Carmel Presbyterian Church Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost Reformation Sunday October 31, 2021



Order of Worship * Please stand, as able. Congregation speaks **Bold** responses.

Greeting and Announcements -

Prelude – Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott,¹ Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) ("A Mighty Fortress Is Our God")

* Call to Worship (Spoken responsively.) –
 The Spirit is here,
 Bringing vision and hope for our world.
 Christ lifts us up,
 Welcoming us with loving arms.
 God showers the earth,
 Nourishing all creation with grace.
 Sense the Spirit moving within and among us.
 Feel Christ's presence healing and blessing us.
 As we gather in worship this day,
 We receive the showering love of God.

* Opening Hymn No. 457 – "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"² – (TOULON)

Call to Confession (From 1 John 1:9) -

Prayer of Confession (In unison) -

¹ Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, Johann Pachelbel, (1653-1706) Public Domain.

² "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art," Text: Attributed to John Calvin from the French Psalter, Strassburg, 1545. Translated by Elizabeth Lee Smith, 1868. Public Domain. Music: Adapted from Genevan 124, Genevan Psalter, 1551. Hymn tune name: Toulon. Public Domain.

God of grace and mercy, we often say that we love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, but when we look closely at our lives, we confess that our hearts are full of concerns that are not your concerns. Our souls are neglected. You are barely on our minds, and our strength is depleted by things that do not have anything to do with you. Please forgive us our sin. Cleanse us. Renew us. Reform us. Make us ever new. We ask this in the name of the One who died to set us free, Jesus the Christ...

(A moment for silent reflection and confession...)

Amen. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Read responsively) -

We may not keep our promises to God, but God's promises to us never fail.

For God answers prayer, and offers grace that forgives transgression.

Friends, let us rejoice that because of God's great faithfulness, we have been forgiven.

We are forgiven and freed to newness of life. Amen.

* Gloria Patri (Hymn No. 567) – "Glory to the Father"³ — (Gloria Patri) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.

* Passing of the Peace (Read responsively.) -

Since God loved us so much, we are free to love one another.

Let us love one another, since love comes from God.

Now is the time to share Christ's love and forgiveness with one another. Let the Christ in you greet the Christ in another with signs of peace and reconciliation. The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

(Remaining in your pew, greet one another, sharing God's peace now and through the week.)

Children's Message – Pastor Ashley

Unison Prayer for Illumination (In unison.) – Led by Denise Abraham

Let us pray,

Spirit of God, we ask that you open our eyes and our ears so that we might see and hear a word from you. Transform us and reform us by your Living and Holy Word, we pray. Amen.

First Reading — Read by Denise Abraham

The first lectionary reading is Deuteronomy, chapter 6, verses 1-9. The Great Commandment: Hear, O Israel: The Lord alone is our God; you shall love the Lord. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

Now these are the commandments, the regulations, and the case laws that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you to follow in the land you are entering to possess, so that you will fear the Lord your God by keeping all his regulations and his commandments that I am commanding you— both you and your sons and daughters—all the days of your life and so that you will lengthen your life. Listen to them, Israel! Follow them carefully so that things will go well for you and so that you will continue to multiply exactly as the Lord, your ancestors' God, promised you, in a land full of milk and honey.

³ "Glory to the Father," Music: John Weaver, 1978. Copyright 1978 John Weaver. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and streamed under One License 735006-A.

Israel, listen! Our God is the Lord! Only the Lord!

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds. Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up. Tie them on your hand as a sign. They should be on your forehead as a symbol. Write them on your house's doorframes and on your city's gates.

This is the Word of the Lord! Thanks be to God!

* Hymn No. 233 – "Blest Are the Uncorrupt in Heart"⁴ – (RICHMOND)

(Based on today's Psalm from the lectionary Psalm 119:1-8. Happy are those who seek God and walk in the ways of the Lord.)

New Testament Reading – Read by Denise Abraham

Our second reading from the lectionary is Hebrews, chapter 9, verses 11-14. By the blood of Christ, our high priest, we will be made clean. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

But Christ has appeared as the high priest of the good things that have happened. He passed through the greater and more perfect meeting tent, which isn't made by human hands (that is, it's not a part of this world). He entered the holy of holies once for all by his own blood, not by the blood of goats or calves, securing our deliverance for all time. If the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkled ashes of cows made spiritually contaminated people holy and clean, how much more will the blood of Jesus wash our consciences clean from dead works in order to serve the living God? He offered himself to God through the eternal Spirit as a sacrifice without any flaw.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

New Testament Gospel Reading – Read by Pastor Peter

The gospel reading from the lectionary is Mark, chapter 12, verses 28-34. God's most important command: Jesus summarizes the commandments: to love God and neighbor. Listen now for the Word of God to you!

One of the legal experts heard their dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

Jesus replied, "The most important one is *Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* The second is this, *You will love your neighbor as yourself.* No other commandment is greater than these."

The legal expert said to him, "Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him. And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one's strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices."

⁴ "Blest Are the Uncorrupt in Heart," Text: Fred R. Anderson, 1986. Copyright 1986, Fred R. Anderson; from "Singing Psalms of Joy and Praise." Used by permission. Music: Thomas Haweis, c. 1792. Adapted by Samuel Webbe, Jr. 1808. Hymn tune name: Richmond. Reprinted and streamed under One License 735006-A.

When Jesus saw that he had answered with wisdom, he said to him, "You aren't far from God's kingdom." After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Follow Your Most Important Priority!"

Pastor Peter

* Hymn No. 367 — "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"⁵ — (CHEREPONI)

Sharing Joys and Concerns -

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession and The Lord's Prayer (Using 'debts' & 'debtors') – Pastor Ashley

Invitation to Offering -

(Our hearts are open, and our ministries are continuing seven days a week. Your contribution or pledge payment sustains our presence as the church to the community—both local and global. Please place your offering in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary, give online, or mail your offering envelope to the church office.)

Offertory – "How Firm a Foundation"⁶, Alfred V. Fedak Sanctuary Choir

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus hath fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid. I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow. For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply. The fire shall not hurt thee; I only design

⁵ "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love," Text: Ghanaian folk song, Translated by Tom Colvin, 1969. Music: Ghanaian folk melody. Adapted by Tom Colvin, 1963. Arranged by Jane Marshall, 1982. Hymn tune name: Chereponi. Text and Music translation and adaptation copyright 1969 by Hope Publishing Company. Arrangement copyright 1982 by Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted and streamed under One License 735006-A.

⁶ "How Firm a Foundation," Text: "K" in Rippon's "A Selection of Hymns," 1781, alt. Music based on the hymn tune Foundation. Arranged by Alfred V. Fedak. Copyright 1993 by Selah Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Streamed under One License 735006-A.

thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine."

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes. That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

* Doxology No 592 – "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"⁷ (DOXOLOGY)

* Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Tithes (In unison.) – Led by Denise Abraham Let us pray,

For refreshing autumn rain and for sparkling dew in the morning, we thank you, generous God. For humbling lessons and for prophetic calls to discipleship, we thank you, challenging God. For reassuring words of comfort and for your powerfully protective love, we thank you, gracious God. In thanksgiving and gratitude, we return a portion of these gifts to you and ask that you transform these gifts into blessings for a world in need. Amen.

* Closing Hymn No. 260 — "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"⁸ — (EIN- FESTE BURG)

 * Charge and Benediction (Read responsively.) – Go out into the world in peace; Have courage; Hold on to what is good; Return no one evil for evil; Strengthen the fainthearted; Support the weak; Help the suffering; Honor all people; Love and serve the Lord, spreading good news, Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Chimes – (You may sit in silent, reflective prayer as the worship leaders recess.)

Postlude – Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott⁹ – Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748) ("A Mighty Fortress Is Our God")

Announcements

Guests: You Are Welcome Here

WE CORDIALLY WELCOME those who are visiting today. **We are grateful** for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, mission and programs; we are happy to share our ministry with you. Please

⁷ "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Text: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709. Doxology. Public Domain. Music: from the Genevan Psalter, 1551. Hymn tune name: Old Hundredth. Public Domain.

⁸ "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," Text: Martin Luther, 1529. Translated by Frederick Henry Hedge, 1852. Public Domain. Music: Martin Luther, 1529. Hymn tune name: Ein feste Burg. Public Domain.

⁹ "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott" by Johann Gottfried Walther, 1684-1748. Public Domain.

introduce yourself to a person nearby and be sure to join us out front under the portico for refreshments after the service! We hope your worship experience is meaningful and you will join with us again. We invite you to speak with our Pastor if you are interested in membership. Enjoy catching up on the latest news with friends and refreshments at **Live Fellowship Under the Portico**. A **Virtual Fellowship Time** is also possible on Zoom. Welcome!



FALL FOR CARMEL – TODAY!!! SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31ST, 11:30 am-1:30 pm! Join in the fun and Carmel Camaraderie! Lunch TO GO or lunch to STAY – and spend some time together! Congregational Life invites you to come hang out or drive by and pick up a hearty lunch, toasty warm and sure to fill your belly. If the weather permits, we'll play some outdoor games while we embrace the change of the season together. Lunches have been pre-ordered, but we plan to have a few extras if you didn't pre-order!

JOIN WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY NEXT SUNDAY AS WE REMEMBER ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY! Sunday, November 7, is All Saint' Sunday and Carmel will have our annual remembrance of those who have joined the church triumphant since last year's All Saints' Sunday. Worship with us as we remember the faithful who have served Carmel, its membership, our community and the world!

NOMINATE YOURSELF OR OTHERS AS CANDIDATES FOR THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE – An insert is in the bulletin for you to nominate yourself or others as a candidate for Carmel's **Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)**. Please review the entire insert to learn about the privilege, duties and responsibilities of serving in **the group that will select and nominate Carmel's next Senior Pastor** for election at a future special meeting of the congregation. A box for your nomination(s) will be in the rear of the sanctuary and in the Church Office during the week. Thank you for your assistance in bringing names as possible candidates to serve on the PNC.

SENIOR PASTOR'S SUNDAY MORNING GROUP'S NEW STUDY THIS SUNDAY— "FOLLOW JESUS" is the new discussion group Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45 am, starting this Sunday, October 31 through Sunday, November 21 and meets in Carmel Lounge. The new four-week discussion – "Follow Jesus" – uses the "Follow Me" Biblical Practices for Faithful Living curriculum. When Jesus says, "Follow me," we are being invited into God's reality of reconciling love. When we choose to become a disciple, we are choosing to be taught and formed into someone who is Christlike. Jesus shows us what we are choosing: restored fellowship with God and one another. The new Adult Reflection Guide for "Follow Jesus" is available in the Church Office.

THE CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE continues its work selecting Elders, Deacons, Shepherds, and an Auditor as well as committee members for next year's class. If you would like to serve or you know someone who would like to serve, complete the form in the Church Office or contact any of the Nominating Committee's members: Jay Raulinaitis, Chair: (jay.raulinaitis@gmail.com), Nicole Bohlander

<u>nicoleylb@verizon.net</u>; Barbara Knox (<u>lknoxie@comcast.net</u>), Nancy O'brien (<u>njjobrien@comcast.net</u>), Nancy Pinkowicz (<u>nlogan1@comcast.net</u>), Barbara Podrost (<u>dday062792@aol.com</u>), Peter Sulyok, Pastor, *ex officio*: (<u>petersulyok@aol.com</u>). Call the Church Office for a Nominating Form.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COME SING FOR CHRISTMAS! A Festival Choir for the Christmas season will begin rehearsing on Thursday, November 18, at 7:30 pm. Join in to prepare for the annual Candlelight Carol Service on Sunday evening, December 12 and the 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Service. See the November *Courier* for more details.

STEWARDSHIP AT CARMEL – WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE COMING WEEKS! November is often known as "Stewardship Month" and this year is no different. It's when the Stewardship Committee and Session send out the yearly giving cards and invite you to consider your discipleship. Of course, stewardship is not limited to November; we are stewards of everything we are and have—since all are gifts of God we generously return to God's throughout the year. November is our opportunity to challenge you as Session considers and plans the 2022 Church Budget. When you receive your letter, remember to bring in your giving card Sunday, November 21, during worship, as we dedicate our tithes and offerings.

CARMEL IS HAPPY TO PROVIDE FOR THE YOUNG MEMBERS of our congregation by offering **Nursery Care and Children's Worship** during the Sunday 10:00 am worship service. They are being led by two of our committed and dedicated volunteers, **Marleen Heintz for Nursery Care and Melissa MacFarland for Children's Worship**. At this time, we request that if you desire nursery care for your child during Sunday worship, *please call the Church Office by Friday noon* so that the nursery is staffed. Children's Worship will meet in Carmel Hall for larger spacing and does not require reserving ahead. Children from Grades K-3 leave the Sanctuary after **Children's Story Time**. We welcome our young families, either in person or in virtual worship. Any questions may be addressed to Janet Simon, Christian Education Committee chair; Marleen or Melissa.

CARMEL YOUTH GROUPS OASIS AND REFUGE & CONFIRMATION CLASS NOVEMBER DATES: Refuge will meet the following Wednesday nights, November 3, 10, & 17, 6:30-7:30 pm, in person, in Carmel Hall and welcomes all in grades 3-8. Safety protocols will be followed with dinner and a rotating activity each week: service or craft project, Bible lesson, gym or game room activity and monthly special activities. **Oasis** will meet November 7 & 21, 7:00 pm in the Loft and welcomes all in grades 9-12. Join in the Fellowship and, as always, friends are welcome. The **Confirmation Group** begins Sunday, November 11 and will meet every Sunday at 9:00 am in the Loft.

MUSICAL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT: Please mark your calendars for Choir Rehearsals!

- Children's Choir, for anyone in Grades K-2 is held Wednesdays from 5:00 PM -5:40 PM.
- Junior Choir, for anyone in Grades 3-8 is held Wednesdays, from 5:45 PM to 6:30 PM.
- Youth Choir, for anyone in Grades 9-12 is held Sundays from 11:15 AM to 11:45 AM.
- Sanctuary Choir, for anyone in Grades 7-adult is held Thursdays from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM.
- Handbell Choir, for anyone in Grades 6-adult is held Mondays from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

All safety measures will be followed as set up by the CDC, state and local governments. Please contact Abby Palmisano if you have any questions. Hope to see you soon.

FLOWERS IN OUR SANCTUARY this morning offer glory to God and God's good creation.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SUPPLIES, HEARING DEVICES, LARGE PRINT BIBLES and **ORDERS OF SERVICE** are available from the Ushers.

SIGN-UP TO HELP WITH WORSHIP!

EACH SUNDAY WE HAVE several spots you can assist. We are not all we can be without your gift as a volunteer! Speak with a pastor or sign-up on-line here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904094ca8a62aa6f49-worship

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US AS WE START THE NEW CHURCH YEAR WITH WORLD COMMUNION

SUNDAY! For those unable to attend in-person worship due to health comfort levels or travel situations, **Live Streaming Worship** continues on YouTube! We look forward to your presence...

Participating in Worship this Morning Peter Sulyok, Transitional Senior Pastor Ashley B. Rossi, Associate Pastor Abigail Vander Hart Palmisano, Organist and Director of Music Denise Abraham, Liturgist The Sanctuary Choir Jed Smith, Greeter/Ushers Patricia Agbote and Margie White, Shepherds Our Chancel Preparation and Emergency Procedure (CPEP) member is Walter Newman Gary Moll and Jay Raulinaitis, Live-Streaming Operators

Welcome to Sunday Morning Worship (Also, live streamed at 10:00 am) YouTube (Carmel Presbyterian Church Glenside) at <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KnjuJryWjVkrJljIDvsRw</u> Those without Internet access may phone in via the Zoom phone link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8428511409</u> and Meeting ID: 842 851 1409 "Virtual Fellowship Time" may be accessed on Zoom only after the service ends.

Signup to Help with Worship! Each Sunday we have several spots you can assist. Click here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/904094ca8a62aa6f49-worship

For those Participating and Facilitating in Worship

By attending in-person worship at Carmel Presbyterian Church you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and variants and voluntarily assume the risk that you and your family may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19. You also acknowledge that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 and its variants may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of yourself and/or others, including, but not limited to, church employees, contractors, volunteers, members, and participants and their families. You agree to assume all the foregoing risks, waive liability against Carmel Presbyterian Church and church employees, contractors, volunteers, members, and participants and their families, and accept sole responsibility for any illness, injury, disability, or death to you or your family, including all claims that may arise resulting from any of these.

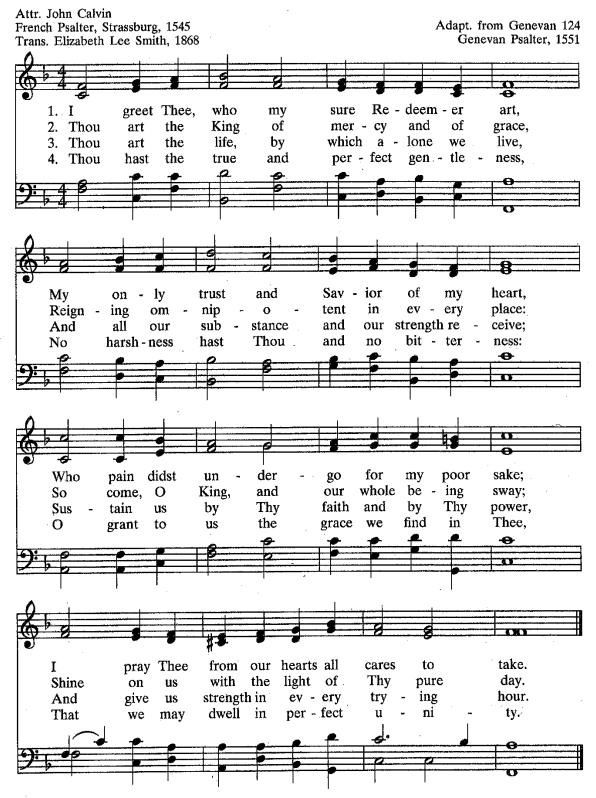
Carmel Presbyterian Church

100 Edge Hill Road Glenside, PA 19038 215-887-1074 www.presbycarmel.org MORNING AND OPENING HYMNS

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457 I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON 10.10.10.10



5. Our hope is in no other save in Thee; Our faith is built upon Thy promise free; Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure, That in Thy strength we evermore endure.

SERVICE MUSIC



*May be sung as a canon.

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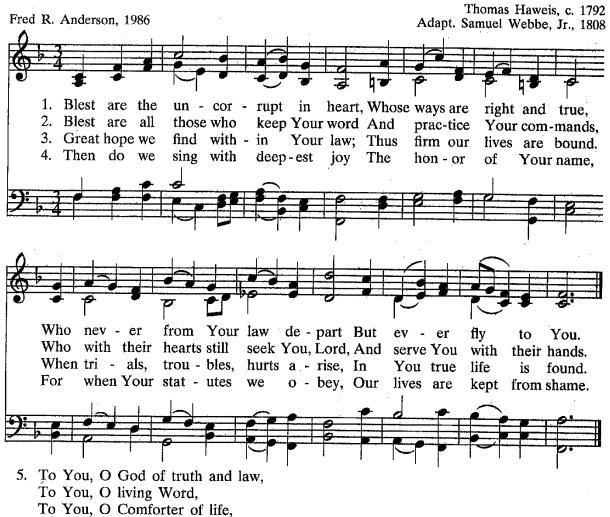
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PSALM 119:1-16

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Blest Are the Uncorrupt in Heart

RICHMOND CM



May now our praise be heard.

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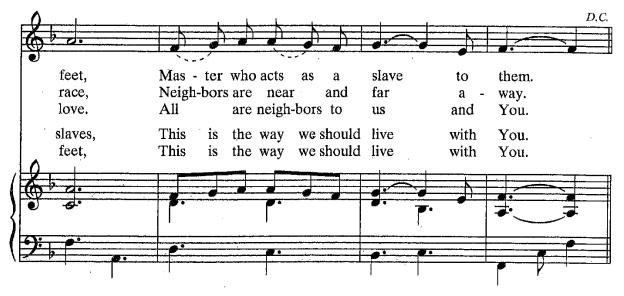
Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

CHEREPONI Irregular with refrain



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LIFE IN CHRIST



SERVICE MUSIC



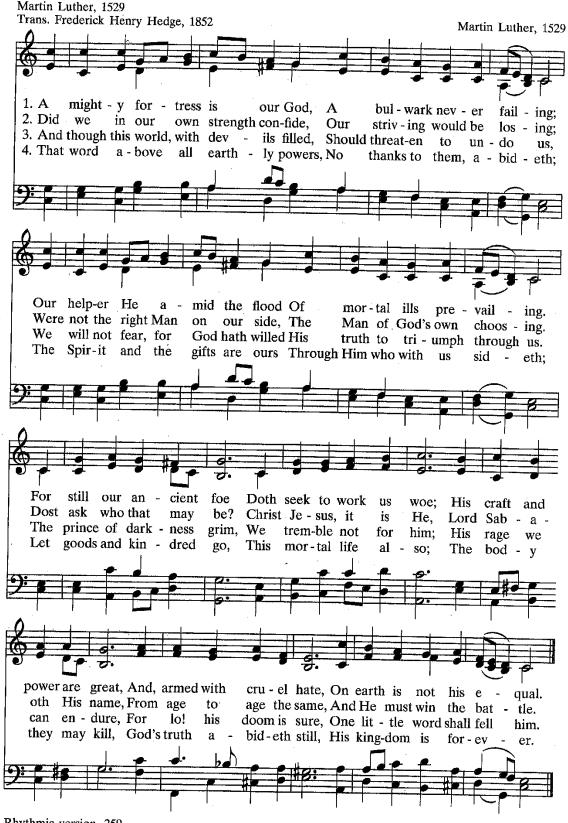
* Or "God."

260

GOD

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7



Rhythmic version, 259

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