



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 11, 2022
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Fourteenth 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

Shalom

Dan Locklair

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Moment for Mission

Stephen Ministry

Chuck Toney

Song of Gathering

LLANFAIR

Praise the Lord, new songs employ, Alleluia!

Sing to God, who is your joy, Alleluia!

Israel, with one accord, Alleluia!

Lift your voice unto the Lord, Alleluia!

Call to Worship

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God's presence with singing!

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn 285

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets AUSTRIAN HYMN

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

**Those who are able may stand.*

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

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the image of God," is variously considered in the hymn as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity.

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."

After the Passing of the Peace at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 1, are invited to Children's Church held in the Children's Chapel on the second floor of the Tinsley Stern Building.

The anthem is a text by William Cowper set to a Scottish Psalter tune from 1635, in a setting by the Irish composer, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford.

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks God sets before us.

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.

*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 Matthew 8:24-27, page 886

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

11:00 Anthem *O for a Closer Walk with God*

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford

O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame;
a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!
Return, O holy Dove, return! Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.
So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Second Lesson Genesis 6:5-22, 8:6-12, 9:8-17, page 5

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

Sermon

The Great Flood

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 357** *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

MARYTON

***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.**

Prayers of the People and 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, (cont.)**

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Amazing Grace

Jeffrey Blersch

*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

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

*Hymn 280

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response

SINE NOMINE

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Gavotte

George Frideric Handel



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.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound was written to accompany the author's sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, preached on January 1, 1773. He originally called the hymn "Faith's Review and Expectation."

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

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, Pre K – 1st Grade, are invited to Children's Church during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Children's Church will be held in the Children's Chapel on the 2nd floor of the Tinsley Stern Building that connects to Fellowship Hall. We will depart for Children's Church following the Passing of the Peace. To pick your child up after the service, please go to the church library directly across the hall from the Children's Chapel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.*

PICNIC WITH REDCOAT BAND, SEPTEMBER 23, 5:30 P.M.

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.

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

8:45 a.m. Jody Corry
11:00 a.m. Laura Toney

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head), Jim Dove
11:00 a.m. Richard Lane (head),
Michael Earl, and Fred Wallace

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Faye Marshall
11:00 a.m. Dan Nadenicek

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 60th wedding anniversary of Linda and Fred Wallace.

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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor* (ryan@firstpresathens.org)
The Rev. Ron Gilreath, *Acting Parish Associate* (rjgilreath@att.net)
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist* (jcoble@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Kim Ness, *Director of Youth Ministries* (kness@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Natalie Bishop, *Director of Children's Ministries* (natalie@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Elaine Johnson, *Director of Weekday School* (elaine@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Lucy Bell Johnson, *Office Administrator* (lbell@firstpresathens.org)
Mr. Paulo Santos, *Communications Specialist* (paulo@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Jennifer Sunderlin, *Receptionist/Administrative Assistant* (frontdesk@firstpresathens.org)
Ms. Jennifer Adams, *Church Accountant*
Mrs. Angie Townsend, *Accounting Assistant* (angie@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Marcy Fabris, *Weekday School Administrative Assistant* (wds@firstpresathens.org)
Ms. Rita Raines, *Nursery Coordinator*
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, *Children's Music Assistant* (charlottetposs@gmail.com)
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, *Parish Nurse*

THIS WEEK

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

Monday, September 12

- 2:00 p.m. Circle 2, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal, Room 205
- 6:30 p.m. Grief Support Group, Home of Cathy Crawford

Tuesday, September 13

- 7:00 a.m. Our Daily Bread Breakfast, First Baptist Church
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Parlor

Wednesday, September 14

- 2:00 p.m. Bridge Group, Room 301
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, September 15

- 5:30 p.m. WDS Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Session Worship, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Sunday, September 18

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 p.m. Sunday School and Godly Play
- 1:30 p.m. First Things Class, Moses Waddel Room
- 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
- 4:00 p.m. Mission and Outreach Commission Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

LOOKING AHEAD

September 21 - Wed@First begins (*Wednesdays through November 16*)

September 23 - Picnic with Redcoat Band

September 30 - Movie Night and Discussion, Wall-E

October 2 - World Communion Sunday, Peace and Global Witness Offering, New Member Introduction and Reception, Blessing of the Animals, Food Sunday

EDUCATION – FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

Director of Children's Ministries: Natalie Bishop

Nursery Coordinator: Rita Raines

Nursery Play, 8:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Children's Playroom • Infants – 4 Year Olds

Little ones are invited to Nursery Play during worship and Sunday school. Children will enjoy playtime, Bible stories, and a light snack with church friends.

Godly Play, 9:45 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Children's Ministry Suite • Pre-K – 5th Grade

Children are invited to Godly Play during the Sunday School hour. 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 to continue worshipping together by listening to God's Word, singing to God, praying to God and giving to God. On the last Sunday of the month, children, Pre-K–5th Grade are invited to a special Children's Church in the Children's Ministry Suite.

****All children are invited to remain in the sanctuary on the 1st Sunday of the month to take part in worship and Communion with family.***

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.)

Middle School class is using a well-loved curriculum called re:form. With funny videos, creative activities, and lots of time to explore big and small questions of faith, this will be a fun, class for all our 6th–8th graders!

High School youth are encouraged to attend the intergenerational Inquirers Class that meets in the Moses Waddel Room. This semester, we are tackling issues of homelessness and how we can work together on the Matthew 25 goal to eradicate systemic poverty. Once a month, high schoolers will also be invited to 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. Youth will gather in the PIT to talk about their faith and begin to understand their role in doing justice AND bringing joy to a hurting world.

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, everyone will gather in Fellowship Hall for a shared meal. If you'd like to help provide a meal for our youth, please sign up here: tinyurl.com/FPCYouthDinnerHosts

For more information about youth ministry at FPC, 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

How does your life intersect with the stories we call Holy Scripture? We will take a deep dive into the writings of the New Testament with the goal of journeying from Matthew to Revelation. Grad and undergrad students are welcome to join at any time.

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: 843 8852 1222, PW: 185185

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.

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

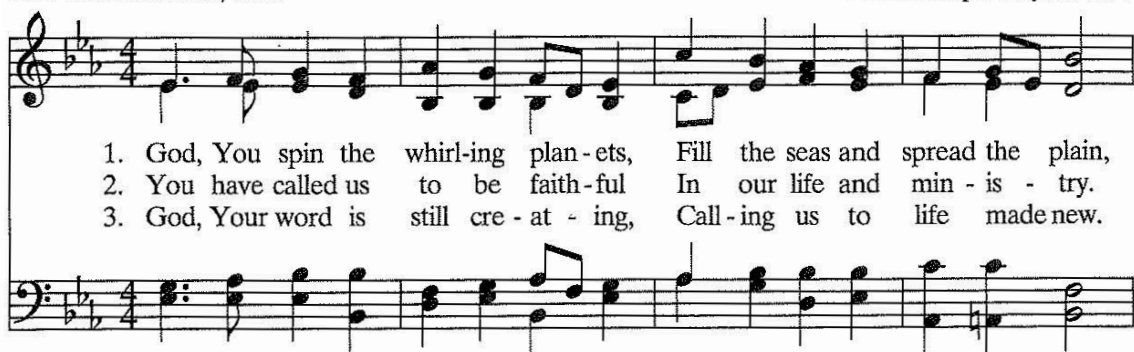
Zoom ID: 883 5159 0923

285 God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

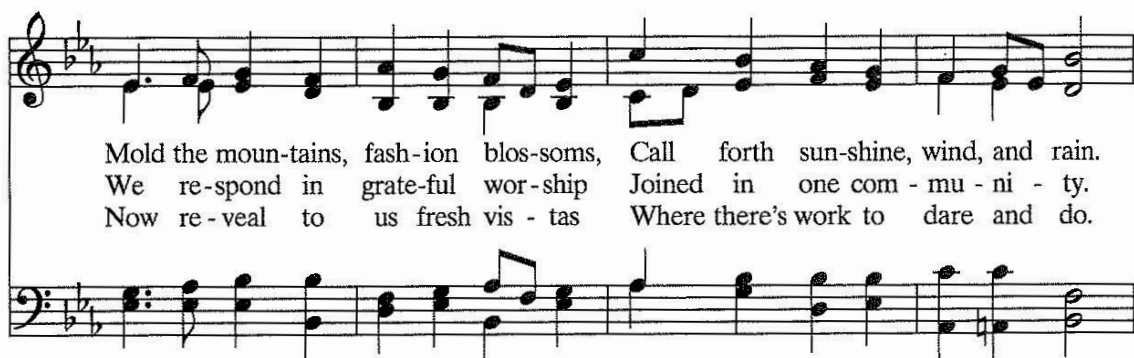
AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7 D

Jane Parker Huber, 1978

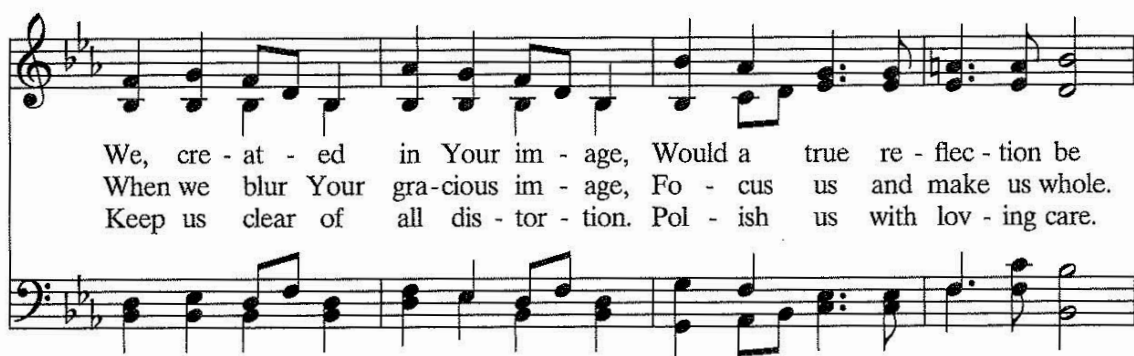
Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797



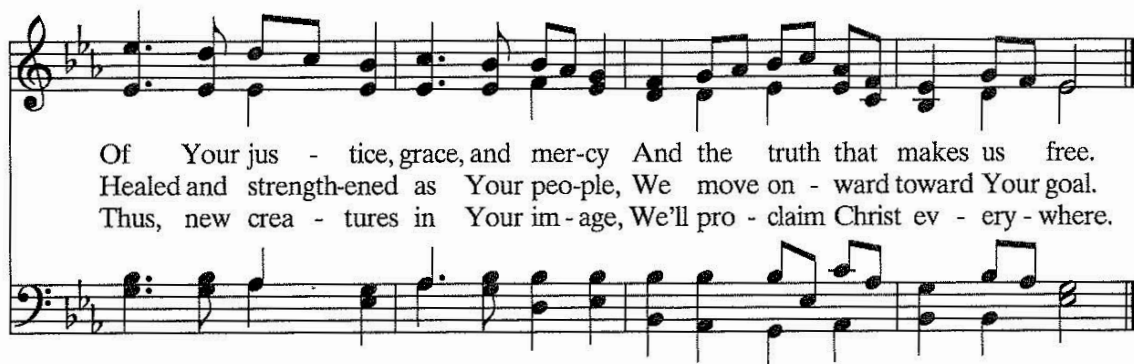
1. God, You spin the whirl-ing plan-ets, Fill the seas and spread the plain,
 2. You have called us to be faith-ful In our life and min - is - try.
 3. God, Your word is still cre - at - ing, Call-ing us to life made new.



Mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, Call forth sun-shine, wind, and rain.
 We re-pond in grate-ful wor-ship Joined in one com - mu - ni - ty.
 Now re-veal to us fresh vis - tas Where there's work to dare and do.



We, cre - at - ed in Your im - age, Would a true re - flec - tion be
 When we blur Your gra-cious im - age, Fo - cus us and make us whole.
 Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion. Pol - ish us with lov - ing care.



Of Your jus - tice, grace, and mer-cy And the truth that makes us free.
 Healed and strength-ened as Your peo-ple, We move on - ward toward Your goal.
 Thus, new crea - tures in Your im-age, We'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

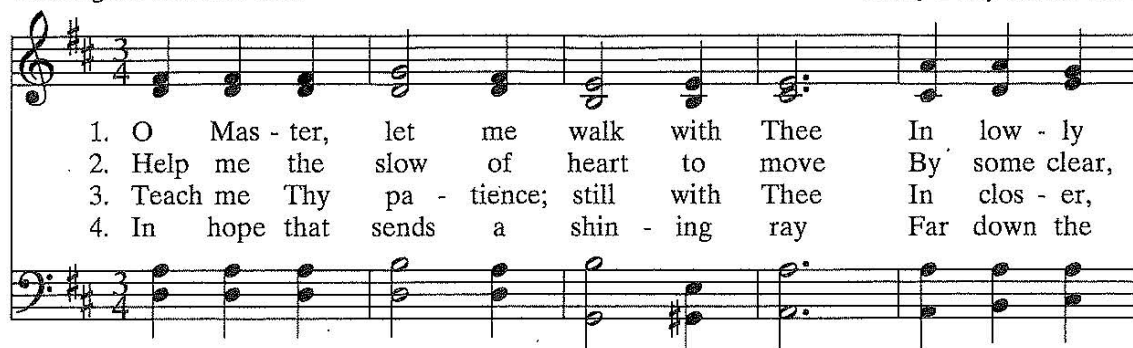
O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

357

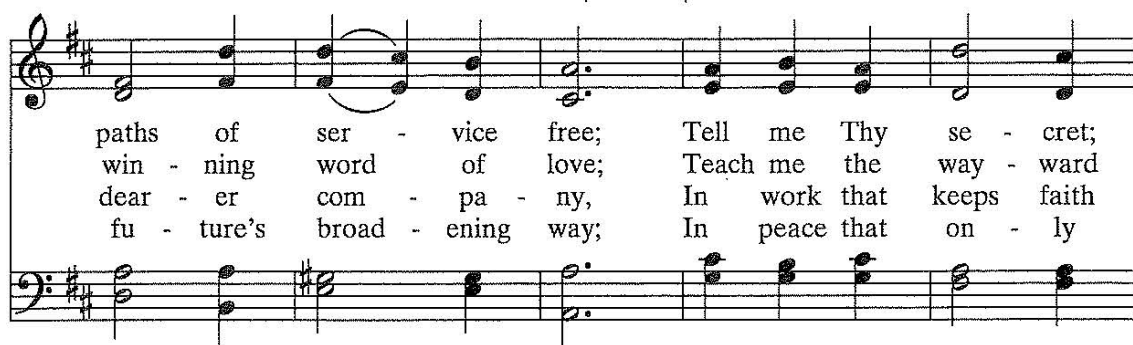
Washington Gladden, 1879

MARYTON LM

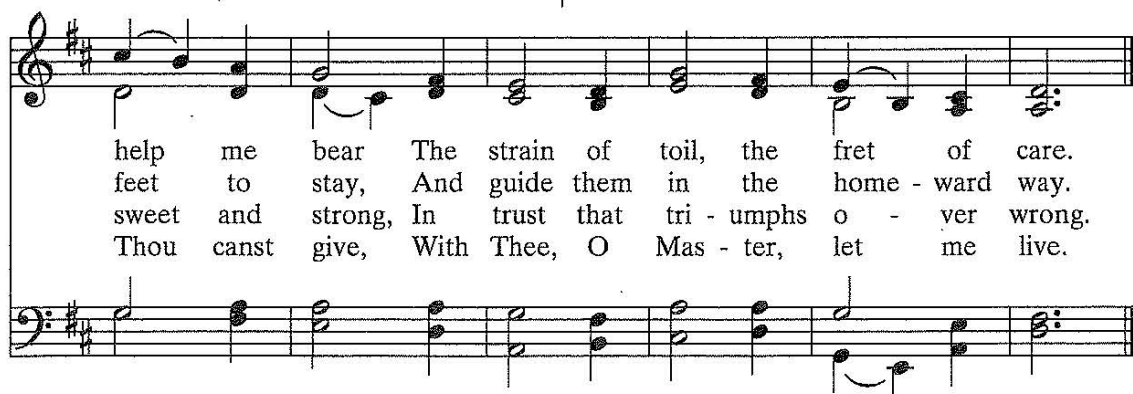
Henry Percy Smith, 1874



1. O Mas - ter, let me walk with Thee In low - ly
 2. Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear,
 3. Teach me Thy pa - tience; still with Thee In clos - er,
 4. In hope that sends a shin - ing ray Far down the



paths of ser - vice free; Tell me Thy se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; Teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - ening way; In peace that on - ly



help me bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, And guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, In trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 Thou canst give, With Thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound 280

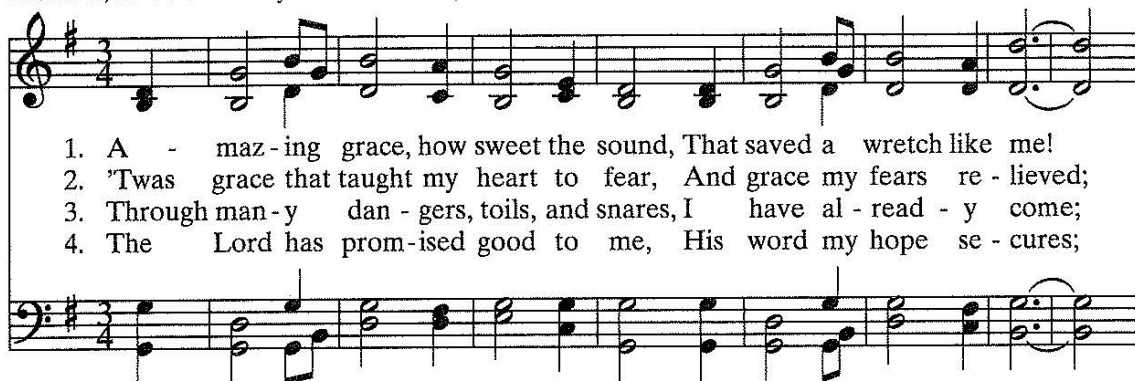
AMAZING GRACE CM

Stanzas 1-4, John Newton, 1779

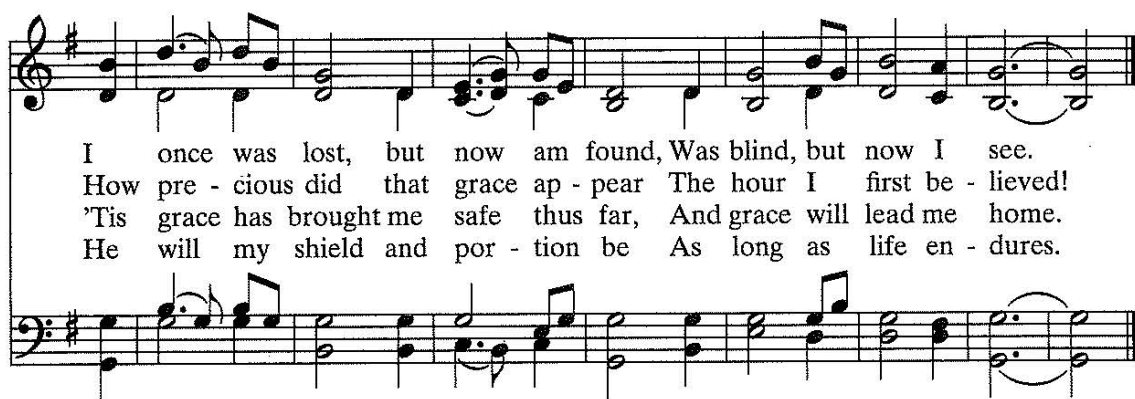
Stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790

Virginia Harmony, 1831

Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900



1. A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re - lieved;
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al - read - y come;
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my hope se - cures;



I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
 How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
 He will my shield and por - tion be As long as life en - dures.

5. When we've been there ten thousand
 years,
 Bright shining as the sun,
 We've no less days to sing God's praise
 Than when we'd first begun.

Choctaw

Shilombish holitopa ma!
 Ishmminti pulla cha
 Hatak ilbusha pia ha
 Is pi yukpalashke

Kiowa

Daw k'ee da ha dawtsahy he tsow'haw
 Daw k'ee da ha dawtsahy hee.
 Bay dawtsahy taw, gaw aym ow thah t'aw,
 Daw k'ee da ha dawtsahy h'ee.

Cherokee

Ooh nay thla nah, hee oo way gee'.
 E gah gwoo yah hay ee.
 Naw gwoo joe sah, we you low say,
 E gah gwoo yah ho nah.

Creek

Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
 Ah non ah cha pa kas
 Cha fee kee o funnan la kus
 Um e ha ta la yus.

Navaho

Nizhónígo jooba' diits' a'
 Yisdáshítinígíí,
 Lah yóóiyá, k'ad shénáhoosdzin,
 Doo eesh'íí da rít'ée.