

PRELUDE FOR ORGAN

Adoration

Florence B. Price (1887-1953)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

Pastor: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PEALING OF THE BELL AND SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

CHORAL INTROIT

Sovereign and Transforming Grace

Jane Marshall, 1992

Sovereign and transforming Grace, we invoke your quickening power;

Reign the spirit of this place, bless the purpose of this hour.

– Frederick H. Hedge; 1829; alt.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: We are from north and south.

People: **We are from small apartments and expansive homes.**

Pastor: We are from this city and from others far away.

People: **We are from big families and dinners made for one.**

Pastor: We are from stages of grief and stages of love.

People: **We are from hot summers and cold winters.**

Pastor: We are from kitchens with passed down recipes, and front porches with old, familiar swings.

People: **We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.**

Pastor: We are from a lot of places, but today we are here.

People: **Today we are together.**

All: **Holy God, gather us in.**

*** HYMN 32** (*online: see page 8*)

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ellacombe

The fully-vaccinated are invited to sing.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: When people heard that Jesus was from Nazareth, they asked, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?"

People: **We confess, God of beginnings, that we have asked the same question.**

Pastor: Can anything good come from that side of town?

People: **From a school with poor test scores?**

Pastor: From a criminal history?

People: **From the other political party?**

Pastor: From a history of addiction?

People: **From a faith mixed with doubt?**

Pastor: From a church with faults?

People: **Holy God, forgive us for doubting that you are in all things at all times. Open our eyes to see your goodness, not as something that resides here or there, but as the expansive grace that it is.**

Pastor: Can anything good come from there?

People: **Yes. Always yes. Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON *(sung by the choir)*

John Weaver, 1984

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

-5th/6th century Greek; transl.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Family of faith, if you ever ask yourself, "Can anything good come from this messy and human life of mine?" Remember this: God is always whispering, "Yes." You were created in the image of God. Your origin story is one of goodness and love from the very beginning. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

All: **God is here. God is at work among us. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI *(sung by all)*

John Weaver, 1978



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the
Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it: as it was in the be - gin-ning, is
now, and will be for ev - er. A-men. A - men. A - men.

-3rd/4th century Latin; transl.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Children age 4 through 8th grade will be dismissed to their Sunday School classes.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

[Genesis 2:4b-15](#)

Ron Sizemore, layreader

(Pew Bible, Old Testament, page 3)

after each reading:

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON

[John 1:35-46](#)

(Pew Bible, New Testament, page 92)

SERMON

"I've Been Meaning to Ask, part 1: The Virtue of Curiosity?"

Rev. Love

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that goodness can come from the dirt, that faith can come from doubt, that minds can be changed, that justice can begin with us, and that something good *can* come from Nazareth.

We believe all these things, because we believe that God is more expansive than we have words for — showing up in the corners of our world so often ignored and denied.

We believe that from this place of holy surprise, God invites us forward — beckoning hope, bravery, and curiosity from each of us. "Come and see," God says.

We believe. Help our unbelief.

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

AMEN *(sung by the choir)*

Vincent Persichetti (1915-1987)

* CALL FOR THE OFFERING (Please visit <https://ryepc.com/give/> or see below to give online.)

ANTHEM FOR CHOIR AND ORGAN

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

Let us with a gladsome mind
praise the Lord for he is kind:

Let us blaze his name abroad,
for of gods he is the God:

He with all commanding might
filled the new-made world with light:

Moravian melody; arr. Alan Ridout, 1969

He the golden-tressed sun
caused all day his course to run:

The hornéd moon to shine by night,
mid her spangled sisters bright:

All things living he doth feed,
his full hand supplies their need. Amen.

—Psalm 136; para. John Milton (1608-1674)

* DOXOLOGY *(sung by all)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Old Hundredth

—Thomas Ken, 1674; alt.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN *(all: see page 9)*

What Good Can Come from Nazareth?

Aurelia

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE FOR ORGAN

Fugue in B Major [op. 7, no. 1/ii]

Mr. Cheng

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

**indicates standing for those who are able.*

Welcome to Rye Presbyterian Church

If you are a guest today, we welcome you and hope you are enriched and inspired by this time of worship. So that we may get to know you better, please fill out an information card found in the pew racks and put it in the offering plate. You may also go to: <https://ryepc.com/im-new/> and fill out the Welcome Form online.

*The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of
Jessie Harper, by her long-time friend Jennifer Gontarz,
in remembrance of Jessie's birthday on September 16.*

Today we welcome Theodore (Teddy) Cheng as the 2021-2022 Knock Intern in Sacred Music.

*The White Rose at the lectern is in honor of the birth of
Finley Gayle Feeney on September 4, daughter of Blaire and Stewart Feeney
and granddaughter of Gail and Stephen Feeney.*

TODAY

Confirmation Orientation – 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Chancel Choir Rehearsal – 11:15 a.m., Chapel

Adult Ed – 7:30 p.m., Zoom (contact John Miller, jmiller@ryepc.com, for Zoom info). See announcement below for further info.

CONFIRMATION 2022 – ORIENTATION TODAY

If you are a ninth grader, now is the time to register for Confirmation class for the coming school year! If you are registered, or if you aren't sure what Confirmation is all about, please attend the Confirmation Orientation today. We will meet in the sanctuary following the 10 AM service. For more information or to register for class, check on the Confirmation page on the RPC website (<https://ryepc.com/ministries/confirmation/>). If you have any questions, please be in touch with Dan Love – dlove@ryepc.com

CHILDCARE & SUNDAY SCHOOL



Childcare for infants and Sunday School for age 4 - 8th grade are being offered once again! Registration for infants to 8th grade attending our 2021-2022 Sunday School program is now up on our website (<https://ryepc.com/article/childcare-sunday-school-sign-up/>)! Please register soon to help us safely and effectively plan for the relaunch of in-person Sunday School!

Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education Wing. Sunday School for age 4 - 3rd grade are on the second floor of Education Wing, and 4th-5th grade are in the Westminster Room. Middle School meets in the Youth Rooms down in the basement.

THIS WEEK

Monday, September 20

9:30 a.m. Monday Bible Discussion – via Zoom

Wednesday, September 22

7:30 p.m. Session – via Zoom

Thursday, September 23

10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop, Assembly Room

6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry – Prime Ministers, via Zoom

GENERAL NOTICES

E-MAIL PRAYER GROUP

Our e-mail prayer group is going strong. Please join us in our ministry of prayer for others. Or if you have a prayer request, please do not hesitate to contact rpcprayers@gmail.com.

RECOVERING FROM IDA

Our local community continues to deal with the aftermath of Ida. If you were directly impacted by the storm and are in need of some type of assistance, or you can lend a helping hand to those who are, please TEXT Lisa King at (917) 209-9815 OR email John Miller at jmiller@ryepc.com or Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com, or call them at the church office, (914) 967-0842. Let's take care of one another and those in need.

ONLINE GIVING

Online donation options are available on the RPC Website Giving page (ryepc.com/give/), or you may scan the QR Code to the right with your cell phone.

zelle We can also accept your donations with Zelle from your mobile banking app.

Please contact the church office to register with us first.

Contact Maida Robinson at 914-967-0842 or email mrobinson@ryepc.com, if you have any questions.

Many thanks for your continued generosity and support of the church!



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHING VOLUNTEERS

Here at Rye Presbyterian Church we seek to guide and nurture our children on their journey of faith! We strive to provide a welcoming environment for them to engage Scripture, ask faith questions, and grow closer to God and our community of faith.

We invite you to join in on that work as a Teaching Volunteer! Teaching is done in teams, providing a support system among fellow volunteers and a rotating schedule. You are invited to teach based on your own schedule, either teaching on a regular basis, seasonally, or as a substitute. All lessons are prepared and all materials are provided for you each week. Training is provided.

We hope you decide to walk alongside the children of our community this year! If interested in being a part of this work, please contact Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com).

CONNECTION & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

With the school year starting, both our middle school Connection and High School Youth Group are meeting regularly again! Please visit the “Youth Ministry” page of the website – <https://ryepc.com/ministries/youth/> - to get a glimpse of what our youth are up to this fall.

Our youth are also invited to fill out the **get-to-know-you form** on the website. This form will help us stay connected as much as possible throughout the year, so please encourage your youth to fill it out.



JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR

RPC's music ministry thrives because many volunteers contribute their time and talent. Might you have interest in singing in the Chancel Choir? If so, please read on!

COVID-19 SAFETY NOTE: All singers must be fully vaccinated. Distancing will be maintained at all times. Rehearsals will take place in spaces with fresh air induction and good air circulation. Wearing a mask while singing is necessary at this time.

- The Chancel Choir, open to anyone who is a high school junior or older, sings each Sunday of the program year (mid-September through mid-June) and in services on Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday.
 - The usual Sunday schedule begins with warm-up at 9:15 a.m., continues with singing in the 10:00 a.m. service, and concludes with a rehearsal following that service (11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.).
 - Ability to read music makes for ease of progress; but, those who do not yet know the “language” of music, yet are able to match and maintain pitch, are most welcome to join.
 - Section leaders (professional musicians) assist and help to inspire all singers.
- If interested, please speak with Jason Charneski, call him at 914-967-0842, ext. 16, or send him an email: jcharneski@ryepc.com.

JOIN THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR OR THE YOUTH CHOIR!

CALLING ALL CHILDREN IN GRADES 1-6
3:30-4:15 p.m. on Thursdays, start date TBD

CALLING ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 7 AND UP
Sundays after worship, dates TBD based on youth schedules

These choirs are accepting new members and welcoming back old ones for the 2021-2022 school year.

Questions about the year ahead? Please contact Lisa Rawson, Director (lrawson@ryepc.com)



STARTS TONIGHT!!



Rye Presbyterian Church Adult Education Conversations

Join us on four Sunday evenings: Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 10

7:30 - 9:00 PM via Zoom

Contact John Miller, jmiller@ryepc.com, for Zoom info

The guiding principles of this series:

... where are you from?

Everyone is beloved. Everyone has a story to tell. We commit to disrupting our assumptions and staying curious.

... where does it hurt?

Everyone carries hurt and can acknowledge the pain of others. We commit to vulnerability and compassion.

... what do you need?

Everyone has needs. God calls us to care for one another. We commit to listening and being present.

... where do we go from here?

Courageous conversations can transform us. God bridges connections. We commit to continuing the conversation.

How the Pandemic Has Changed Our World

Sunday morning, 9:00 AM, September 26 – Chapel

Join us for the first of four special gatherings exploring how the pandemic has changed our world. We begin with Dr. Eric Byrne, Superintendent of the Rye City School District addressing how the pandemic has changed the field of education.



How the Pandemic Has Changed Our World

Sunday mornings, 9:00 AM

Sept. 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Rye Presbyterian Church

A 2020 Pew Research poll asked Americans how the pandemic has affected them. The majority (89%) mentioned at least one negative change in their lives, while a smaller share (though still a 73% majority) mentioned at least one unexpected upside. Most have experienced these events simultaneously. 67% of Americans mentioned at least one negative and at least one positive change since the pandemic began.

Join us as we welcome “experts” to address four areas: Education, Medicine, Religion, and Business:



September 26 – Education

Dr. Eric Byrne
Superintendent
Rye City School District



October 17 – Medicine

Dr. Jason Shuker,
Associate Medical
Director, Urgent Care of
Westmed Medical Group



November 14 – Religion

Elder Deborah Milcarek,
General Presbyter
Hudson River Presbytery



December 12 – Business

Jim Howland (RPC Member)
Managing Director
Morgan Stanley

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



The Great Lawn

Saturday, October 2, at 5:00 p.m.

Special offering to benefit Pet Rescue, Larchmont.



WEEKDAY HOURS

The church is open 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please take careful note of the guidelines that are in place so that we may all safely use the church building together: (<https://ryepc.com/article/weekday-reopening-of-rye-presbyterian/>).

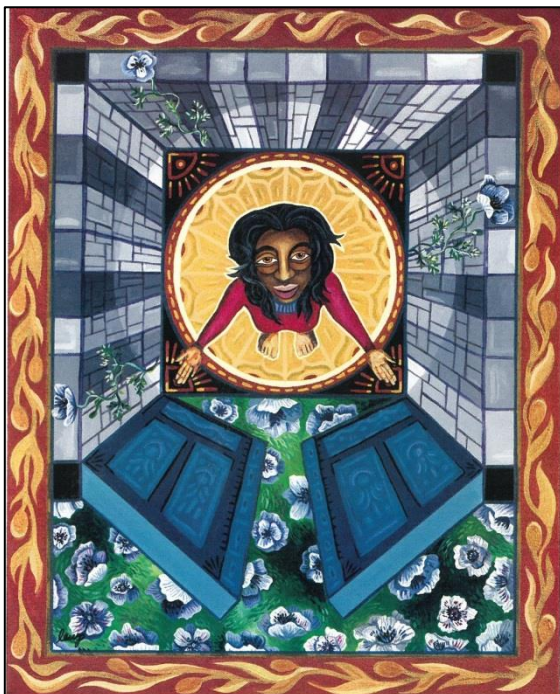


SUNDAY CHANCEL FLOWERS

Each week beautiful flowers adorn our sanctuary and provide an uplifting reminder of the goodness of God. Please consider honoring the memory of a loved one or recognizing a special occasion for a \$70 donation.

The flowers are a blessing to worshippers attending the service live in the sanctuary as well as those attending via ZOOM.

Your donation will be noted in the church bulletin and the weekly email. To make arrangements, contact Denise LeVan (dlevan@ryepc.com).



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

THE LIGHT OF PEACE

The Peace & Global Witness Offering offers light to those in the shadows and guides us all into the ways of peace. We come together to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world.

25%

of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.

25%

of this Offering will go to joining with other congregations in our area to support peacemaking work in our region.

50%

of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Please give generously.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is one of the four special Presbyterian Church (USA) offerings that are received during the year. This offering is received on World Communion Sunday, October 3. We give because we know that every level of society is in need of Christ's peace — at all times, in all ways. You are invited to visit the Peace & Global Witness website (presbyterianmission.org/peace-global) to find out more information on how your support of this Offering helps.



The Rev. Daniel Love, *Co-Pastor*
The Rev. Dr. John Miller, *Co-Pastor*
The Rev. Jean-Paul Marshall, *Associate Pastor for Christian Education*
Jason Charneski, *Director of Music and Organist*
Lisa Rawson, *Director of Choirs for Children and Youth*
Theodore Cheng, *Knock Intern in Sacred Music*
Maida Robinson, *Chief Administrative Officer*
Peggy Berretta, *Administrative Assistant*
Denise LeVan, *Pastoral Assistant*
Juan Velasquez, *Head Sexton/Building Manager*
Alonso Osorio, *Sunday Sexton*
We are a Stephen Ministry church.



Liturgy by The Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)
Music: John Weaver, 1984

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I Sing the Mighty Power of God (*Ellacombe*)
Descant © 1993 The Pilgrim Press.

Gloria Patri (Glory to the Father)
Music: John Weaver

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Amen (following The Lord's Prayer)
Music: Vincent Persichetti
© Elkan-Vogel Co., Inc., Philadelphia, Pa.

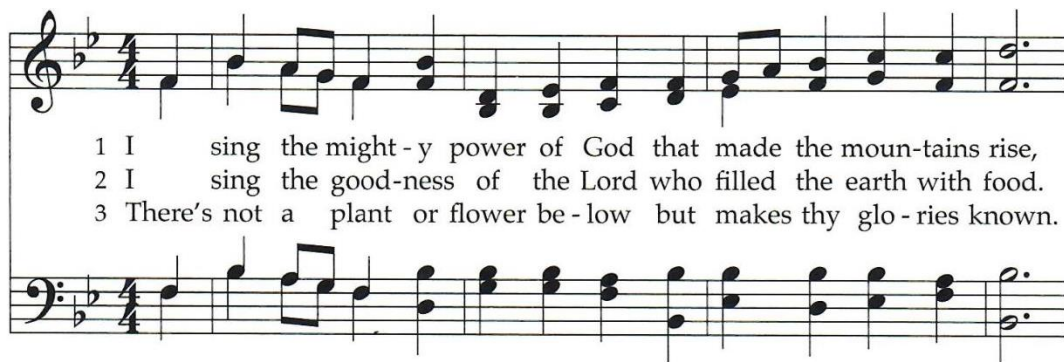
Let Us with a Gladsome Mind
Text: John Milton Music: arr. Alan Ridout
Music arr. © 1969 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. Sole U.S. Agent: ECS Publishing, Boston, Mass.

What Good Can Come from Nazareth? (*Aurelia*)
Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley
Text © 2018 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. www.carolynshymns.com

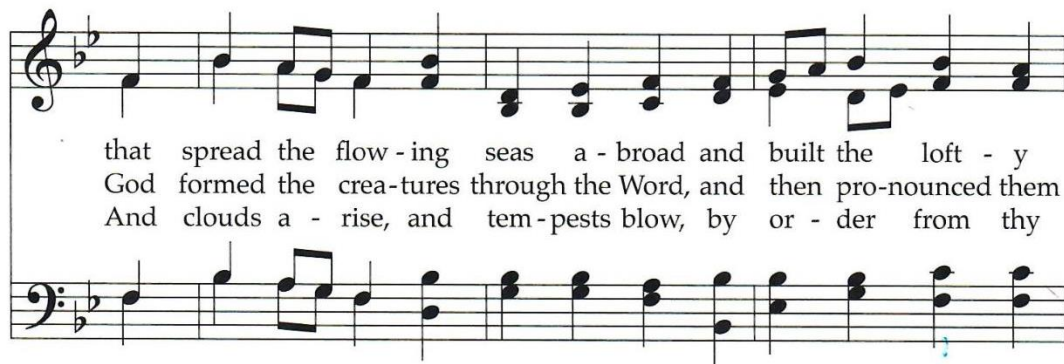
Fugue in B Major [op. 7, no. 1/ii], by Marcel Dupré
© 1920 Alphonse LeDuc, Éditions Musicales, Paris. All rights reserved.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

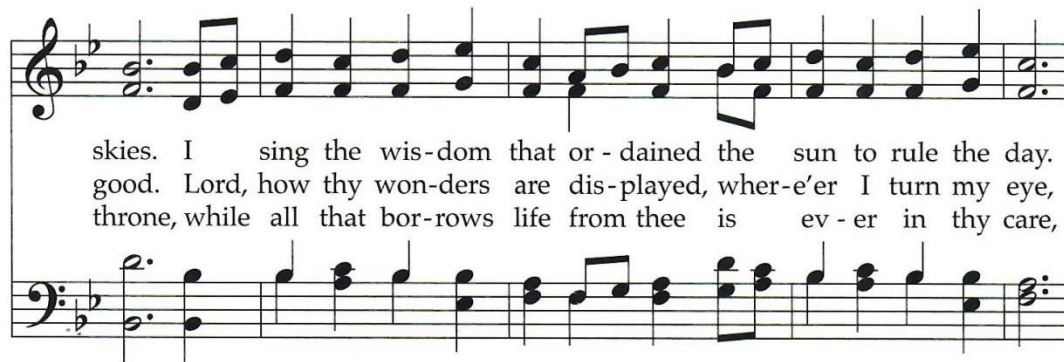
Ellacombe



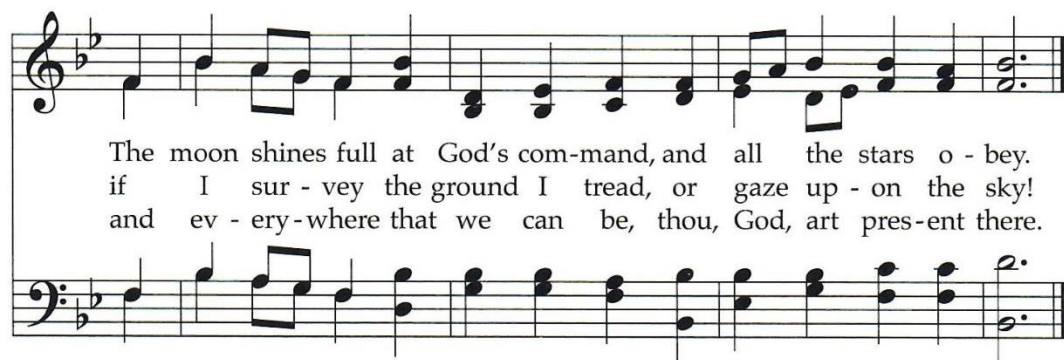
1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes thy glo - ries known.



that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y
God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy



skies. I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day.
good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,



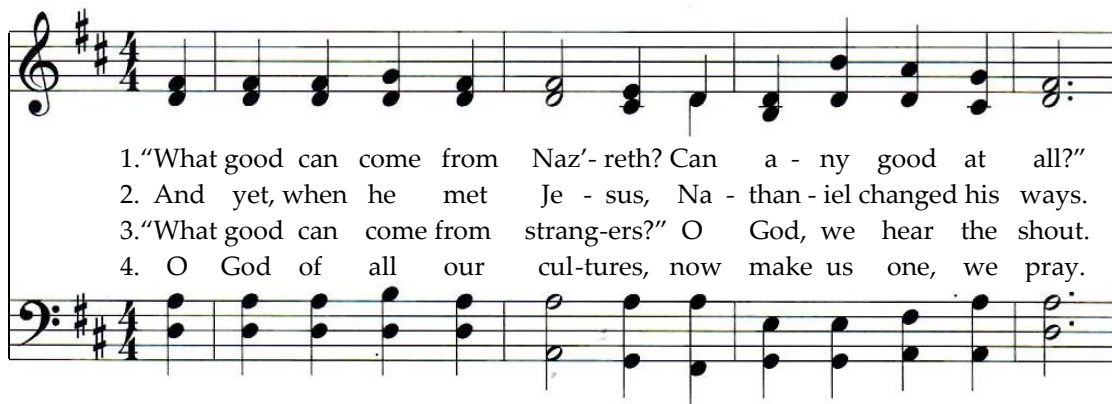
The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
and ev - ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1715; alt.

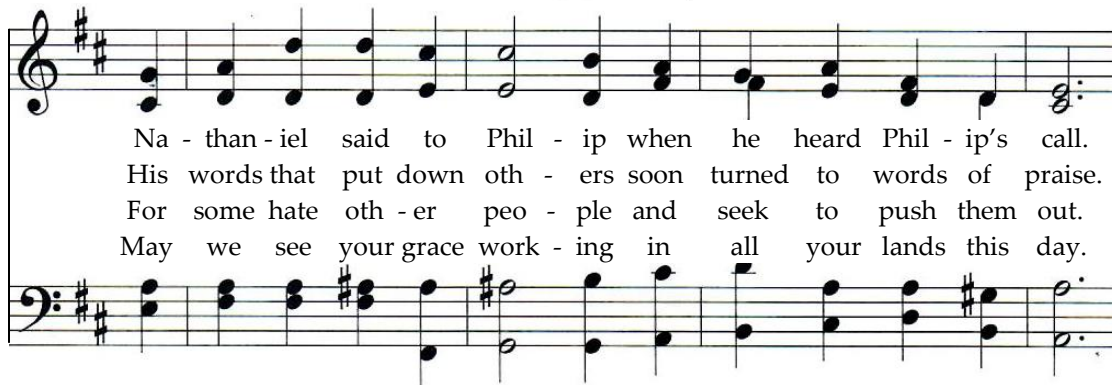
Music: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; alt. 1868

What Good Can Come from Nazareth?

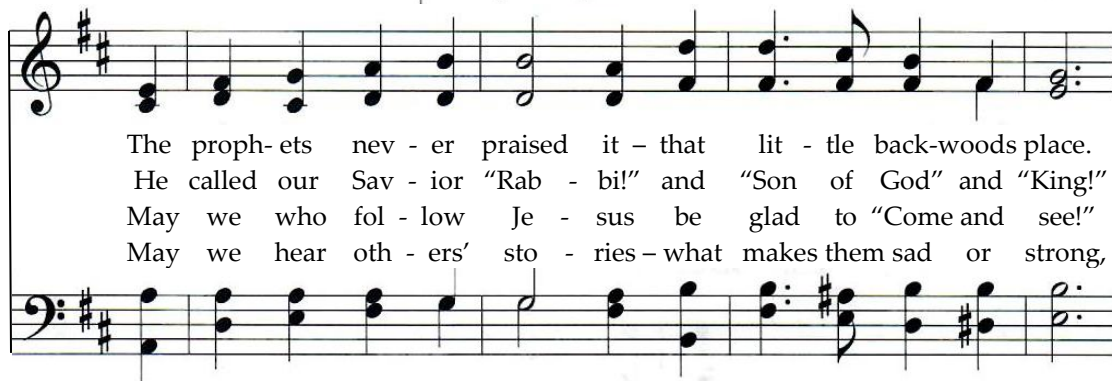
Aurelia



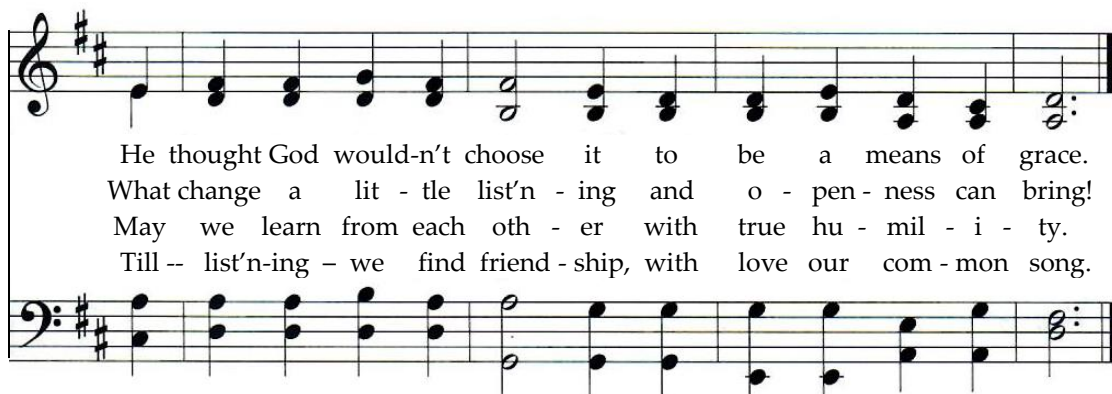
1. "What good can come from Naz'-reth? Can a - ny good at all?"
2. And yet, when he met Je - sus, Na - than - iel changed his ways.
3. "What good can come from stran-gers?" O God, we hear the shout.
4. O God of all our cul-tures, now make us one, we pray.



Na - than - iel said to Phil - ip when he heard Phil - ip's call.
His words that put down oth - ers soon turned to words of praise.
For some hate oth - er peo - ple and seek to push them out.
May we see your grace work - ing in all your lands this day.



The proph-ets nev - er praised it - that lit - tle back-woods place.
He called our Sav - ior "Rab - bi!" and "Son of God" and "King!"
May we who fol - low Je - sus be glad to "Come and see!"
May we hear oth - ers' sto - ries - what makes them sad or strong,



He thought God would-n't choose it to be a means of grace.
What change a lit - tle list'n - ing and o - pen - ness can bring!
May we learn from each oth - er with true hu - mil - i - ty.
Till -- list'n-ing - we find friend - ship, with love our com - mon song.

Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2018
Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

