

NORTHRIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2, 2021 10:00 A.M.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

Paul Manz

Chiming of the Hour
Welcome

PREPARING FOR GOD'S WORD

✠ Call to Worship

To the fisherman Jesus said:

"Follow me and I will make you fish for people.

To the tax collector Jesus said:

"Follow me."

To the rich man Jesus said:

"Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

At the last supper Jesus said:

"Follow me."

To you and to me and to all of us Jesus says:

"Follow me!"

✠ Gathering Hymn #667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

✠ Prayer of Confession

Creator God, we confess that at times we are skeptics. At times we doubt that You exist because of the evil we have seen in the world. Oppression, marginalization, and plain hate still plague our world, and it is hard to see Your love and light. Sometimes, even those who bear Your name do not walk in Your ways.

(Silence for personal confession)

Help us to see Your goodness in this world. Help us to know Your love. Fill us with Your love and goodness, so that we might love one another, and lift up one another in faith. Amen.

✠ Assurance of Pardon

*God has given us one another for this journey of faith, to help one another.
Be encouraged, and encourage one another.
Go and share the good news of forgiveness.
We will go and we will tell. Together. Amen.*

✠ Passing the Peace

*The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.*

✠ 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.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

John 21

N.T. p.115

*The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

Follow Me

Betsy Lyles Swetenburg

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✠ Affirmation of Faith

(compiled from the Confirmands' Statements of Faith)

God has been a confusing subject for me. God's compassion and love are endless, deeper than the ocean and wider than the sky. I believe that God is always by our side and loves us always like we are his own family. To save us from our sins, God sent Jesus, God's only son, fully human and fully God, who died on the cross gifting us eternal life. I believe that the Holy Spirit is like an energy that surrounds and protects me throughout my day, in and out of the church. The church is made of kind people who were created in God's image. I feel like church is a place to go to get a little bit closer to God. At church, I feel comfortable and I can learn about God and I enjoy how everyone is so friendly. I know my church family is here to support me and teach me or help if I have questions. Amen.

✦ Affirmation Response

Open My Heart

Dent Davidson

**Open, open, open my heart. I must be open to everyone.
Often goes Love in the stranger's guise. Open, open my heart.**

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

Call To Give

(To give via text, send a text message to [1-844-958-4345](tel:1-844-958-4345) with the amount of the gift.
If you pledge, this offering will be applied to your pledge.)

Offertory

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Schmidt

✦ Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore—One holy God, whom we adore. Amen.**

✦ Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

✦ Sending Hymn #726

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

✦ Charge and Benediction

**Go out into God's world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good;
return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;
support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons;
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Closing Voluntary

The Strife Is O'er

Wilbur Held

Leading worship today:

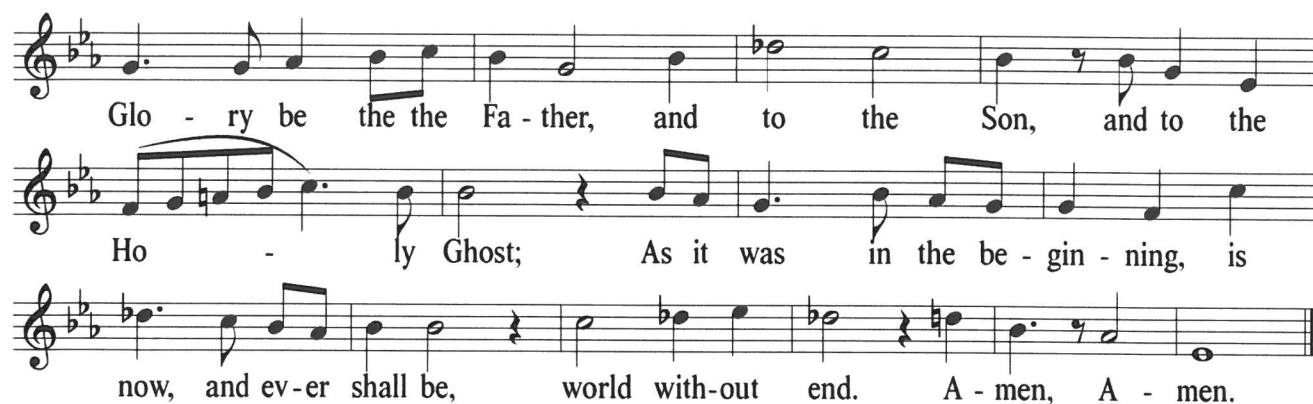
Rev. Elizabeth Lyles Swetenburg, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

Bryan Page, Music Director

Julia Boudreaux, Organist

Rebecca Jones, Soundboard Operator

✦ Gloria Patri



Glo - ry be the the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the
Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

✦ Affirmation Response



O - pen, o - pen, o - pen my heart. I must be o - pen to eve - ry-one.
Of - ten goes Love in the stran - ger's guise. O - pen, o - pen my heart.

✦ Doxology



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Christ, all crea - tures
here be - low; Praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more - One
ho - ly God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

667 When Morning Gilds the Skies

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing
 2 Does sad - ness fill my mind? A so - lace here I
 3 Let earth's wide cir - cle round in joy - ful notes re -
 4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di -

cries: may Je - sus Christ be praised! A -
 find: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Or
 sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let
 vine: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be

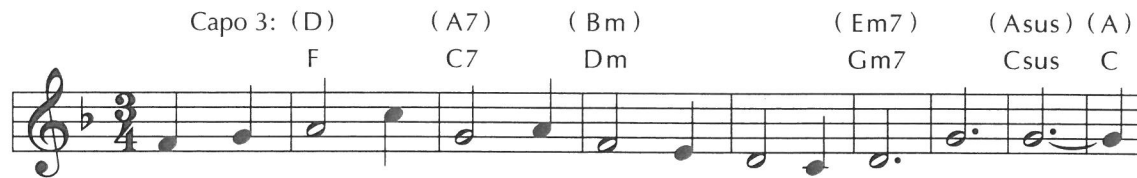
like at work and prayer to Je - sus I re -
 fades my earth - ly bliss? My com - fort still is
 air and sea and sky from depth to height re -
 this the e - ter - nal song through all the a - ges

pair: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 this: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 ply: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

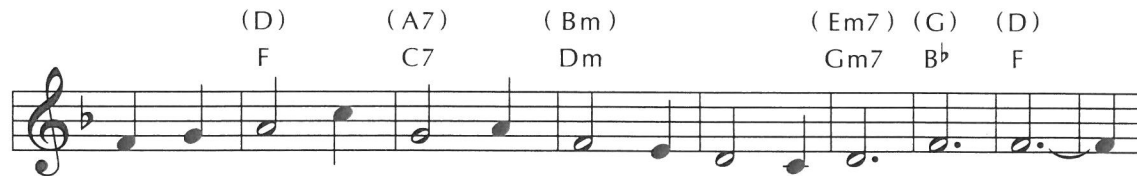
This is not just a morning hymn, though this excerpt from an English translation of an early 19th-century German text may not convey how thoroughly the original deals with different kinds of time throughout the day. The tune was composed as a setting for this English text.

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

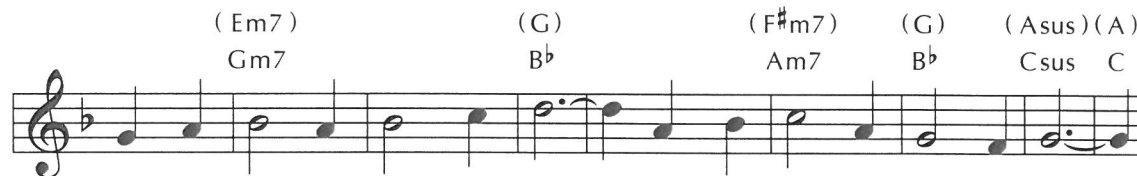
The Summons



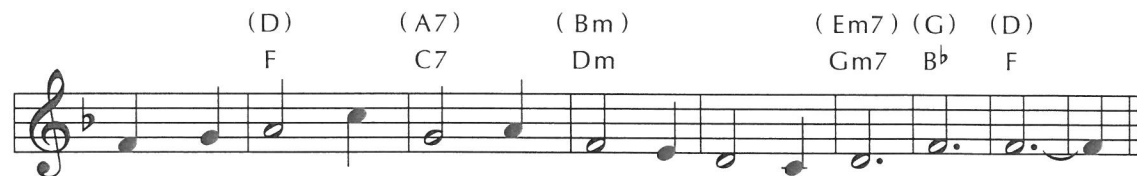
- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.