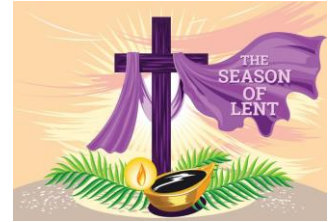
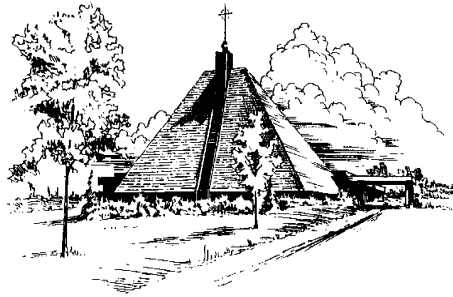


COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CINNAMINSON, NEW JERSEY



3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

10:00 AM

MARCH 3, 2024

PRELUDE

"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

Spiritual

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Amanda Rosica

CHORAL INTROIT

"For God So Loved the World"

Lloyd Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

The morning stars profess God's glory:
the waking birds harmonize a refrain of grace.

The sun warms us with God's hope, the night sky whispers peace to our sleepy souls:
creation's voice echoes continually in our hearts, reminding us of God's steadfast love.

Our wisdom is shattered by God's absurd love; God's vulnerability strengthens our feeble faith:
God's words place joy in our hearts; we follow them to peace and hope.

With prayer and praise, in scripture and in song, let us Worship the Living God!

HYMN

"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

(See page 12)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You give us your commandments, Holy One, so we may have new life, but we continue to make the same old choices. Your love can anchor us when life threatens to overwhelm us, but we choose to cling to the slippery rocks of anger and bitterness. Your Word can strengthen us for every moment, but we listen to the foolish promises of the world.

Forgive us, Redeemer of our lives: may every word be shaped by your Word; may every thought be refined by your grace; may every deed be inspired by your Spirit, so we may tell everyone we meet of your work in us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

SILENT MEDITATION

LORD HAVE MERCY (3x)

576

Lord, Have Mercy



Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

We are healed, to bring healing to our world; we are strengthened in faith, to become spent for others; we are set free from our bondage to sin, so we may become servants of Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE ARE FORGIVEN (1x)

FORGIVENESS

447

We Are Forgiven



We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to



God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.



We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

SHARING THE PEACE

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

EXODUS 20: 1-17

God spoke all these words, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

"You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

"Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

"You shall not murder.

"You shall not commit adultery.

"You shall not steal.

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

"Bread of Life"

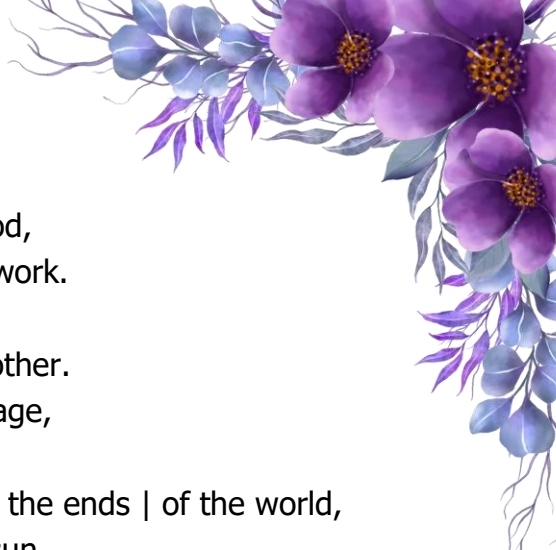
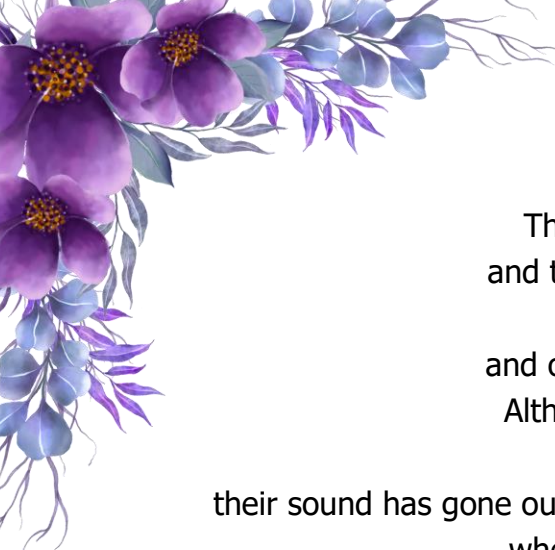
arr. Joel Raney

PSALM 19

REFRAIN

F Gm C Bb Gm7 F

♩ = 120 O Lord, my de - light, _____ my de - light is in your law.



The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.
One day tells its tale | to another,
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.
Although they have no | words or language,
and their voices | are not heard,
their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,
where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.

It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of | it again;
nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.

[Refrain]

The teaching of the LORD is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.
The statutes of the LORD are just and re- | joice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light | to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous | altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.

[Refrain]

By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is | great reward.

Who can detect one's | own offenses?

Cleanse me from my | secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

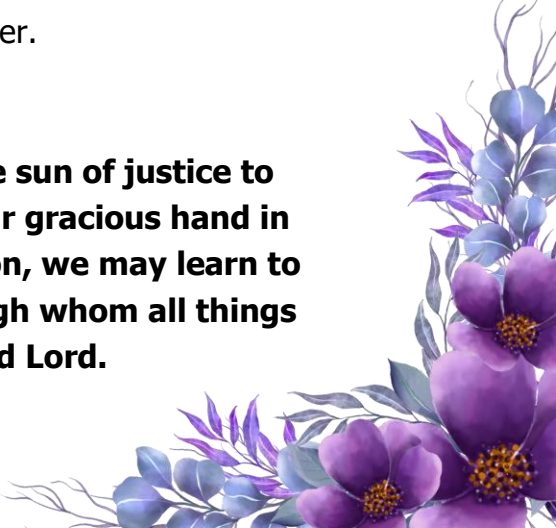
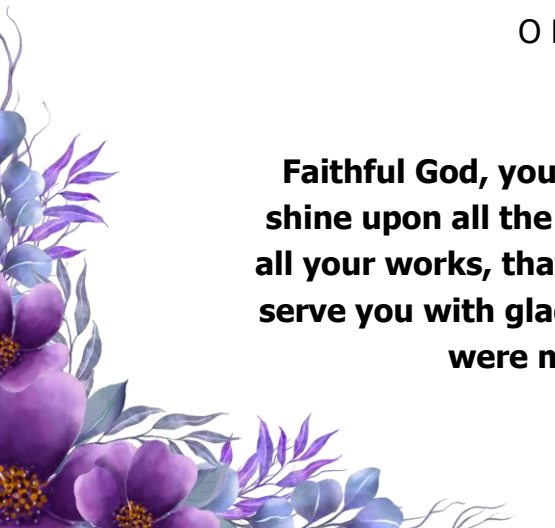
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable | in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and | my redeemer.

[Refrain]

Together, let us pray:

Faithful God, you sent your incarnate Word as the sun of justice to shine upon all the world. Open our eyes to see your gracious hand in all your works, that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness, for the sake of him through whom all things were made, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.





JOHN 2: 13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Turning Our Tables"

Rev. Robert Higgs

PRAYER AND REFLECTION

If you wish, you may want to use the following breath prayer (or any of your choice). The words may be said aloud or in silence

Breathe in: "Help me rest ...

Breathe out: "... give me peace"

HYMN

"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

(See page 13)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven





and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the church.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for creation..... God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the world.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for peace.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those who govern us.God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for this community.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all families and those who live alone.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who suffer any sorrow or trial.....God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us give thanks for the lives of the departed who now have rest in God.

God of glory, you see how all creation groans in labor as it awaits redemption. As we work for and await your new creation, we trust that you will answer our prayers with grace, and fulfill your promise that all things work together for good for those who love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



CALL TO STEWARDSHIP



OFFERTORY

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

Keveren

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings"

#809

OFFERTORY PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Blessed are you who hunger for justice, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who thirst for righteousness, for you will drink deeply of the cup of joy.

Blessed are you who yearn for reconciliation, for you will find peace.

Blessed are you who are persecuted in the name of religion, for yours is the commonwealth of heaven.

Blessed are we—for Christ calls us to his table, where there is room for everyone, and plenty for all.
O taste and see that the Lord is good.

SURSUM CORDA

GREAT THANKSGIVING 1

You spoke those words of creation, God of faithfulness, and set the sun to run its daily course, filled the seas with imaginative creatures, planted fruits and vegetables in the earth. All that is good and generous was intended for your children shaped in your image, but we bore false witness against you, honoring sin and death more than you. The prophets came to warn against our foolishness, but we did not find their words acceptable, and continued to covet everything which did not belong to us. So you sent your Child to us, so we might find strength in his weakness, we might find glory through his humiliation.

With those who have great faith, with those who have very little, we sing our thanksgivings to you:

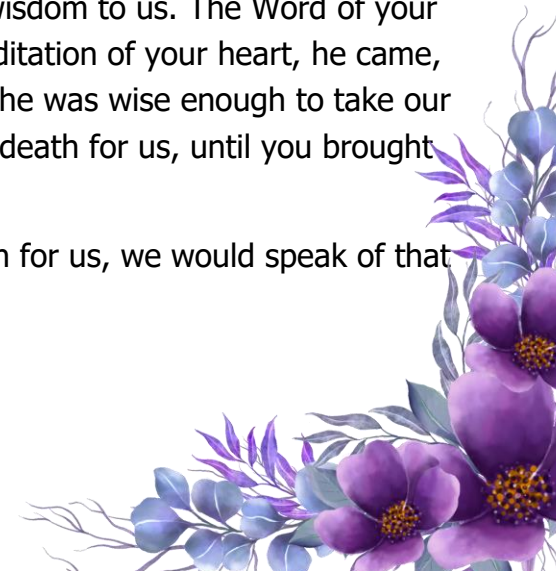
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

GREAT THANKSGIVING 2

Day to day, you are holy, our God, and Jesus Christ declares your wisdom to us. The Word of your mouth, he came, to tell us of your work of grace and hope. The Meditation of your heart, he came, to quiet our frantic spirits so we might rest in you. Your foolishness, he was wise enough to take our sins to the cross. Your weakness, he was strong enough to endure death for us, until you brought him out of the grave.

As we remember his zeal for your heart, as we remember his passion for us, we would speak of that mystery we know as faith:

CHRIST HAS DIED





GREAT THANKSGIVING 3

Here at this Table, God of love, we set aside our power to feast on the weakness found in the broken bread; we let go of our wisdom, to drink from the cup of your foolish grace. Your Spirit blesses these gifts, as well as us, so when we have feasted, we will look at the world with its injustices, oppressions, wars, and fears, saying, 'take these things out of here! Stop making God's creation a house of horrors!'

And when the sun has finished its course, when the moon and stars shine no more, we will be given the words from your mouth so we can sing from the deeps of our hearts to you, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

"Change My Heart, O God" (2x)"

(See page 14)

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Go out into the world ... be with us all. Amen.

O Lord, may you this week open up doors for us to share your love!

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Amen"

Lloyd Larson

POSTLUDE

"Were You There"

Keveren

MINISTERS: Mary Lou Newborg and Janette Hutchinson (Ushers), Cynthia Joffe (Flower Delivery), Mandy Rosica (Refreshments), Robin Sutton (Chancel)

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS presented to the Glory of God by the VanTassels in honor of family members.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. EASTER LILY FORM

You can purchase an Easter Lily to honor a loved one! Please find the form in your bulletin and return it to the church office with your payment. All names will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

2. SOUP SALE!

The next soup sale will be Sunday, March 10th. If you are willing to make some soup for our next sale, please contact Mary Lou at 609-417-5639. Thank you!

3. TRIBORO SCHEDULE:

Bethany Lutheran Church will be hosting a soup supper on Thursday, March 7 at 6PM followed by a service at 7PM. Calvary will be hosting a soup supper on Tuesday, February 27 at 6PM with a service at 7PM. Covenant will be hosting a soup supper on Thursday, March 14 at 6PM with a service at 7PM. All are welcome to attend these Lenten services!

4. SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES: Calling all children ages 4 and above! Join us for Sunday school on the following dates! March 24th, April 21st and May 19th.

5. CHRISTIAN CARING

Non-perishable items may be brought the first Sunday of the month and placed in the narthex. Thank you for your continued generosity.

6. DAILY PRAYER

Covenant is now offering Daily Prayer videos narrated by our new Pastor, Bob! This is a wonderful way to begin each day in prayer. If you are not receiving them, please notify Bob, or Greg and you will be placed on the email list.

7. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED! Members are invited to participate in our services. Please contact Bonnie Cain or Greg DiBona if you are interested in reading scripture or leading our worship services. We are also in need of more volunteers to operate the camera and soundboard. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

8. BIBLE STUDY The Bible Study will be located in the lounge on Mondays at 11AM. All are welcome!

9. STEWARDSHIP: Total Income for 2/25: \$6952.55, Envelope Giving: \$5630.00, Deacons Fund: \$250.00. Capital Improvements Fund: \$10.00

10. VOLUNTEER CHAPLAIN AIDES are needed throughout the Virtua Health System in Burlington and Camden counties. There are openings for trained lay visitors every day of the week. Following a training and orientation process, and Aide may donate two to four hours each week to visit patients, offering them compassion and spiritual comfort. To find out if volunteering is for you, please call or email for an information package with details of the training and the process to become a volunteer at any of our facilities. The orientation class is Wednesday, March 20th and Friday March 22nd from 8am-5pm.

For more information about volunteering at Virtua Burlington, Virtua Marlton, Virtua Mt. Holly and Virtua Voorhees, please contact Chaplin Marge McGinley at 609-914-6365 or email

mmcginkey@virtua.org.



PRAYER LIST



Pastor Bob's sermon was once again very thoughtful and helpful. Thankful prayers for him. Thank you to Leslie Todd for her participation in the worship service as she read scripture, and invited us to join her in responsive reading and prayer of confession, and announced upcoming events. The annual congregational meeting followed the service, and then a tasty lunch was enjoyed by all.

Thank you to those who prepared it. The bell choir was inspiring and we are thankful to Elisa Muzzillo, who accompanied the choir in a fine anthem.

Please pray for peace in communities, country and world.

Please pray for our Covenant friends and families:

Betty Graham - gaining strength and a lift in spirits and peacefulness

Julia Slater - able to have her second hip replacement very soon

Dave DuBois - suffered a severe fall in his home, and was in the hospital and now is in rehabilitation, and strength and support for B. Ann

Lisa Grace - relief and rest from health concerns

Kathy Hood - peace of mind and comfort

Laura Brenner - good care and feeling stronger

Karen Schwartz' friend, Rita Marino - accurate diagnosis and recovery

Janette Hutchinson's daughter, Wendy - healing and feeling better

Barbara Van Tassel's friend, Judy - continued good progress with therapy

Dale Neas - longtime friend and a member of the men's early morning breakfast for many years and organizer of Bread of Life food bank - now in rehab and dealing with effects of cancer

Bruce - experienced first chemo treatment for pancreatic cancer - strength as he handles possible side effects and trying to have a positive attitude

Carol's friend, Elsie - healing and good progress in physical therapy

Sr. Mary William - Greg's elementary music teacher who has been diagnosed with cancer

I wish to purchase _____ Easter Lily (s) at \$13.00 each.

The Easter morning bulletin will include a listing of names of donors (if desired) and mention the names of those in whose memory or honor the lily (s) are presented.

For example:

The Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God by:

Mrs. J. Smith in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. J. Doe
Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in honor of their children
Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in gratitude for loved ones
The Smith Family



Name _____

In Memory/Honor/Gratitude _____

Enclosed please find my check for the sum of \$ _____

Signed _____ Phone _____

LILIES MAY BE PICKED UP AFTER THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MARCH 31, 2024

I wish to purchase _____ Easter Lily (s) at \$13.00 each.

The Easter morning bulletin will include a listing of names of donors (if desired) and mention the names of those in whose memory or honor the lily (s) are presented.

For example:

The Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God by:

Mrs. J. Smith in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. J. Doe
Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in honor of their children
Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in gratitude for loved ones
The Smith Family



Name _____

In Memory/Honor/Gratitude _____

Enclosed please find my check for the sum of \$ _____

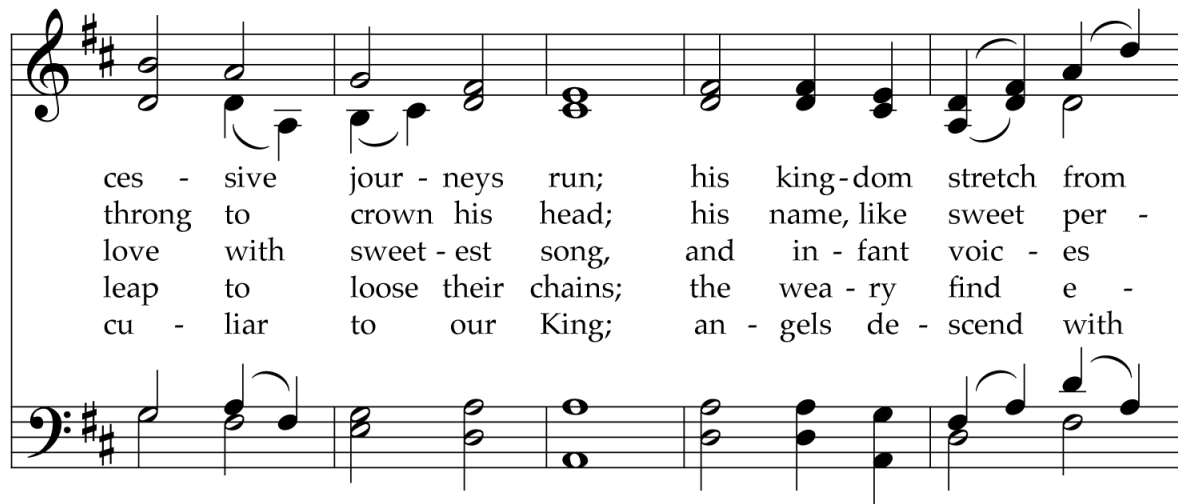
Signed _____ Phone _____

LILIES MAY BE PICKED UP AFTER THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MARCH 31, 2024

265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es
 leap to loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -
 cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A)(D)
 Eb Bb Cm Ab Eb Bb Eb

1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
 2 But if, for-get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,

(G) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (Em)
 Ab Fm Bb Gm Cm Ab Fm

to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re -
 if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
 whose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your
 in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to

(A7) (D) (A7)(B) (Em) (G)(A7) (D)
 Bb7 Eb Bb7 C Fm Ab Bb7 Eb

stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 wind its tan-gled skein of care: our in-ward life re - pair.
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav-ored, done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

Change My Heart, O God 695

Cámbiame, Señor 항상진실케

Refrain / Estribillo / 후렴

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.
Cám - bia - me, Se - ñor, con tu gran po - der.
 항 상 진 실 케 내 맘 바 꾸 사

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
Haz - me co - mo tú, tu yo quie - ro ser.
 주 님 의 모 습 님 게 하 소 서

You are the Pot - ter; I am the clay.
Tú el al - fa - re - ro, yo el ba - rro soy.
 주 는 토 기 장 이 나 는 진 흙

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
Só - lo a tu i - ma - gen, quie - ro siem - pre ser.
 날 빛 으 소 서 기 도 하 오 니

The central image of the potter and the clay in this text comes from Isaiah 64:8 (and there is a similar reference in Jeremiah 18:1-6), while the petition for a changed heart is similar to Psalm 51:10. Such readiness to do God's will is a significant feature of the spiritual life.