

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 26, 2018

Worship Focus

PSALMthing to Sing About – A Song in Old Age

I will
PRAISE
YOU
more and more.

PSALM 71:14, NIV

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

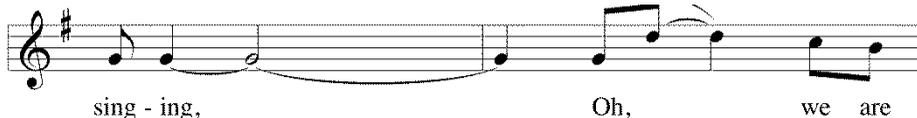
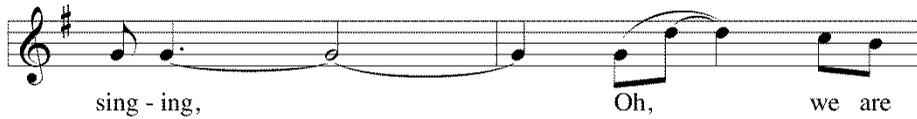
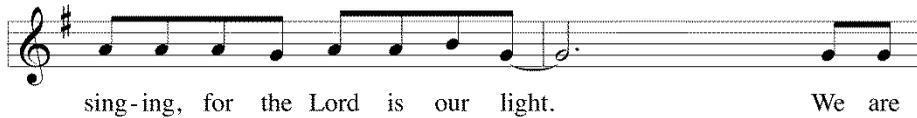
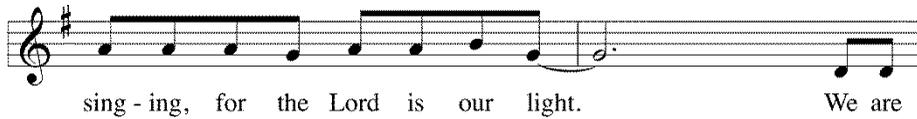
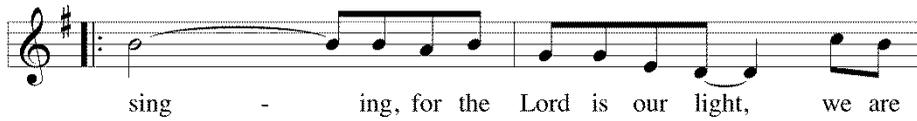
Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

732 – We Are Singing

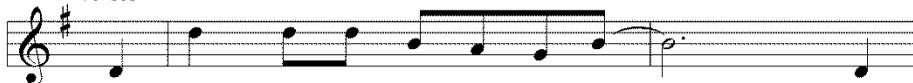
Refrain





sing - ing, for the Lord is our light.

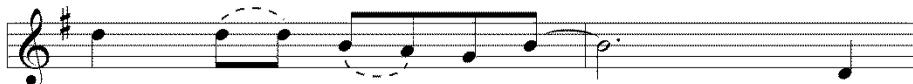
Verses



1 The Lord is the strength of our lives; Of
2 One thing have we asked of the Lord, Yes,
3 When bur - dens are heav - y to bear, Our
4 We walk in the strength of the Lord; God's



whom shall we be a - fraid? Though
this is the thing we seek: To
shel - ter is God a - lone. Our
love is ev - er sure. We



foes may be near to de - stroy; The
dwell in the house of the Lord, To
feet are lift - ed high, Yes
shout that the world may hear; We

To Refrain



Lord will be our light.
live with God for - ev - er. We are
high up - on a rock.
sing a joy - ful song.

With music based on the South African Freedom Song, this paraphrase of Psalm 27 underscores the confidence Christians have in God's deliverance from every trouble.

Text: South African, tr. and original verses by Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933
Tune: SIYAHAMBA (87 86 and Refrain) Zulu melody adapted by Hal H. Hopson.
Text, Tune: © 1994 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

CALVARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

As a Little Child

*O you must become as a little child,
As a little child and come unto Him.
Yes, you must become as a little child
To share in the kingdom of God.*

*Come unto Jesus, run into His arms
Come unto Jesus and you can
Share the kingdom of God.*

*Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak but He is strong
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.





THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

As Joshua's life comes to a close, he gathers Israel to encourage them to serve the Lord... as he intends to do with his family.

^{JOSHUA 24:1} Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

² Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your forefathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River and worshiped other gods.'

¹⁴ "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶ Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷ It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our fathers up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸ And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God."

PSALM

Psalm 71

1 In you, O LORD, I put my trust; you are my
 2 You are, O LORD, my ref - uge strong; from youth I
 3 Do not re - ject me in old age; for - sake me
 4 In you, O LORD, I hope once more; your love re -

rock and my de - fense. When times and tri - als
 have re - lied on you. Though trou - bles rise and
 not when strength has fled. For foes a - gainst me
 news my trou - bled soul. From youth to age my

are un - just, you turn my foes from their in - tents.
 life seems long, I speak your praise the whole day through.
 plot and rage and bold - ly say, "Your God is dead."
 strength re - store, and make my bat - tered spir - it whole.

- 5 To you I sing unending praise;
 you scorn not age and graying hair.
 Your love encompasses my days;
 all times to come will know your care.
- 6 I praise the LORD with harp and song;
 I sing with shouts of joy and praise.
 For you have rescued me from wrong
 and brought me hope for all my days.

Words: Clarence P. Walhout, 1985, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

SECOND LESSON Ephesians 5:21-31

Lives of service to God mean lives of service to each other. We submit to one another as we carry out our God given roles.

EPHESIANS 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

VERSE OF THE DAY

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL John 6:60-69

Salvation by faith in Jesus seems easy. Actually, it is the hardest thing for sinful man to believe. Will it lead us to stop following Jesus?

JOHN 6:60 On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?”

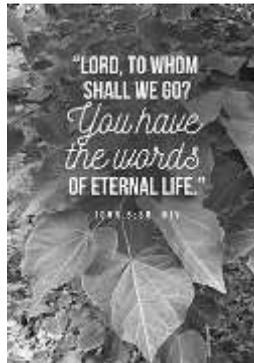
⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! ⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. ⁶⁴ Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. ⁶⁵ He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him.”

⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

⁶⁷ “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HYMN OF THE DAY

259 – When All Your Mercies, O My God



1 When all your mer - cies, O my God, My
2 Ten thou - sand thou - sand pre - cious gifts My
3 Through ev - 'ry pass - ing phase of life Your
4 Through all e - ter - ni - ty to you A



wak - ing soul sur - veys, Trans - port - ed with the
dai - ly thanks em - ploy, Nor is the least a
good - ness I'll pur - sue And af - ter death, in
joy - ful song I'll raise, But, oh, e - ter - ni -



view, I'm lost In won - der, love, and praise,
cheer - ful heart That tastes these gifts with joy.
dis - tant worlds, The glo - rious theme re - new,
ty's too short To ut - ter all your praise.

Text: Joseph Addison, 1672–1719, abr., alt.
Tune: WINCHESTER OLD (CM) attr. George Kirbye, c. 1560–1634.

SERMON

Psalm 71

The Memoirs of a Christian

CONFESSIOIN OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church, that all the baptized would be delivered from all hypocrisy and given grace to honor God not only with their lips, but in their heart, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For an increase in pastors, teachers, deaconesses and other church workers, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For each person entrusted with public responsibility or civic duty in our land and in all nations, that they be given wisdom to know what is right and true and courage to govern according to such wisdom, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For every Christian marriage, that husbands and wives may, by the power of the Holy Spirit, relate to one another in such a way that they form a living picture of the communion of Christ and His Bride, the Church, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those taking treatments, for the ill or injured, for the lonely and the prisoners, [*and for all who have desired our prayers, including _____,*] that in meekness each hurting heart would obtain fresh joy in the Lord and exult in the Holy One of Israel, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful departed, let us offer our thanks and praise to Him who is the resurrection and the life, asking Him to give us our share with the saints in light, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

SERMON HYMN

426 – Yours Forever, God of Love



1 Yours for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us
2 Yours for - ev - er, oh, how blest They who
3 Yours for - ev - er, Lord of life! Shield us
4 Yours for - ev - er! Shep - herd, keep All your
5 Yours for - ev - er! You our guide, All our



from your throne a - bove; Yours for - ev - er
find in you their rest! Sav - ior, Guard - ian,
through our earth - ly strife. You, the life, the
weak and trem - bling sheep Safe - ly in your
needs by you sup - plied, All our sins by



may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!
heav'n - ly Friend, Oh, de - fend us to the end.
truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.
ten - der care; Let us all your good - ness share.
you for - giv'n, Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819–1913, abr., alt.
Tune: VIENNA (77 77) Justin H. Knecht, 1752–1817.

PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

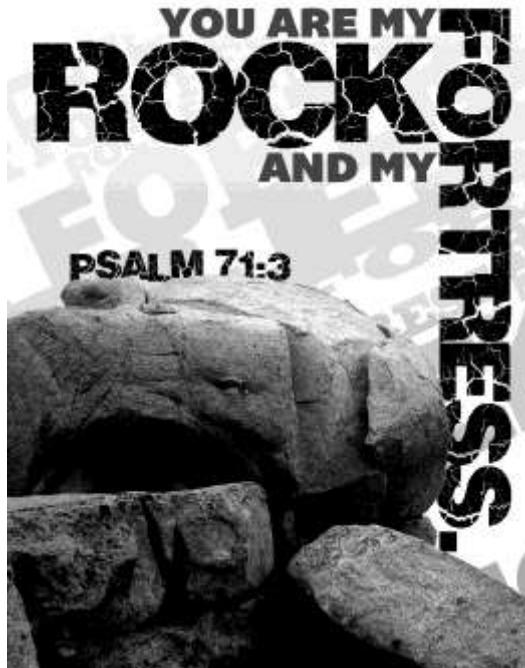


C: A - - men.

BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

331 – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah,
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain,
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan,
 Pil - grim through this bar - ren land,
 Whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;
 Bid my anx - ious fears sub - side;
 I am weak, but thou art might - y; Hold me
 Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar Lead me
 Death of death and hell's De - struc - tion, Land me
 with thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong De - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es
 Feed me till I want no more,
 Be thou still my strength and shield,
 I will ev - er give to thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.; tr. Peter Williams, 1722–96, st. 1; William Williams, st. 2-3.
 Tune: GUIDE ME (87 87 47) George W. Warren, 1828–1902.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.



MAKE A
JOYFUL
Noise
TO THE
LORD