

**Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church  
One East Oak St, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920**



Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 10 AM

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Prelude *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* arr. James Mansfield  
Chris Fortin, Director of Music Ministry

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Sing praises to our Lord:  
**People: who heals us and makes us whole.**  
Leader: Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God:  
**People: whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.**  
Leader: Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God;  
give thanks to God's holy name:  
**People: God's kingdom is near to us;  
God's peace resides in our hearts.**

Opening Hymn 267 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Too often Lord God, we are hesitant in our proclamation;  
seeking safe and suitable opportunities  
to speak of our faith. Too often, Lord God, we are half-hearted in our service;  
reluctant to stand out from the crowd or to attract criticism.  
Too often, Lord God, we live as if dependent wholly on our own resources;  
relying on our perceived skills and modest insights.  
Forgive the poverty of our efforts and the frailty of our faith  
and open wide our hearts and minds  
to the immanent presence of our Risen, Living and Ascended Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Declaration of Pardon

Response of Praise *We Are Forgiven* Hymn 477

Passing of the Peace

**(We invite you at home to safely greet those you are with  
or to possibly text those to whom you would wish to share a greeting.)**

Children's Message Stacy Currie, Director of Children and Family Ministries

Hymn 633 *Praise Ye the Lord*

Scripture Acts 6: 1-7:2a, 44-60 Kara Pantozzi

Sermon                               **"Building God's House"**     Maureen Paterson, Associate Pastor

Offertory *Sing to the Lord A New Song* by Robert Lau  
Sanctuary Choir

Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Hymn 606

## Prayer of Dedication

## Pastoral Prayers

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Closing Hymn 65 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

## Benediction

Postlude *Festive Postlude* by Richard A. Williamson

## **Acts 6: 1-7:2a, 44-60 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

### **Seven Chosen to Serve**

**6** Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup> And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, <sup>4</sup> while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word.” <sup>5</sup> What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup> They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup> The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

### **The Arrest of Stephen**

<sup>8</sup> Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup> Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. <sup>10</sup> But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. <sup>11</sup> Then they secretly instigated some men to say, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.” <sup>12</sup> They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. <sup>13</sup> They set up false witnesses who said, “This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; <sup>14</sup> for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us.” <sup>15</sup> And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

### **Stephen’s Speech to the Council**

**7** Then the high priest asked him, “Are these things so?” <sup>2</sup> And Stephen replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran,

### **Acts 6: 44-60**

<sup>44</sup> “Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen. <sup>45</sup> Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our ancestors. And it was there until the time of David, <sup>46</sup> who found favor with God and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. <sup>47</sup> But it was Solomon who built a house for him. <sup>48</sup> Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands; as the prophet says,

<sup>49</sup> ‘Heaven is my throne,  
and the earth is my footstool.

What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord,  
or what is the place of my rest?

<sup>50</sup> Did not my hand make all these things?’

<sup>51</sup> “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. <sup>52</sup> Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. <sup>53</sup> You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.”

### **The Stoning of Stephen**

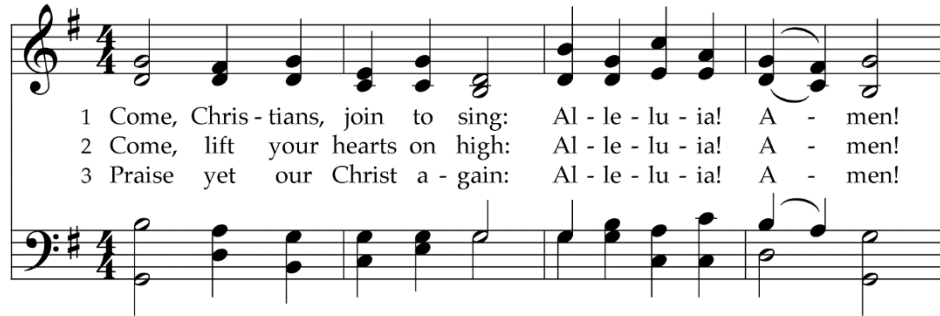
<sup>54</sup> When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen.

<sup>55</sup> But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

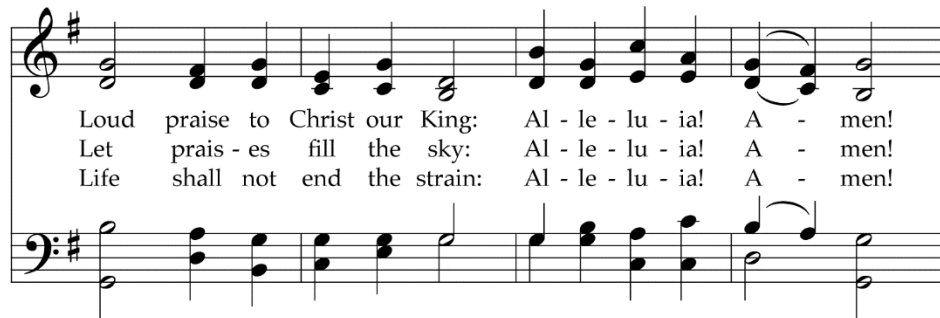
<sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

<sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

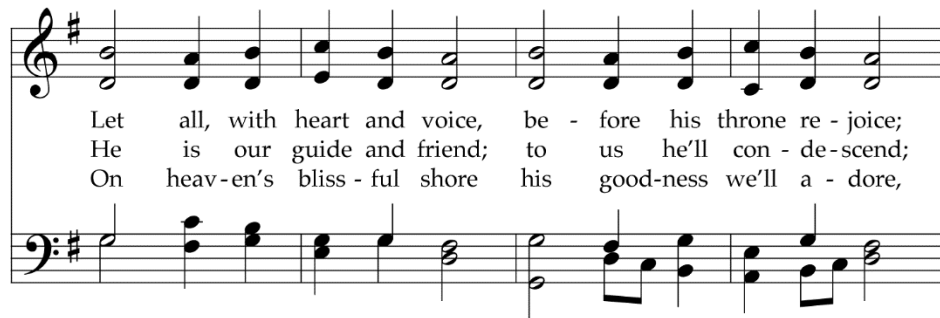
# 267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing



1 Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!  
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!  
 3 Praise yet our Christ a-gain: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!



Loud praise to Christ our King: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!  
 Let praises fill the sky: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!  
 Life shall not end the strain: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!



Let all, with heart and voice, be-fore his throne re-joice;  
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con-de-scend;  
 On heav-en's bliss-ful shore his good-ness we'll a-dore,



praise is his gra-cious choice: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!  
 his love shall nev-er end: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!  
 sing-ing for-ev-er-more: Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

FORGIVENESS

447

# We Are Forgiven

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to  
 God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.  
 We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995  
 Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson

WE ARE FORGIVEN  
 10.8.10.8

# Praise Ye the Lord

(Psalm 150)

633

*Refrain* D G D Em D/A A7 D *Fine*

Praise ye the Lord, Hal-le-lu-jah! Ev-ery-bod-y praise the Lord.

B $\flat$  F B $\flat$

1 Praise God with the sound of the trum - pet. Praise God with the  
 2 Praise God with ho - ly cym - bals. Praise God with  
 3 Praise God in the ho - ly tem - ple. Praise God for al -  
 4 Praise God on top of the moun - tains. Praise God both

D B $\flat$

lute and the harp. Praise God with tim - brel and danc -  
 strings and with pipes. Praise God with clash - ing cym -  
 might - y deeds. Praise God for those boun - ti - ful mer -  
 day and night. Praise God down in the low val -

F B $\flat$  A7 *to Refrain*

- ing. Praise God wher - ev - er you are.  
 - bals. Praise God with all of your might.  
 - cies, for God ful - fills our needs.  
 - leys. Praise God be - cause it's all right.

Like the original psalm, this paraphrase of Psalm 150 ranges widely through lists of how, why, and where to praise God. Couched in a syncopated African American gospel style, the setting invites the addition of instruments, though the voices of singers remain most important.

606

Praise God, from Whom  
All Blessings Flow  
Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise \*him, all crea-tures  
here be-low; praise \*him a-bove, ye heav-en-ly host; praise  
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

*\*Or "God"*

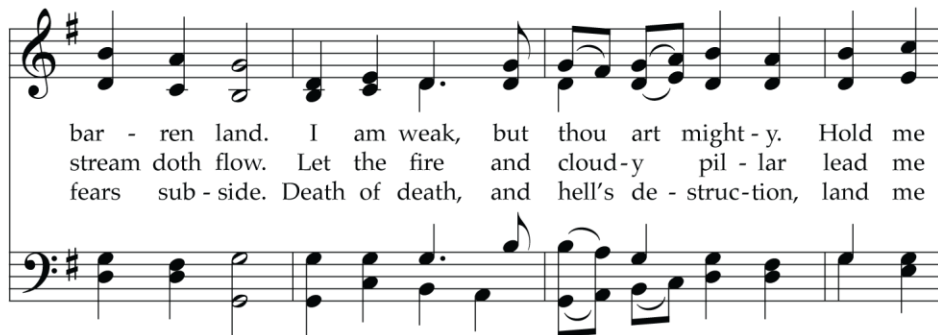
TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709  
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH  
LM

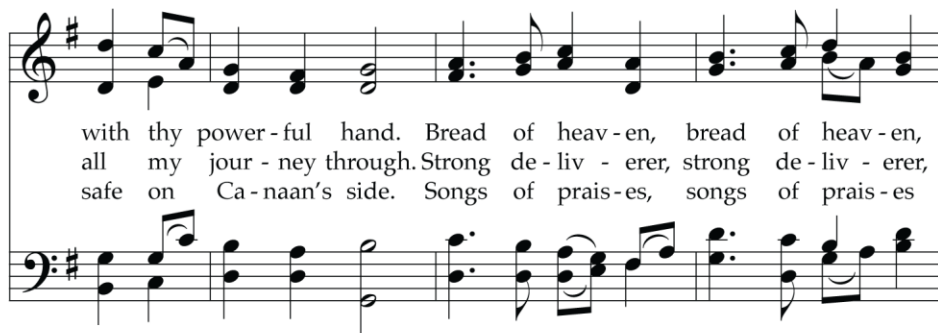
# Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me  
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es



feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.  
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.  
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

# Calendar of Events

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## **Sunday, April 18**

Early Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.  
Online Worship, 10:00 a.m.  
Worship in the Sanctuary, 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School, 11:00 a.m.  
Bibles and Bagels, 11:00 a.m.  
Adult Small Group Study, 11:00 a.m.

## **Monday, April 19**

Children and Family Ministries, 7:30 p.m.  
Personnel Council, 7:30 p.m.

## **Tuesday, April 20**

Walk & Talk Group, 9:00 a.m.  
Children's Midweek Program, 4:00 p.m.  
Youth and Young Adult Council, 7:00 p.m.  
Scout Troop #351, 7:00 p.m., Church House Courtyard  
Adult Small Group Study, 7:15 p.m.

## **Wednesday, April 21**

Women's Bible Study, 2:00 p.m.  
Christian Chair Yoga, 4:00 p.m.  
Middle School Fellowship Zoom, 4:30 p.m.  
Parenting After the Pandemic, 7:00 p.m.  
Stephen Ministry, 7:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, April 22**

Meditation, 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.  
Finding Strength in Troubled Times, 9:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

## **Friday, April 23**

## **Saturday, April 24**

Scout Troop #351, 1:00 p.m., Church House Courtyard