

Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>

## **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Announcements**



### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: When we were low,

**People: God raised us up.**

Leader: When we were weak,

**People: God made us strong.**

Leader: When we were weeping,

**People: God brought us joy.**

### **\*Hymn # 645 – Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above**

### **Call to Confession**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

**God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are never wrong. Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

### **\*Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

### **Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Leslie Belden

### **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**

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**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 # 546 – Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing**

**\*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**

THANKSGIVING

# 645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all  
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -  
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief  
 4 Thus all my toil-some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,  
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade  
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,  
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With  
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -  
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as  
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less  
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and  
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the  
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.



mur-mur stilled:  
all is right:  
cho-sen band: to God all praise and glo-ry!  
take your part:

SENDING

# 546 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's  
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us, from our strug - gling

joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,  
joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion  
pil - grim way, let no fear of death ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,  
in our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,  
glad your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

This hymn of corporate benediction is one of several using the same first line. It was written by a Baptist pastor who dedicated his entire ministry to a small church in rural Yorkshire. The tune used here was first transcribed from Sicilian sailors in the late 18th century.