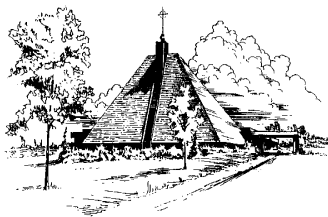


COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CINNAMINSON, NEW JERSEY



17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM

September 24, 2023

PRELUDE

BELL CHOIR

*With a Joyful Heart
Higher Ground*

Nina Zubaidi - violin
Let All Things Now Living

Susan E. Geschke
arr. Brian Childers

Douglas E. Wagner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amanda Rosica

CHORAL INTROIT

Worship the Lord

L. Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 65:1-8

Leader: Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled.

People: You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.

Leader: When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

People: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

Leader: You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas, who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.

People: The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

HYMN

Sing Praise to God Who reigns Above

#50

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from ~ 1 Cor. 15:1-6; Matt. 16:16; Rev. 22:13; John 20:28.

*This is the Good News that we have received,
In which we stand and by which we are saved if we hold it fast:
That Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,
That he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
And that he appeared first to the women and to Peter,
And to the twelve and to many faithful witnesses.
We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end;
He is our Lord and our God. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now, this is what the LORD says— he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

EPISTLE READING

Romans 6: 1-11

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Nina Zubaidi - violin

arr. Hanson

BAPTISM OF THEODORE VINCENT ROSICA

DECLARATIONS

Elder: As the Apostle Peter reminds us that “the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call,” so, we're here, in response to the Lord's call & confident in His promises, to baptize those whom the Lord loves & calls to come to Him.

Pastor: In baptism, God claims us as His own, and seals us to demonstrate that we are His. By His grace, God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in His death & resurrection.

By water & the Holy Spirit, we become members of the church, the body of Christ, the family of God, and we are united to Christ's ministry of salvation and love, peace, justice & truth.



May each of us here, with joy,
remember that we also have been baptized
as evidence of God's grace to us,
while we celebrate this sacrament today.

Lauren and Zack, obeying the word of our Lord Jesus, and sure of his presence with us, we
baptize those whom he has called to be his own.

BLESSING OF THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

VOWS

Pastor to Parents: Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and
to teach that faith to your child? Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn
from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? Do you turn to Jesus
Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? Do you
intend by the aid of the Holy Spirit to raise your child in the love of our Lord and within
a community of believers? Do you?

And, is it your desire that your child be baptized?

Pastor to Family and Sponsors: Do you promise, through prayer and godly example, to
support and encourage Theodore to be a faithful follower of Jesus Christ? Do you?

Elder to the Congregation: Our Lord Jesus Christ ordered us to teach those who are
baptized. Do you, as members of the whole church of Jesus Christ, promise to tell
Theodore the good news of the gospel, to help him know all that Christ commands,
and, by your fellowship, to strengthen his family ties with the household of faith. Will
you guide and nurture Theodore by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging
him to know and follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to be a faithful member of
His church? Do you and will you?

THE ACT OF BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Elder leads the Congregational Prayer: *In the presence of God, the Author & Giver of
life, we the Body of Christ in this place pray for you parents, in the great, joyful
responsibility God has entrusted to you. As individuals, we pray that as you grow in
Christ you may bear the fruit of wisdom & godliness. As a church, we promise to fulfill
our responsibility to you & your child in teaching, serving, and loving him, that from his
earliest days of memory, he may see the face of Jesus in us. We pray in the Name of
Jesus, Who became a child that we might become the children of God, Amen.*

WELCOMING THEODORE INTO THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

(Congregation sings verse one of Jesus Loves Me, #470, as the parents walk with the child up the
aisles into the congregation.)

HYMN

Baptized in Water

#758

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

SERMON "Remember Who You Are!" Rt. Rev. Lane Sapp

HYMN *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* #591

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.

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Go Out in Song* arr. L. Larson

POSTLUDE *God Shall Wipe Away All Tears* Rob Roy Peery

MINISTERS: Joan Samph and Mary Lou Newborg (Ushers), Bonnie Cain (Refreshments), Joan Samph (Flower Delivery)

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS: presented to the Glory of God by the Rosica Family in honor of their dear friends Lily and Lane Sapp for traveling so far to help them celebrate Theo's baptism! They extend their love and are blessed to have them in their lives.

WE THANK: Rt. Rev. Lane Sapp for leading us in worship!

Lane is a native of Winston-Salem, NC. He is a graduate of High Point University, High Point, NC, and Moravian Theological Seminary, Bethlehem, PA. Lane served in parish ministry for 35 years until he became Director of the Commission on Ministry for the Moravian Church, South earlier this year. Lane also serves as a Bishop in the Moravian Church as a "pastor to pastors." Lane is married to Lilyann Baker Sapp who was one of Ann Rosica's college roommates! The Rosica's and the Sapp's have been close friends for many years. Lane and Lilyann have twin sons, Charles and Jonathan, age, 34.

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SCHEDULES

Women's Bible Study – Mondays 11:00 AM

Choir Rehearsal – Sundays 11:00 AM

Bell Rehearsal – Mondays 7:00 PM

Christian Education (Bonnie Cain and Amanda Rosica) – as needed

Deacons – 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Fellowship (Amanda Rosica) – 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 PM

Finance and Stewardship (Mike Martin) – 2nd Monday, 7:00 PM

Men's Breakfast -Tuesdays, 7:00 AM

Membership (Nancy Perritt) – as needed

Mission (Mary Lou Newborg) – as needed

Music and Worship (Leslie Todd) – 2nd Wednesday, 1:15 PM

Property Care (Chuck Rosica and Bob Jeffries) – determined by chairperson

Session – 4th Thursday, 7:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC)

Covenant has officially elected the Pastoral Nominating Committee at the Congregational meeting on September 10. The members are: Molly Day, Jeanne Martin, Sandi Pascone, Steve Peak, Amanda Rosica, Diane Steel, and Chris Todd. We ask that you pray for the team's success.

2. 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.

3. BIBLE STUDY

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

4. COLLECTION FOR THE PEOPLE OF MAUI

Within hours of the devastating fire that swept through Lahaina, our Presbyterian Disaster Relief program staff were already working to coordinate with emergency workers on site. Along with continuing prayer support, Presbytery leadership invites your tangible signs of support and compassion by contributing to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief program to aid ongoing relief efforts. Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church (Memo: Maui). Covenant will send the donation to the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey. Thank you for your support and contribution.

5. STEWARDSHIP

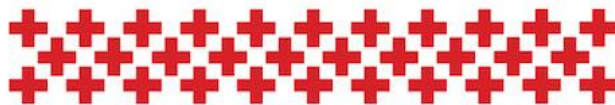
Total Income for 9/17: \$1589.00, Envelope Giving: \$1589.00, Deacons Fund: \$100.00.

6. BLOOD DRIVE AT COVENANT

Covenant will be hosting a Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall on Friday, October 20, 2023 from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM. We will need volunteers to assist. Please contact Amanda Rosica if you are interested in helping (amanda_rosica@yahoo.com).

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive Covenant Presbyterian Church

Main Hall
2618 New Albany Road
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

**Friday, October 20, 2023
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Covenant Presbyterian Church to schedule an appointment.



Fall into giving blood Oct 1 thru 20 get \$15
Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See
rcblood.org/together



PRAYER LIST

Thank you to Rev. Bob Higgs for leading us in an interesting and thoughtful worship service last week. We appreciate Chuck Rosica's participation in the service and Greg's lovely music. Thank you to Esma Cakmak for her lovely piano prelude and Leslie provided tasty refreshments following worship.

Prayers for the people of Maui and Ukraine.

Continued prayers for peace in our communities, country and world.

Please pray for our friends and families at Covenant:

Prayers for the family of Jim Bender. He passed on Monday September 18.

Betty Graham - thankful that she is home from the hospital and prayers for healing and feeling better - she was able to enjoy a family luncheon to celebrate her 90th birthday

Cynthia Joffe - benefiting from good physical therapy and able to enjoy a visit from she and David's family in from Michigan

Bobbie Bechtel - continued healing of her ribs

Steve Hyzer - doing well and able to use his foot comfortably

Etna Kessler - good care at memory care facility

Emily Busby - good care at nursing facility

B. Ann and Dave DuBois - health concerns

Mary Lou's concern - prayers for good results for 18-month-old Logan who has been diagnosed with cancer and prayers for strength for his family

Terri Bell - able to rest in comfort and receive strength from the care of her husband, Ken

Dawn Mozzi - good care

Pastor Kiner - pastor at Breakthrough Church - joyful prayers that he is cancer free. His congregation has returned to Covenant.

Betty's friend, Bill, that he is receiving good treatment with hopefully good results for his cancer

Denise - peace of mind and happiness as she enjoys her grandson, Wade

Bruce, Dawn and Erin - thankfulness for good jobs and prayers for good health

Karl Ortlip - return to good health following heart attack

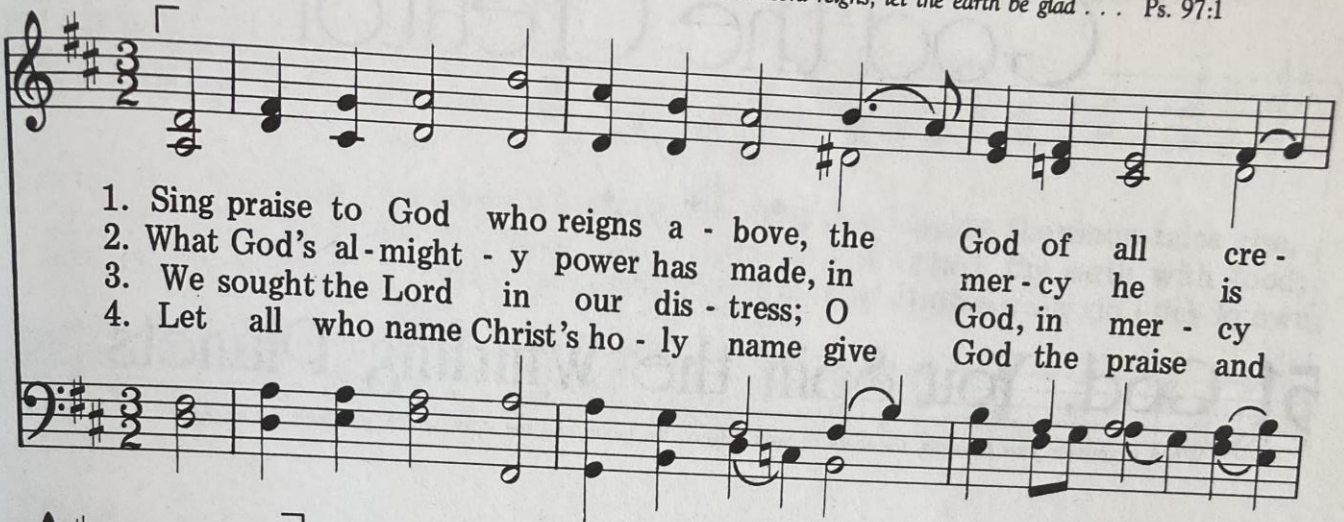
Gary Shields - former member - suffered a stroke - prayers for healing and strength for his family also former members

Dr. Vincent Craig - comfort for his family following his sudden death - he was Greg's piano professor

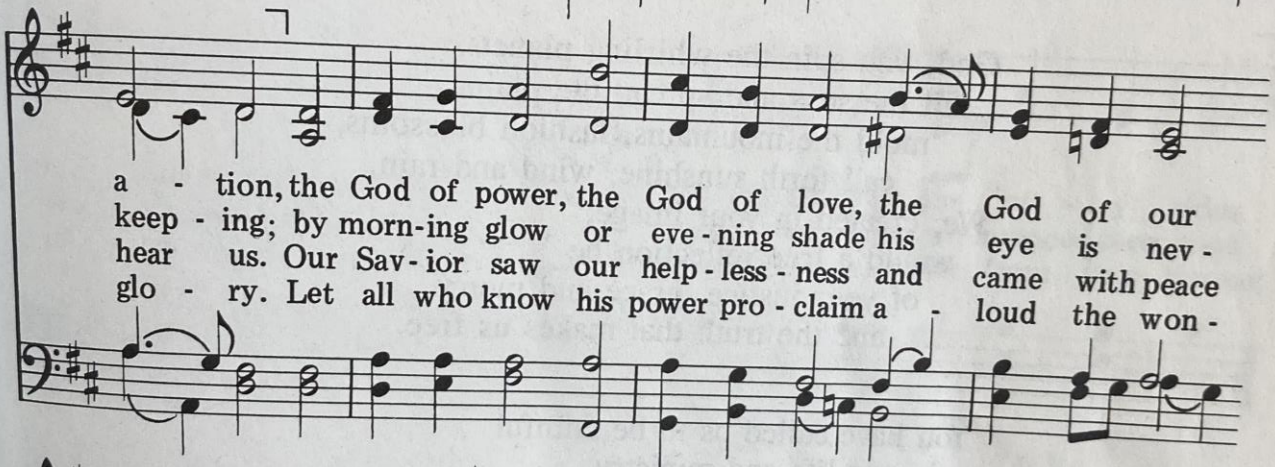
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above 50

PRAISE TO GOD

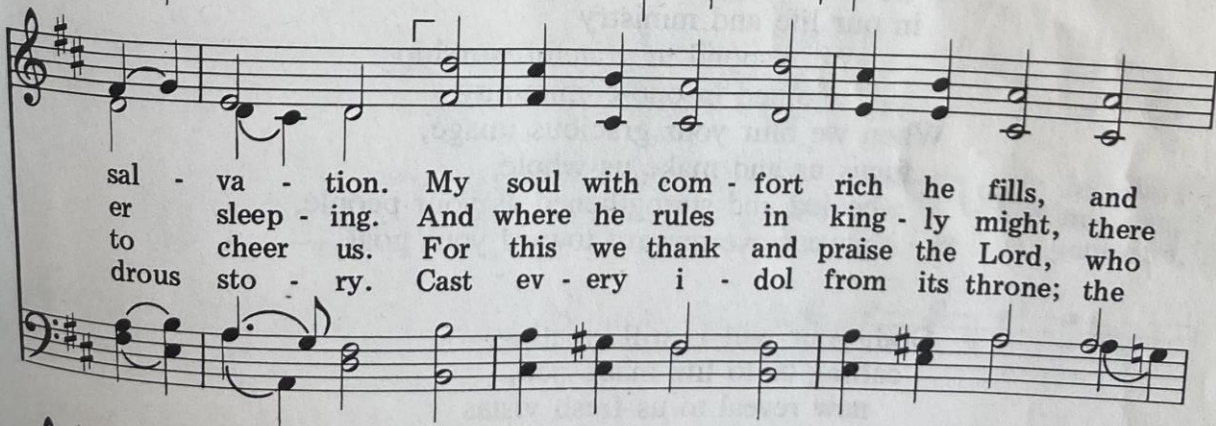
The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad . . . Ps. 97:1



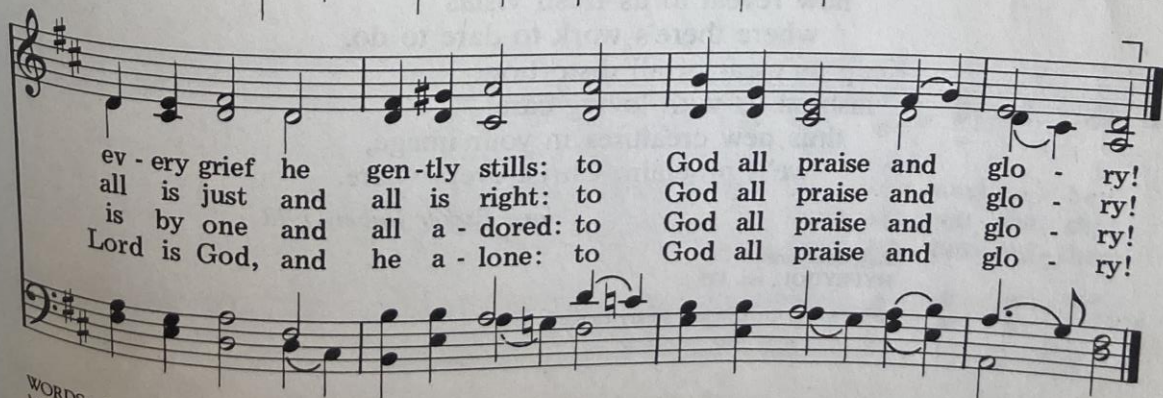
1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
2. What God's al - might - y power has made, in mer - cy he is
3. We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
4. Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God the praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our
keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his eye is nev -
hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with peace
glo - ry. Let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the won -



sal - va - tion. My soul with com - fort rich he fills, and
er sleep - ing. And where he rules in king - ly might, there
to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord, who
drous sto - ry. Cast ev - ery i - dol from its throne; the



ev - ery grief he gen - tly stills: to God all praise and glo - ry!
all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
is by one and all a - dored: to God all praise and glo - ry!
Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry!

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know 470

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Mt. 19:14

1. Je - sus loves me, this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so!
 2. Je - sus loves me, he who died heav - en's gate to o - pen wide;
 3. Je - sus loves me! He will stay close be - side me all the way;

Lit - tle ones to him be - long: they are weak, but he is strong.
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
 he's pre - pared a home for me, and some day his face I'll see.

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!
 *Cris - to me a - ma, Cris - to me a - ma,
 **Tsis a ki ke yu, Tsis a ki ke yu,

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.
 Cris - to me a - ma, la Bi - blia dice a - si.
 Tsis a ki ke yu, a khi no hih se ho.

*Spanish. **American Indian (Cherokee).

758 Baptized in Water

Those who accepted his message were baptized . . . Acts 2:41

Unison

1. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3. Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ, our King; heirs of sal - va - tion,
 tomb with Christ, our King; one with his ris - ing,
 sign of Christ, our King; born of one Fa - ther,

trust-ing his prom - ise, faith-ful-ly now God's praise we sing.
 freed and for - giv - en, thank-ful-ly now God's praise we sing.
 we are his chil - dren, joy - ful-ly now God's praise we sing.

WORDS: Michael Seward, 1981

MUSIC: Traditional Gaelic melody; harm. David Evans, 1927

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BUNESSAN
5.5.5.4.D.

... the things I cannot change,
 the courage to change the things I can,
 and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.
 Amen.

Anonymous

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind 591

They found the man . . . sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind. Lk. 8:35

1. Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for - give our fool - ish
 2. In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be - side the Syr - ian
 3. O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee! O calm of hills a -
 4. Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till all our striv - ings
 5. Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy cool - ness and thy

ways! Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind; in
 Sea, the gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, let
 bove, where Je - sus knelt to share with thee the
 cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and
 balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire; speak

pur - er lives thy serv - ice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.
 us, like them, with - out a word, rise up and fol - low thee.
 si - lence of e - ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pre - ted by love!
 let our or - dered lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.
 through the earth - quake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm!