St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent March 30, 2025

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

Gathering Around the Word

Centering Meditation

Today when it's dark out we simply flip a switch and instantly the darkness is gone. But in the 1st Century it wasn't so simple. In Jesus' day when it got dark, it was DARK. So when Jesus calls himself the light it's a big deal. What makes this statement even more significant is that Jesus said it at the Feast of Tabernacles. During this feast the Israelites would light a huge candelabra as a reminder of God guiding their ancestors through the wilderness. Jesus is showing them that he is their light, their guiding force through this world.

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (Christ, Be Our Light)

Bernadette Farrell

arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome

Choral Introit Lenten Introit William Miller

Call to Worship

One: Welcome, travelers, to the journey of faith.

All: The faith journey is the best route through the land called life.

One: Then come and continue the quest, acting out your faith by living life to the fullest.

All: We will let our spirits soar like eagles;

One: taking a deep breath we will stretch ourselves to the limit like fully inflated balloons, colorful, hopeful, ready to sail and to soar,

All: and to drink in the world's color, absorbing its light and texture, inhaling its fragrance, dancing to its music.

One: This is the way we worship God.

Opening Hymn #401 Here in This Place

Call to Reconciliation

One: Eternal God, from the beginning of time you have called your children into communion with you. Yet we confess that like all the rest, we have turned to our own way and refused your love and grace. Restore us to the joy of knowing you.

Prayer of Confession

All: Eternal God, you have long sought us and we have fled. You have offered us an easy yoke and we have tied ourselves down with cares and burdens. Give us a conversion that turns us around to face the light; teach us a repentance that lives in works of love, lead us into the narrow path. Call us to follow Jesus Christ, light of the world, and in his way to live, die and rise again.

Silent Prayers

Sing the Faith #2275

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Christe, Christe eleison. Christe, Christe eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie

Assurance of Grace

One: Holy God, we come before you thankful that you love us as we are. We are creatures of your light; we are a community formed by your Spirit. You are the potter; we are the clay. With your sure and loving hands, shape us, through the grace of Jesus Christ.

Passing of Christ's Peace

One: The peace of Christ always be with you.

All: And also with you.

Response #555 O Lamb of God

Proclaiming the Word

Conversation With Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

One: This is the season of Lent and we remember Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. We follow with our minds the stories of scripture; may our minds be open, may our hands be strong, may our hearts be gentle and may our spirits sing. Amen.

First Reading Psalm 22:25-31 Pew Bible p.435

Anthem "When You Believe" from The Prince of Egypt Stephen Schwartz arr. Stephen DeCesare

Brittany Brinker, soprano, and Susan Daugherty, soprano

Second Reading John 8:12-20 Pew Bible p.870

Sermon I AM the Light of the World Rev. Eric Koenig-Reinke

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

from the Confession of Belhar

All: We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Hymn #192 Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining

Mission Focus Upcoming Forum: Standing up for our LGBTQ Community Patty Emord

Invitation to the Offering

One: We gather in dedication thankful for all God's gifts to us. These gifts are a sign of the offering of our whole selves to the ministry of the Church.

Offertory I Will Arise and Go to Jesus arr. John Carter

Response #740 Lead Me, Guide Me

Prayer of Dedication

All: In response to God's infinite love and boundless grace we rejoice to give thanks at all times and in all places, to the one who created order out of chaos, who penetrated the night with the light of the world, and whose light cannot be overcome by human resistance.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

All: Loving God, holy be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word Into the World

Closing Hymn #762 When the Poor Ones

Matters of Community

Postlude This Little Light of Mine Harry Dixon Loes

Sharon Macklin, cello arr. Kyle Santa

Charge and Benediction

One: And may we live our lives:

All: Compassionate of heart, Clear in word, Gracious in awareness, Courageous in thought, Generous in love. Amen.

Resources Used:

Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship. Edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C.

Tirabassi, United Church Press, 1990.

Centering Meditation: https://www.rethinknow.org/meaning-of-john-8-12-light-of-the-

world/ Jeffrey Curtis Poor.

St. Andrew Staff

Transitional Pastor

Rev. Eric Koenig-Reinke

Director of Music

Julie Taylor

Clerk of Session

Suzanne Busch

Organist/Pianist

Tatiana Shustova Denise Baccadutre

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Sharon Burkhardt

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Liturgist

Yvonne Wise

Musicians

Denise Baccadutre, piano Sharon Macklin, cello Brittany Brinker Susan Daugherty

Tech Team

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Worship Planning

Debbie Steffen

Music

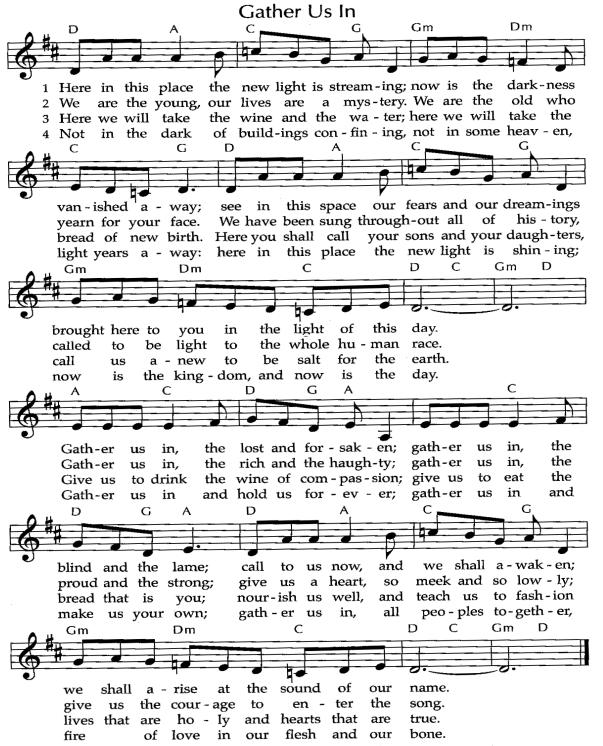
"When You Believe" from The Prince of Egypt, Stephen Schwartz, arr. Stephen DeCesare, Hal Leonard Corp., 1998. The Light of the World Is Jesus, Philip P. Bliss, arr. Mark Hayes, Glory Sound, 1988. In Christ There Is No East or West, arr. Thomas Keesecker, From Peace Like a River, Birnamwood Publications, 2024. Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (Christ, Be Our Light), Bernadette Farrell, arr. Mark Hayes, OCP, 2018. I Will Arise and Go to Jesus, arr. John Carter, Hope Publishing, 1987. This Little Light of Mine, Harry Dixon Loes, arr. Kyle Santa, Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC, 2008. Lenten Introit, William Miller, self-published, 2025.

All other hymns are in the public domain.

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Here in This Place

401



The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

2275

Kyrie











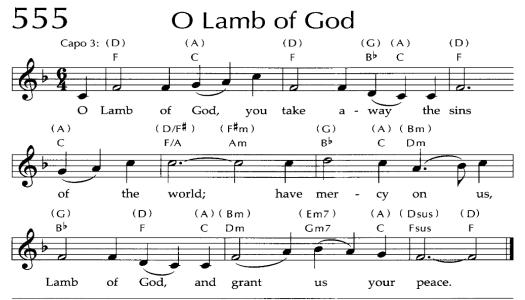




WORDS: Ancient Greek
MUSIC: Based on Mvt. II from *Symphony No.* 9 by Antonín Dvořák;
arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram

NEW WORLD Irreguiza

Arr. © 1998 Alfred Publishing Co.

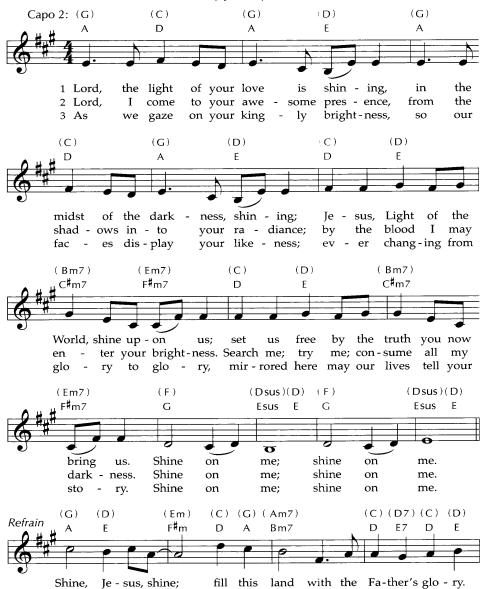


TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1995 Music Arr. © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

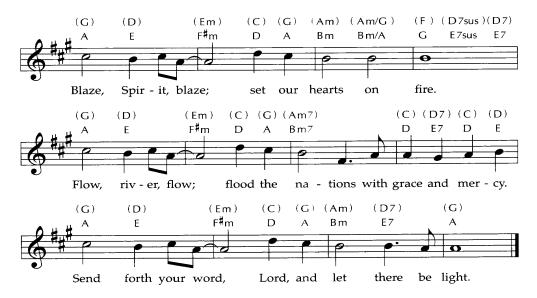
LAND OF REST

Lord, the Light of Your LoveIs Shining

Shine, Jesus, Shine



While the reference to Jesus as the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) can be understood generally, this hymn is perhaps best understood as a response to the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–8/Mark 9:2–8/Luke 9:28–36). This is the most popular of the author/composer's many songs.





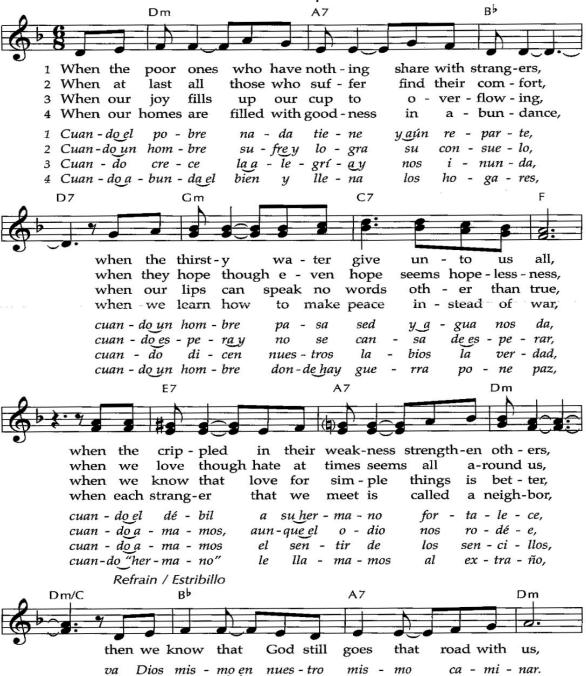
Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

762

When the Poor Ones

Cuando el pobre



Drawing on the parable revealing Christ's presence in "the least of these" (Matthew 25:31–46), the stanzas here give examples (the "when") while the refrain affirms the promise (the "then"). The journey imagery of the refrain may be based on the Emmaus story (Luke 24:13–35).

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION



Va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.