

(verse 2)

When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

(verse 4)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

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CALL TO CONFESSION

L: Who are we that God is mindful of us? Yet God loves us, cares for us, and forgives us. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin:

UNION PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what consumes our minds like a fire. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more into your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

(Moment of Silent Reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Indeed, God loves us, cares for us, forgives us, and crowns us with honor and glory. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE (Known Unknowns)

God, Our Creator, You in Love Made Us

Meter

(verse 2)

O Christ, our Savior, you in love called us who once were no-ones, feeling unknown. We pledge to go wherever you summon, making your will and purpose our own.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L: Our peace comes from knowing how much God loves us in Jesus Christ. With God's help, we try to love and forgive one another as Christ loves and forgives us. The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Your word, O God, enlightens our path and shows us the way to go. Open the ears of our hearts and speak to us now that we may know your desire for our lives and respond with joy. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

Psalm 95:1-7a

O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! ² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! ³ For the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods. ⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. ⁶ O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! ⁷ For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

SPECIAL MUSIC

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

arr. by Richard Walters

Soloists: Diana Huff & Marilyn Rodenhausen

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 3:1-4, 12-17

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

THE MESSAGE

"Things Above"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE (from Psalm 8)

Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WITNESS

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available in the narthex for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

In a Quiet Moment

Steven Scott

***DOXOLOGY (Known Unknowns)**

God, Our Creator, You in Love Made Us

Meter

(verse 3)

***O God, the Spirit, you in love move us who once were nowhere,
lost or alone. We know our need of you for companion; all
things can change when not on our own.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***SENDING SONG #707**

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord

Hall

(verse 1)

***Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray; give us the mind of
Christ each passing day; teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.***

(verse 2)

***Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own; come thou within our
souls and claim thy throne; help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;
use us to make the earth like heaven above.***

(verse 4)

***Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will; through our
surrendered souls thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to thee: time,
talents, all; we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.***

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Immortal, Invisible

Edward Broughton

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Health and Safety Protocols

With the return to in-person worship services, we ask you to follow these guidelines:

- Windows may be open or fans turned on to provide appropriate air circulation.
- When inside the church building, face coverings are optional based on personal comfort level.

- Socially distance as able in the pews and sanctuary.
- If you are not feeling well today, please stay home.
- At this time, we will not be the offering plate or holding hands for the benediction at the close of the service.
- After the worship service has concluded, we ask that you move outside for any extended conversations.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Any changes to these protocols will be shared in advance of Sunday gatherings.

Walking Group

Meet at Frohring Meadows (small shelter) for a brief devotion and then a walk – you choose your own pace and distance.

Fridays - 10 a.m.
August 5 and 19

Gardening Group

Meet in the Faith Garden for an hour of fellowship and to keep our raised beds looking beautiful.

Wednesdays - 10 a.m.
August 10 and 24

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, August 12

(10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, August 13

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)



This year, we are partnering with fifteen other churches in the Cleveland area to sponsor a Faith Build home rehabilitation with Habitat for Humanity. The home is located at 9815 Ewell Avenue in the Buckeye neighborhood. You are invited to sign-up now for any of our work dates – anyone age 16 or older is free to join us, for either a full or half day. Rides to the work site will be coordinated for each of these days.

Thursday, August 18
Thursday, September 29

See the July / August Valley Voice for instructions on registering, as well as a link to the registration page.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Chagrin Falls Park Community Center is collecting school supplies, backpacks, and lunch boxes for their annual BTS supply drive. They will distribute school supplies on Friday, August 5. Please consider donating through Thursday, August 4, or donate the following items for July / August to help stock the shelves at the CFPCC:



Small boxes of sugar, boxed tea bags, coffee, boxed white rice, tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce, egg noodles.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

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Liturgist: Ruth Gurd

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeter: Beth Krause