

Order for the Worship of God
September 13, 2020
15th Sunday after Pentecost
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

Leader: But in these last days, we have heard God's voice through His Son, Jesus Christ, who has been given dominion over all things and through whom all worlds were made.

People: He is the One who sustains the universe by the power of his command; the one who, even now, reigns in the heavens, seated at the right hand of God.

Leader: He is the one who gave himself to free us from the grip of sin and death.

People: God is for us! With growing faith and great joy let us worship our God!

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Sometimes a Light Surprises"

arr. Larry Shackley

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #30

"O God, in a Mysterious Way"

DUNDEE

**O God, in a mysterious way great wonders you perform.
You plant your footsteps in the sea and ride up on the storm.**

**Deep in unfathomable mines of never-failing skill,
You treasure up your bright designs and work your sovereign will.**

**O fearful saints, fresh courage take. The clouds you so much dread
are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head.**

**Our unbelief is sure to err and scan your work in vain.
You are your own interpreter, and you will make it plain.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

Loving and gracious God, you call us to have ears to hear, ears that will listen to your voice above all other voices. Sadly, many of us have become skilled at selective listening which enables us to embrace cheap grace rather than Christ-centered discipleship. We have often ignored or been indifferent to your voice that calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Dear Lord, in your mercy forgive us. In your grace tune the ears of our hearts so that we may with greater clarity and renewed commitment hear the gentle whisper of your voice which calls us to live a life of faith, hope and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

ANTHEM

"Then Sings My Soul"
(How Great Thou Art)

Mary McDonald

(A recording of the Chancel Choir, September 29, 2019)

*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.*

*When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: how great thou art, how great thou art!

*And when I think that God, his Son, not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin.*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"*

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

HYMN #824

"There Is a Place of Quiet Rest"

MCAFFE

**There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.**

*Refrain: O Jesus, blest redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.*

**There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God. *Refrain***

**There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God. *Refrain***

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 19:1-14 (NRSV)

SERMON

"God's Gentle Whisper"
Paul Means, Associate Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #169

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

REST

(stanzas 1,4,5)

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in your rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.**

**Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats of our desire the coolness and thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake,
wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.**

BENEDICTION

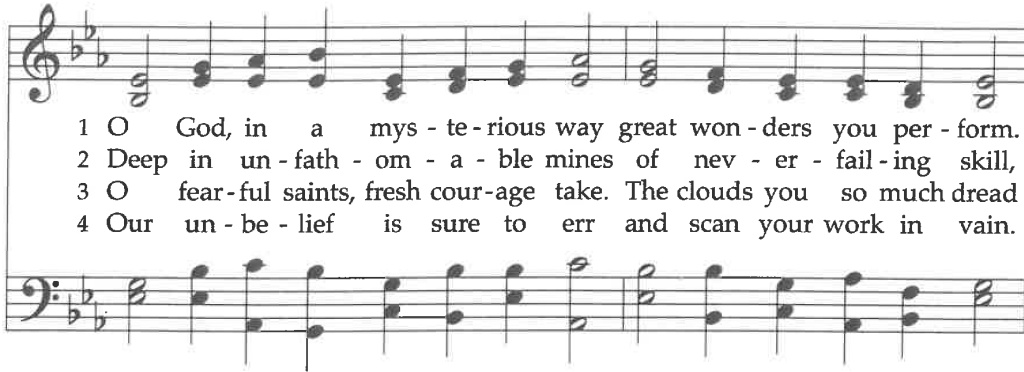
CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

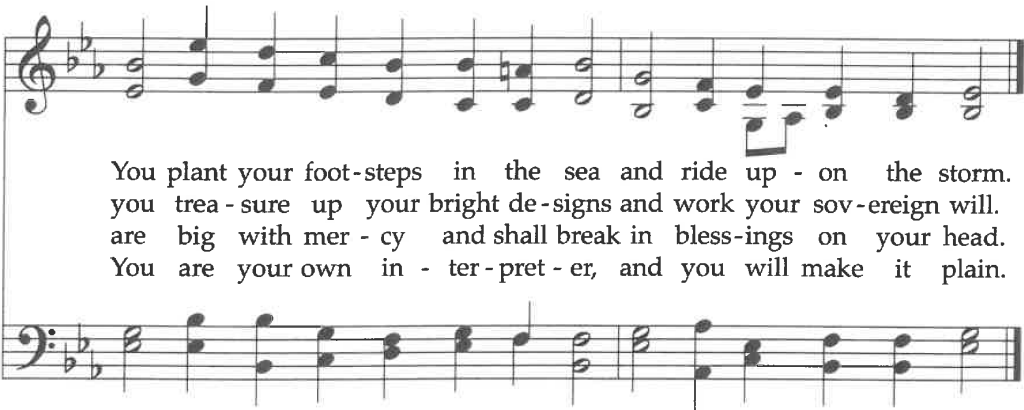
Dale Wood
(1934-2003)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

30 O God, in a Mysterious Way



1 O God, in a mys - te - rious way great won - ders you per - form.
 2 Deep in un - fath - om - a - ble mines of nev - er - fail - ing skill,
 3 O fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take. The clouds you so much dread
 4 Our un - be - lief is sure to err and scan your work in vain.



You plant your foot - steps in the sea and ride up - on the storm.
 you trea - sure up your bright de - signs and work your sov - ereign will.
 are big with mer - cy and shall break in bless - ings on your head.
 You are your own in - ter - pret - er, and you will make it plain.

This classic text gains renewed energy and focus from its recasting here: despite our fear and confusion, we can trust that God's providential purposes will eventually be revealed. In its original source the tune printed here is one of twelve not assigned to a specific hymn.

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest 824

Near to the Heart of God

1 There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
 2 There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
 3 There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,

a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.
 a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.
 a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

Refrain

O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,

hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.

A Presbyterian campus pastor and choir director in Missouri wrote this simple but moving hymn in response to the death of two young nieces from diphtheria. By distilling such personal grief into the shared assurances of faith, these words have brought comfort to many.

169 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

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 ser - vice 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 - pret - ed 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!

*Or "Dear Lord, Creator good and kind"

These stanzas were carved into a hymn from a much longer poem describing a frenzied ritual by an obscure sect in India, but they culminate in a reference to 1 Kings 19:11-12 that celebrates silence (as befits a Quaker poet). This tune was created especially for these words.