

OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 12, 2023

24th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 a.m.

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

Gathering Music

Brian, John, and Paul

Welcome

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Prelude

The Lord Will Come

Susan Brown

***Call to Worship**

Dena Roper

Leader: We are the community of faith that has been created by the love of God.

People: In Christ we have been united and called to be God's people and given God's Spirit and Word.

Leader: Have we the courage to worship in Spirit and in Truth, knowing that it may change us?

People: We have come to seek, to find, and to be found, with confidence not in ourselves but in God.

All: Let us worship God in Spirit and in Truth.

***Opening Hymn**

Morning Has Broken

No. 664

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

Dena Roper

Eternal God, you are from everlasting to everlasting. You have been our dwelling place in all generations, our protector in the storms of life. Help us to open our minds and our hearts as we worship together this morning. Help us to be empowered and equipped to put our faith into action. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Call to Confession

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Oak Hill Community

Holy God, your way for us is clear. We are to live so that the manner of our lives speaks of your goodness, your generosity, your infinite mercy. Too often, though, we forget the purpose for which you made us. Too often, we return unkindness for unkindness. We cling to what might be shared. We avoid those who are not like us. We fail to give grace in the measure we have received it. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us that your goodness is enduring, and your mercy is everlasting, for we pray all these things in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen
Time for silent prayers of confession.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Hymn

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

No. 350

Peace

Oak Hill Community

Time for Growing Disciples

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Special Music

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

John Holt

First Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25

Dena Roper

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:1-13

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Sermon

Honest Reflections

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Meditation

Beautiful Savior

Susan Brown

Offering

You can make an offering online at www.oakhillpcusa.org, place it in the plate on the table in the back of the sanctuary or mail your check to the church.

Oak Hill Community

***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**

Give Thanks, O Christian People

No. 644

Benediction

Rev. Wanda Lawry

Postlude

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

Susan Brown

First Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25

²⁴Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ³Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac; ¹⁴"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." ¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." ¹⁹But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. ²⁰If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." ²¹And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" ²²Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." ²³He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." ²⁴The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." ²⁵So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:1-13

25“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

.Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Thank you for participating today in worship with Oak Hill. Please check our website for more information and updates: www.oakhillpcusa.org.

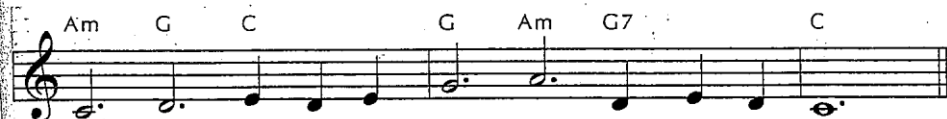
Morning Has Broken 664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931, alt.
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012
 Text © David Higham Assoc., Ltd.
 Music Arr. © 2012 Beverly A. Howard

BUNESSAN
 5.5.5.4.D

350 Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your
 2 It's our faith makes us hap - py; it's our
 3 We are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are
 4 Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery

lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your lamps
 faith makes us hap - py; it's our faith
 climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are climb - ing
 round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery round goes

trimmed and burn - ing, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
 makes us hap - py, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
 Ja - cob's lad - der, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
 high - er, high - er, for the time is draw - ing nigh.

Refrain

Sis - ters, don't grow wea - ry; broth - ers, don't grow wea - ry;

This African American spiritual has a biblical basis in the parable of the ten maidens (Matthew 25:1-13), but the text actually sung could vary greatly. Such variation can be seen here in the annexing of an often freestanding spiritual based on Jacob's vision (Genesis 28:10-17).

Give Thanks, O Christian People 644

1 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for work-ers of our day
 2 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for lead - ers of our years
 3 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for all who love the Lord,
 4 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for life in fel - low - ship

who heed the call to ser - vice and make it their life's way
 who live to share with oth - ers our joy when Christ ap - pears,
 who live each day be - liev - ing in God's e - ter - nal Word:
 with all who trust our Sav - ior their serv - ing to e - quip:

to go to feed the hun - gry, to tend to those in need,
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the fal - tering feet,
 to share Christ's love in liv - ing, to wit - ness with each deed,
 to ease an - oth - er's bur - dens, to cope in joy and stress,

to work for e - qual jus - tice, till all God's folk are freed.
 to lead the fol - lowers for - ward our liv - ing Lord to meet.
 to use the tal - ents giv - en to plant the gos - pel seed.
 to mag - ni - fy God's mes - sage and Christ's great love con - fess.

This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

TEXT: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1984
 MUSIC: Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904
 Text © 1986 Fresh Winds of the Spirit by Lavon Bayler (admin. The Pilgrim Press)

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELIN
 7.6.7.6.D