Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

GIVE Church

Leader: From the very beginning, God call us.
People: God sets us apart with a meaning and a purpose.
Leader: We come up with excuses to avoid our calls, for we are afraid.
People: But God reassures us in many and various ways through the course of our days.
Leader: Even if we are brought to the edge of a cliff,
People: God is with us and sustains us.

*Hymn # 5 – God the Sculptor of the Mountains

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Generous God, when we set our tables, we imagine who belongs. We are satisfied to welcome those who we call our own. Our boundaries are drawn for our own family, our own congregation, our own neighborhood. We limit the seating to those who make us comfortable, and lay out the welcome mat for those who we choose to welcome. But your kingdom has no boundary. Before our birth you have known, loved, and claimed each and every one. Soften our hearts to those we rage against. Restore us to your vision of who belongs at the table. Renew us with your abundant mercy and love, which know no end. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Forgiveness: Hymn # 581 – Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*Passing of the Peace Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. People: And also with you.

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Love is the Supreme Gift

The Rev. Stewart Smith

Sunday, January 30th

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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.

*Hymn # 726 – Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response: Hymn # 606 – Doxology

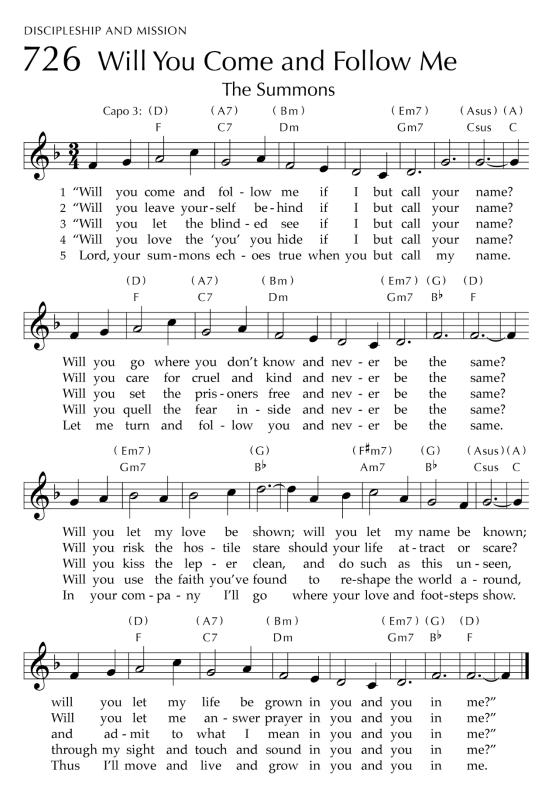
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Postlude



Despite the great sweep of these stanzas, each one ends by describing how our human condition needs God's help: formless, aimless, hungry, searching. Each of these adjectives is followed by a related three-syllable petition: shape us now, lead us now, feed us now, meet us now.

JENNINGS-HOUSTON 8.7.8.7.8.7



The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1987

MUSIC: Scottish melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1987

Text and Music Arr. © 1987 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)