



First Presbyterian Church of Albany

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF FAITH TO ALL

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost • September 29, 2024
10:30 Worship



Welcome!

Whether you are worshipping with us for the first time or have grown up here at FPC,
we are glad you are worshipping here this morning!

The Gathering

**indicates when to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

Prelude in D Major BMV 532

J.S Bach

Welcome & Announcements

Minute for Mission

Ringing of the Bell

Choral Introit

God Is Our Refuge

W.A. Mozart

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

God is our refuge, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

***Call to Worship**

One: God calls us into life in a world full of wonders.

All: There are many choices we are to make.

One: We can choose as our life's focus to love God and to become people that live in
accord with God's hopes and wishes for humanity.

All: We can work at building a good name for ourselves.

One: To be known for living with integrity, honesty and love.

All: We can work at cultivating a good mind.

One: To pursue education and the deeper wisdom of life as a child of God.

**All: We are called to be a part of a good community, like we have here at First
Pres.**

One: Much of it is achieved by making a good practice of living as God would have
us live. Let us worship the living God.

***Hymn No. 409**

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, we give you thanks that you have claimed us as your own and nourished us in this meal as members of Christ's body. By the work of your Spirit within us give us the grace to glorify you as one living body in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent prayers of personal confession may be offered.

***Kyrie Eleison**

Lord, Have Mercy

TRADITIONAL



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

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

***The Welcome and Peace**

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

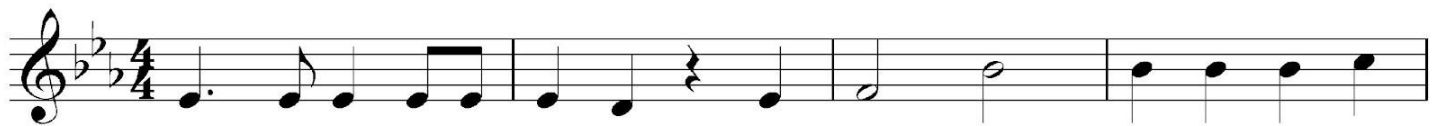
All: And also with you.

The congregation greets one another with words and signs of peace.

***Gloria Patri No. 581**

Glory Be to the Father

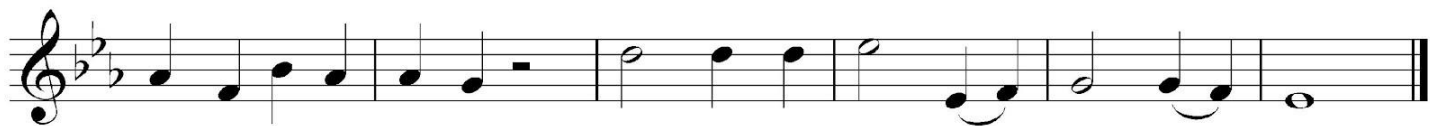
GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)



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.

The Word

New Testament Lesson Hebrews 1:1–4, 2:5–12 (N.T., pp. 218–219) Tara Lindsley

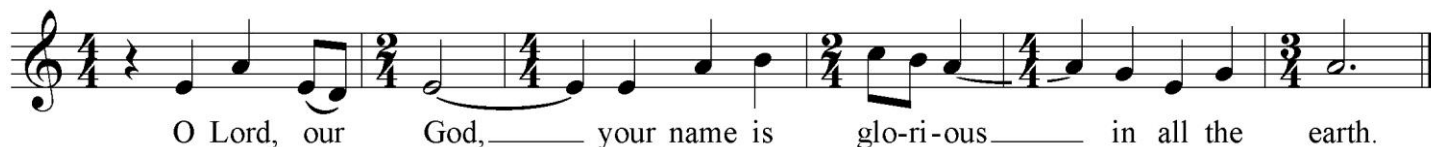
One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 8

Fiona McKinney, *alto*

(Cantor sings the refrain once then followed by the congregation)



Your praise reaches to the heavens. It is sung by the mouths of babes and children. Your power rebukes your mighty enemy, and stills the hostile foe. **(R)**

When I look to the heavens you created, the moon and stars you made, who are we that you should spare a thought for us, even more that you should care for us? **(R)**

In your image we were created, you have crowned us with the glory and splendor. You gave us power to rule your vast creation, you place us over all your works. **(R)**

The sheep and oxen of the field, the beasts in the wildest habitation, the birds of the air, the fish, all creatures in the sea. **(R)**

Anthem

In Thee O Lord

Franz Joseph Haydn

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust.

Bow down thine ear unto me, make haste to deliver me.

Be thou also my guide, O Lord.

Draw me out of the net the wicked have thrown to ensnare me,

For thou art my God. Into Thy hands I commend my spirit.

In Thee, O Lord, have I put my trust, for Thou hast redeemed me,

O Lord, Thou God of truth

Old Testament Lesson Job 1:1, 2:1–10 (O.T., pp. 453–451)

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Our Response

***Hymn No. 691**

Lord, When I Came into This Life

LAND OF REST

Prayers of the People

Karen Brown

*There is a "Prayers of the People" book on the table in the back of the sanctuary. We encourage the congregation to write their concerns and thanksgivings in the book before the service so they can be included in the Prayers of the People. Several petitions are offered, each concluding with: O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

Ushers will pass the offering plates to each pew. There are also offering receptacles located in the back of the sanctuary. You may place your offering in one on the way into worship or as you leave. You may also donate online at <https://firstpresalbany.org/give/> or scan the QR code to the right.



Offertory

My God is a Rock

Alice Parker

Daniel Hoke, bass

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

[Chorus]: My God is a Rock in a weary land, weary land, in a weary land,
My God is a Rock in a weary land, shelter in a time of storm

Stop and let me tell you 'bout the Chapter One
When the Lord God's work was just begun.
Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Two
When the Lord God's written His Bible through
Stop and let me tell you about Chapter Three
When the Lord God died on Calvary
[Chorus]

Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Four
When the Lord God visit among the poor.
Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Five
When the Lord God brought the dead alive.

Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Six
He went in Jerusalem and healed the sick.

[Chorus]

Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Seven
Died and ris'n and went to Heav'n,

Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Eight,
John seen him standin' at the Golden Gate

Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Nine,
Lord God turned water to wine

Stop and let me tell you 'bout Chapter Ten,
John says He's com-in' in the world again.

[Chorus]

***Doxology (sung in unison)**

Praise God, from whom all bless- ings flow; Praise Christ, all peo- ple here be - low; Praise
Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; Praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Eucharist (Thanksgiving)

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

All those, including children, who seek the way of Christ and desire fellowship in the church are invited to the Lord's Table to share in our common meal of Thanksgiving.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

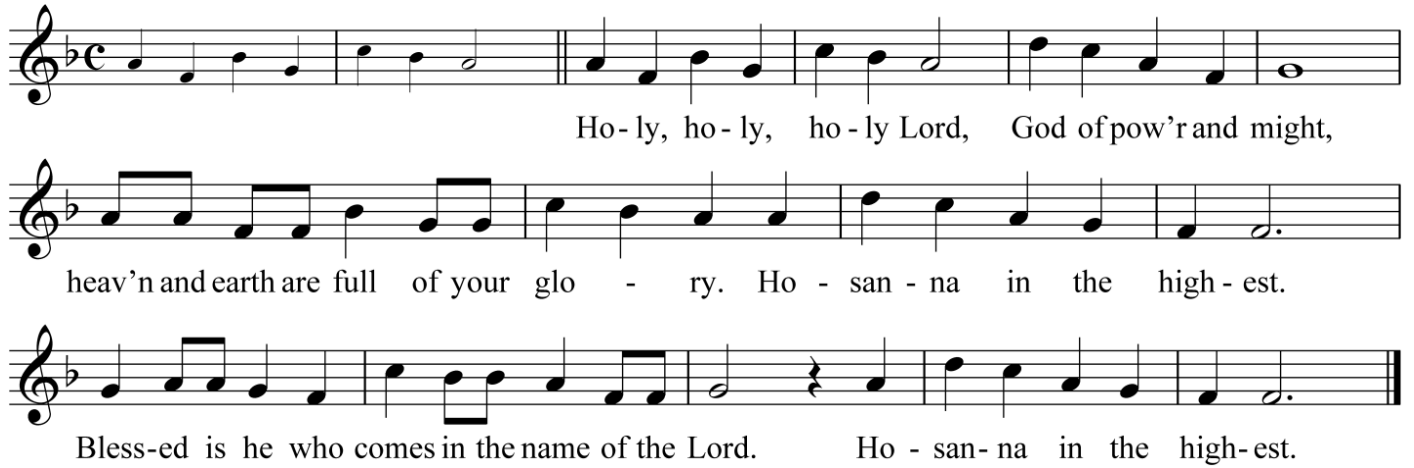
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(prayer continues with sung responses)

One: ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All Sing:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

One: ... in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Sing:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a-gain.

One: ...All glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

All Sing:



A - - men. A - - men.

One: ...Hear us now as together we pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, saying:

All: 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.

Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

The congregation is served at the front of the sanctuary, coming forward by the center aisle and returning by the side aisles. Communion is by intinction – take a piece of bread from the loaf or a piece of pita from the plate, dip it into the cup of juice, and eat. When served, you may respond by saying “Amen,” “Thanks be to God,” or another response. You may choose a sealed prepackaged communion element from one of the baskets – the ones with “GF” are gluten-free. If you prefer to receive communion in the pew, you may remain in your seat and signal an usher. Servers will bring you the elements.

Communion Music

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

John Ness Beck

Fiona McKinney, *alto*

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee.

I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

O Light that follows all my way, I yield my flick’ring torch to thee.

My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine’s blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee.

I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, that morn
shall tearless be.

Prayer after Communion

All: Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life. As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors. As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry. As we have been loved, help us to love the world—because in Christ Jesus you have loved us. Amen.

The Sending

***Hymn No. 366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

***Charge and Blessing**

***Response by the People (*in unison*) Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.**

***Responsive Hymn 80**

You Shall Go Out with Joy

THE TREES OF THE FIELD

The musical score is written on six staves in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The lyrics are: "You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands. And all the trees of the field will clap their hands; the trees of the field will clap their hands; the trees of the field will clap their hands; while you go out with joy." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence at the end.

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in D

David Johnson

You may be seated if you wish to listen to the postlude.

Please come to Assembly Hall for Fellowship Time.

For your convenience and as an aid to your worship experience, large print hymnals and Bibles are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

The music is reprinted under CCLI License #2853455 and OneLicense #A-716938.

All are Welcome in this Place!

New faces and voices are always welcome and add to the spirit of our worship, education, mission and fellowship. Let us know you worshipped with us by either filling in the yellow card in the pew in front of you or by scanning the QR code. Pastors Miriam & Glenn use email addresses to share congregational email and important announcements about the life of the church.



First Presbyterian Church

is a community for all people where apprentices of Jesus seek to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

We are called by God to envision and work toward eradicating systemic poverty, eliminating structural racism and sharing the experience of the good news of God's love, peace and joy.

We welcome children to our worship services. Nursery care for children ages birth through kindergarten is provided on the second floor of the Christian Education Building. Nursery care is available from 8:45am to 12:15pm and is staffed by experienced childcare providers Morgan Rosekrans and Mary Margaret Cabuhat.

Parking is available on Sunday mornings in Washington Park. There is also a parking lot on Washington Avenue just west of Lark Street available during church services on Sunday mornings. The church parking lot on Sunday mornings is reserved for visitors and for those who, for physical reasons, need close access to the church. Please note the spaces reserved for those with disabilities, and please do not block other cars.

We continue to livestream our Sunday worship services on Facebook.

Christian Education on Sunday mornings

9:15-10:15 Education Classes in the Education Building

Godly Play in the Preschool Class on 2nd floor (age 3 thru kindergarten)

Godly Play in The Upper Rooms on 3rd floor (Grades 1-5)

Youth Education in the Youth Room on 2nd floor (Grades 6-12)

Adult Education Class in the Rose Room on 1st floor and MS Teams

Announcements

Today in the Adult Education Class we explored long-term illness and how to live with it with Patricia Fennell. **Next Sunday, October 6**, there will be no 9:15 adult class but instead all are invited to the Lunch and Learn event at noon with Susan Cotner, Executive Director of the Albany Land Trust. Plan now to stay for this event!.

Please join the Anti-Racism Committee **after worship today, September 29**, for Voter Registration Sunday. Democracy is fairer and more just when all eligible voters participate. Register to vote or learn about the procedures to register, so that you can assist others in registering to vote. In New York state, registration forms must be received by October 26 to vote in the November 5 election.



Aging With Pride
Monthly Potluck
Sunday October 6

1:00pm - 3:00pm First Pres Church. This is a wonderful opportunity for LGBTQ+ seniors to come together in a welcoming, supportive environment to share food, stories, and laughter.

Each month the **FOCUS Food Pantry** requests items from its member churches. FPC's October donation is bar soap. All items must be new and unopened. The **FOCUS Food Pantry** is also requesting one-pound bags of rice, as they are unable to get these from suppliers. Please leave donations in the box in Assembly Hall. Questions? Call Susan Sneeringer at 518-496-4793.

First Presbyterian has a number of **Small Groups** where people come together on a regular schedule for fellowship, study and prayer. **Looking for one to join?** A new Small Group will begin Wednesday, October 2, at 7pm in the church's Rose Room. Other meetings will be held on 10/16, 11/6, 11/20 and 12/4. Topic to be determined. All are welcome! If you're interested or have questions, please contact Pastor Miriam (mleupold@firstpresalbany.org or 518-449-7332).

VOTE! The Anti Racism Committee and Walls Temple AME Zion Church are sponsoring a get-Out-the-Vote Postcard Writing Party on **Tuesday, Oct. 8** at First Presbyterian Church. This begins at 6:00 pm with a light supper. Come and work as long as you would like!

Announcements

The paraments (the cloth on the pulpit, lectern, and communion table) and the pastors' stoles (the cloth around their necks) are green, the liturgical color for **Ordinary Time** (Monday after

Pentecost through Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent). Green is a sign of life in nature and as such represents growth, life and hope.



Inquirer Classes

Interested in learning about
becoming a member?
Attend a class to find out more on
September 29, October 6 or 13
9:15-10:15am
in the church Library.

Questions: contact Pastor Miriam at 518.449.7332
or mleupold@firstpresalbany.org

First Pres Community Partners Lunch & Learn Lecture Series

The Outreach & Mission Committee invites you to our first
Lunch & Learn Lecture
immediately following worship at 11:30 a.m.
Sunday, October 6, 2024

*Understanding the Affordable Housing Crisis
in the Capital Region*



Speaker: Ms. Susan Cotner
Executive Director, Albany Community Land Trust

The O&M Committee will provide the main course, bread, and beverages.
We ask that members of our congregation please bring
a dessert or side dish to round out the menu (not required but appreciated!)
Please sign up on the sheet in Assembly Hall.
Thank you!

Serving you on Sunday, September 29

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Carol Bullard, Kathie Keck, Yousaf Mathias, Sue Haney

Online Worship Assistant: Alison Stonbely

Scripture Reader: Tara Lindsley

Prayer Reader: Karen Brown

Communion Servers: John Myers & Kendra Smith-Howard

Offering Counters: John Myers & Yousaf Mathias

Audio Visual Specialist: John Myers

Serving you on Sunday, October 6

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Joanne Gascoyne, Richard Gascoyne, David Hannay, Ann Hannay, Amy Jenal

Online Worship Assistant: Jeff & Meddy Jacques

Scripture Reader: Alison Stonbely

Prayer Reader: Owen Gilbo

Communion Servers: Paloma Luisi & Chas Kite

Offering Counters: Leslie Cheu & Janna Pfluger-Boucher

Audio Visual Specialist: Dwight Cheu

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Today	11:45am Fellowship Time & Voter Registration
Monday, 9/30	7:00pm FCC Rehearsal
Tuesday, 10/01	5:30 pm Outreach and Missions Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 10/2	7:00 pm Small Group meeting
Thursday, 10/03	7:00 am Men's Bible Study 6:15 pm Octet Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday, October 6	9:15 am Children's Education (1 st through 5 th grade) 9:15 am Preschool Education 9:15 am Youth Education 9:15 am Inquirers' Class 9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship Service in the sanctuary and livestreaming on Facebook 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn 1:00 pm Aging with Pride Monthly Potluck

Deacons currently serving on the Board of Deacons

Susan Haney – Moderator
David Hinchon – Hospitality Team
Kathie Keck – Hospitality Team
Ellen Kemp – Flower Team
Sebagala Kimuli – Care Team
Chas Kite – Care Team

Elders currently serving on Session

Mirabelle Beck – Stewardship Committee Chair
Marian Eaton – Clerk of Session
Ellen Eisenbraun – Christian Education Committee Chair
Kevin Fuscus – Property Committee Chair
Annette Johnson – Anti-Racism Committee Chair
Sarah Lansaw – Nominating Committee Chair
Paloma Luisi – Finance Committee Chair
Kelsey Mayo – Membership Committee Chair
Lillie McLaughlin – Social Justice and Peacemaking Committee Chair
Jon Rice – Outreach and Mission Committee Chair
Amy Robinson – Administration Committee Chair
Roseline Takor – Worship Committee Chair



First Presbyterian
Church of Albany

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*Glenn D. Leupold, Co-Pastor • Miriam Lawrence Leupold, Co-Pastor • Michael C. Lister, Director of Music
Trevor Kahlbaugh, Organist • Molly Dowell, Youth Director • Steven Minchin, Office Administrator*



Check out our socials!

GATHERING

409

God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.

Lord, When I Came into This Life 691

1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you
 2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
 3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
 4 So help me in my un - be - lief and

called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
 mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
 tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
 let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed

mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
 all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
 give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
 on the earth, my sights set high on you.

Written for the confirmation of the author's son, this text of self-dedication also voices our recurring individual need to recommit ourselves in less formal ways. The familiar shape note tune enhances a sense of finding our place among God's people from all times and places.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1976

MUSIC: American folk melody; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

Text © 1979 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

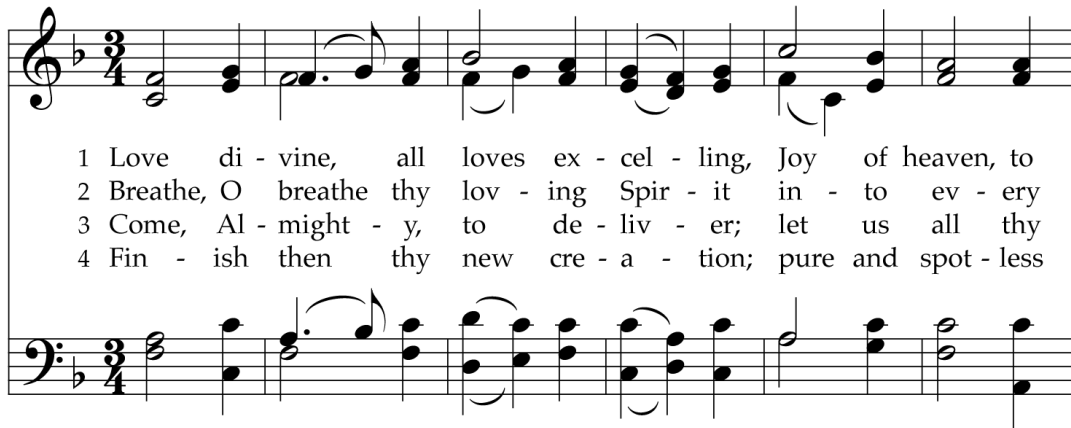
Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

LAND OF REST

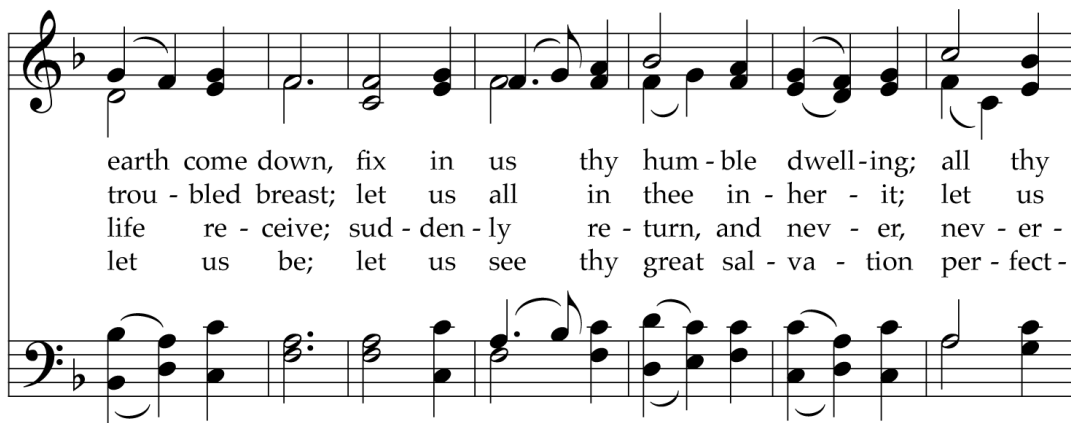
CM

(alternate harmonization, 545)

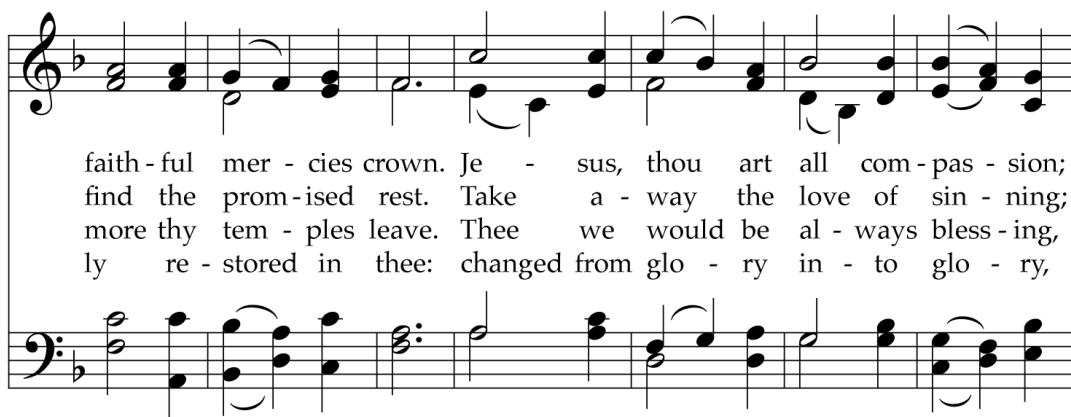
366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.