



# MEANINGFUL MINISTRY

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**Sunday, July 28, 2024**  
**The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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Service Theme  
**GOD MEETS OUR NEED TO MEET  
OTHERS' NEEDS**

King David wrote, "The earth is the LORD's and everything in it" (Psalm 24:1). That word "everything" doesn't leave any wiggle room, does it? That word "everything" means that your home and all its furnishings, your vehicle and all that's in the trunk, your bank account, clothes, smartphone. . . everything you have was given to you by your good and gracious Father and belongs to Him. We need to understand that. But it is just as important that we understand why God provides for our physical needs. As we have seen throughout this worship series, God has called us to ministry. He asks us to reflect his love in meeting the physical and spiritual needs of others. Believers want to serve others in those ways. By providing for us, God meets our need to meet others' needs giving us the resources necessary to conduct meaningful ministry.

## 549 Across the Lands

CW 549



1 You're the Word of God the Fa - ther from be - fore the  
 2 Yet you left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and  
 3 With a shout you rose vic - to - rious, wrest - ing vic - t'ry



world be - gan. Ev - 'ry star and ev - 'ry plan - et has been  
 save the lost, and ex - changed the joy of heav - en for the  
 from the grave, and as - cend - ed in - to heav - en, lead - ing



fash - ioned by your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -  
 an - guish of a cross. With a prayer you fed the  
 cap - tives in your way. Now you stand be - fore the



geth - er by the pow - er of your voice. Let the skies de -  
 hun - gry, with a word you calmed the sea, yet how si - lent -  
 Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for your own; from each tribe and



clare your glo - ry, let the land and seas re - joice!  
 ly you suf - fered that the guilt - y may go free!  
 tongue and na - tion you are lead - ing sin - ners home!

*Refrain*

You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, you're the Lord of ev - 'ry



man, and your cry of love rings out a - cross the lands.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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**The Service**  
*Setting Two (p.172)*

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Confession**

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts,  
words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a  
sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**



# Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



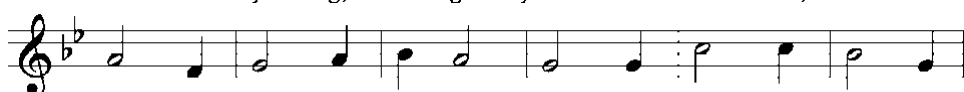
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



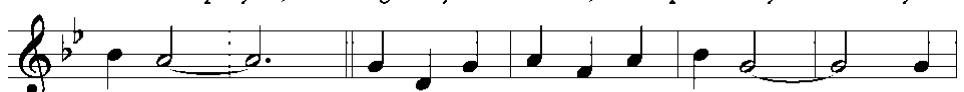
peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



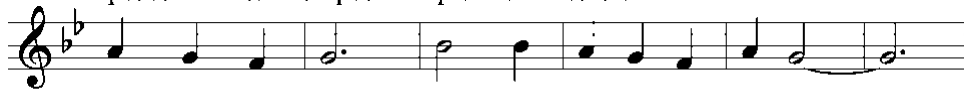
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



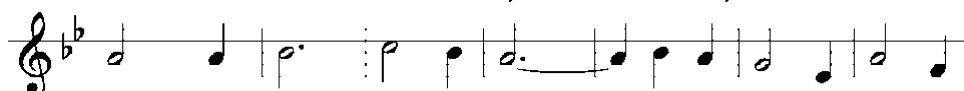
peace to his peo - ple on earth.



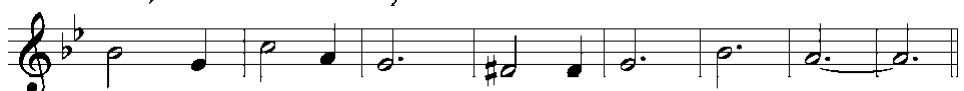
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his  
 peo - ple on earth. For you a -  
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,  
 with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of  
 God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.  
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his  
 peo - ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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## The Word

The Lord be with you.  
 And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve your goodness, still you provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge your gifts, give thanks for all your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## First Reading

2 Kings 4:42–44

*The LORD blesses a man's small gift, using it to feed many people.*

<sup>42</sup>A man came from Baal Shalishah and brought the man of God some bread from the first ripe grain, twenty loaves of barley bread, and some new grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Set it before the people so that they can eat."

<sup>43</sup>His attendant said, "How can I set this before one hundred men?" But he said, "Set it before the people so that they may eat, for this is what the LORD says: They will eat and have some left over." <sup>44</sup>So he set it before them. They ate, and they had some left over, just as the LORD had said.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 145

From the 1993 edition of Christian Worship p.119

### Refrain



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

### Psalm tone



**Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;\*  
his greatness no one can fathom.**

**One generation will commend your works to another;\*  
they will tell of your mighty acts.**

**The LORD upholds all those who fall\*  
and lifts up all who are bowed down.**

### Refrain

**The eyes of all look to you,  
and you give them their food at the proper time.\*  
You open your hand  
and satisfy the desires of every living thing.**

**The LORD is near to all who call on him,\*  
to all who call on him in truth.**

**He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;\*  
he hears their cry and saves them.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Refrain



## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 9:8–11

*Paul teaches that God blesses us abundantly so that we have the resources to abound in every good work, generously helping others in all their needs.*

<sup>8</sup>God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written:

He scattered. He gave to the poor.

His righteousness remains forever.

<sup>10</sup>And he who provides seed to the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing, and will increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be made rich in every way so that you may be generous in every way, which produces thanksgiving to God through us.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 145:15,16

Alleluia, alleluia.

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Alleluia.

## Gospel

Mark 6:35–44

*Jesus ministers to people by sharing the good news of salvation and by providing for their physical needs*

<sup>35</sup>It was already late in the day when his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place and it is already very late. <sup>36</sup>Send them away so they can go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

<sup>37</sup>But he answered them, "You give them something to eat."

They asked him, "Should we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them something to eat?"

<sup>38</sup>He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go see."

When they found out, they said, "Five, and two fish."

<sup>39</sup>He directed everyone to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup>They sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. <sup>41</sup>Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up to heaven, and blessed the loaves and broke them. Then he kept giving pieces to his disciples to set in front of them. He also divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup>They all ate and were satisfied. <sup>43</sup>Then they picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. <sup>44</sup>There were five thousand men who ate the loaves.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## 827 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

CW 827



1 Re - joice, my heart, be glad and sing, a cheer - ful  
2 Did not his love and truth and pow'r guard ev - 'ry  
3 His wis - dom nev - er plans in vain nor fal - ters



trust main - tain; for God, the source of ev - 'ry - thing, your  
child - hood day? And did he not in threat - ning hour turn  
nor mis - takes; all that his coun - sels may or - dain a



treasure shall re - main. Why spend the day in blank de -  
dread - ed ills a - way? He al - ways will with pa - tience  
bless - ed end - ing makes. Up - on your lips, then, lay your



spair, in rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor  
chide, his rod falls gent - ly down; and all your sins he  
hand, and trust his guid - ing love; then like a rock your



cast your care; he makes your bur - dens light.  
casts a - side in o - cean depths to drown.  
peace shall stand here and in heav'n a - bove.

Text: tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.

Tune: Mary Kay Beall, b. 1943

Text: Public domain

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## Sermon - 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

**Don't be afraid to give.**

- 1) God enables our giving.
- 2) God blesses our giving.

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.*

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

**Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.**

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

**Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.**

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

**Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.**

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

**Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.**

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

**Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.**

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. [Pour out your special blessing on . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

**Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Offering**

**Closing Prayer**

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

## 507 Let All Things Now Living

CW 507



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to

2 His law he en - forc - es; the stars in their cours - es and



God the Cre - a - tor tri - um-phant-ly raise, who fash - ioned and  
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient-ly shine. The hills and the



made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us  
moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun-tains, the deeps of the



on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us; his  
o - cean pro - claim him di - vine. We, too, should be voic - ing our



light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the  
love and re - joic - ing. With glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us



night, till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is  
raise till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -



ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
giv - ing: "To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

## **Announcements**

### **Church Cleaners**

July 28 – Luke // August 4 – Timothy

### **Evangelism Encouragement**

Now it's time to talk about the elephant in the room. Your conversation probably won't go as neatly as the flowchart depicts. The devil is actively working against you being able to talk about Jesus. Your friend may be indifferent or even hostile to having a conversation. They may ask questions you don't know the answer to. They may try to engage you in an argument. At times like these remember you will not win souls for Jesus through arguments or knowing all the answers. Don't even try. Go back to the basics, "I don't know the answer to that, but can I tell you what I do know?" The gospel wins souls for Jesus and the Holy Spirit works through the gospel. Even though our conversations won't be all neat, pretty and tied up with a beautiful bow, don't let that stop you from trying. So ask questions, listen deeply, and be prepared to give the reason for the hope you have. The Lord will bless you no matter the outcome.

## Picnic information

The picnic is August 11th after church. Plan on attending and bringing a friend! So many fun things are planned for this event. The congregation can help by bringing a salad or dessert for the lunch. We can also use help setting up tables and cleaning up on the day of.

### DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

**Su (28) 9:30 am Worship**  
**10:30 am Long Range Planning Meeting**

*Pastor will be out of town Sunday until Tuesday.  
Please leave a message at 512 887 8982 if you need to  
reach him during this time.*

We (31) 4:00 pm Communicating Christ (BIC)  
5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" (BIC)

Th (1) 10:30 am Longfield Manor Devotion  
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

**Su (4) 9:30 am Worship (with Communion)**  
10:30 am Picnic Info Meeting  
3:00 pm **Worship in Poltimore**

We (7) 4:00 pm Communicating Christ (BIC)  
5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" (BIC)

Th (8) 6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (9) 6:30 pm Friday Fellowship

**Su (11) 9:30 am Worship & Church Picnic**



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