

November 10, 2024



Red, White, and Blue Cross, Pattie Calfy

# The Service of the Lord's Day Order of Worship

\*Please stand if you are able. Congregation to recite bolded passages.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

**PRELUDE** 

"A Quiet Blessing" by Vivian Vevenger

Valerie Adelung

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Judy Binkley

We come to worship this morning from different places.

O God, do not be far from us.

We come to worship this morning for different reasons.

O God, do not be far from us.

We experience the presence of the Spirit in different ways.

O God, do not be far from us.

We hear Jesus' words with different ears.

O God, do not be far from us.

"Deny yourselves."

O God, do not be far from us.

"Take up your cross."

O God, do not be far from us.

"Follow me."

O God, we thank you for drawing near to us in this place, in our lives.

"God Is Here!"

### **INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Judy Binkley

Jesus calls us to take up our cross and follow him. These words challenge us, and we know our own fears and hesitations. Yet God's grace meets us here, offering strength and hope. With humble hearts, let us confess our need for God's mercy.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Judy Binkley

O God, we confess that we often turn away from the call to take up our cross. We prefer comfort over sacrifice, safety over risk, and our own desires over the needs of others.

Forgive us for the times we have chosen the easy path rather than the one that follows Jesus. Forgive our reluctance to bear the burdens of faith, our hesitation to stand for what is right, and our failure to love sacrificially.

Grant us your grace and strengthen our resolve. Help us to carry our cross with courage and trust, following Jesus in all that we do.

Amen.

(Silence is kept)

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

Friends, hear the good news: God's love never fails, and God's mercy is new every morning.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free. Thanks be to God. Amen.

### \*GLORIA PATRI # 581

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, Amen.

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

and also with you.

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Judy Binkley

Holy God, open our hearts and minds to your Word. By the power of your Spirit, may we hear with clarity and respond with courage, as we seek to follow Jesus more faithfully. Amen.

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Philippians 1:20-30

Judy Binkley

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"A Joyful Thanksgiving" by Anna Laura Page

Handbell Choir

**SCRIPTURE** 

Matthew 16:24-26

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

**SERMON** 

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

\*HYMN # 718

"Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said"

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

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.

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

As we consider all that God has given us, let us respond with grateful hearts, offering our gifts for the work of God's Kingdom. May our giving reflect our trust in God's abundant provision and our commitment to sharing that abundance with others.

Besides donating by placing your donation in the plates by the doors, you may also donate online or mail a check to the church. More information can be found at the back of the bulletin.

### \*DOXOLOGY #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

Gracious God, we bring our gifts before you, not out of obligation, but in joy and gratitude for all you have done. Bless these offerings and the work of our hands, that they may be used to build up your kingdom of love, justice, and peace. In all we do, may we seek to honor you, loving our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

\*HYMN # 298

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

\*BENEDICTION

Samuel Gatua Muiruri

**POSTLUDE** 

"Chorale Postlude" by Roger C. Wilson Valerie Adelung

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thank you to our liturgist: Judy Binkley

Thank you to our ushers: Debbie Hurley, Chip Hurley

#### HAVENWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco, Supply Pastor
The Rev. Cathy Bashore, Parish Associate
Susan Riegger, Preschool Director
Valerie Adelung, Music Director
Jake Miller, Worship Technology Coordinator
Julia Wells, Administrator
Lloyd Martin, Facilities Manager

#### **SESSION**

Sharon Huber-Plano – Clerk of Session

Judi Forrester – Personnel Committee

Judy Binkley – Worship Committee

Wende Smith – Preschool Committee

Chip Hurley – Stewardship Committee

Donna Marshall – Scouts Liaison

#### **DEACONS**

Susan Bond

Elaine DePoy

Arden Quick

Barbara Reade

Jane Shaffer

Judy Yeager

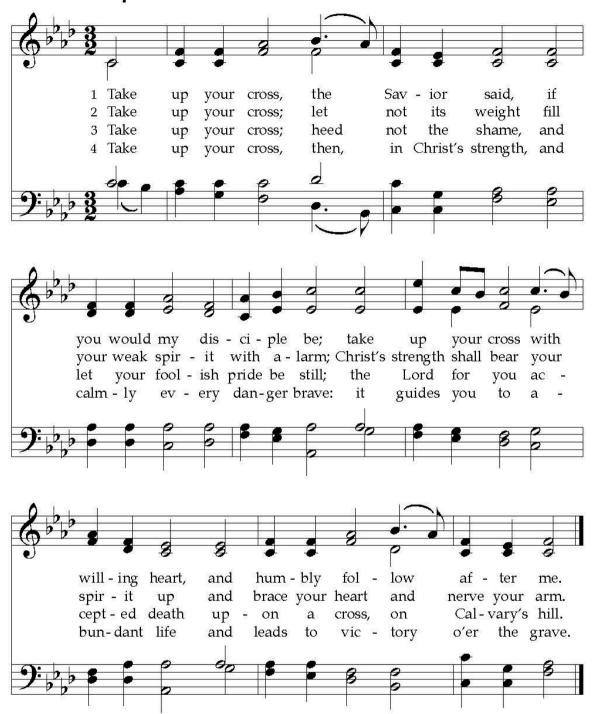








# Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718



Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

# 298 Lord, You Give the Great Commission



United by the refrain after each stanza, this text relies on passages from Matthew and Luke to highlight various dimensions of the church's mission and ministry in the world. It was written for use with this tune, composed in the village near Bristol, England, for which it is named.

