



# First Presbyterian Church of Albany

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF FAITH TO ALL

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 9, 2025 • 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**

*Solemn Processional*

Robert A. Harris

### **Welcome & Announcements**

### **Minute for Mission**

Lillie McLaughlin

### **Ringing of the Bell**

### **Choral Introit**

*Come and See*

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Lister

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

We believe this is Jesus; come and see, come and see.

We believe this is Jesus; come and see, come and see.

The light of God shines in his face. Come and see, come and see.

Offering all his pard'ning grace; come and see, come and see.

O, what a wonder God has done; come and see, come and see.

God has given us his Son. Come and see, come and see.

### **\*Call to Worship**

One: It is by grace that we are who we are:

**All: people who are called by Jesus, yet fearful to follow.**

One: It is by God's grace that we can become followers:

**All: people who are fearful, yet gifted with courage beyond wonder.**

One: It is with God's grace that we become who we might be:

**All: people who step out in faith, sharing the good news generously.**

### **\*Hymn No. 515**

*I Come with Joy*

DOVE OF PEACE

### \*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior.

### \*Kyrie Eleison

*Lord, Have Mercy*

LAND OF REST



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



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; 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. 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)



1. Glo - ry to God, \_\_\_\_\_ whose good - ness shines on me, and to the  
2. World with - out end, \_\_\_\_\_ with - out end. A - men. World with - out



Son, \_\_\_\_\_ whose grace has set me free, and to the Spir - it, \_\_\_\_\_ whose love has  
end, \_\_\_\_\_ with - out end. A - men. World with - out end, \_\_\_\_\_ with - out



set me free. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.  
end. A - men.

## Litany of Remembrance

One: For those who have gone before us, for their contributions to our lives and to our community; for the memories we hold dear;

**All: We give thanks for their faithfulness, their witness and their good works.**

One: For those who have guided our steps with wisdom; for those who have opened our eyes to the truth; for those who have strengthened our wills by their encouragement;

**All: We give thanks for their faithfulness, their witness and their good works.**

One: With reverence and affection we remember before you, O everlasting God, all our departed loved ones, friends and partners in Christ.

**All: We give thanks for their faithfulness, their witness and their good works.**

**May this candle we light today remind us that just as those dedicated Servants of God who came before us kept “their lamps trimmed and burning,” so must we.**

One: O God of everlasting love, keep us in union with them, through faith and love toward you, and that we be numbered with those who serve you.

**All: Amen**

## The Word

### Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 6:1-8 (O.T., pp. 635-636)

Dwight Cheu

One: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 138

Daniel Hoke, *baritone*

The ru-lers of all the earth, the ru-lers will praise you, Lord,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.  
(Cantor sings the refrain once then followed by the congregation)

With my whole heart will I praise you, O Lord; before the gods I will sing your praise. I will bow down and worship at your holy temple and praise your name for your faithfulness and love. **(R)**

Your name and your word are exalted above all; yet when I called, you answered and strengthened me. All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth. **(R)**

They will sing the ways of the Lord. How great is the glory of the Lord! For though the Lord is high, God has regard for the lowly; as for the proud, God considers them from afar. **(R)**

Though I walk in the midst of troubles, you save me; against the fury of my foes, you stretch out your hand. With your right you deliver me. The Lord will fulfill a purpose for me. Your loving kindness, O Lord, endures forever; do not forsake the work of your hands. **(R)**

**Anthem**

*I Want to Be Ready*

Moses Hogan

Daniel Hoke, *baritone*

I want to be ready, I want to be ready, I want to be ready to walk in Jerusalem, just like John.

Oh, John, oh John, oh what did you say (to walk in Jerusalem, just like John) that I'll be there at the comin' day. (to walk in Jerusalem, just like John)

John said the city was just four-square, (to walk in Jerusalem, just like John) and he declared he'd meet me there. (to walk in Jerusalem, just like John)

If you get there before I do, (to walk in Jerusalem, just like John) tell all my friends I'm comin' too. (to walk in Jerusalem, just like John)

I want to be ready, I want to be ready, I want to be ready to walk in Jerusalem, to sing in Jerusalem, to shout in Jerusalem just like John.

**Gospel Lesson**

Luke 5:1-11 (N.T., p. 62)

One: The gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Miriam Lawrence Leupold

**Our Response**

**\*Hymn No. 751**

*From the Nets of Our Labor  
We Will Rise Up and Follow*

HAMILTON

## Prayers of the People

Peg Schalit

*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.*



## Offertory

*Deep Waters*

Pepper Choplin

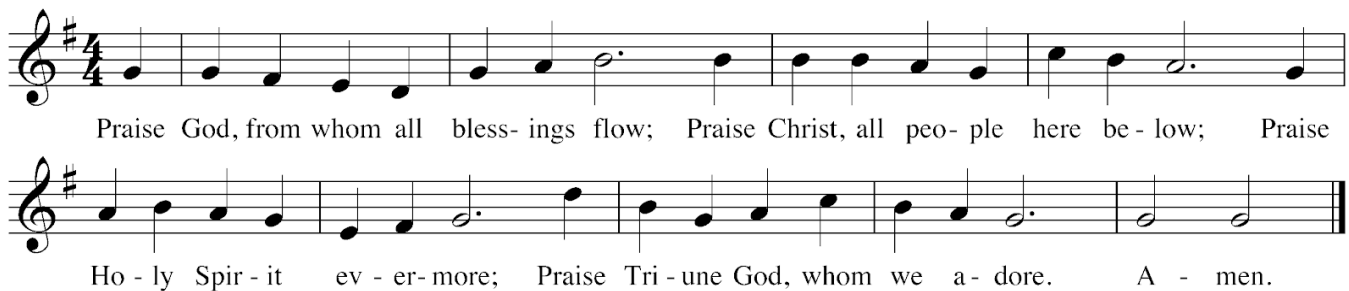
Their fishing nets were empty when they first saw the Lord.  
All night they had been fishing in the waters by the shore.  
The Lord said "Go to deep waters, cast your nets once more."  
And because they obeyed, they would never be the same.

Go to deep waters, deep waters, where only faith will let you go.  
Go out to deep waters, deep waters, harvests of faith will overflow.

They cast their nets and almost before they could begin  
Their nets were overflowing and they had to pull them in.  
And though this was their greatest catch their fishing days would end.  
For they abandoned all when they heard the master's call.

Go to deep waters, deep waters, where only faith will let you go.  
Go out to deep waters, deep waters, harvests of faith will overflow.

## \*Doxology (sung in unison)



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; 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 )*

One: And now with the confidence of the children of God, we are bold to pray:

**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

*How Great Thou Art*

*Stuart Wesley Keene Hine*

*Daniel Hoke, baritone*

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder. Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my saviour God, to thee. How great thou art, how great thou art.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and lead me home, what joy shall fill my heart then I shall bow with humble adoration and then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

### Prayer after Communion

**Most loving God, you have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup and made us one with Christ. Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Sending

**\*Hymn No. 170**

*You Walk along Our Shoreline*

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

**\*Charge and Blessing**

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

**\*Responsive Hymn No. 76**

*Do Not Be Afraid*

ISAIAH 43

Do not be a - fraid, for I am with you.\_\_\_\_\_ Cho-sen and be - loved, you are my  
own.\_\_\_\_\_ Do not be a - fraid, for I have re - deemed you:\_\_\_\_\_

by your name I called you for my own.\_\_\_\_\_

**Postlude**

*Festal March*

Florence Price

*Please be seated if you wish to listen to the postlude.  
Please come to Assembly Hall for Fellowship Time after the meeting.*

*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.*

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## **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 Odom 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 exclusively on YouTube.**

### **Christian Education on Sunday mornings**

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

*Godly Play* in the Preschool Class on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (age 3 thru kindergarten)

*Godly Play* in The Upper Rooms on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor (Grades 1-5)

Youth Education in the Youth Room on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (Grades 6-12)

Adult Education in the Rose Room

### ***Litany of Remembrance Explanation***

We begin our celebration of African American History Month with a Litany of Remembrance and the lighting of a candle. It is a tradition among many in the African American community to remember the ancestors during large gatherings and celebrations such as family reunions, weddings and African American history observances. This is often done with a litany, prayers and a candle. We continue that tradition, invoking our church ancestors and all who came before, with our *Litany of Remembrance* today and the lighting of the candle of remembrance each Sunday during African American History Month.

Black History Month was officially recognized by President Gerald Ford in 1976 who asked us to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”

Today, in 2025, there are those who want to remove BHM from the calendar. Heather Cox Richardson tells us, “This February 1, neither the Pentagon nor the State Department will recognize Black History Month.” President Trump has also revoked a 60 year-old executive order for the protection of equal opportunity. We must remember.

#### **Serving you on Sunday, February 9**

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Kathie Keck, Amy Robinson

Online Worship Assistant: Mary Rogers

Scripture Reader: Dwight Cheu

Prayer Reader: Peg Schalit

Communion Servers: Sarah Lansaw & Ellen Eisenbraun

Offering Counters: Leslie Cheu & Marc Boucher

#### **Serving you on Sunday, February 16**

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

Online Worship Assistant: Maureen Del Giacco

Scripture Reader: Rachel Smith

Prayer Reader: Ellen Eisenbraun

Communion Servers: Roseline Takor & David Takor

Offering Counters: Ron Geuther & Amy Robinson

## **Announcements**

This morning the **Adult Education Class** heard First Pres member David Hannay's daughter and granddaughter discussing ways to confront racism. **Next Sunday**, February 16, the class will feature a recorded presentation by Stosh Colter regarding White Christian Nationalism.

**Celebrate Black History Month** at First Pres with these activities sponsored by the Anti-Racism Committee. First, on Sunday, February 16, Rev. Antonio Booth will be our guest preacher at the 10:30 worship service. Afterward, all are invited to a special luncheon in the Assembly Hall. Anyone who would like to contribute food for the luncheon, set up, or clean up, please contact: Carol Green at [greencarol777@gmail.com](mailto:greencarol777@gmail.com) or 518-331-1447 (call or text).

Set up will take place at 9:00-10:30am. We especially need clean-up volunteers from about 12:45-1:45pm.

The **paraments** (the cloth on the pulpit, lectern, and communion table) are green, because that is the liturgical color for Ordinary Time (January 13 through March 4). Green is a sign of life in nature and as such it represents growth, life and hope. Most of the Church's year is Ordinary Time. The **pastor's stoles** (the cloth around their necks) are made from Kente cloth and are worn during Black History Month

If you haven't filled out your **Time & Talent Card**, please do so and return to the church. There are copies on the table in the back of the sanctuary as well as beside the office. Put it in the offering plate, drop it off at the Main Office, surface mail it to FPC, 362 State St. Albany, NY 12210 OR take a photo or scan it and send to Steven ([Info@firstpresalbany.org](mailto:Info@firstpresalbany.org)) in the church office.

**“Sponsor a Timber”** The Underground Railroad Interpretive Center, known to us as the Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence, is expanding and we can help. They are building an Interpretive Center to be located on the Myers property. This building will be supported, in large part, by timbers from a barn built in the 1760’s by a Dutch family, using the labor of enslaved Africans. Bringing New York State history into the present is the goal of the Interpretive Center. The new building will

physically embody that goal, a goal that is even more important in this era of some trying to erase the history of African-Americans. How can we help? By “buying” one of the timbers! The “sponsor a timber” campaign has a goal of \$5,000 as our contribution to this important building. There will be additional information in the Assembly Hall. Let us join the Underground Railroad Education Center in sending a message that history belongs to All of us!

Come  
and  
walk

THE  
LABYRINTH  
at First Presbyterian  
Church

Monthly  
every  
3rd Thursday

11am-2pm  
& 5-7pm



# Spiritual Book Club

Come join us for our Spiritual Book Club where we'll  
dive into *The Practice of the Presence of God* by  
Brother Lawrence together!

February 12 & 26, March 12 & 26  
7pm-8:30pm, Online via Zoom

Go to [www.NewBreath.org](http://www.NewBreath.org) for more  
information and to register!





# Spring Retreat 2025

## “Loved by God”

Spend some time away with God and with others!  
We will be on retreat for the weekend, staying in  
the Chi Rho House at Camp Fowler in the beautiful  
Adirondack Mountains.

Friday, March 28th 5pm -  
Sunday, March 30th 11am

Go to [www.NewBreath.org](http://www.NewBreath.org) for more  
information and to register!



## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

<b>Sunday, 2/09</b>	11:45am Fellowship Time
Monday, 2/10	7:00pm Festival Celebration Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, 2/11	7:00pm Anti- Racism Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 2/12	7:00pm Grace and Graze 7:00pm Dads' Small Group
Thursday, 2/13	8:00am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sunday, 2/16</b>	9:15am Adult Education 9:15am Children's Education (1st through 5th grade) 9:15am Preschool Education 9:15am Youth Education 9:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Service in the sanctuary and livestreaming on Youtube 11:45am Black History Month Luncheon

## **Elders currently serving on Session**

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

## **Deacons currently serving on the Board of Deacons**

Susan Haney – Moderator  
Heidi Iyok – Hospitality Team  
Kathie Keck – Hospitality Team  
Ellen Kemp – Flower Team  
Steve King – Care Team  
Alison Stonbely – Care Team



**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*



# I Come with Joy

515

Capo 3: (D) (G) (A) (D) (Bm)  
F B $\flat$  C F Dm



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has

(Asus) (Am) (G) (F $\sharp$ m) (D)  
Csus Cm B $\flat$  Am F



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

(Em) (D/F $\sharp$ ) (G) (A) (Am7) (D)  
Gm F/A B $\flat$  C Cm7 F



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com-mu - nion bread, in Christ's com-mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we." The unadorned language of this text is well matched to the simple shape note tune that sets it here.

# 751 From the Nets of Our Labor

## We Will Rise Up and Follow

Dm Gm6/E A7

1 From the nets of our la - bors, through the noise and con -  
 2 When we faint and grow wea - ry from the bear - ing of  
 3 In the eyes of the strang - er— tear - ful, joy - ous, or  
 4 When we hear words of ha - tred spread - ing fear or false  
 5 In each mo - ment of cour - age, stead - fast e - ven through  
 6 Like dis - ci - ples be - fore us, from the cit - y or

Dm Gm7

fu - sion, from the cit - y or sea - shore,  
 bur - dens, with a mes - sage of com - fort,  
 fright - ened— in the face of each neigh - bor,  
 wit - ness, words that cry to be chal - lenged,  
 trem - bling; in the yearn - ing for jus - tice,  
 sea - shore, risk - ing self - less com - pas - sion:

A7 Dm A7 Dm Refrain Gm

Je - sus sum - mons us all. We will rise up and fol - low,

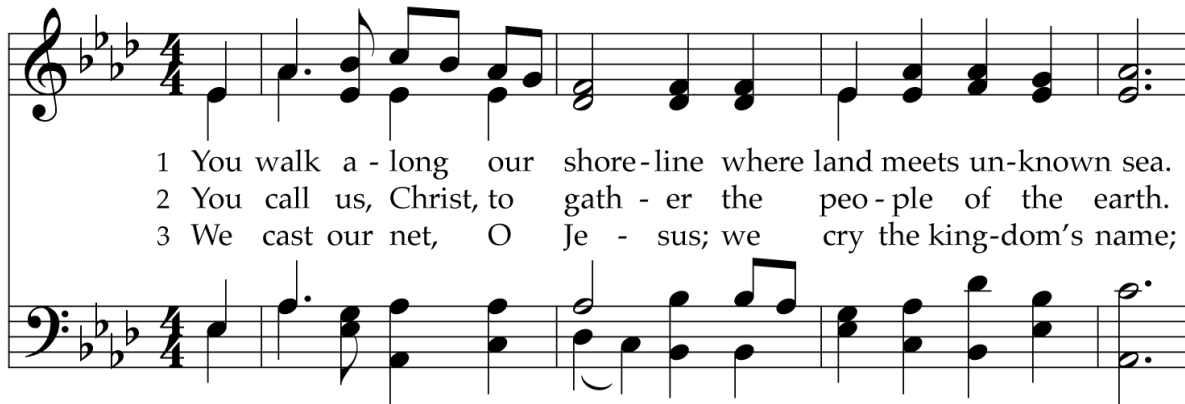
C7 F Dm

Christ be - fore and be - side us, lov - ing pat - tern to

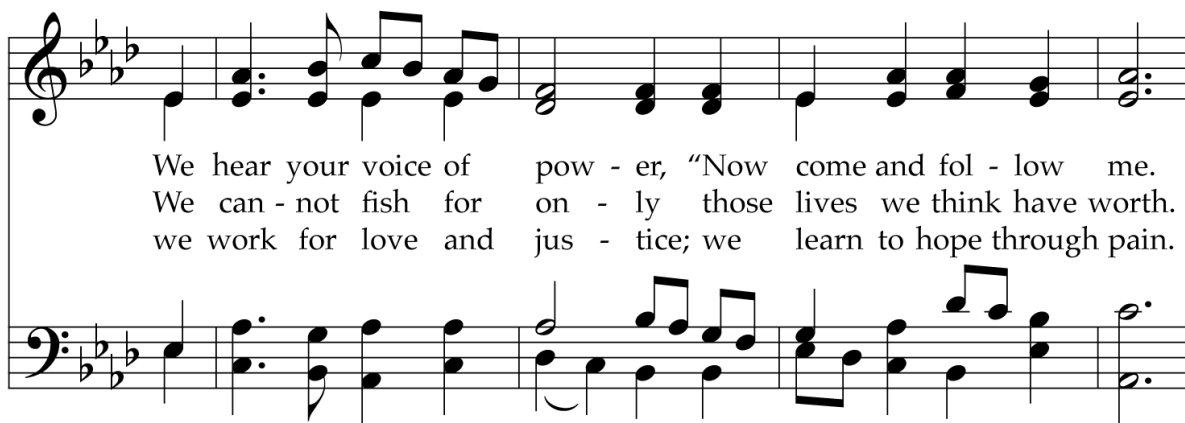
Gm6/E A7 Dm

guide us, as we an - swer the call.

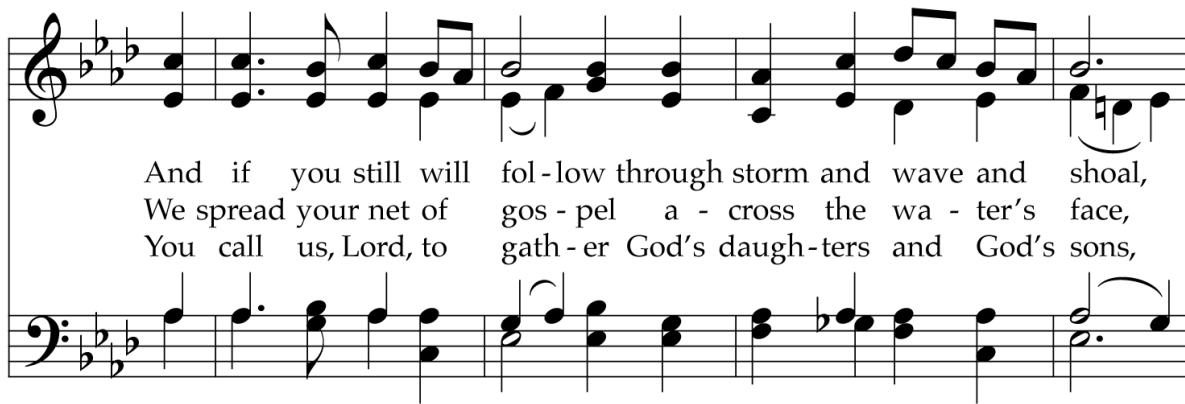
# You Walk along Our Shoreline 170



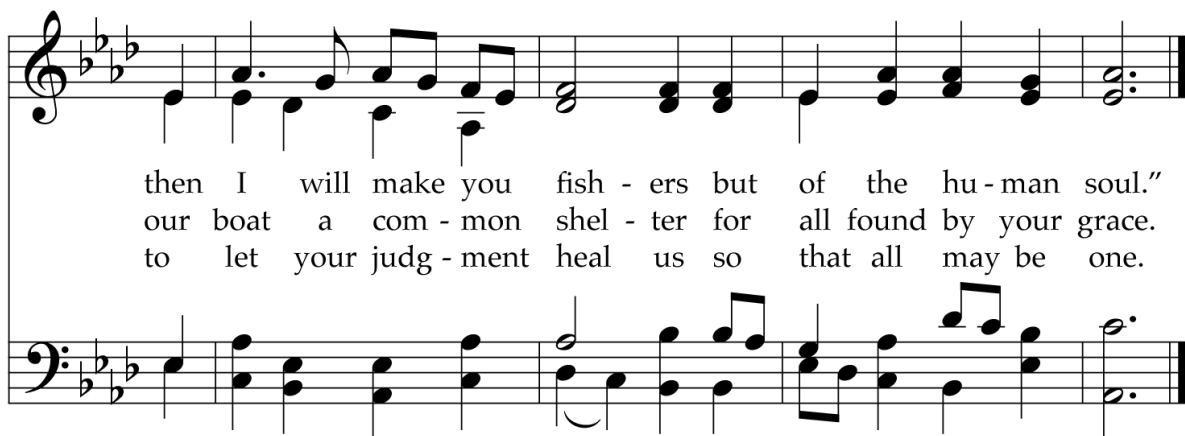
1 You walk a - long our shore-line where land meets un-known sea.  
2 You call us, Christ, to gath - er the peo - ple of the earth.  
3 We cast our net, O Je - sus; we cry the king-dom's name;



We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me.  
We can - not fish for on - ly those lives we think have worth.  
we work for love and jus - tice; we learn to hope through pain.



And if you still will fol-low through storm and wave and shoal,  
We spread your net of gos - pel a - cross the wa - ter's face,  
You call us, Lord, to gath - er God's daugh - ters and God's sons,



then I will make you fish - ers but of the hu - man soul."  
our boat a com - mon shel - ter for all found by your grace.  
to let your judg - ment heal us so that all may be one.

Based on Jesus' calling of the disciples (Matthew 4:18–22/Mark 1:16–20/Luke 5:4–11), this hymn notes that their mode of fishing involved nets requiring the participation of more than one person. Likewise, in our work of love and justice we are called to bear witness in community.