



WESTMINSTER

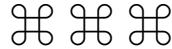
— Presbyterian Church —

Albany, New York
August 9, 2020

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT WORSHIP ONLINE
Health Care Workers Appreciation Sunday

August 9, 2020

Service of Worship 10:00 a.m.



WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

(Let the notes of our Opening Voluntary be the musical curtain through which we pass as we gather to worship together. Let the preparation we make together be prayerful.)

Prelude

"Hear my prayer, O Lord"
Rose Hunsberger, Soprano Solo

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)



Call to Worship

Valerie Shanley

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Let us worship God.



Opening Hymn 182

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (Verses 1&2)
(words and music at end of bulletin)

KINGSFOLD



Prayer of Confession

One: Let us now confess our sins, trusting in God's boundless mercy and grace.

All: 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 and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

Help us to amend what we are,

And direct what we shall be,

That we may delight in your will

And walk in your ways,

To the glory of your holy name.

(Time of silence)

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Passing The Peace

Words of Welcome

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Children's Message



Prayer for Illumination

One: God of All Power,

Open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts with a spirit of wisdom and revelation.

Help us to hear your voice, to see your ways, and to receive with joy your truth.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Scripture Lesson

Matthew 14:22-33

Sermon

What Courage Looks Like: Stepping Out

Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff

Video

Testimony by members of our congregation working in health care during the COVID-19 pandemic

Congregational Response

"Thank you for all the ways you show the love of God for our hurting world!"



Hymn 834

Precious Lord, Take My Hand (Verses 1&2)
(words and music at end of bulletin)

PRECIOUS LORD

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Meditation

"Turn Thee to me"
Rose Hunsberger, Soprano Solo

Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)



Offering

Valerie Shanley

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME



Closing Hymn 463

How Firm a Foundation (Verses 1, 2 & 5)
(words and music at end of bulletin)

FOUNDATION

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“How firm a foundation”

arr. V. Labenske (b. 1963)



We welcome Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher as our guest pianist this summer.

Composer Information Victor Labenske (b. 1963) is professor of music at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, California, where he teaches courses in piano, music theory, and composition. A summa cum laude graduate of PLNU, he earned his Master's degree in piano performance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and a Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance at the University of Southern California. Dr. Labenske's compositional output of over 500 published works includes: sacred piano arrangements in various styles, educational piano music, music for violin and piano, music for voice and piano, and music for handbells. He is published by Alfred, Lorenz, and Lillenas music companies. Dr. Labenske remains active as a concert artist both as soloist and as a collaborative performer. Today's guest pianist will be performing selections from Dr. Labenske's sacred piano collections.

Soprano Solo Composer Information Both selections from “Biblical Songs, Op. 99” – Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904). Dvořák was one of the first Czech composers to receive international recognition. He excelled on the violin as a young child and later became known as a versatile composer of many genres. From 1892-1895, he lived in New York City and became the director of a music conservatory there, returning to his native Bohemia in 1895.

Thank You to our beloved WPC healthcare workers! Your extraordinary efforts during this difficult time mean so much to those in need. Your personal sacrifice and risk demonstrates your caring and thoughtfulness towards others and has made this world a better place. Thank you!

Please note that Bible Study on Zoom led by Dave McMillan will hold its last session on Tuesday, August 11 at 12:30 pm. More information on how to join can be found at <https://www.wpcalbany.org/upcoming-events>

Westminster is grateful to all of the donors who are making it possible for the Church to respond to needs identified by our partners during the COVID19 pandemic.

Together we can continue to transform the lives of children and families in West Africa. African Missions cannot do the important work we have done without the continuing support of those who understand the many needs and who donate to fund them. To aid Westminster, please make donations payable to: Westminster Church, 85 Chestnut St, Albany, NY 12210 and note in the Memo Line “African Mission”. You may also give online at www.wpcalbany.org/give

FOCUS Interfaith Food Pantry: For July, Westminster is asked to donate bar soap and toilet paper. Until further notice, please email office@wpcalbany.org to arrange to drop off your donation.

Stay in Touch with Westminster

- Visit our website: www.wpcalbany.org
- Like us on Facebook: Westminster Presbyterian Church Albany
- Follow us on Twitter: WPCAlbanyNY
- Get weekly news email messages by providing a current email address to the church office at office@wpcalbany.org or calling (518) 436-8544.

For more about Westminster's online communications, please contact us: communications@wpcalbany.org

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, August 9, 2020

10:00 am Worship, *Zoom Video Call only*
11:00 am Second Hour, *Zoom Video Call only*

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

7:00 am FOCUS Breakfast -TO GO ONLY, *Assembly Room*
12:30 pm Bible Study, *Zoom Video Call Only* (<https://www.wpcalbany.org/upcoming-events>)
7:00 pm Session Meeting, *Zoom Video Call Only*

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

7:00 am FOCUS Breakfast -TO GO ONLY, *Assembly Room*
7:30 pm Westminster Prayer Line, *Zoom Video Call only*
(<https://www.wpcalbany.org/upcoming-events>)

Sunday, August 19, 2020

10:00 am Worship, *Zoom Video Call only*
11:00 am Second Hour, *Zoom Video Call only*

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

	Leah Threatte, Clerk	
Jessica Chamberlain	Fatmata Hilton	Sheila Wrede
Kelly Crisfield	Tom McPheeters	Larry Volk
Arthur Fullerton	Valerie Shanley	

Deacons

Peter McKee & Linore Southworth, Co-Moderators		
Christabel Abban	Ruthanne Brod	Elizabeth McMillan
Ervin Ashburn	Kate Gallagher	Ned Trudeau
Kris Wilhelm		

Trustees

Dixon Southworth & Nancy Ost, Co-Chairs		
Gilbert Asante	Laura Moody	Peter Wrede
Leif Hartmark	Marie McClumpha	

CHURCH STAFF

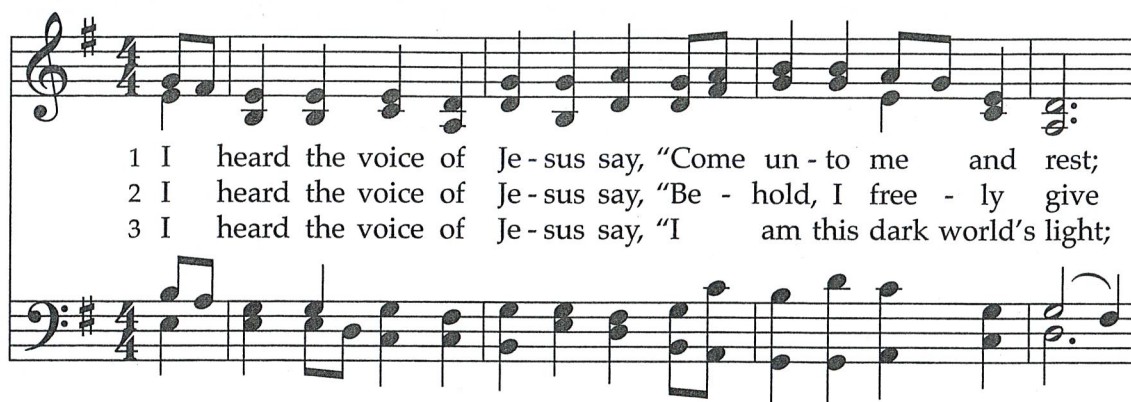
Rev. Heather Kirk-Davidoff, Pastor
pastor@wpcalbany.org
Cell: 240-281-5005

Jennifer Schoenfisch, Office Administrator
Belinda Quaye, Director of Christian Education
Alfred V. Fedak, FAGO, ChM, Minister of Music and Arts
Joy L. Tallmadge and John Fox, Associate Sextons
Forrest Holroyd, Treasurer
Carlie D'Annunzio, Comptroller
Kim Deal, Communications

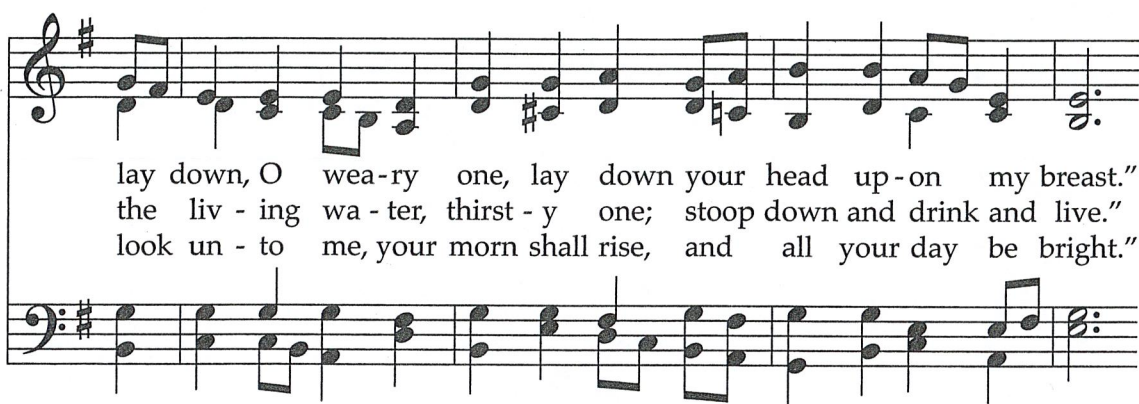
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

262 State Street (Mail to: 85 Chestnut Street), Albany, New York 12210
Office: (518) 436-8544; Fax: (518) 436-8599
Web: info@wpcalbany.org www.wpcalbany.org

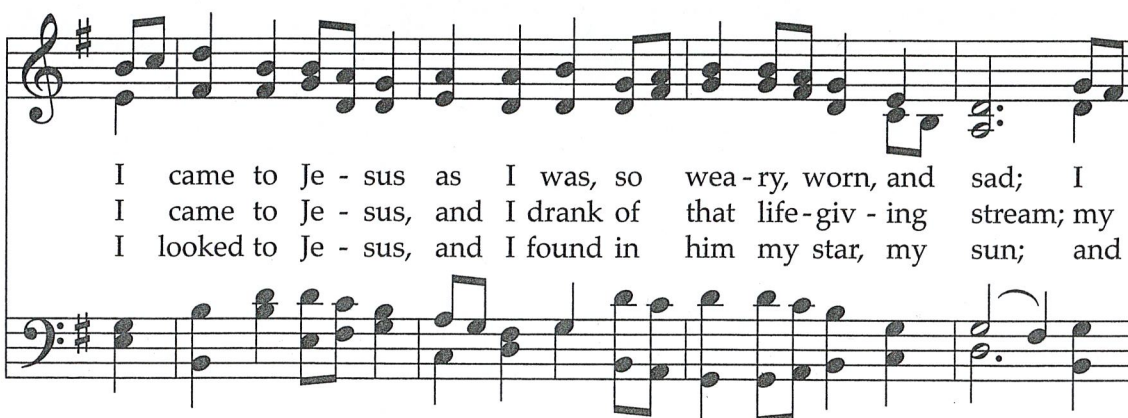
182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



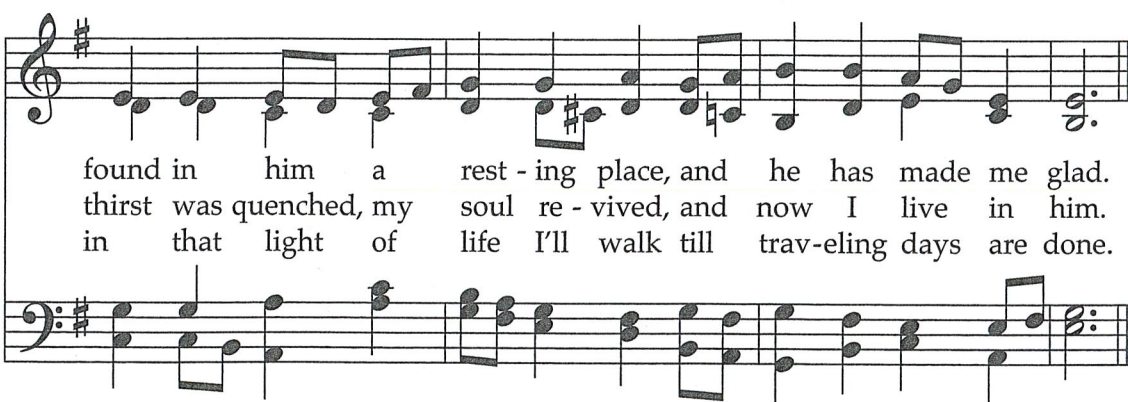
1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and



found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me
 2 When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 near; when my life is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I

light; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
 fall; take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.

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.