



# Havenwood Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

*March 15, 2026*

*Mission Sunday*



*I Will Not Fear, Tricia Goyer*

# The Service of the Lord's Day

## Order of Worship

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenn DiFrancesco

### PRELUDE

“Take Up Your Cross” by Edward Boughton

Valerie Adelung

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Donna Marshall

We wonder what God will say to us today.

**Speak, Lord, Your servants are listening.**

We wonder what parts of our lives need re-ordering.

**Shape us by Your Word, not by our habits.**

We wonder how mercy can grow in us.

**Teach us to love our neighbors well.**

We wonder what hope looks like in a world like this.

**Root us in Christ, and keep us steady.**

Let us worship God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*HYMN # 435

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Donna Marshall

Friends, Lent invites us to return. Not to perform, not to prove, not to clean ourselves up first. We come as we are, trusting that God's mercy meets us before we have the right words. So let us confess our sin and tell the truth in God's presence.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Donna Marshall

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have relied on our own understanding and turned from Your ways.**

**This week, we confess: we have measured ourselves against others instead of resting in Your love. We have looked for worth in being right, being better, or being enough by someone else's standards. We have judged quickly, withheld compassion, and forgotten that mercy begins with You, not with us. Forgive us, steady us, and teach us to live not by comparison, but by mercy.**

*(Silent Prayer)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Donna Marshall

Hear the good news: God does not turn away from those who return. In Jesus Christ, mercy comes first, and grace remains.

This week, we remember: God is our refuge, not our record. We do not have to build our lives on comparison or judgment. In Christ, we are received with compassion and invited to live from mercy instead of fear.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and we are being made new. Thanks be to God.**

## \*CELEBRATION OF FORGIVENESS # 581

“Glory Be to the Father”

*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**

Judy Binkley

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

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Donna Marshall

**God of Light and Truth, as we open Your Word, open us. Quiet the noise that keeps us from hearing. Re-order what is tangled in us. Give us the courage to receive what challenges us, and the freedom to live what You show us. By Your Spirit, make Christ clear to us in these scriptures so that our lives might look more like His. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 118:5–9

Donna Marshall

Out of my distress I called on the Lord;  
the Lord answered me and set me in a broad place.  
With the Lord on my side I do not fear.  
What can mortals do to me?  
The Lord is on my side to help me;  
I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to put confidence in mortals.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to put confidence in princes.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”  
by Gilbert M. Martin

Chancel Choir

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.  
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.  
See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?  
Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;  
Lve, so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.*

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of those who by their injustice suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. Ever since the creation of the world God's eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been seen and understood through the things God has made. So they are without excuse, for though they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.

Therefore God gave them over in the desires of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

For this reason God gave them over to dishonorable passions. Their females exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and in the same way also the males, giving up natural intercourse with females, were consumed with their passionate desires for one another. Males committed shameless acts with males and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error.

And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them over to an unfit mind and to do things that should not be done. They were filled with every kind of injustice, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, craftiness, they are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, rebellious toward parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. They know God's decree, that those who practice such things deserve to die, yet they not only do them but even applaud others who practice them.

Therefore you are without excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others, for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. We know that God’s judgment on those who do such things is in accordance with truth. Do you imagine, whoever you are, that when you judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not realize that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But by your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath, when God’s righteous judgment will be revealed. He will repay according to each one’s deeds: to those who by patiently doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life, while for those who are self-seeking and who obey not the truth but injustice, there will be wrath and fury. There will be affliction and distress for everyone who does evil, both the Jew first and the Greek, but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, both the Jew first and the Greek. For God shows no partiality.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

I Wonder Where Mercy Begins

Judy Binkley

RESPONSE

Assembling Hygiene Kits for Church World Service

Judy Binkley

\*HYMN # 475

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Judy Binkley

Merciful God, we come before You with gratitude. Thank You for this day, for the gift of worship, for the people gathered here, for the breath in our lungs, for food on our tables, for laughter, friendship, kindness, and all the ordinary mercies we too often rush past. Thank You for the ways You keep showing up, in meals shared, in hands that serve, in comfort given, in courage found, in mercy that meets us before we have earned it. Thank You for being our refuge and our shelter, our steady place when the world feels loud, our mercy when we have run out of mercy for ourselves or for one another.

We pray for Your church, for all who are trying to follow Jesus with courage and honesty, for pastors and leaders, for those who are tired, for those who are discouraged, and for those who are still daring to hope. Keep shaping Your people into a community marked not by comparison or judgment, but by compassion, humility, and love.

God, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayers.**

We pray for this world You love, for places torn apart by war, violence, greed, and fear, for communities living under threat, for families who don't know where safety will come from, for those who are hungry, sick, displaced, grieving, or just overwhelmed. Bring help where there is suffering, justice where there is cruelty, and mercy where systems have failed Your people.

Today we also place before You these CWS health kits we have packed. Bless them, O God, and bless the hands that will carry them, receive them, and use them. May they be more than supplies. May they be signs of dignity and care. May each kit remind someone that they have not been forgotten, that their need matters, and that love can travel across distance in very practical ways.

God, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayers.**

We pray for those close to home, for those in our congregation and community who are carrying burdens they haven't spoken aloud, for those facing illness, recovery, anxiety, loneliness, conflict, or loss, for those waiting for answers, for those trying to begin again, and for those simply trying to make it through the week. Hold them fast. Give strength to caregivers, wisdom to medical teams, patience to those in treatment, rest to those who are worn thin, and comfort to those who are grieving.

We pray too for ourselves. Where we are quick to judge, soften us. Where we are defensive, disarm us. Where we are tempted to measure our worth against others, turn us back toward Your mercy. Teach us to live as people who are held by love, not driven by fear.

God, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayers.**

We pray in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray, saying...

**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

Judy Binkley

We give today as a response to mercy, for our neighbors, for this community,  
and for the world God loves.

*During this time of offering, we can share our financial gifts by placing them in the  
offering plates at the end of worship or giving online.*

## OFFERTORY

“Lenten Meditation” by A.D. Burger

Valerie Adelung

## \*DOXOLOGY # 606

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*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

Judy Binkley

**Generous God, receive these gifts. Use them to make mercy visible among us, to  
love our neighbors well, and to draw us more deeply into the life of Christ. In  
Jesus’ name, Amen.**

## \*HYMN # 353

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

## \*BENEDICTION

Judy Binkley

## POSTLUDE

Postlude on “Deo Gracias”  
by Edward Broughton

Valerie Adelung

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: Donna Marshall

Thank you to our usher: Joyce Beale

## 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

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## 435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness  
 2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,  
 of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's  
 is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place  
 faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.  
 flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475

1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;  
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!

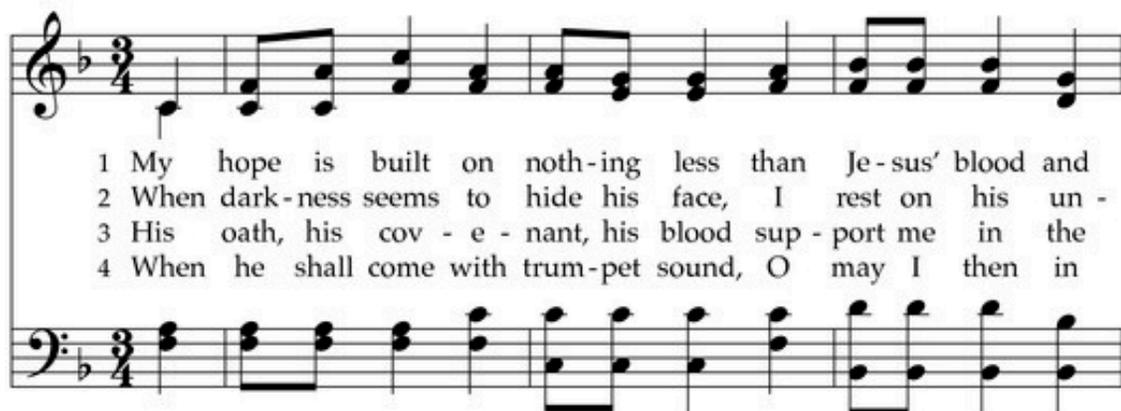
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.  
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

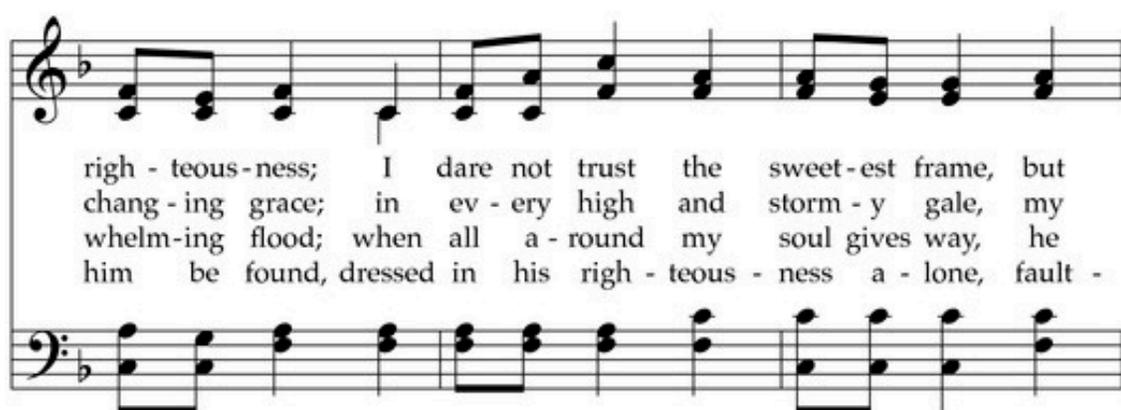
praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!  
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.  
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353



1 My hope is built on noth- ing less than Je- sus' blood and  
 2 When dark- ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un -  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the  
 4 When he shall come with trum- pet sound, O may I then in



right - teous- ness; I dare not trust the sweet- est frame, but  
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
 whelm- ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 him be found, dressed in his right - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

*Refrain*



whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all  
 then is all my hope and stay.  
 less to stand be - fore the throne.



oth-er ground is sink- ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink- ing sand.

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24-27 / Luke 6:47-49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.