



COMBINED WORSHIP



JULY 12, 2020

At First Presbyterian Church
121 S. Harrison St.
Saginaw, MI 48602-2193

Livestream service in
collaboration with
Countryside Trinity and Second
Presbyterian Churches
Sundays online@10:30 am

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sunday, July 12, 2020 – 10:30 A.M.
“Soli Deo Gloria” – “To God Alone The Glory”
6th Sunday after Pentecost

-----**ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME**-----

WELCOME, GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Rev. Ted McCulloch)

PRELUDE

“The Love of God”

by Brad Russell
featuring Andrew Glynn, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP (Rev. Ted McCulloch)

HYMN NO. 306

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

DENNIS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Rev. Brant Piper)

Short opening collect, then silent time of confession

DECLARATION OF PARDON (Rev. Brant Piper)

GLORIA HYMN NO. 587

“Alleluia!”

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The musical notation consists of two staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff has a common time signature (C) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is written on a single line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: A, E, D E A, D, E. The second staff has a common time signature (C) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is written on a single line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: A, E, Bm E A, D, E A.

PASTORAL PRAYERS (Rev. Ted McCulloch)

Short intercessions with time for silent reflection

ANTHEM

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

Traditional, with additional words and music by Tomlin, Giglio, and Evans featuring Jim Smerdon, tenor, and Collin Whitfield, piano

FIRST READING—Isaiah 55:10-13

(Rev. Brant Piper)

SERMON SCRIPTURE—Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

(Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah)

SERMON

"What Kind of Soil are YOU?"

(Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah)

RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Confession of 1967, sections 9.27 and 9.30)

(Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah)

Leader: Life in Christ gives us life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is God's sign that God will consummate God's work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

All: The one sufficient revelation of God is Jesus Christ, the Word of God incarnate, to whom the Holy Spirit bears unique and authoritative witness through the Holy Scriptures, which are received and obeyed as the word of God written. The Scriptures are not a witness among others, but the witness without parallel. The church has received the books of the Old and New Testaments as prophetic and apostolic testimony in which it hears the word of God and by which its faith and obedience are nourished and regulated. God's word is spoken to the church today where the Scriptures are faithfully preached and attentively read in dependence on the illumination of the Holy Spirit and with readiness to receive their truth and direction. Amen!

SPECIAL MUSIC "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" by Rick Founds
featuring Andrew Glynn, piano

OFFERING OF GIFTS (Rev. Brant Piper)

OFFERTORY "The Swan" by Camille Saint-Saëns
featuring Michael Wechter, piano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Rev. Brant Piper)

HYMN NO. 838 "Standing on the Promises" PROMISES

BENEDICTION (Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah)

POSTLUDE "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
by William Runyan with "Theme from 2nd Piano Concerto" by Rachmaninoff
featuring Michael Wechter, piano

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

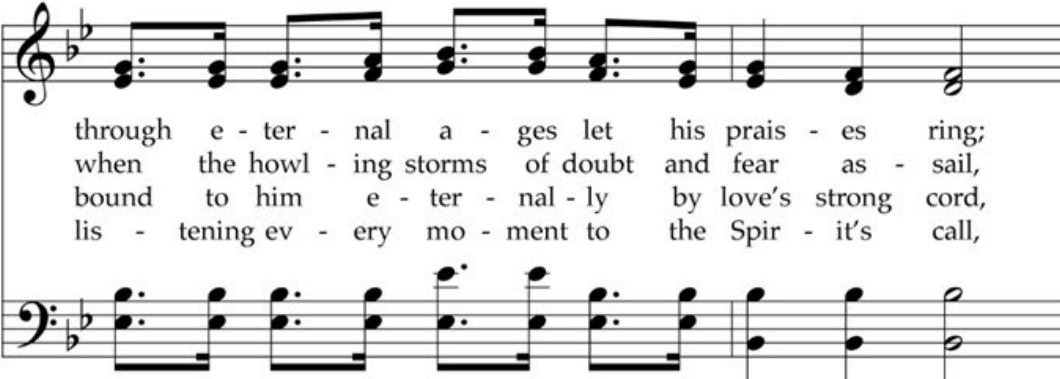
*Or "Maker's"

Written to express a pastor's unwillingness to leave a beloved congregation, this hymn is frequently used as an expression of Christian fellowship, especially at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper. The tune is attributed to an influential Swiss musician and publisher.

838 Standing on the Promises



1 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my king,
 2 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,
 3 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,
 4 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fall,



through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;
 when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,
 bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,
 lis - tening ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,



glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,
 by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,
 o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,
 rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,



stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Perhaps because this hymn is so well known, its language sounds vaguely scriptural; but while there are various biblical uses of "stand" and "promise(s)," the two words are never combined. The confidence here is similar to that of "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (see no. 353).

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

Refrain

Stand - ing, stand - ing,
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;

stand - ing, stand - ing,
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.