

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

First Presbyterian Church recognizes that God is on the move. Our church, inspired by God's Holy Spirit, will continue to grow in God's love and the example of Jesus Christ as we minister to each other, the community, and the world. Guided by God's calling for our church and each of us as individuals, we will advance God's mission more fully by:

3. Assessing how we need to change in order to sustain our partnership with God's mission for years to come

We believe adapting to a changing social context in order to remain culturally relevant will require prayerful consideration, listening for God's direction, and remaining faithful to God's mission for the church. Organic growth can best be achieved through the communication and demonstration of a compelling purpose that others wish to connect with in order to live by the example of Jesus Christ. A strong family of faith, as demonstrated through worship, giving, service, sacrifice, joy, gratitude, and faithfulness, regularly communicates this purpose both individually and collectively by word and deed as we engage with the world beyond the church. The church family must prayerfully and purposefully provide for the financial resources needed to support the mission of the church, differentiate to meet the needs of the community and church family, take care of the capital resources of the church, and adapt its practices as the mission of the church evolves.

508 WEST DAVIS STREET
BURLINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 27215
www.fpcburlington.org
336-228-1703

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Please join in reading aloud those parts of the service printed in **bold**.*

The congregation is invited to reflect silently during the Music for Preparation as a time of prayer and meditation.

When this symbol () precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

From Teri McDowell Ott with the Presbyterian Outlook

We lay before God our own sins, the sins and brokenness of our fellow worshipers, the church universal, and the world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.
Let us now prepare our hearts to worship God.

MUSIC FOR PREPARATION

Three Trios on Forest Green

David Lasky (b. 1957)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 34:3; 1 John 4:7, 19

O praise the Lord with me,
let us exalt God's name together!
Beloved, let us love one another.
We love because God first loved us.
Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN – NO. 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, although we honor you with our words and worship,
our hearts are often far from you.
We are quick to judge, quick to exclude,
quick to put others down instead of building them up.
Forgive us, God.
Help us amend our ways.
Help us embrace the inclusive love you graciously offer us
and expect us to offer others.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST



*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glory to God!

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Glo - ry to God! The heav'ns a - dore! Let earth re - sound God's
praise there - fore; Au - thor of peace for ev - er - more!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Michael Morgan

*PASSING THE PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY OF CHRIST TO OTHERS

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

The astoundingly good news of our reconciliation to God through Jesus Christ frees our tongues to sing mighty praise to God.

We exchange reconciling words and gestures among the people of God.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

STORY TELLING: Commissioning of Faith Formation Leaders

Your baptism is sufficient for your calling.

You have been baptized in Christ, who calls us into deep and abiding faith.

We entrust to you the education, care, and faith formation of this community, calling upon each of you to walk with us this year.

We journey together, following our Lord Jesus Christ, and trusting in your faithful leadership.

As we join our hearts in growing and forming our faith, we commit to supporting you as you push us and challenge us and love us.

Do those things with all grace, compassion, and gentleness.

For the fruit of the Spirit is gentleness, kindness, love, peace, forbearance, joy, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control. Let us endeavor together to embody these fruits.

Your gifts for leadership are well-received, appreciated, and celebrated.

Go with God, buoyed by the gifts of the Spirit, to love and serve our Lord. Amen.

- PC(USA) Office of Christian Formation

We listen for what God is saying to God's people through scripture, song, and sermon.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Peter 4:8-11

Large Print Pew Bible, page 285

Pew Bible, page 235

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Triune God, in Love Resplendent

Christopher Tambling (1964-2015)

Chancel Choir

Triune God, in love resplendent, wholly one yet fully three,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit one divine community;
move our hearts to wordless wonder, as the mysteries unfold:
shadows of a greater story, never fully to be told!

Holy Spirit, rest upon us that the many may be one;
hold us in the pure communion of the Father with the Son.
From the myriad lives and talents brought together in this place,
make our worship and our living one kaleidoscope of grace.

Keep the life of church and city in the fellowship divine,
joining many hands and voices, turning water into wine,
till a just and free creation, splendid in diversity,
sings as one your endless praises, ever blessed Trinity!

-Michael Forster

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Acts 2:42-47

Large Print Pew Bible, page 145

Pew Bible, page 120

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON: Who Are We? A Church Who Seeks to Sustain and Transform

Dr. Jim Lunde

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN OF RESPONSE – NO. 712**

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

FOREST GREEN

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

- The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;

*Our response to
hearing God's Word
includes singing and
saying what we
believe.*

the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Scott Moffitt

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

Look at the World

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Chancel Choir

Look at the world, everything all around us:
Look at the world, and marvel every day.
Look at the world: so many joys and wonders,
So many miracles along our way.

Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,
Give us thankful hearts, that we may see:
All the gifts we share and every blessing,
All things come of thee.

Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower;
Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain;
Look at the hills, look at the trees and flowers,
Valley and flowing river, field and plain.

Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer
Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold.
Everything grows, everything has a season,
Till it is gathered to the Father's fold.

Every good gift, all that we need and cherish
Comes from the Lord in token of his love;
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty;
His is the earth, and his the heavens above.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be -
 low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a-bove, ye heaven-ly
 host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

BEARING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN – NO. 700**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'M GONNA LIVE

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

VOLUNTARY

Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

James Lunde, D. Min., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Carrie Tuttle, M. Div., Parish Associate for Pastoral Care

J. Patrick Murphy, M. Mus., Organist-Choirmaster

Charlotte Nance-Allbright, M.A, C.C.E., Director of Christian Formation and Education

Pennies for Hunger Offering is being received today. The collection is sent to Salem Presbytery where it is then divided and returned to local food ministries.

Please remain seated and quiet until the conclusion of the closing voluntary.

God blesses and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all who worship with us. We hope in this service you will encounter the living Christ and experience the warmth of our caring family of faith. If you are not receiving the weekly e-newsletter, please feel free to pick up a copy today in the narthex and then contact the church office to be added to the weekly email list. If you are visiting with us and in search of a church home, we invite you to become a part of our church family here at First Presbyterian Church. Please let us know of your interest by way of the friendship register, or by speaking to a minister. The Church Office phone number is 336-228-1703.

MUSIC NOTES: Music texts and impressions, along with streaming music, are provided with permission from One License, License #A-715495. All rights reserved.

LIVE VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE: *Boxcast* will stream to our website and Facebook page each Sunday morning.

LARGE PRINT HYMNS: Copies of today's hymns are included in this worship bulletin.

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of Betty Hooten and in loving memory of James and Dott Hooten by James and Elizabeth Hooten.

CHANCEL FLOWER CORRECTION: Last Sunday, the flowers were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. H.V. Hendrick by Dr. and Mrs. H.B. Kernodle, Jr.

PASTORAL CARE INFORMATION: If you have a personal emergency, hospitalization, or pastoral care need, please call the church office. If it is after office hours or on the weekend, you may contact the minister on call by calling the church at 336-228-1703 and pressing 9. You will then be connected to the minister on call: Carrie Tuttle

WHO ARE WE? SERMON SERIES

Dr. Lunde has begun his preaching ministry here at FPC by reflecting on the four main points of our vision statement. Join us as we start a new season in the story of FPC by reflecting on who we are and who God has called us to be together!

Today: "Who Are We? A Church Who Seeks to Sustain and Transform"

September 15: "Who Are We? A Church Who Serves Alongside"

SMALL GROUP registration for September through November is live and ready for you to pick where you want to grow, learn, serve, and fellowship. Go to your favorite web browser and type in **fpcsmallgroups.org** to access the options. New and creative opportunities are waiting for you! Contact Charlotte Nance-Allbright with questions or for more info (callbright@fpcburlington.org or 336-228-1703 x 223).

SALTY SAINTS

To be "salty" is to enhance flavor. As a "Salty Saint", we enhance the flavor of life with each other in fellowship.

All Salty Saints in your 60s and 70s, mark your calendars for these upcoming fellowship opportunities! No RSVP is needed!

Tuesday September 10

-Mini Dingo 6:00, fellowship and stay for trivia at 7:00 if you'd like

Wednesday October 2

-Red Oak Brewery 6:00, fellowship and stay for Bingo at 7:00 if you'd like

Thursday November 7

-Friendsgiving gathering at Greg and Wendy Lunsford's home, details to follow

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDIES LED BY DR. JIM LUNDE

This fall, the midweek bible studies, beginning September 10 in the Witherspoon Room, will do an in-depth study on the lessons for the upcoming Sunday worship service. Each week, Dr. Lunde will help us explore the historical and cultural contexts of our Old and New Testament readings and discern their lifegiving message for us today. Join one of these groups for great fellowship, study, as well as an opportunity to reflect on the weekly lessons before worship! For more information, please contact

JLunde@fpcburlington.org or call the church office at 336-228-1703.

Start dates:

Tuesday Morning Men's Study 6:45 a.m. September 10

Wednesday Morning Everyone Study 10:00 a.m. September 11

Thursday Morning Women's Study 6:45 a.m. September 12

NEW CHOIR SEASON: Our Choirs begin a new season THIS WEEK. We always welcome new singers – young and old!

- ◆◆ Wednesday, September 4: **Chancel Choir** (college age and adult) – 6:45 p.m. in the Choir Room (Room 225)
- ◆◆ Today: **Children's Choir** (K-grade 5) – 4:00 p.m. in the Children's Choir Room (Room 220)

Contact Patrick Murphy (pmurphy@fpcburlington.org or 336-228-1703 X218) for more information.

Here's to a great singing year!

ATTENTION BOOK LOVERS! Join the FPC Lunch Bunch Group on Tuesday, September 10, at 12 Noon for a riveting discussion of Nikki Erlick's novel The Measure. This intriguing story examines an age-old question "If I knew when my death would occur, how would I live my life?" Through the lives of several characters, the book compels readers to consider a number of issues about life, about living in community, about confronting death, about doing good and about "taking measure of one's life." Bring your lunch if you like. The group will meet in the Witherspoon Room.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Session has called a Congregational Meeting immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, September 15. The purpose of the meeting is to hear from the Nominating Committee and to vote on Deacons and Elders to be installed in 2025.

UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM led by Mr. Steve Matthews Mondays, September 16, 23 & 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the John Knox Room. All are welcome.

LUNCH WITH STAFF AT THE VILLAGE AT BROOKWOOD AND TWIN LAKES *SAVE THE DATE!*

- The Village at Brookwood--Wednesday, September 11 at 12:00 noon in the dining room
- Twin Lakes--Thursday, September 12 at 12:00 noon in the Terrace

This will be a wonderful time of fellowship, another opportunity to meet Dr. Lunde and a chance to hear about all that is going on at FPC from your program staff.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY is our September Mission Giving Focus. We are highlighting the Women's Build and have a team ready to put on their hard hats, swing a hammer, and love our neighbors in need. The FPCB Pink Ladies would love your prayers for all the teams and the people who will receive the homes they help to build. If you feel moved to give to help with the cost of the home, the giving link is <https://grouprev.com/womenbuild2024-teamfirstprezpinkladies>. You'll see our team met their goal (YAY!) and additional gifts are most welcome.

MEMORIAL BLOODMOBILE:

The American Red Cross is planning to hold a blood drive on Monday, September 30, 2024 in Shive Hall from 2:00– 6:30 P.M.

The blood drive is done in memory of Harold Lloyd who organized a number of blood drives at FPC and Barbara Lloyd who was a faithful Red Cross volunteer for many years.

Donor registration is now available. To schedule an appointment go to redcrossblood.org and use the sponsor code **FPC**. If you need assistance or information you may contact Lucy Kernodle, Site Coordinator, at lkernodle@bellsouth.net. More details are available in the weekly e-blast.

THE FURNITURE MINISTRY

Next churchwide Furniture Ministry workday: Saturday, September 14, 9:00-12N. Volunteers needed for heavy and light work. All are needed and welcome!

Furniture Ministry warehouse hours are once again Mondays from 1:00-4:00 pm. Volunteers are welcome each week. Donations can be dropped off. Call 336-212-2937 for pickup.

VISIT THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD SITE IN SNOW CAMP ON SEPTEMBER 14

Did you know that the Underground Railroad went through Alamance County?! Join us Saturday, September 14, at 10:00 a.m. in Snow Camp (301 Drama Road, Snow Camp) to learn about this fascinating history with engaging leader Mr. James Shields. The program is about an hour. (Note that it is outdoor, so if rain is threatening we will contact you in the event of a cancellation.) Please sign up by emailing reception@fpcburlington.org.

Thursday, September 19—11:00 a.m. Shive Hall

Jim Jam!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Shive Hall!! Our fall kickoff **FRIENDSHIP GROUP** brings the opportunity to greet our new pastor, Jim Lunde, hear his stories and ask him burning questions. All followed by a delicious lunch! RSVP September 16 to pmurphy@fpcburlington.org or call the church office, 336.228.1703

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will kick off with a potluck dinner tonight from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Shive Hall. Parents and youth come learn more about the fellowship program schedule for this year, meet advisors, see a slideshow of summer youth trip adventures, and be part of the planning for youth topics, recreation, and mission/service.

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 8

- 9:00 a.m. Ministry Fair – Shive Hall
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal – Room 220
- 5:00 p.m. Youth/Families Kick-Off Potluck Dinner – Shive Hall
- 6:00 p.m. PW Circle #1 – Witherspoon Room

Monday, September 9

- 11:00 a.m. PW Circle #2 – Witherspoon Room
- Noon Furniture Ministry Team Meeting – Room 228
- 6:00 p.m. BSA Eagle Board Meeting – Garrison Joyner Activities Building – Conference Room

Tuesday, September 10

- 6:45 a.m. Tuesday Morning Men’s Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
- 7:30 a.m. Dough Devotions – The Park Restaurant
- 8:00 a.m. Walk and Talk
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting – Room 203
- 10:00 a.m. PW Circle #4 – Witherspoon Room
- Noon Lunch Bunch Book Club – Witherspoon Room
- 6:00 p.m. Salty Saints – Mini Dingo

Wednesday, September 11

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
- Noon The Village at Brookwood Luncheon with Program Staff
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Game Night – Room 401
- 6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 12

- 6:45 a.m. Thursday Morning Women’s Bible Study – Witherspoon Room
- 9:30 a.m. Andrews Elementary Backpack Packing – Witherspoon Room
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry – Room 201
- Noon Twin Lakes Community Luncheon with Program Staff

Saturday, September 14

- 9:00 a.m. Furniture Ministry Workday – Presbyterian Outreach Building
- 10:00 a.m. Visit the Underground Railroad – Snow Camp
- 2:00 p.m. Rizzo Memorial Service – Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Rizzo Family Reception – John Knox Room



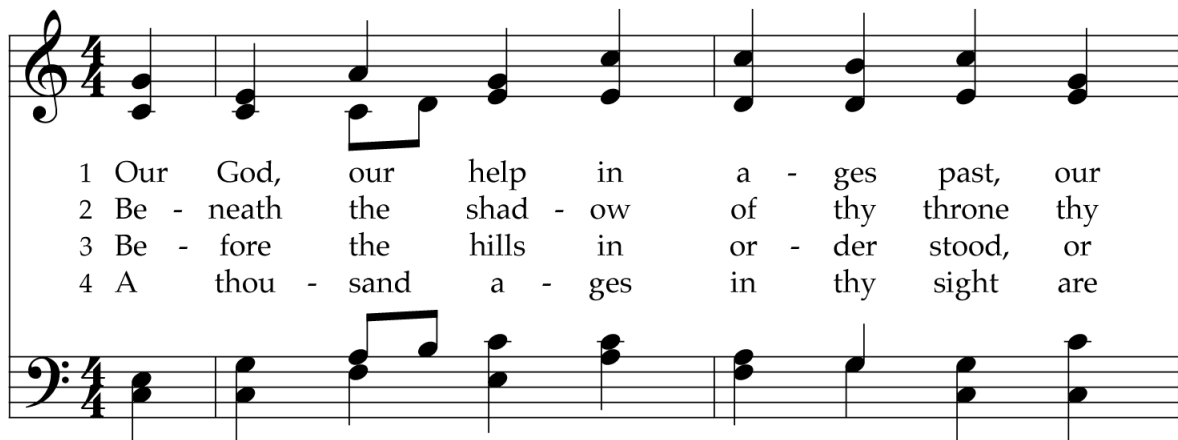
A Moment’s Meditation

The central element in communion with God is the act of self-surrender.

Howard Thurman

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)



1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

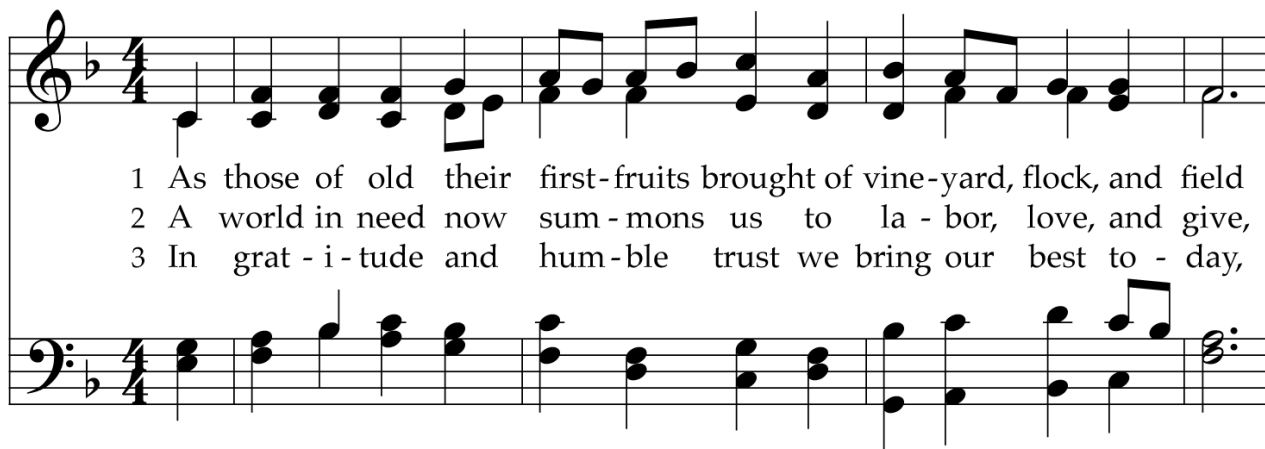


storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
thou art God, to end - less years the same.
ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

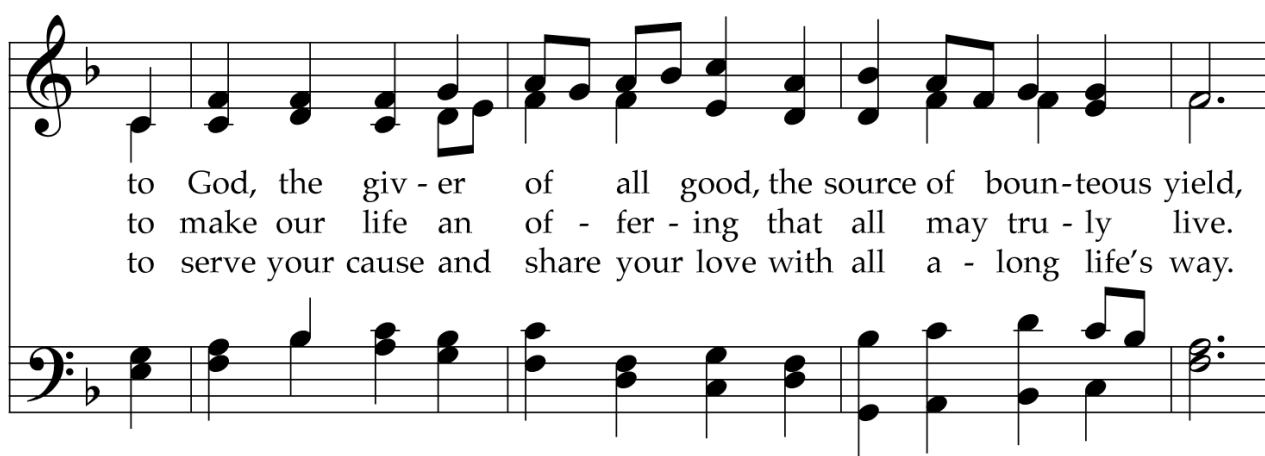
5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

6 Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

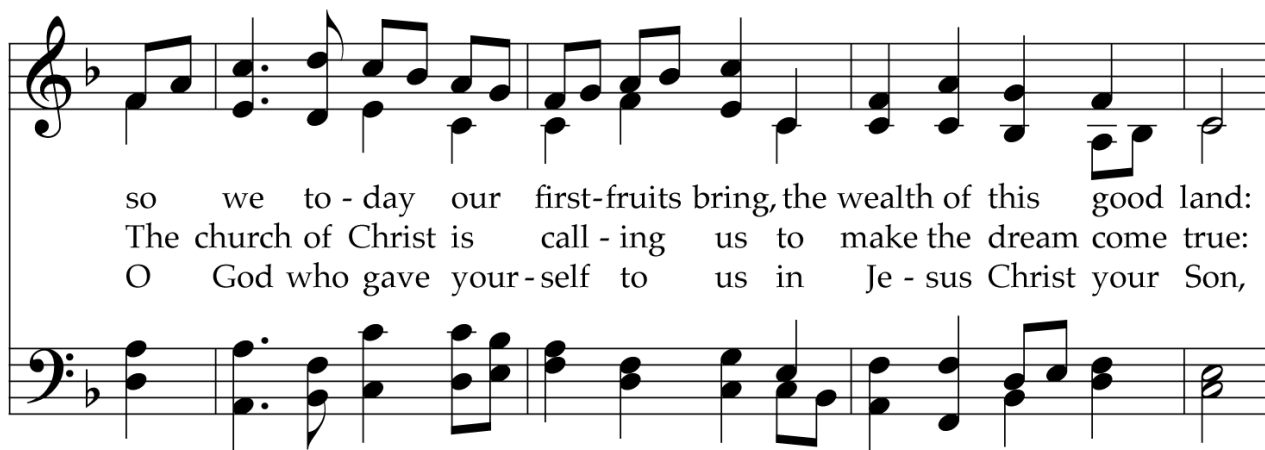
As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought 712



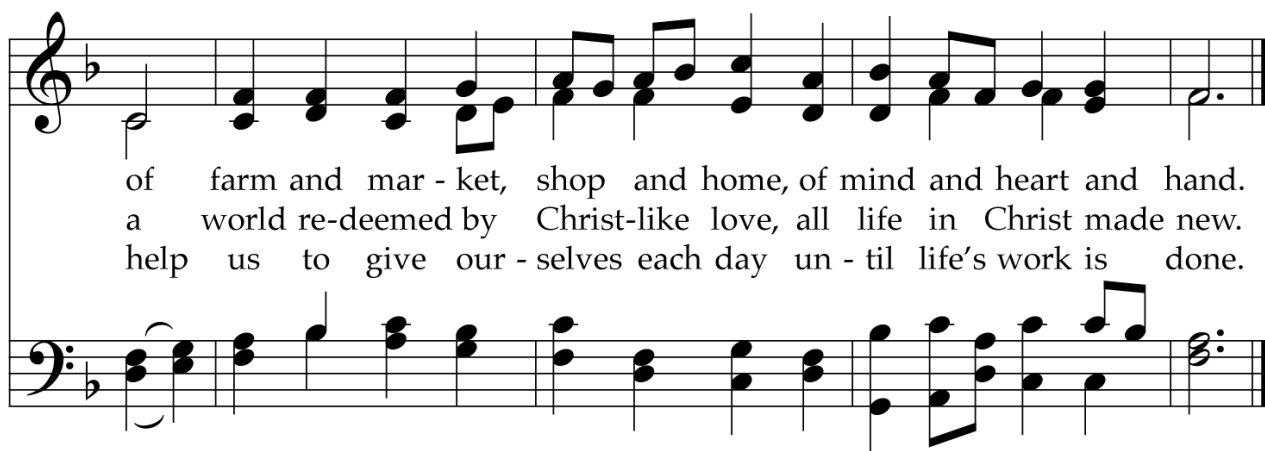
1 As those of old their first-fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la-bor, love, and give,
3 In grat-i-tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to-day,



to God, the giv-er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
to make our life an of-fer-ing that all may tru-ly live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a-long life's way.



so we to-day our first-fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
The church of Christ is call-ing us to make the dream come true:
O God who gave your-self to us in Je-sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar-ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.
help us to give our-selves each day un-til life's work is done.

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)
 work so (work so) God can use me an - y -
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (my Lord,) (an - y - time!)