

WORSHIP SERVICE
AUGUST 17, 2025, 9:00AM
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE

Here I Am to Worship

Tim Hughes

WORDS OF WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Let us pray.)

Leader: Healing, Holy God, Giving and Forgiving God:

People: From whom every good thing does come,

Leader: We offer You hungry hearts waiting to be filled.

People: Fill our hearts with a sense of Your presence.

Leader: We offer You souls aching to be touched:

People: Fill our souls with Your all-loving spirit.

Leader: We offer You lives inundated with everyday needs:

People: Fill our lives with a sense of peace.

Leader: We offer You lives that are less than they might be:

People: Forgive those moments when we disappoint You.

Leader: We offer You lives where we follow our own desires:

People: Forgive those moments when we forget whose we are.

Leader: We offer You lives that fail to see the needs of others:

People: Forgive those moments when our self-focus blinds us.

Leader: Hear the confessions we offer now silently:

People: And extend to us the grace of Your forgiveness.

Silence

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God's love for us is greater than the sin we commit against God. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. This is the Good News we proclaim in this place: when we confess our sins before God and one another, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Alleluia! Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you

*HYMN (*page 6*)

Praise, My Soul, The God of Heaven Henry Lyte/John Goss
Verses 1, 2, 3, and 5

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 40:28-31; 43:18-19

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted, but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Promise in the Pause”

Kelly Antonson

SERMON RESPONSE

My Worship

Phil Thompson/arr. William Haddad
Caroline Haddad, solo
William Haddad, piano

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

On Eagles's Wing

Michael Joncas

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As a congregation, we pray together – through word, silence, and
The Lord's Prayer (sins)

*HYMN (*page 7*)

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Fred Kaan/Jamaican folk melody

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Traditional/arr. Nerva Altino

*Congregation please stand.

Please join us for fellowship time on the front walk (or Smith
Hall if the weather is inclement) immediately following the
service today.

COLLECTION OF OFFERING

Please place your tithes and offerings in the plates provided
as you enter or leave this morning.

ARE YOU VISITING OUR CHURCH TODAY?

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us! If you have
questions about our church or wish to join us for our next new
member class, please contact Anna Rogers at (203) 274-0097 or
welcoming@godsacre.org.

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

The prayer shawls displayed today were made with love and prayers by our Prayer Shawl Ministry. The shawls are given to those experiencing significant life challenges. During our prayers today, we ask for God's blessing on the shawls, and pray for those who receive them. New members are always welcome. No experience is needed! For more information, contact Twee Haffner at tweehaffner@gmail.com or (203) 966-0606.

NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

AUGUST PLATE OFFERING

The August plate offering will go towards Filling in the Blanks, which aims to fight childhood hunger by providing children in need with weekend meals.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS

There will be no church school classes offered during the month of August. Activity bags are available. Nursery care is provided for children three and under.

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER CLOSURE

The church offices will be closed on Fridays through August 29. Contact (203)966-2651, x103, for pastoral care concerns.

DEDICATE A FLOWER ARRANGEMENT FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Dedicate a floral arrangement to remember someone special who has passed away or who is celebrating a special birthday, anniversary, or graduation. Please contact Tracy Goldman at office@godsacre.org to choose a date and discuss color preference. A suggested donation of \$100 is greatly appreciated.

FALL FELLOWSHIP SOCIAL – SEPTEMBER 19

Reunite with church friends this fall and enjoy a delicious paella-themed dinner! Join us on Friday, September 19, at the Carriage



Barn Arts Center from 7:00-10:00pm. Please bring your favorite adult beverage to share. The cost is \$30pp. Scan the QR code to RSVP or email Laurel Carr at laurel@godsacre.org by September 12.

FILLING IN THE BLANKS BACKPACK DRIVE – AUGUST 1-31

We invite you to donate new full-size empty backpacks during the month of August to benefit Filling in the Blanks. Their mission is to fight childhood hunger by providing children in need with weekend meals. Backpacks may be dropped off at the Church Office or mailed directly to the church c/o Tracy Goldman. Please contact Tracy at office@godsacre.org with any questions.

INVITATION TO JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR

Weekly choir rehearsal will resume on Thursday, September 4, at 7:30pm. For further information, please contact Nerva Altino at nerva@godsacre.org.

PACIFIC HOUSE HOMELESS SHELTER – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

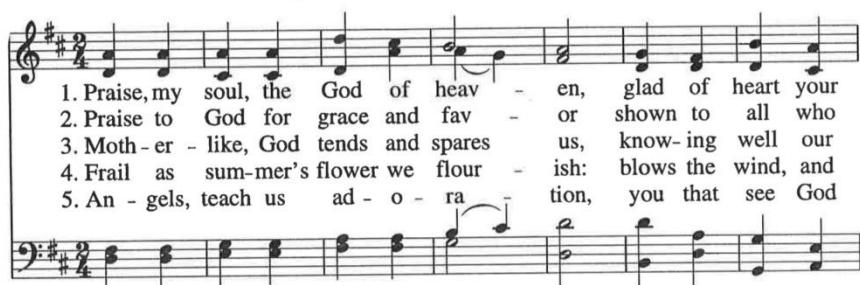
Once a month (every third Thursday), our church provides and serves dinner at the Pacific House Homeless Shelter in Stamford. Volunteers are needed to both contribute food items and serve a hot meal to approximately 60 men residing at the shelter. Contact Andy Parkin at andyparkin7@gmail.com for details on how to help.

SUMMER SERMON TALK BACK

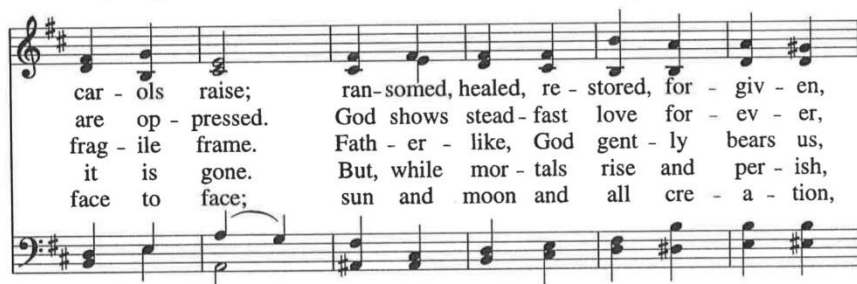
Join Kelly in the Chapel at 10:00am to reflect and share insights on the scripture and sermon just preached. Actively engage in processing what you have just heard with fellow congregants and consider how it might apply to your daily life and the life of the world.

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

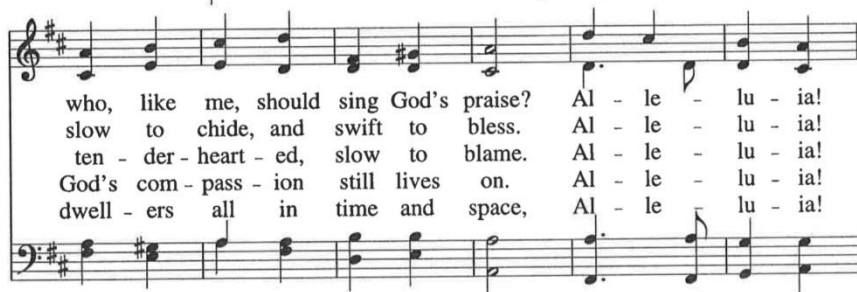
19



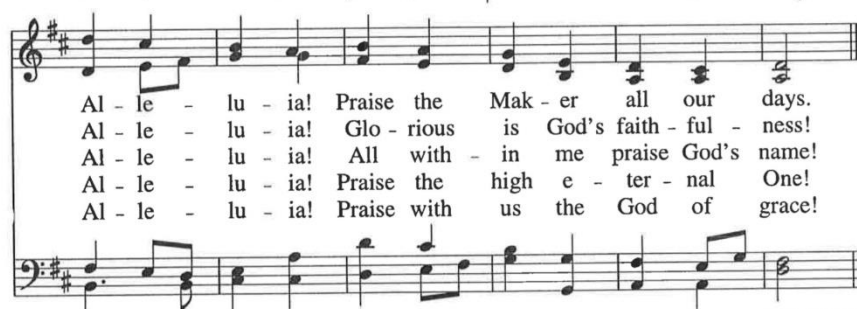
1. Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en, glad of heart your
 2. Praise to God for grace and fav - or shown to all who
 3. Moth - er - like, God tends and spares us, know - ing well our
 4. Frail as sum - mer's flower we flour - ish: blows the wind, and
 5. An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion, you that see God



car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 are op - pressed. God shows stead - fast love for - ev - er,
 frag - ile frame. Fath - er - like, God gent - ly bears us,
 it is gone. But, while mor - tals rise and per - ish,
 face to face; sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,



who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
 slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
 ten - der - heart - ed, slow to blame. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God's com - pass - ion still lives on. Al - le - lu - ia!
 dwell - ers all in time and space, Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all our days.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me praise God's name!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the high e - ter - nal One!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

WORDS: Henry F. Lyte, 1834; adapt. Ecumenical Women's Center and Ruth Duck, 1974, alt.
 MUSIC: John Goss, 1869

LAUDA ANIMA
 87.87.87

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ 316

Unison

1. Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
 2. Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
 3. Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,

bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!

Refrain (first time p, second time f)

Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1975

MUSIC: Jamaican folk melody, adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975

Jamaican folk rhythms meet the spirit of ecumenist Fred Kaan

LINSTEAD
 LM w. refrain

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP:

Kelly Antonson

*Associate Minister for Children, Youth,
and Families*

Nerva Altino

Director of Music Ministries

Bryan Griffin, tenor

Soloist

Leigh Engen

AV Tech Leader

DEACON OF THE MONTH

Teri Reed

We are a welcoming, inclusive and compassionate church community where difference and diversity are valued. We gather to promote the love and knowledge of the God revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Redeemer and Friend, and welcome all to participate in the life of our church regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, ability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

We invite you to make an offering today.

