



Havenwood Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

July 20, 2025



Christ in the House of Martha and Mary, Cornelis Engebretsz

The Service of the Lord's Day

Order of Worship

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

We start by grounding ourselves in this particular community. This is when we name what's happening in our life together, because faith isn't something we live alone. It's shared, embodied, and local.

We begin with a call to worship, not because God needs inviting, but because we do. This is how we center ourselves, turning our attention to the One who is already here.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenn DiFrancesco

PRELUDE

“Romanza”
by Ludwig van Beethoven

Valerie Adelung

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sharon Huber-Plano

We gather, not to perform or impress,
But to listen, to wonder, to receive.
We gather with questions, with hopes, with doubts,
Trusting the Spirit meets us in all of it.
We gather not around a personality,
But around the Word, living and spoken.
Let us worship the One who calls us still.

*HYMN # 451 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Every week, we confess, not because we are bad, but because we are honest. We name where we've fallen short so we can make space for healing and growth. That's Reformed faith: always being reformed.

This sung response seals the good news in our hearts. It's our way of saying, "Yes. I heard that. I believe it."

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano

God is not looking for perfect words, just honest ones.
Let us speak the truth in trust and hope.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano

God of truth and mercy, we confess that we have not always listened well. We've rushed to speak, clung to distractions, and tuned out your voice in favor of our own. We've ignored the better part. Forgive us. Teach us to be still, to listen deeply, and to let your Word take root in us. Amen.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jenn DiFrancesco

Friends, the Word that judges is also the Word that heals.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, reformed, and renewed.
Thanks be to God.

*CELEBRATION OF FORGIVENESS # 544

"Bless the Lord, My Soul"

***Bless the Lord, my soul,
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.***

Peace isn't just a greeting. In Reformed worship, it's how we practice the reconciliation we've just received.

Before Scripture is read, we pray, not out of habit, but to ask for help. Presbyterians believe the Spirit still speaks through the Word.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Jenn DiFrancesco

May the Peace of Christ be with you.
and also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sharon Huber-Plano

God of insight and inspiration, quiet our busy minds. Open our ears, our questions, and our hearts. Let your Word come alive in us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:38–42

Sharon Huber-Plano

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

A solo or instrumental piece gives us another way to pray and listen. Music often says what we can't say ourselves.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Lord Have Mercy”
by Steve Merkel

Valerie Adelung

SERMON

“The Word at the Center”

Jenn DiFrancesco

Singing together forms us. We sing not just because we believe, but sometimes so we can believe. Hymns help carry the faith when words fail us.

*HYMN # 457

“How Happy Are the Saints of God”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

Jenn DiFrancesco

As Mary sat and listened, we now sit with the prayers of our hearts...

**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.**

Presbyterians include offering in every service because we believe worship involves our whole lives, including our resources and possessions.

The offertory gives us time to reflect.

The Doxology gives us words to praise. Together, they turn giving into gratitude.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Jenn DiFrancesco

Let us give not out of guilt, but out of gratitude. Let us offer what we can so that others may also hear the Word.

During this time of offering, you may place your gift in the plate as you leave this morning, or give in any of the other ways listed in your bulletin's announcement page.

OFFERTORY

“Chapel Litany”
by James Southridge

Valerie Adelung

*DOXOLOGY # 608

“Praise God”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit ever more;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jenn DiFrancesco

God, take these gifts and use them to make your Word heard and known. May our giving reflect our listening. May what we offer be part of the healing you’re doing in the world. Amen.

Worship doesn't
end. It flows into our
lives. The
benediction sends us
out not with
answers, but with a
blessing—God's
promise to go with
us.

*HYMN # 688 “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

*BENEDICTION

Jenn DiFrancesco

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare and Trumpeting”
by David Paxton

Valerie Adelung

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: Sharon Huber-Plano

Thank you to our usher: Susan Bond

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

Joyce Beall – Personnel Committee

Judy Binkley – Worship Committee

Wende Smith – Preschool Committee

Chip Hurley – Stewardship Committee

Donna Marshall – Scouts Liaison

Samuel Gatua Muiruri – Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Support

DEACONS

Susan Bond

Elaine DePoy

Cynthia Smith

Barbara Reade

Jane Shaffer

Judy Yeager



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Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
 2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.
 3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un - clasp and
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



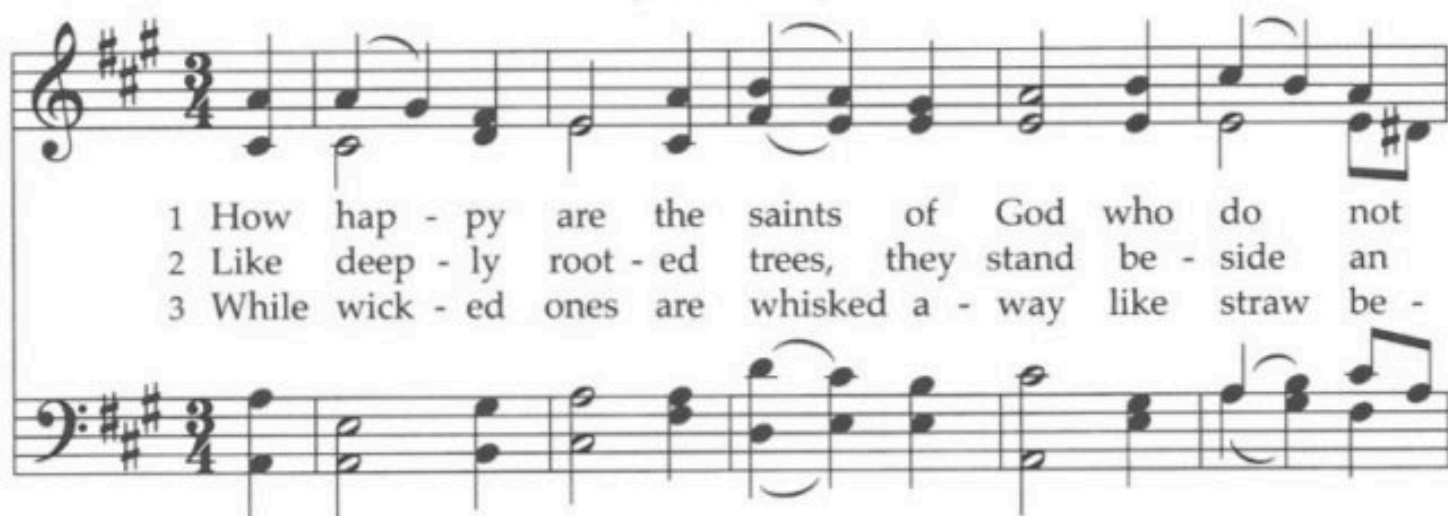
will to see. O - pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
 will to see. O - pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
 will to see. O - pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!



The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author / composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

457 How Happy Are the Saints of God

(Psalm 1)



1 How hap - py are the saints of God who do not
 2 Like deep - ly root - ed trees, they stand be - side an
 3 While wick - ed ones are whisked a - way like straw be -



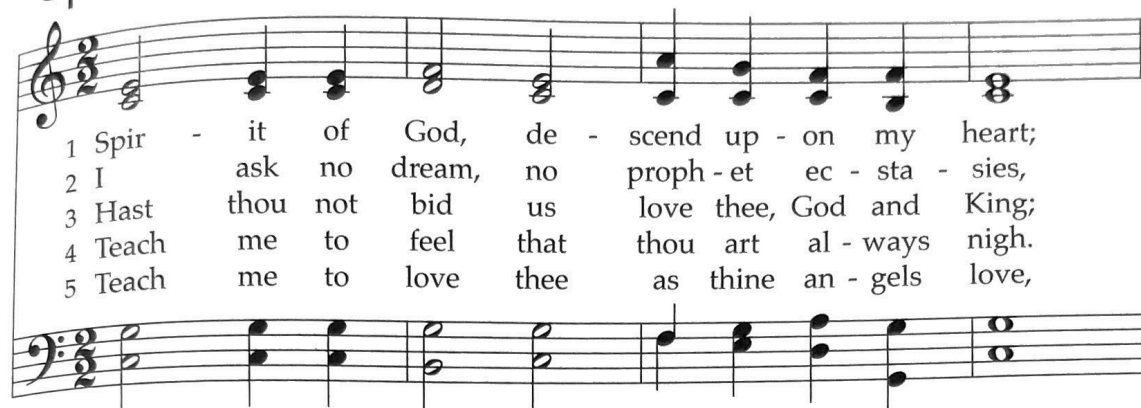
heed the wick - ed way; de - light - ing in the
 ev - er - flow - ing stream. Their fruit is plen - ti -
 fore the driv - ing wind, the saints are firm - ly



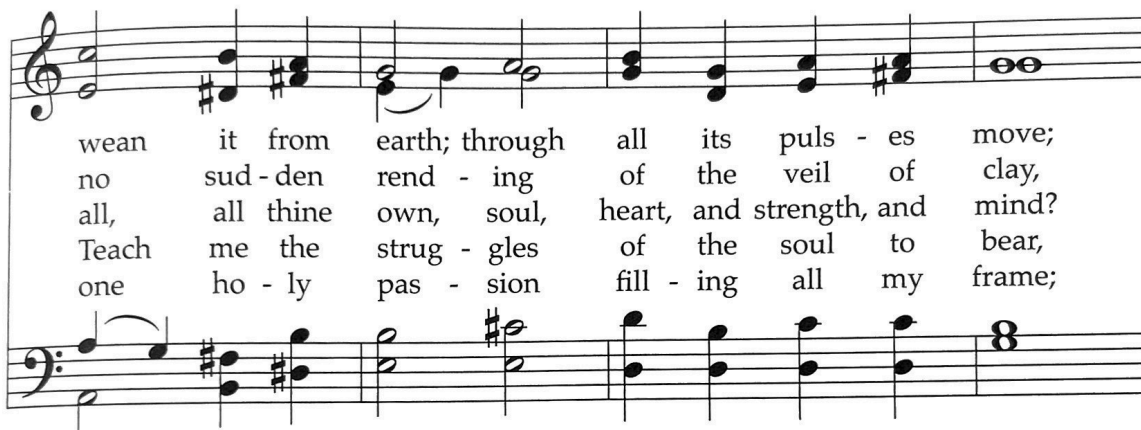
ho - ly Word they seek God's wis - dom night and day.
 ful and good; their leaves are al - ways grow - ing green.
 plant - ed still, and God will keep them to the end.

This paraphrase of Psalm 1 celebrates the permanence of God's way in contrast with the transience of wickedness. While the wicked are dried up and scattered, the holy people of God are rooted and nourished. They bear much good fruit and are blessed with an enduring legacy.

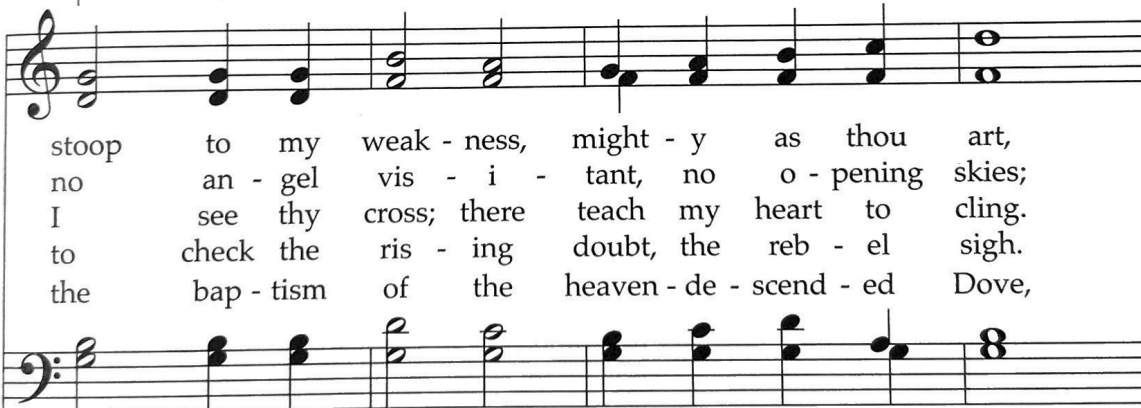
Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 688



1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
 4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh.
 5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,



wean it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 Teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;



stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
 I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh.
 the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,



and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
 Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

This reflection on Galatians 5:25 was written by a literary Anglican clergyman whose preaching drew people of many social classes to one of the formerly poorer London churches. The tune was created for "Abide with Me" (no. 836) but more often appears with the present text.