



# MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

DECEMBER 13, 2023 . 12:00 PM

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599*

J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 119*

*Minister:* Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord, your salvation according to your promise;

*People:* then shall I have an answer for those who taunt me, for I trust in your word.

*Minister:* And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your ordinances.

*People:* I will keep your law continually, for ever and ever;

*Minister:* and I shall walk in liberty, for I have sought your precepts.

*People:* I will also speak of your testimonies before rulers, and shall not be put to shame;

*Minister:* for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love.

*People:* I revere your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.

## HYMN 577 \*

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM Rhondda



1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple  
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -  
 3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to  
 4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient church -'s sto - ry;  
 sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us;  
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; let the search for thy sal - va - tion

bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,  
 free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom,  
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,  
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this  
 grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these  
 grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's  
 grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, (of this hour) for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 days, (of these days) for the liv - ing of these days.  
 goal, (king - dom's goal) lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
 dore, (we a - dore) serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

*Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION \*

Gracious God, we confess that we have often turned from you. There are times when we have wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt. We have behaved in unloving ways. We have chosen to ignore those in need. Our hearts are not placed in service to others, but rather in self-serving motives. Heal us, merciful God. Wash us again in the living water. Help us be faithful servants. Amen.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSON \*

James 1:17-27

*† following the reading*

*Minister:* The Word of God for the people of God.

*People:* Thanks be to God!

## SERMON

*Living God's Eternal Truth*

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Ev'ry Valley* (Messiah)

George Frideric Handel  
(1685-1759)

Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill made low;  
the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

*Isaiah 40:4*

William Green, *tenor*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

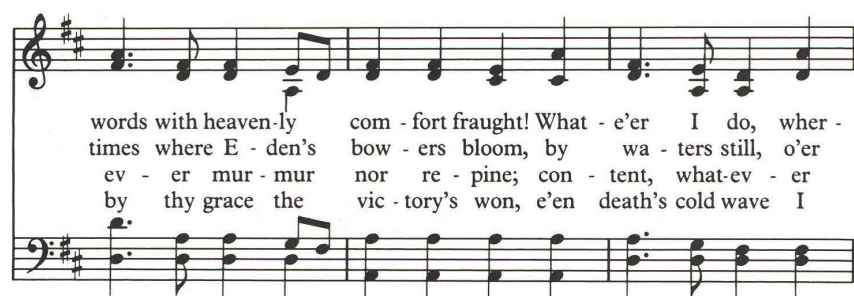
## HYMN 128 \*

*He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought*

## He Leadeth Me



1. He lead - eth me: O bless - ed thought! O  
 2. Some - times mid scenes of deep - est gloom, some -  
 3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor  
 4. And when my task on earth is done, when



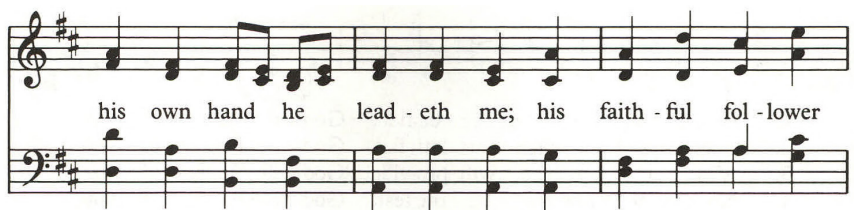
words with heaven-ly com - fort fraught! What - e'er I do, wher -  
 times where E - den's bow - ers bloom, by wa - ters still, o'er  
 ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine; con - tent, what-ev - er  
 by thy grace the vic - tory's won, e'en death's cold wave I



e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.  
 trou - bled sea, still 'tis his hand that lead - eth me.  
 lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.  
 will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.

*Refrain*


He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me, by



his own hand he lead - eth me; his faith - ful fol - lower



I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

*Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862 (Ps. 23)*

## BLESSING \*

May the love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit bless, preserve, and keep you both now and forevermore. And may the peace of Christ be always with you. **Amen.**

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottessohn*, BWV 601

J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

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**Preaching:** Rev. Geoff Beakley, *Associate Minister*  
**Music:** Dr. Oliver Brett, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster*

*For information on upcoming worship services please visit [www.prumc.org](http://www.prumc.org).*

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