

Lenten Dinner Church

Thursday, April 7, 2022



Brazen Beauty

by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Inspired by John 12:1-8 ©A Sanctified Art | sanctifiedart.org

Opening Hymn *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*



The image displays a musical score for the hymn "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing". The score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 3/2. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with line breaks corresponding to the musical phrasing. The final staff concludes with a double bar line.

Come, thou fount of ev-'ry bles - sing, tune my heart to sing thy grace,
O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am called to be!

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
Let thy good - ness, 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.
Prone to__ wan - der, Lord, I feel__ it, prone to__ leave the God I love;

Praise the mount! I'm fixed u - pon it, mount of thy re - deem-ing love.
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Gathering & Welcome

One: May Christ, the Light of the World;

All: Enlighten our hearts with Love

Opening Prayer

Gracious and loving God,

Help us to accept that we do not always have to be good;
That we do not have to spend all of our time repenting.

Help us to know that we are loved and called to love one another;
To know that even when we feel lost or step away from your path;

That you call to us over and over and over again into the family of things that you
brought into being.

Amen.

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

One: The wisdom of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Sharing the Feast

As you enjoy dinner together, we invite you to think about the following questions:

How do you define beauty? What is the role of beauty in your faith?

What are some real-life examples of beauty as resistance, beauty as worship, or beauty as an act of love?

Breaking the Bread & Sharing the Cup

Prayer of Confession

Jesus of Nazareth,
we admit that often we tuck our faith into our pockets, hiding in a place of comfort rather than proudly declaring:
yes we are Christian, yes we believe, yes this faith has changed me.

We are so afraid of offending others or embarrassing ourselves that we have established rules:
no faith at the dinner table, no faith in politics, no faith with strangers.

Forgive us for whispering when we could be singing. Forgive us for staying quiet when we could be part of rewriting the narrative. We want to be brave. We want to pour out perfume over your feet. These things we pray, amen.

Confession

What systems or institutions are we part of that have stood in the way of beauty for other persons? Or that have caused harm?

Silent Confession

We continue praying in silence for up to one minute for our personal confessions and spiritual centering.

One: O God, in your compassion;

All: **Hear our prayer.**

Assurance of Grace

Family of faith, hear this good news:

Even in our silence, **God loves us.**

Even in our fear or shame, **God chooses us.**

Even when we sin, **God wraps us in grace.**

We are free—to be bold, to be brazen, to be exactly who God called us to be.

Thanks be to God, amen.

Closing Song: *Thy Holy Wings, O Savior*

Swedish folk tune; lyrics by Caroline V. Sandell-Berg, translated by Gracia Grindal

Unison

The image shows a musical score for a unison song. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and a bass staff, both in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system contains two verses of lyrics. The second system continues the melody and lyrics.

1. Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav-ior, spread gent-ly o - ver me,
2. O wash me in the wa-ters of No-ah's cleans-ing flood;

and let me rest se - cure-ly through good and ill in thee.
give me a will-ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

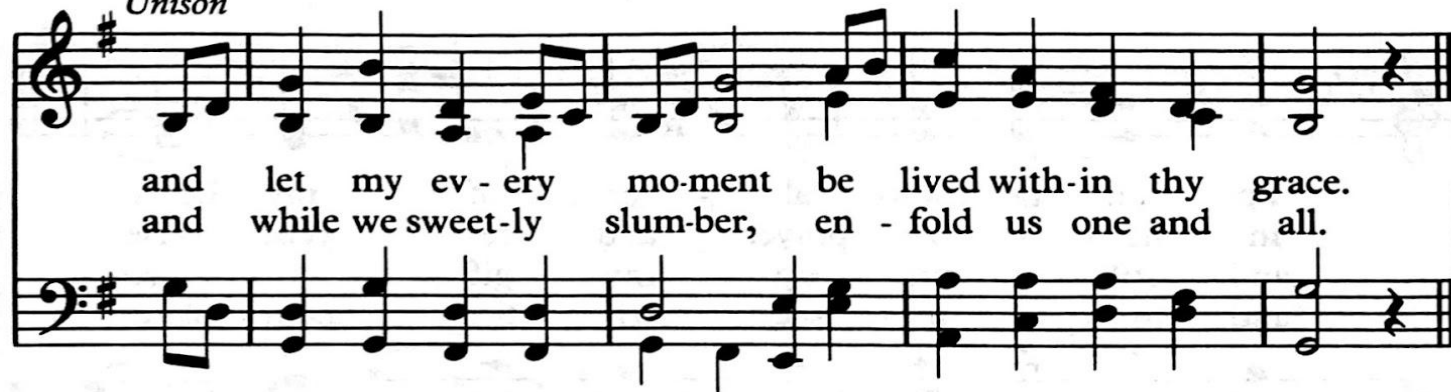
Harmony



O be my strength and por-tion, my rock and hid-ing place,
And take in - to thy keep-ing thy chil-dren great and small,

The Harmony section consists of two staves, treble and bass, in G major (one sharp). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves, with the first line of the melody corresponding to the first line of the lyrics, and the second line of the melody corresponding to the second line of the lyrics.

Unison



and let my ev - ery mo-ment be lived with-in thy grace.
and while we sweet-ly slum-ber, en - fold us one and all.

The Unison section consists of two staves, treble and bass, in G major (one sharp). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staves, with the first line of the melody corresponding to the first line of the lyrics, and the second line of the melody corresponding to the second line of the lyrics.

Benediction

Beloveds, as you go from here,

May you find courage--

Courage to follow your call; to live out your faith.

May you find hope--

Hope for a better world; that refuses to let us go.

May you find truth--

Truth in sacred community; truth in ancient stories

May you find all that you seek.

And in our seeking, may we know God.Amen.