1, 2, 3

Wed 9/10 Daniel 4, 5, 6

Church Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 7 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Program Year Kickoff, Godly Play resumes during worship

Hunger Offering Received

Matthew 25 Group, 9:00 a.m., Third Floor

Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary, in person and online

Welcome Back Brunch, 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Monday, Sept. 8

Prayer & Pose Yoga, 5:00 p.m., Loft

Community Building Ministry Team, 7:00 p.m., Library

Tuesday, Sept. 9 – Tuesday Morning Prayer Group, 8:45 a.m., Zoom

Session, 7:00 p.m., Library

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Antiracism Pre-training with Next Church, 6:15 p.m., Room 54

Wednesday Evening Project 66/52 Group – *Canceled this week*

66/52 Bible Book Club, 8:00 p.m., Zoom

Thursday, Sept. 11

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room

Friday, Sept. 12

Lydia Circle, 10:30 a.m., Waugh Residence

Saturday, Sept. 13

Bible Study & Fellowship Group, 8:00 a.m., Parlor

FCPC at Falls Church Fall Festival, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Falls Church Community Center

Sunday, Sept. 14 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost – Deacons Sunday

Confirmation Class, 9:00 a.m., Room 301

Serendipity Class, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room

VOICE + Justice Ministry Team, 9:00 a.m., Room 303

Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary, in person and online

Youth Kickoff (Youth & Parents), 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Falls Church Presbyterian belongs to the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, “working for the unity of the church, furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, seeking understanding and reconciliation, and joining with others seeking a still more just and inclusive church.”

Falls Church Presbyterian is also a Matthew 25 church seeking to build congregational vitality, dismantle structural racism, and eradicate systemic poverty.

The Rev. Yena Hwang, Pastor | The Rev. Megan Klose, Associate Pastor

Dr. Don Armstrong, Director of Music | Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

225 East Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046 | 703-532-6518 | www.fallschurchpresby.org

We Praise You, O God

612



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and moth - ers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

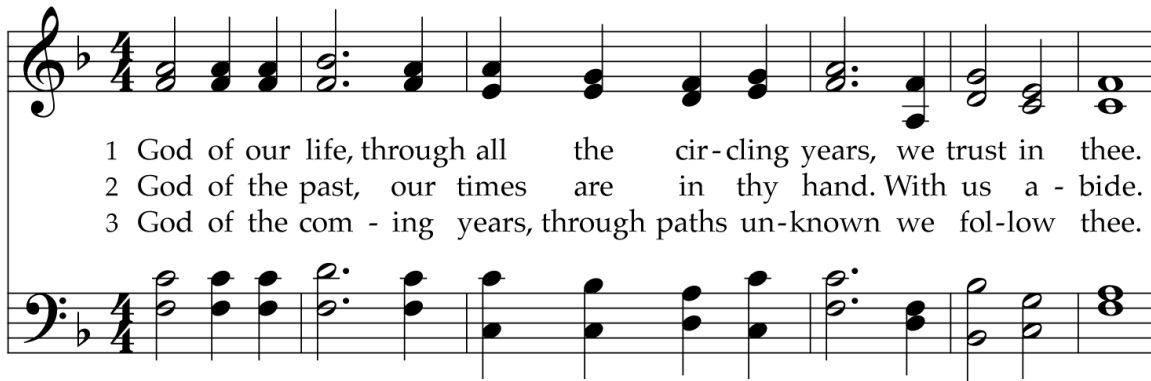
We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
 To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

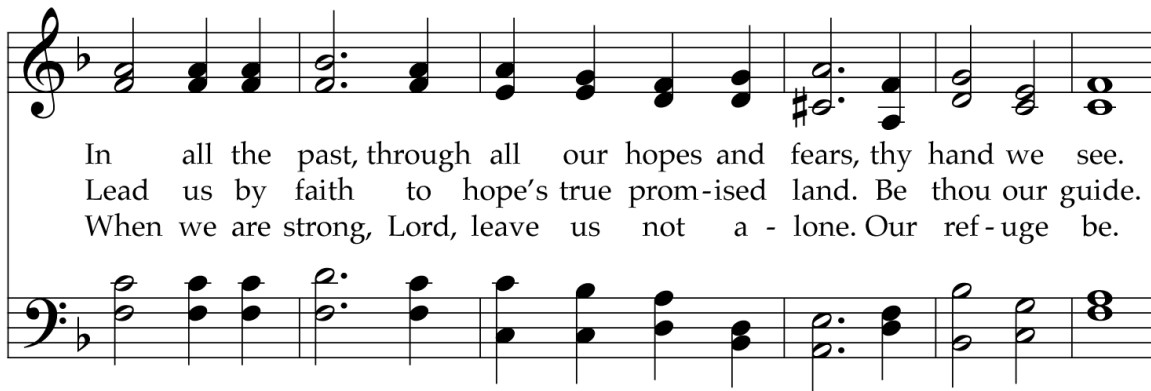
The author wrote this text when only nineteen years old in response to a request from the organist of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, who wanted another Thanksgiving text to sing to this Dutch tune. He regarded the usual text (see no. 336) as too full of conflict.

God of Our Life

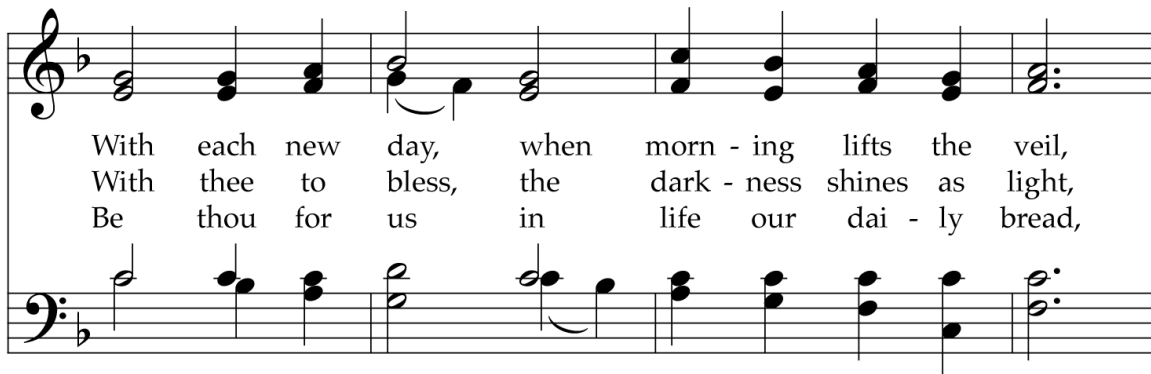
686



1 God of our life, through all the cir-cling years, we trust in thee.
 2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a - bide.
 3 God of the com - ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.



In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.
 Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.
 When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone. Our ref-uge be.



With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,
 With thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,
 Be thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,



we own thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.
 and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight.
 our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

This text was created for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by its pastor. He wrote these words especially for this tune, originally composed for John Henry Newman's text "Lead, Kindly Light."

TEXT: Hugh Thomson Kerr, 1916, alt.

MUSIC: Charles Henry Purday, 1860; harm. John Weaver, 1986

Text © 1928 F. M. Braselman, ren. 1956 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

(admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

Music Harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

SANDON

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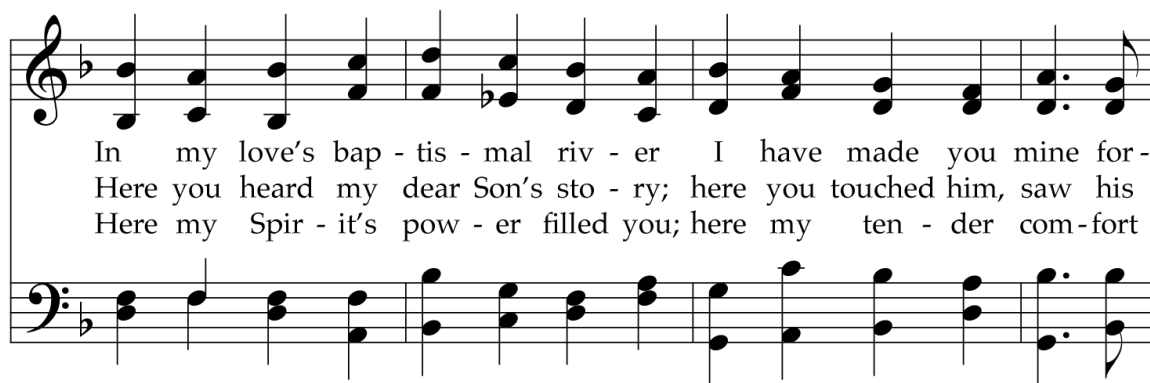
Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547




1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.