

SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025

Preaching Today Mike Solberg, *Interim Senior Minister*
Liturgist Dean Eaton, *Deacon*
Assisting in Worship Justin Brueggeman, *guest musician*
Karen McArthur, *Minister of Stewardship & Finance*

Opening Voutary

Andante Religioso - F. Mendelssohn

Opening Hymn 57

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Anthem

Bread of the World - Young

Peace Hymn 340

Peace Before Us

Readings

Luke 10:1-11

Sermon

Peace Be Upon This House

Sermon Hymn 358

When Jesus Came Preaching
the Way of Our God

Offertory

Christ Be with Me - Rawsthorne

Closing Hymn (insert)

This Is My Song

Covenant Testimony

All: We believe that our covenant with God and each other calls us:
to love God with all that we are,
and our close and distant neighbors as ourselves;
to seek peace through justice and equity for all people;
to engage in nonviolent resistance to evil;
to respect and preserve God's earth;
to foster community across every barrier and division;
to attend to God's unfolding and reconciling Word;
to support each other in our frailties and strengths,
that we may embody that love which overcomes fear and death.
This we testify, confessing always our reliance on God's grace in Christ,
and on the power of the Holy Spirit.

Today's Programs and Events

10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Multigenerational Morning Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
12:15 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn (weather permitting)

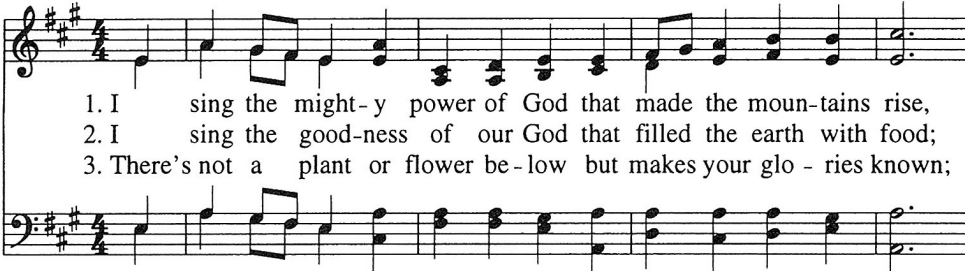
New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for worship? Consider filling out a **welcome card** found on small clipboards in the pews or [online](#), so that we might connect with you about our community.

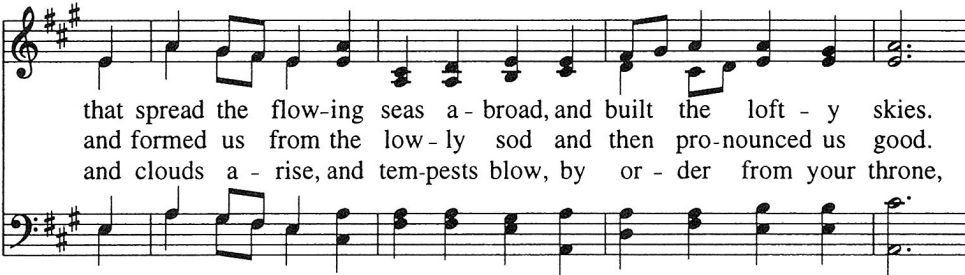
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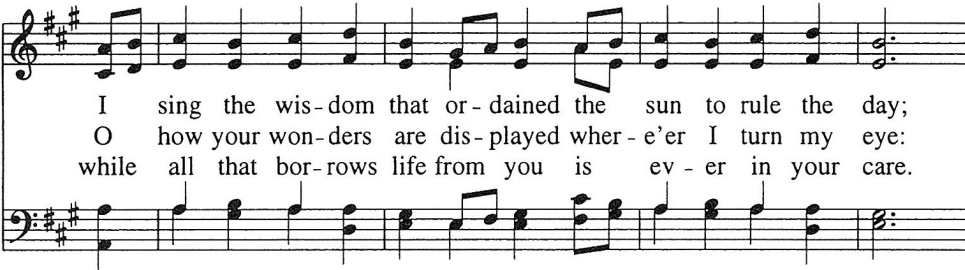
I Sing the Mighty Power of God



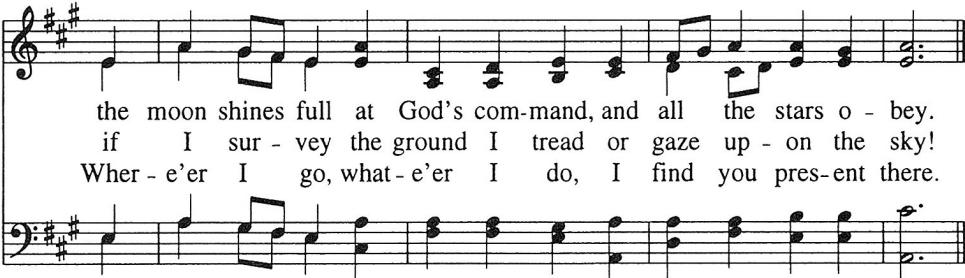
1. I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2. I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
 3. There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes your glo-ries known;



that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad, and built the loft-y skies.
 and formed us from the low-ly sod and then pro-nounced us good.
 and clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from your throne,



I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day;
 O how your won-ders are dis-played wher-e'er I turn my eye:
 while all that bor-rows life from you is ev-er in your 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!
 Wher-e'er I go, what-e'er I do, I find you pres-ent there.

WORDS: Issac Watts, 1715, alt.

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzoglichen Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784

ELLACOMBE

CMD

340

Peace Before Us



1. Peace be-fore us, peace be-hind us, peace be-neath our feet.
2. Love be-fore us, love be-hind us, love be-neath our feet.
3. Light be-fore us, light be-hind us, light be-neath our feet.
4. Christ be-fore us, Christ be-hind us, Christ be-neath our feet.



Peace with-in us, peace a-bove us, let all a-round us be peace.
 Love with-in us, love a-bove us, let all a-round us be love.
 Light with-in us, light a-bove us, let all a-round us be light.
 Christ with-in us, Christ a-bove us, let all a-round us be Christ.



Additional verses: joy, truth, hope.

WORDS: David Haas, (b.1957), alt., based on a Navaho prayer

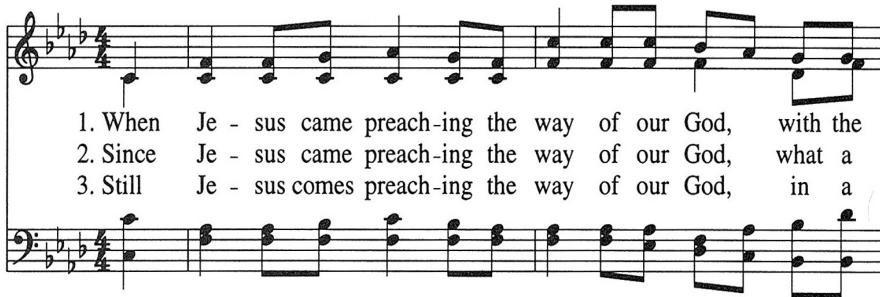
MUSIC: David Haas, (b.1957); harm. FCC, 1997

PRAYER FOR PEACE

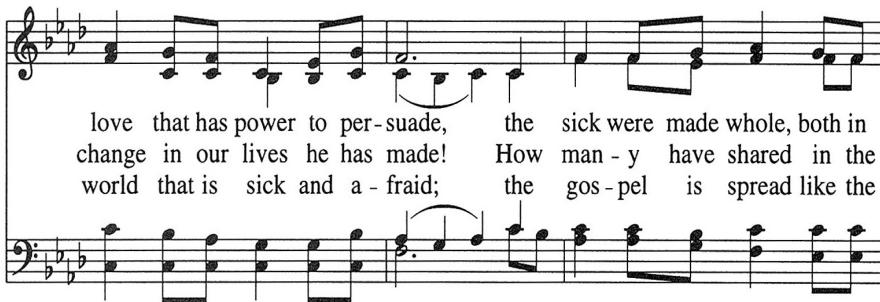
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SERMON HYMN

358 When Jesus Came Preaching the Way of Our God



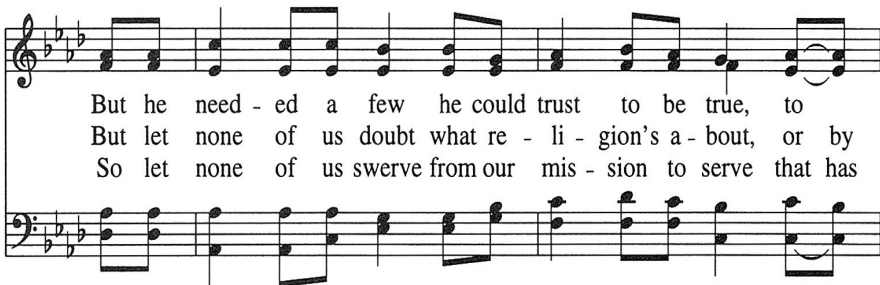
1. When Je - sus came preach-ing the way of our God, with the
2. Since Je - sus came preach-ing the way of our God, what a
3. Still Je - sus comes preach-ing the way of our God, in a



love that has power to per-suade, the sick were made whole, both in
change in our lives he has made! How man - y have shared in the
world that is sick and a - fraid; the gos-pel is spread like the



bod - y and soul, and e - ven the de-mons o - beyed.
joy of their Lord, in self-giv - ing have loved and o - beyed!
leav - en in bread by the love that has power to per-suade,



But he need - ed a few he could trust to be true, to
But let none of us doubt what re - li - gion's a - bout, or by
So let none of us swerve from our mis - sion to serve that has

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1969

MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. FCC, 1997

SAMANTHRA
Irr.

SERMON HYMN

share in the work from the start: when Je - sus came preach-ing the
what it is shamed and be-trayed: do just - ly, love mer - cy, walk
made us his church from the start; may Je - sus, the light of the

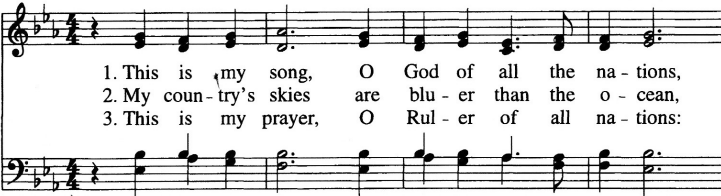
way of our God, the glad gift to the hum - ble of heart.
hum - bly with God, is the rule Je - sus free - ly o - beyed.
world, send us out in the strength of the hum - ble of heart.

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass, in a key of three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the staves, with some words aligned under specific notes. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

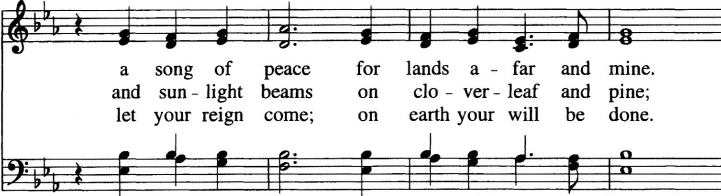
CLOSING HYMN

515

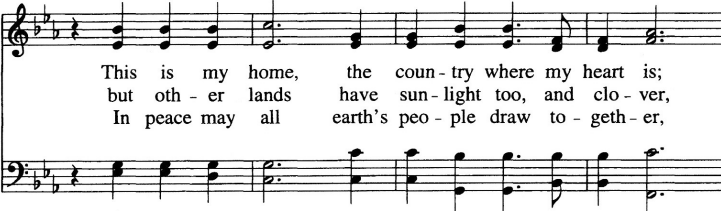
This Is My Song



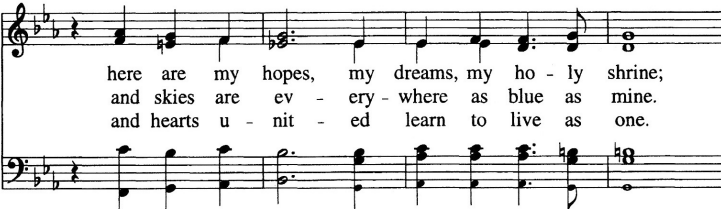
1. This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2. My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3. This is my prayer, O Rul - er of all na - tions:



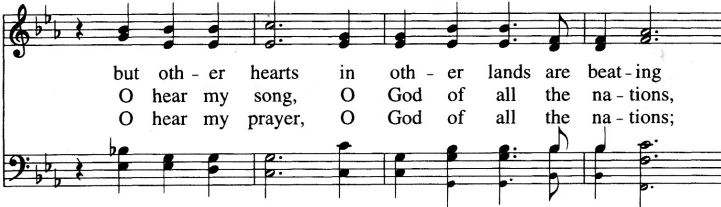
a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine;
 let your reign come; on earth your will be done.



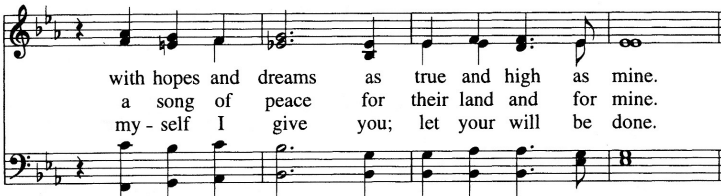
This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 but oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 In peace may all earth's peo - ple draw to - geth - er,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 O hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 O hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

WORDS: Sts. 1, 2, Lloyd Stone, 1934; st. 3, Georgia Harkness, c. 1939, alt.
 MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933

FINLANDIA
 11 10.11 10.11 10

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Lia Ingersoll and her family as they adjust to her new diagnosis of Type 1 Diabetes.
- We pray for all who are living with significant health challenges and their families and caregivers: Poppy Coffin, who is experiencing Alzheimer's Disease; Carter West, who is experiencing a chronic neurological disorder; and Keith Manville, who has atypical Parkinsonism. We also pray for those in treatment for cancer: Betsy Opitz; Louise Higginbotham, Sarah's mother; Dana Hunt, Claire Morgan's mother; Ellen Smith, Devin Hansen's aunt; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones's mother; Karen Anne Zee's daughter Becky Collet and her son-in-law Stewart Bailey; and Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters.
- We pray for all those who are experiencing economic uncertainty in these times of change and upheaval, especially as we recognize how the federal budget bill prioritizes tax relief for the most wealthy while decimating vital supports for health care, food security, and environmental health.
- In this tense time in our country, we pray for all those standing up, in their homes or on the streets, to resist all abuses of power, especially those paying significant personal costs. We pray for all those living in fear and anxiety as we witness people being detained and/or illegally removed from the country without due process. We pray for the grace to love our enemies, and the wisdom and courage to know who they are. We pray for our country, that the good may be nourished and grow, and that that which defies the will of God may weaken and wither, then be transformed and be given new and holy life.
- We lift up the Harvard University community, including people from our congregation, in the midst of a confrontation with the federal government over academic independence and freedom of speech.
- We continue to celebrate the dignity and worth of our trans and gender non-conforming siblings who are experiencing an onslaught of prejudicial discrimination condoned by the current administration and encouraged by recent rulings by the Supreme Court. We affirm that all of us are beloved in the eyes of God, just as we are.
- We pray for people around the world trapped in cycles of violence, especially all the innocent victims of the deadly power games of political rulers: in the Middle East, including the wars between Israel and Gaza, and between Israel and Iran; in Ukraine; in Haiti; and in the Democratic Republic of Congo. In these seemingly intractable situations, may a love of God and respect for human life lead anew to peace for all.
- We continue to pray for our earth and for all creation in the face of the climate crisis.
- We pray for all those giving and receiving care, compassion, and needed services from First Church's homeless ministries, both in the First Church Shelter and at the Friday Café. We continue to pray and work for a just society where housing is recognized as a human right.

Join the [First Church List](#) to see and offer up more community prayer requests.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH



Pastoral Care Cards This Summer

During the summer months, we invite you to support our Pastoral Care ministry by writing a simple note to First Church members who are on our weekly prayer list. It may be to share congratulations, condolences, or “get well soon” wishes. Look for the “card table” at Coffee Hour each Sunday, where you’ll find the weekly list of pastoral care needs and/or the Sunday bulletin prayer section, blank cards, pens, and a Church Directory with addresses.



*scan for
more details*



Invitation to Contribute to Coffee Hour

Please help us make worship as delicious as it is spiritually sustaining! For Coffee Hour each week we are looking for 2-4 households to bring 3 dozen cookies each, or the equivalent of snacks such as cheese & crackers or fruit.



scan to sign up



Breaking Bread Together: Stewardship Meals

The Stewardship Committee is organizing a series of meals to help foster community, connection, and a sense of belonging. A few folks have kindly agreed to host - now we just need to

find friends to join in! If you would be interested in sharing a meal and connecting with about 8-10 others from First Church, please express your interest by completing this form. All you need to do is indicate your interest and whether you are available on the dates noted, and the Stewardship Committee will follow up to confirm your date, time, location, and coordinate a potluck sign-up!



scan to sign up



Contribute to the Reparations Fund in 2025

The First Church Reparations Fund seeks to repay, in a small way, the debt owed to Black and Indigenous communities for centuries of harm. Your continued support is vital.



scan to learn more and donate



Transition at First Church

Stay up to date on all the details of our time of pastoral transition by reading the Discovery Team’s report, reviewing the options presented by the Parsonage Working Group, praying for the work of the Pastoral Search Committee, and more.



scan to visit our Transition webpage