



Havenwood Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

August 23, 2026



Psalm 138:8, Ink and Ivy

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

“Fairest Lord Jesus” arr. by David Berry

Valerie Adelung

CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace McDowell

We come to give thanks with our whole hearts.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

When we call, God hears us.

God gives us strength for the living of our days.

Christ asks, “Who do you say that I am?”

We come to listen, to answer, and to follow.

God's grace has brought us here.

God's wisdom and courage will lead us forward.

Let us worship God.

*HYMN # 307

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Grace McDowell

We carry many things with us: hopes and fears, questions and expectations, words that have encouraged us, and words that have caused harm. Jesus asks us to speak honestly about who he is and to live according to what we confess. Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us bring the truth of our lives before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Grace McDowell

Merciful God, we call Jesus Lord, but we do not always follow his way. We confess Christ as the foundation of the church, but we build our lives on success, approval, and control. We ask for wisdom, but ignore voices that challenge us. We pray for courage, but remain silent when others are mistreated.

Forgive us, O God. Free us from the labels we place on ourselves and others. Teach us to recognize Christ, to speak with honesty, and to carry our faith into every part of our lives. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jenn DiFrancesco

Hear the good news: God does not abandon the work of God's hands. In Jesus Christ, we are met with mercy, restored by grace, and given strength to begin again.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*CELEBRATION OF FORGIVENESS # 447

“We Are Forgiven”

***We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.***

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Jenn DiFrancesco

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Grace McDowell

Eternal God, in the reading of Scripture, may Your Word be heard; in the quiet of our hearts, may Your Word be known; and in the living of our days, may Your Word be shown; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 138

Grace McDowell

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;
I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.
On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.
For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand,

and your right hand delivers me.
The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Rock” by Michael Neale

Valerie Adelung

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 16:13-20

Jenn DiFrancesco

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Keys We Carry

Jenn DiFrancesco

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Jenn DiFrancesco

from “A Brief Statement of Faith”

Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” With the church in every time and place, let us confess our faith:

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent
and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned
for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death
to life eternal. Amen.**

BLESSING OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS, BACKPACKS, AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Jenn DiFrancesco

*HYMN # 463

“How Firm a Foundation”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

Jenn DiFrancesco

**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

Jenn DiFrancesco

God has given each of us gifts to carry into the world. Through our offering, we join our gifts together so that children may learn, neighbors may be cared for, and the church may bear witness to the love of Christ. Let us give with gratitude and hope.

During this time of offering, we can share our financial gifts by placing them in the offering plates as you leave, or giving online.

OFFERTORY

“Unfailing Love” by Wanda J. Cooley

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

Jenn DiFrancesco

Generous God, receive these gifts and use them for Your work in the world. Bless the school supplies offered today, the ministries they support, and all who will receive them. Give us wisdom to use what we have faithfully and courage to follow where Christ leads. Amen.

*HYMN # 547

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

*BENEDICTION

Jenn DiFrancesco

POSTLUDE

“When We All Get to Heaven” by Mark Hayes

Valerie Adelung

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: Grace McDowell

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

Kathy Stewart, Assistant Director of Preschool Operations

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

DEACONS

Susan Bond

Betty Crovo

Elaine DePoy

Grace McDowell

Cynthia Smith

Judy Yeager



100 E Ridgely Rd, Timonium, MD 21093

410-252-3073 | info@havenwood.org | www.havenwood.org



307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.