



July 28, 2024

*We embrace our call to love and serve Jesus Christ
as we cultivate community and empower our neighbors.*

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A Service of Divine Worship on the Lord's Day

July 28, 2024

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Song: *As the Deer*

*The Call to Worship

Liturgist: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

People: My soul longs for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Liturgist: Happy are those whose strength is in God, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

People: A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Liturgist: O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you! Let us worship God!

Adapted from Psalm 84

*Opening Hymn: *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

*A Call to Confession (Liturgist)

Our hearts ache to be whole. Let us approach the throne of grace and confess our brokenness. Let us lean into God's mercy and trust that it will knit us back together again. Let us pray...

*Unison Prayer of Confession (prayed aloud by all)

Spirit of God, we confess that we put on airs more often than we put on the armor of God. We are guilty of girding ourselves with lies instead of the truth. We try to protect ourselves with arrogance, superstition, and self-reliance instead of righteousness, faith, and your gift of salvation. Our footsteps do not follow your path of peace. And we are quick to use your Word to attack one another, instead of striking out against the sins we personally commit. Forgive us, Holy God. Gift us with the wisdom and strength to change our ways, so that we may live as your faithful ambassadors of the Good News. Amen.

The Silent Confession (please be seated)

The Sung Response to Confession: *Spirit of the Living God*
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The Declaration and Assurance of Forgiveness

Liturgist: The Lord is steadfast in love and hears the prayers of all who seek mercy. God reaches out to us in Jesus Christ forgiving our sins and nourishing us for life without limit.

People: Friends, our sins are forgiven and we can be at peace.

***Passing the Peace of Christ, Sharing in Christ's Welcome**

Liturgist: Peace be with you.

People: And, also with you.

(Congregation shares peace with one another in the pew, over the phone, across the screen.)

Anthem

Glorify Thy Name
Royce Jackson

Small Talk

Prayer for Illumination

Brother Jesus, you have set us to dwell in your hope. Give us wisdom and grace to live as your saints marked by the seal of your promise and as citizens of your kingdom. Grant us this hour the fullness of understanding of the breadth and length and height and depth of your love for us. Amen.

Scripture Lessons

John 6:56-69

Ephesians 6:10-20

The Message

Be Strong in the Lord

Rev. Jessica McClure-Archer

Hymn of Affirmation:

Faith Begins by Letting Go

Sharing our Life Together and The Lord's Prayer

The Offertory

Thanksgiving in Song:

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

Give thanks.

***The Sending Hymn:**

Be Strong in the Lord

***The Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Offerings are received through a variety of ways – in the plate during the offering, online, by mail or via the office. May our offerings be reflection of God's abundance in our lives, for the glory of God and for the work of God's kingdom in the world. Thank you for being so generous and sustaining our ministry. To give online visit - <https://www.sampsonsmills.org/offering>.

**Worship Resources Adapted from Re: Worship*

548 As the Deer

As the deer pants for water, so my soul pants for You. Psalm 42:1

Harmony optional

1. As the deer pant-eth for the wa-ter, So my soul long-eth af - ter Thee.
2. You're my friend and You are my broth-er, E-ven though You are a King.
3. I want You more than gold or sil-ver, On-ly You can sat - is - fy.

You a - lone are my heart's de - sire, And I long to wor - ship Thee.
I love You more than an - y oth-er, So much more than an - y - thing.
You a - lone are the real joy giv-er, And the ap - ple of my eye.

Refrain

You a - lone are my strength, my shield; To You a - lone may my

spir - it yield. You a - lone are my

heart's de - sire, And I long to wor - ship Thee.

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D)

(Bm)

(G)



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D)

(Bm)

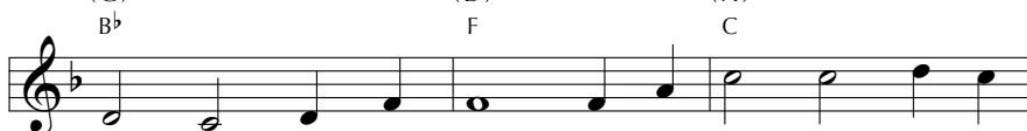


end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G)

(D)

(A)



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm)

(F[#]m)

(Bm)

(G)

(A)

(D)



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm)

(G)

(D)

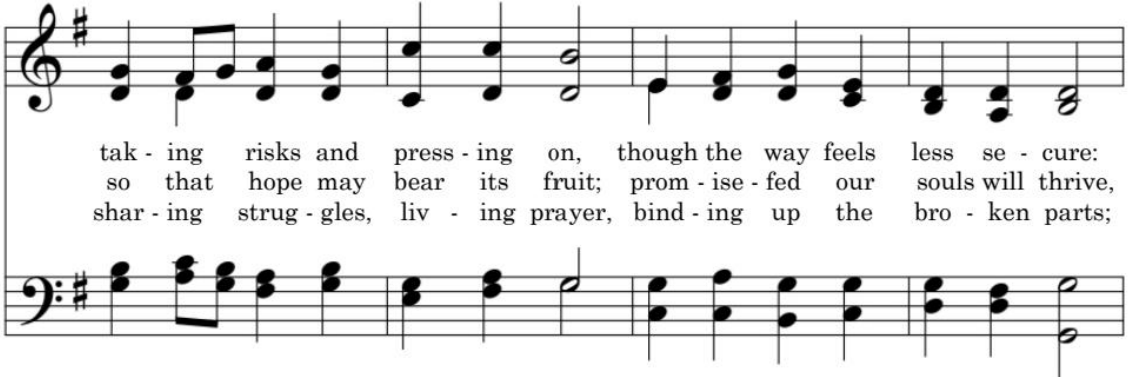


rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Faith Begins by Letting Go



1. Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure
2. Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - ory's roots a - live
3. Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



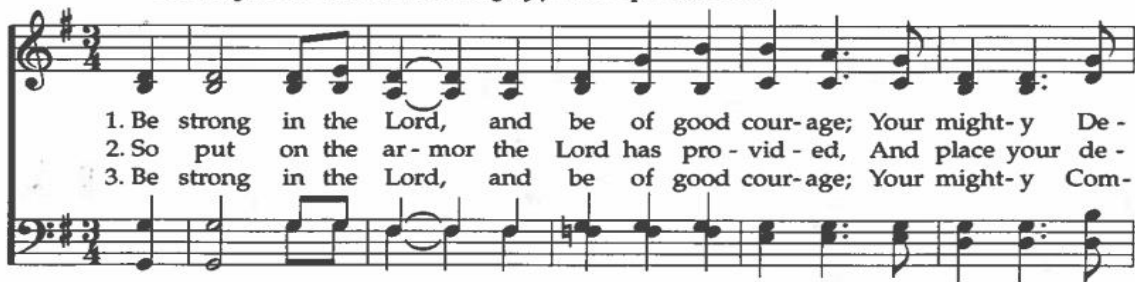
tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



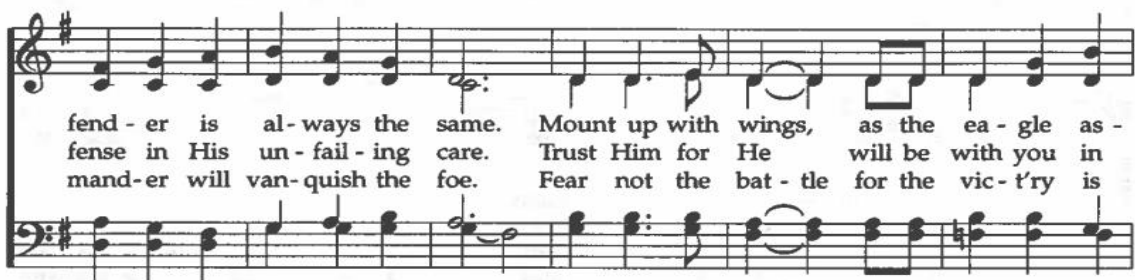
pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

734 Be Strong in the Lord

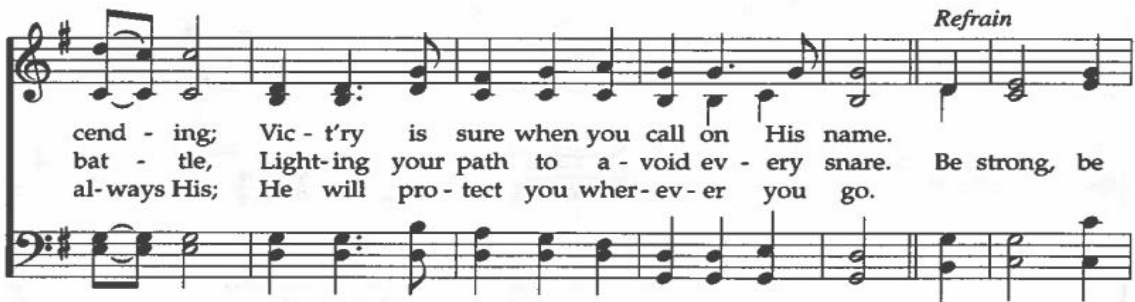
Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Ephesians 6:10



1. Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage; Your mighty De-
2. So put on the armor the Lord has provided, And place your de-
3. Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage; Your mighty Com-

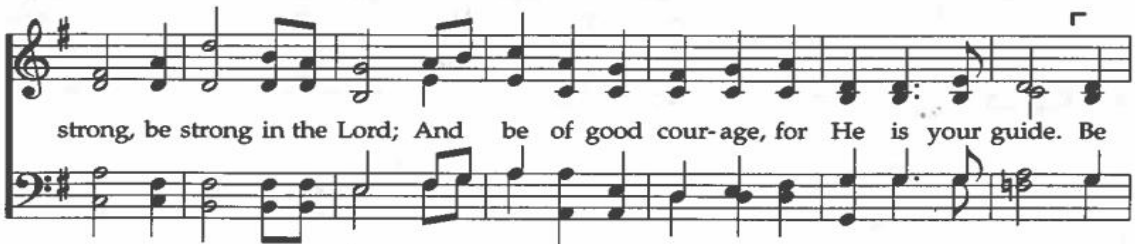


fend-er is always the same. Mount up with wings, as the eagle as-
fense in His un-fail-ing care. Trust Him for He will be with you in
mand-er will van-quish the foe. Fear not the bat-tle for the vic-t'ry is



Refrain

end-ing; Vic-t'ry is sure when you call on His name.
bat-tle, Light-ing your path to a-void ev-ery snare. Be strong, be
al-ways His; He will pro-TECT you wher-ev-er you go.



strong, be strong in the Lord; And be of good courage, for He is your guide. Be



strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord; And re-joyce for the vic-t'ry is yours.