



First Presbyterian Church of Athens

In response to God's grace, the mission of First Presbyterian Church is to create a community where people seek the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, rejoice in worship, and go forth sharing the love of Christ with Athens and the world!

September 4, 2022
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. As we enter a holy space this morning, please silence your cell phone.

Greeting

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made; **let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Prelude

Communion

Malcolm Archer

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

HOLY MANNA

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.

Come from wilderness and wandering.

Here, in truth, we will be fed.

You that year for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

Call to Worship

With endless creativity,

God forms and shapes our lives.

Each of us bears the image of our maker.

Each of us is made in love.

*Hymn 461

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O God, you have given us a firm foundation in Jesus Christ, yet we have chosen to build on sinking sand. The works of our hands crumble around us, and our best efforts are not good enough; sin is real, and we are powerless before it. Forgive us for thinking we know best. Mend our broken values and create in us hearts that seek your purposes, so that what we build with our lives may give you glory.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, making note of new and old friends, check in on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram (firstpresathensga).

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

**Those who are able may stand.*

At “The Peace,” worshipers are invited to greet each other by saying, “The peace of Christ be with you,” and responding, “And also with you.”

Children are invited to remain in the Sanctuary on Communion Sundays.

Few spirituals deal with communion, but the simplicity and profound insight of *Let Us Break Bread Together* have made it very popular in American hymnals since 1955. The topic of communion and the phrase “Lord, have mercy” may have come from slaves attending morning communion services in colonial Anglican churches.

Next to the Nicene Creed, The Apostles’ Creed is the most universally accepted doctrinal statement in Christendom. Although not written by apostles, it reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. Arising from an early baptismal creed, it underwent development, attaining its present form in the eighth century.



You may mail your check, set up an automatic payment of your pledge through your bank, or donate online using this QR code or at firstpresathens.org/give. Thank you for your generosity.

*Congregational Response

Jacques Berthier



*The Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Psalm 1, page 479

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson

Deuteronomy 34:1-12, page 191

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Gratitude vs. Disappointment

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 513

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

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

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 Offertory

Improvisation on Abbot’s Leigh

John Coble

11:00 Offertory

Shepherd of Souls

Alfred V. Fedak

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless thy chosen pilgrim flock
with manna from the wilderness, with water from the rock.
We would not live by bread alone, but by thy word of grace,
in strength of which we travel to our abiding place.
Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread thy table in our heart.
Lord, sup with us in love divine, thy body and thy blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine, be our immortal food.

***Doxology**

Hymn 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

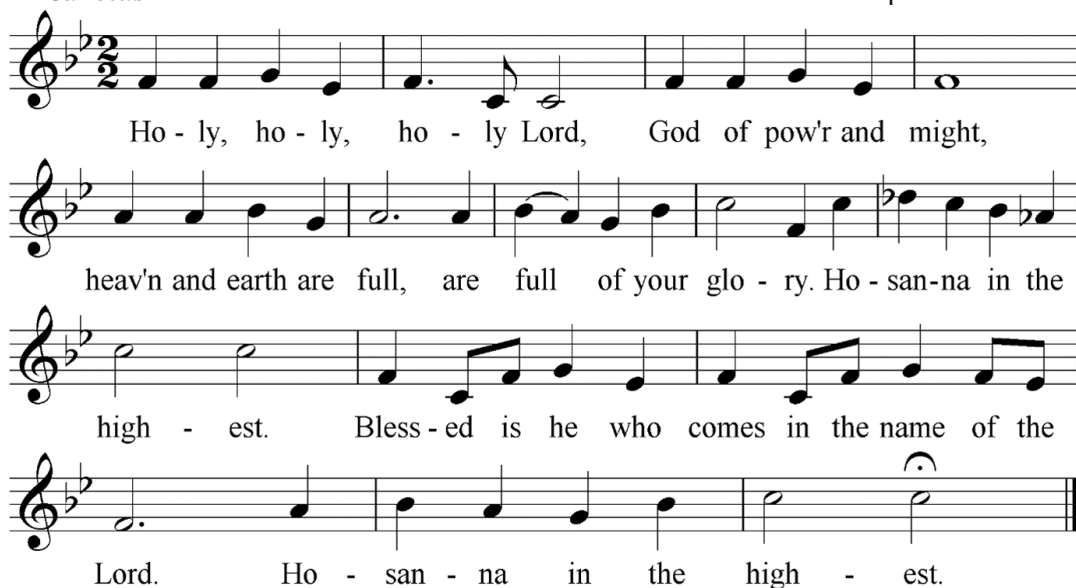
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The musical setting
of the communion
liturgy was written by
American composer
Hal Hopson.

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full, 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.

Memorial Acclamation



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

The Great Amen



A - men, A - men, A - men.

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.

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Using Jesus’ harvest imagery, *Come, Labor On* sounds a compelling call to Christian service. The tune name, *Ora Labora*, echoes the Benedictine motto “Prayer is work.”

Texts and music for hymns and sung responses reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714861

*Hymn 415	<i>Come, Labor On</i>	ORA LABORA
*Charge and Benediction		
*Congregational Response		AR HYD Y NOS
Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.		
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.		
Here my Spirit’s power filled you;		
here my tender comfort stilled you.		
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.		
Postlude	<i>Abbot’s Leigh</i>	Charles Callahan

A special word of welcome to our guests: thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Please fill out the Fellowship Pad so that we may be in touch. We are delighted you are here and look forward to seeing you again.

Nurseries for children 4 years old and younger, available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., are located next to the Children’s Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door.

Children’s Church is an important developmental time for children, but there are times when children remaining in worship, watching and learning from their parents, is even more valuable. Children are invited to remain in the sanctuary on Communion Sundays. Children’s Church will resume next Sunday.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*
The Rev. Ron Gilreath, *Liturgist*

Lay Reader

11:00 a.m. Bertis Downs

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head),
Randy Dudley, Mary Peace
11:00 a.m. Richard Lane (head)
Jimbo LaBoon III, Fred Wallace

GREETERS

11:00 a.m. Carol McKay, Melinda Miller

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN

Bryan Owens

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Rebecca Carlton

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 55th wedding anniversary of Chris and Cheryl Gazlay.

TO AID IN WORSHIP

If you need to leave the sanctuary during the service, a live video feed is available in the Atrium, on Facebook, and YouTube.

Available in the Narthex or from an usher:

- **Personal hearing receivers** usable anywhere in the sanctuary
- **Large-print** hymnals, Bibles, bulletins, and hymnsheets
- **Sermons** from the previous six weeks

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office, 706-543-4338, by the Prayer Request link on our church website (firstpresathens.org) or on the prayer cards in the Fellowship Pads.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEPHEN MINISTRY RECOGNITION AND RECEPTION

Join us next Sunday as we honor our Stephen Ministers during both services, with a reception following the 11:00 a.m. service in Fellowship Hall.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

Join us for "First Things," an informative class about First Presbyterian Church, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Sunday, September 18. Please call the church office (706-543-4338) or e-mail Lucy Bell Johnson at lbell@firstpresathens.org by Wednesday, September 14, to make a reservation. *Child care available upon request.*

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE

A big Thank You to all who participated in last week's Blood Drive. We had 19 individuals sign up, 5 walk-ins, 2 volunteers for registration, and of course the Red Cross. Once again we reached our goal of 25 pints collected! Thank you to all that participated.

PICNIC WITH REDCOAT BAND, SEPTEMBER 23

Pack your picnic basket, blanket, frisbee, and chairs and join friends of all ages at the Intramural Practice Fields to enjoy hearing and watching the UGA Redcoat Marching Band practice.

WED@FIRST BEGINS SEPTEMBER 21

Wed@First provides an opportunity to experience Christian fellowship and growth in a relaxed atmosphere. It includes dinner, children's' choirs, Bridge, Shakespeare and Company, beginning as early as 3:00 p.m. and ending at 7:30 p.m. Dinner opens at 5:30 p.m. Our after-dinner program, from 6:30–7:30 p.m., will have a study led by Dr. Ryan Baer.

MOVIE NIGHT AND DISCUSSION, WALL-E

Join us in Moses Waddel Room on September 30 at 7:00 p.m., for a movie screening followed by discussion. Popcorn and soft drinks will be provided. All are welcome.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 4 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching

Monday, September 5 - Labor Day - Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 6

- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Parlor
- 2:00 p.m. Circle 3/4
- 5:30 p.m. Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 6:00 p.m. Circle 6, Home of Ann Dunn

Wednesday, September 7

- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:15 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. Bridge Group, Room 301
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, September 8

- 11:00 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting via Zoom
- 5:00 p.m. Administration Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Sunday, September 11 - Stephen Ministry Recognition and Reception

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 p.m. Sunday School and Godly Play
- 12:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Reception, Fellowship Hall
- 3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 3:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 4:20 p.m. Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Room 202
- 5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group, The PIT
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group, The PIT

EDUCATION – FAITH FORMATION

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11

SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

Director of Children's Ministries: Natalie Bishop

Nursery Coordinator: Rita Raines

Children's Ministry Suite • Infants – 5th Grade

Nursery Play, 8:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Children, infants – 4 years old, are invited to Nursery Play during both worship services and the Sunday school. Children will enjoy playtime, Bible stories, and snack with their church friends in the Children's Ministry Suite New Little Ones Room and Children's Playroom.

Godly Play, 9:45 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Children, Pre K– 5th grade, are invited to the Children's Ministry Suite for Godly Play during Sunday School. Godly Play is an innovative way of teaching and learning that helps children “discover” who God is rather than being “told” who God is. The structure and routine of Godly Play offer children a safe and nurturing space to explore, connect, wonder, and worship God.

Children and Worship, 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

All children are welcome to remain in worship with their families every Sunday. Children's bulletins, Bibles, and books are available at the children's tables located in the Narthex and on both sides of the choir loft.

Children's Church, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Children, Pre K – 1st grade, are invited to Children's Church. Children will begin worship with their families in the sanctuary and then will leave for the Children's Chapel after the passing of The Peace. During Children's Church, we will worship together and experience the many ways we worship God with our families in the sanctuary – listening to God's Word, singing to God, praying to God, and giving to God. **Children are invited to remain in the sanctuary on Communion Sundays, and children, Pre-K – 5th grade, are invited to Children's Church on the last Sunday of the month.**

SUNDAYS FOR YOUTH

Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness

Middle School Coordinator: Erin Osborne

The PIT (basement level) • 6th – 12th Grade

Sunday School (9:45 a.m.)

This year we are launching a new **Middle School** class with a well-loved curriculum called re:form. Using funny videos as the starter, we will explore big and small questions of faith.

High School youth are encouraged to attend the intergenerational Inquirers Class that meets in the Moses Waddel Room. Once a month, we will also worship together followed by lunch and a time of reflection.

Youth Group

Sunday night youth group is a fast hour of games, get-to-know you activities, devotionals and discussion. This year our theme is Justice and Joy. We strive to create a community where everyone feels welcomed and connected. Where youth can talk about their faith and begin to understand their role in doing justice bringing joy to a hurting world. MS youth group will end with dinner.

Middle School meets 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

High School meets 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Combined Youth Dinner (6:00 p.m.)

Between MS and HS youth groups, we'll gather in Fellowship Hall for a meal and fellowship time. If you'd like to help provide a meal for our youth, you can sign up here: tinyurl.com/FPCYouthDinnerHosts

For more information, visit www.fpcathenspit.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

9:45–10:40 a.m.

IN PERSON

Builders • Room 301

This class is an invitation for parents of children and youth to come join for a time of fellowship and support. *Coordinators: Dr. Ryan Baer (ryan@firstpresathens.org), The Rev. Leigh Bonner*

College Connections • Room 302

This class is an opportunity for college and graduate students to join for a time of fellowship and bible study. *Coordinator: The Rev. Will Norman (will@pscuga.org)*

Inquirers • Moses Waddel Room

Thoughtful introspection and lively group discussion covering contemporary issues and daily Christian living, with a focus on Matthew 25: Poverty and Homelessness. *Coordinator: Kim Ness (kness@firstpresathens.org)*

W. D. Hooper • Room 309

The “oldest” Sunday School class at First Pres will continue to focus on a Bible Study format. *Led by: Richard Lane (rlane@uga.edu)*

HYBRID (in person and over Zoom)

Del Dunn Sunday School Class • Room 308

An in-depth study and discussion of scripture – with a chapter-by-chapter reading and discussion of Paul's Epistle to the Romans. Zoom and in-person. *Coordinator: Susan Landrum (slandrum@uga.edu)*

Zoom ID: 875 216 0708, PW: 634175

New Voices • Room 310

Did John Calvin and Martin Luther get it right? How does the concept of “A Priesthood of Believers” guide our Church life? How does it inform our discussion of critical theological theories and lessons? And, how can the Waymaker (who?) guide us through difficult times? *Led by: Lewis Hudgins (lewisahudgins@gmail.com)*
Zoom ID: 870 1906 3194, PW: 305215

Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

Open and honest discussion in a nonjudgmental atmosphere about various aspects of Christianity. **This class will meet today, September 4.**

Contacts: Ian Hardin (ianhardin1@gmail.com), Jim Scanlon (jjtscanlon@yahoo.com)

Zoom ID: 883 5159 0923

Fred Pratt Green, 1979; rev. 1988

Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941

1. God is here! As we Your peo - ple Meet to of - fer
 2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us Of our life - long
 3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come In the Shep - herd's
 4. Lord of all, of church and king - dom, In an age of

praise and prayer, May we find in ful - ler mea - sure What it
 need of grace; Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit; Here the
 flock and fold, Here, as bread and wine are tak - en, Christ sus -
 change and doubt Keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel, Help us

is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world a - round us,
 cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing,
 tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant
 work Your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion,

All our var - ied skills and arts Wait the com - ing
 Here in si - lence, as in speech, Here, in new - ness
 Seek in wor - ship to ex - plore What it means in
 All we have to give, re - ceive: We, who can - not

of the Spir - it In - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing To be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out You, We a - dore You! We be - lieve!

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD 10.10 with refrain

African-American spiritual

African-American spiritual

Arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1988

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees;)
2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees;)

The first system of music is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features a treble and bass staff. The melody is in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees.)
Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees.)

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Refrain
When I fall on my knees, With my face to the ris - ing sun,

The third system of music is marked 'Refrain'. It continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

O Lord, have mer - cy on me. (on me.)

The fourth system of music concludes the piece. It continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

3. Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; (on our knees;)

knees

Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, With my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. (on me.)

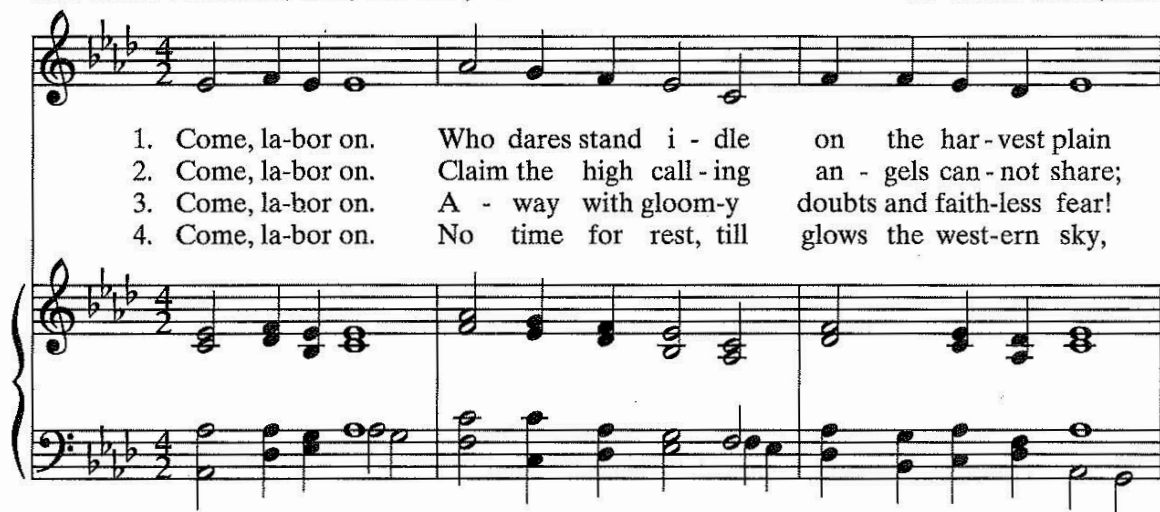
Come, Labor On

415

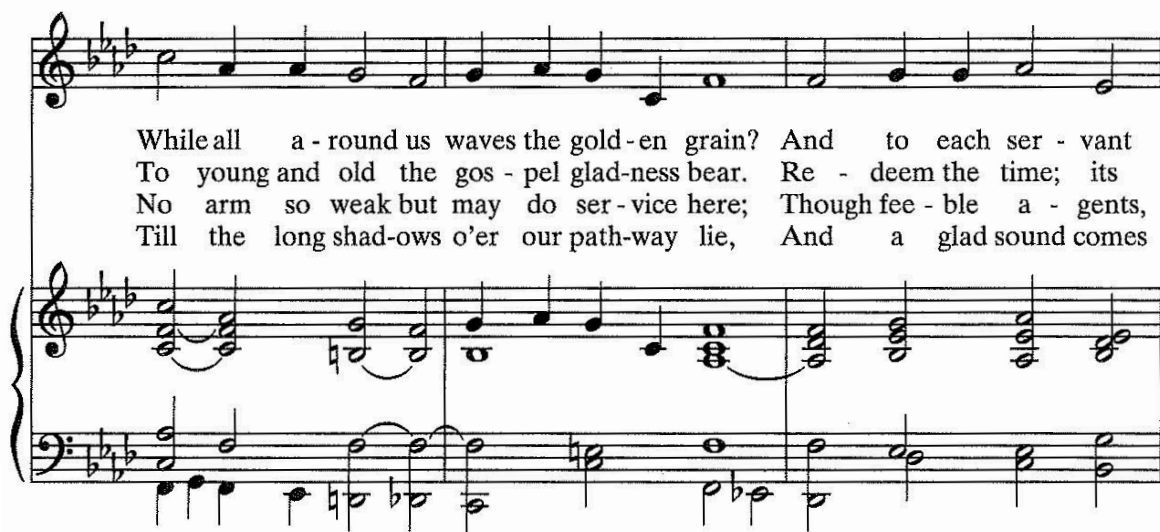
ORA LABORA 4.10.10.4

Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1859; rev. 1863; alt.

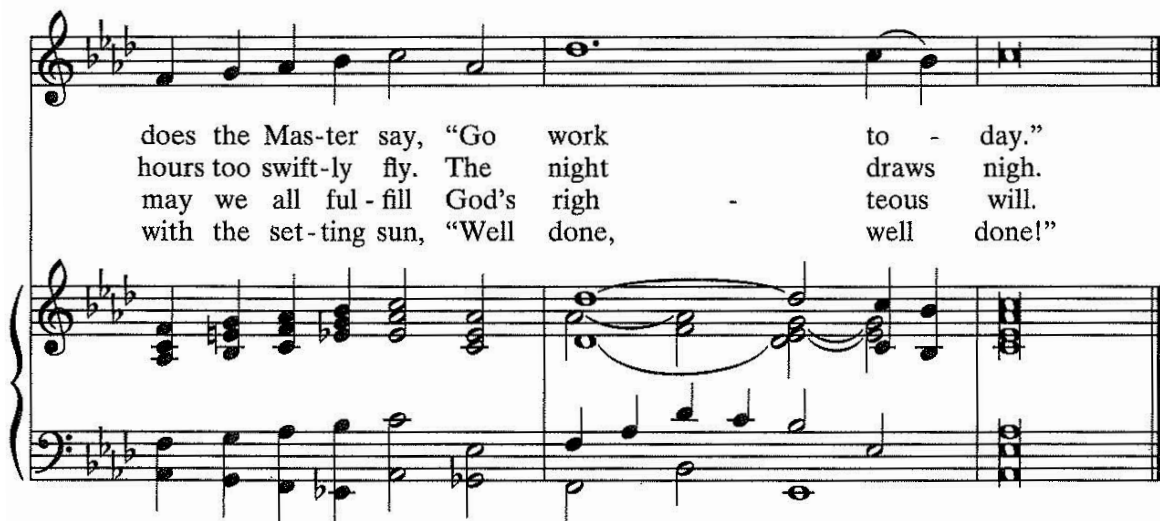
Thomas Tertius Noble, 1918



1. Come, la-bor on. Who dares stand i - dle on the har-vest plain
 2. Come, la-bor on. Claim the high call - ing an - gels can - not share;
 3. Come, la-bor on. A - way with gloom-y doubts and faith-less fear!
 4. Come, la-bor on. No time for rest, till glows the west-ern sky,



While all a - round us waves the gold - en grain? And to each ser - vant
 To young and old the gos - pel glad-ness bear. Re - deem the time; its
 No arm so weak but may do ser - vice here; Though fee - ble a - gents,
 Till the long shad-ows o'er our path-way lie, And a glad sound comes



does the Mas-ter say, "Go work to - day."
 hours too swift-ly fly. The night draws nigh.
 may we all ful - fill God's righ - teous will.
 with the set-ting sun, "Well done, well done!"