

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | AUGUST 24, 2025

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The prelude provides an opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God by being still and quiet.

Prelude	<i>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty</i> Dan Lawhon	John Behnke
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Welcome		Erica Cooper
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Choral Introit	<i>Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing</i>	Gordon Young
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Processional Hymn No. 35	<i>Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty</i> Hymn sheet on page 3	LOBE DEN HERREN
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Call to Worship		Carleigh Gasparetto
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One: Give to the Lord your whole trust.

All: We place our lives in God's care.

One: Know that God has always and will always be with you.

All: We place our spirits in God's embrace.

One: Worship God in confidence and peace.

All: We open our hearts to God's incredible love.

Prayer of Invocation		Bart Grooms
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Hymn No. 829	<i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i> Hymn sheet on page 4	OLIVET
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PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Sermon on the Steps		Peggy Sanderford Ponder
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Hymn No. 340	<i>This Is My Song</i> Hymn sheet on page 5	FINLANDIA
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Psalter Reading	Psalm 103:1-8	Lynda Grooms
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One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God.

Choral Call to Prayer	<i>I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry</i>	I LOVE THE LORD
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Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer		Paxton Vaughn
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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.

Reading from the Prophets	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Erica Cooper
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One: For the Word of God for the people of God,

All: We give thanks to God.

Anthem

There Is a Balm in Gilead
Covenant Choir
Angela Ferguson, Soloist

William Dawson

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,*

*There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say "He died for all."
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

Sermon

A Story Not Our Own

Erica Cooper

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

The Installation of Rev. Paxton Vaughn as the Associate Pastor for Christian Formation

One: There are different gifts,

All: But it is the same Spirit that gives them.

One: There are different ways of serving God,

All: But it is the same Lord who is served.

One: God works through individuals in different ways,

All: But it is the same God who achieves God's purpose through them.

One: Paxton, God has equipped you with unique and holy gifts for ministry and has called you to serve as our Associate Pastor for Christian Formation. We recognize your many gifts for this calling. Will you use your gifts to the best of your ability to glorify God and lead in your areas of ministry here at Baptist Church of the Covenant?

Paxton: I will.

One: Will you do all in your power to be responsible to the tasks of ministry for which you have been chosen?

Paxton: I will.

One: Will you be faithful to God and to the children, youth, and adults in your care and under your leadership, loving them with Christ's love and encouraging them in God's Spirit?

Paxton: I will.

One: Congregation, do you affirm Paxton in her calling, and will you assist and encourage her in the responsibilities to which she has been called?

Congregation: We do and we will.

One: Let us all rejoice that God calls each of us to service.

All: May God bless the work we do together.

Invitation to Christian Commitment

Erica Cooper

Hymn of Response No. 691

Lord, When I Came into This Life
[Hymn sheet on page 6](#)

LAND OF REST

Words of Dedication

Eric Clark

Reception of the Offering

Ushers

Giving sacrificially of our money is one tangible expression of a wholehearted self-giving stewardship of all of life. Monetary offerings may be given online at baptistchurchofthecovenant.org/giving.

Offertory

O God Beyond All Praising
Dan Lawhon

Dan Lawhon

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Life of the Church

David Goodwin

Benediction

Erica Cooper

Postlude

All Creatures of Our God and King
Dan Lawhon

John A. Behnke

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35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly
3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

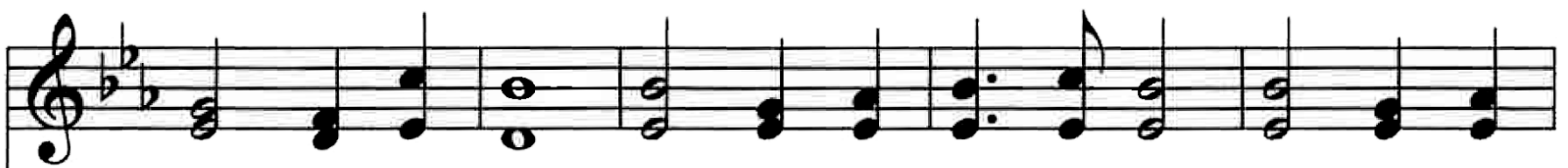
health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee 829



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a-round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran-sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor-row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -




guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way; nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran-somed soul!

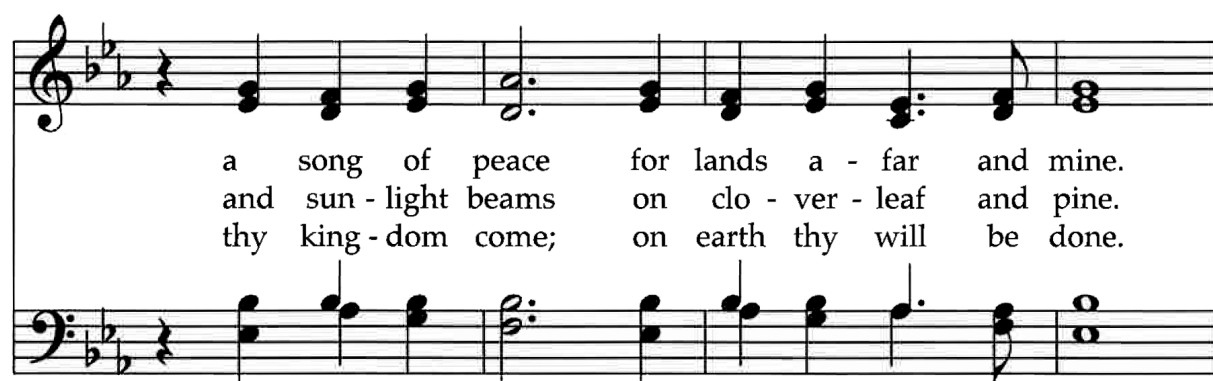


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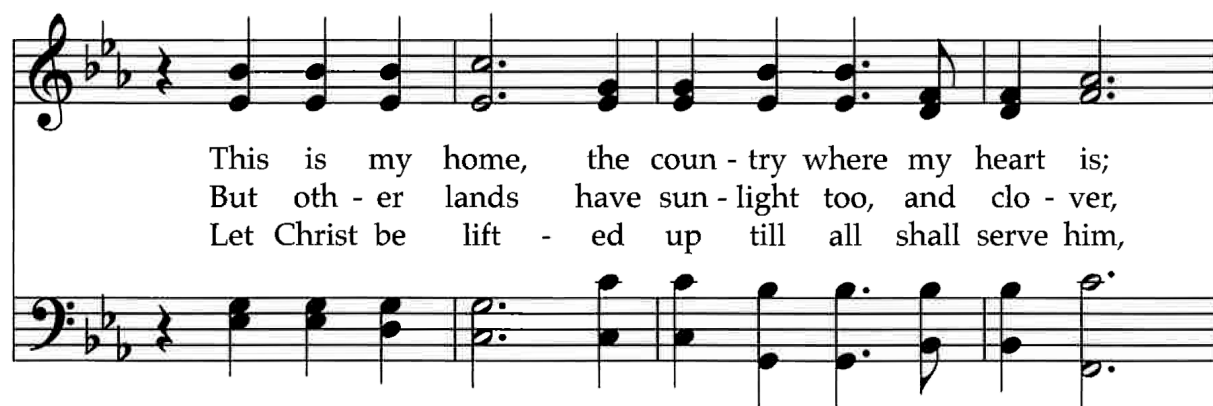
This Is My Song



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

Lord, When I Came into This Life 691



1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you
 2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
 3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
 4 So help me in my un - be - lief and



called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
 mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
 tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
 let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed



mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
 all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
 give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
 on the earth, my sights set high on you.





Cover artwork: *Prophet Jeremiah* (1969) by Marc Chagall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME PAXTON VAUGHN Today during Coffee Fellowship

We are celebrating Paxton's installation during Coffee Fellowship! We invite you to welcome her with cards, gift cards, or non-perishable household items such as paper towels, cleaning supplies, toilet paper, batteries, and lightbulbs.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP August 27

Wednesday Night Fellowship programming is back! Adults will participate in an arts-based program. Children will participate in *Raspberries and Rhinos: Tolerance Tales*, which is a publication from Teaching Tolerance.

Our mid-week fellowship meal is in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. You can make a reservation online. Reservations must be in by Monday at noon.