

# OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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March 19, 2023

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m.

**\*Please rise, in body or in spirit.**

**Gathering Music**

Brian, John, and Paul

**Welcome**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Prelude**

*Prelude Number 6*

John Holt

**\*Call to Worship**

Kim Smith

**Leader:** It is an awesome thing to stand in the presence of God. To call God's holy name.

**People:** **As far as the heavens are above the earth, God's ways are above our ways.**

**Leader:** But we come with confidence, because in Christ we are called to be God's people.

**People:** **Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before God the Maker! Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*Christ Be Beside Me*

No. 702

**\*Prayer for the Day (unison)**

Kim Smith

**May the strength of God pilot us. May the power of God preserve us. May the wisdom of God instruct us. May the hand of God protect us. May the way of God direct us. May the shield of God defend us. May the host of God guard us against the snares of evil and temptations of the world. May Christ be with us, Christ before us, Christ in us, Christ over us. May your salvation, O Lord, be always ours this day and forevermore. Amen**

--(Patrick of Ireland)

**Call to Confession**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Oak Hill Community

**O God, we confess that we are often blind to the suffering around us, excusing and explaining away what we see, drawing the curtain on what we don't want to witness, accepting illusions too easily, and closing our eyes to what ought to be readily visible to us. We confess that we are often deaf to the cries that encircle us. Walling off the world with our electronic devices, and filtering out your pleadings with the static of our schedules. Speak to our hearts, pinch our consciousness so that we have no other choice but to see, hear, and touch the condition of the world all around us. May we bring hope to the hopeless and may we receive the fullness of your forgiveness and grace. Amen.**

*Time for silent prayers of confession.*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Hymn**

*Be Thou My Vision*

No. 450

**Peace**

Oak Hill Community

**Time for Growing Disciples**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Anthem**

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Wendy Barrow and Toby Eckert, vocal duet

**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 23

Kim Smith

**Second Scripture Reading**

John 9:1-41

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Sermon**

*Glimpses of Truth*

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**Meditation**

*Meditation Number 6*

John Holt

**Offering**

*You can make an offering online at [www.oakhillpcusa.org](http://www.oakhillpcusa.org),*

Oak Hill Community

*place it in the plate on the table in the back of the sanctuary, or mail your check to the church.*

**\*Response**

*We Give Thee but Thine Own*

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee.**

**Prayers of the People**

Oak Hill Community

**The Lord's Prayer**

Oak Hill Community

**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.**

**Announcements**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

**\*Closing Hymn**

*Spirit, Open My Heart*

No. 692

**Benediction**

Rev. Wanda Lawry

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**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

*People: Thanks be to God!*

**Second Scripture Reading**

John 9:1-41

<sup>9</sup>As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

<sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." <sup>16</sup>Some of the

Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” <sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. <sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.

<sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

*People: Thanks be to God!*

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*Thank you for participating today in worship with Oak Hill. Please check our website for more information and updates: [www.oakhillpcusa.org](http://www.oakhillpcusa.org).*

# Christ Be Beside Me

702

1 Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me; Christ be be -  
2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -  
3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me; Christ be on

hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me; Christ be be -  
round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my  
all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that

low me; Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.  
sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.  
see me; in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

This text adapts part of a traditional Irish prayer associated with St. Patrick (see also no. 6). Such a prayer for protection is known as a *lorica*, from a Latin word for "breastplate" or "armor." It is set to a Gaelic melody that gained wide popularity in the 1970s.

TEXT: James Quinn, SJ, 1969  
MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985  
Music Arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

BUNESSAN  
5.5.5.4.D

## THE WORD

450

## Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E<sup>b</sup> (G) A<sup>b</sup> (D/F<sup>#</sup>) E<sup>b</sup>/G (A7) B<sup>b</sup>7 (D) E<sup>b</sup>

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup> (G) A<sup>b</sup> (A) B<sup>b</sup>

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup> (F<sup>#</sup>m7) Gm7 (G) A<sup>b</sup> (A) B<sup>b</sup>

thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F<sup>#</sup>) E<sup>b</sup>/G (G) A<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup>

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light -  
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.  
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

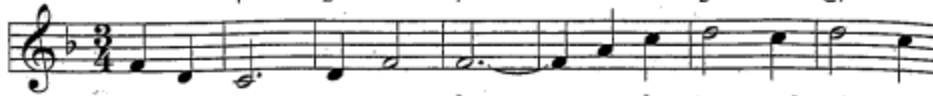
These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

TEXT: Irish poem; trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor Hull, 1912, alt.  
 MUSIC: Irish ballad; harm. David Evans, 1927  
 Music Harm. © 1927 Oxford University Press

SIAM  
 10.10.10

# 692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)  
F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> C7



Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



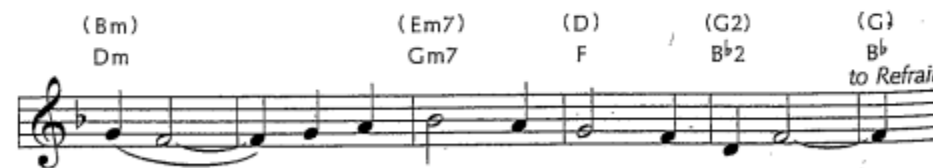
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's  
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my  
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1994  
MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011  
Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press  
Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME  
Irregular