

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

October 22, 2006

11:00 AM

*A nursery is available during the service. An usher will be happy to assist you.
Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available upon request from an usher.*

Welcome and Announcements

Moments of Friendship

PRELUDE *As the Deer* Arr. Himes
(Please take this time to silently prepare yourself to worship God.)

CALL TO WORSHIP Rachel Gregg, Liturgist

Liturgist: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great.

People: You are clothed with honor and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment.

Liturgist: O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all.

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!

Liturgist: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

***HYMN No. 473** *For the Beauty of the Earth* DIX

***CONFESSION OF SIN** (*In Unison*)

Almighty God, we confess our need to control our lives, as if we cannot trust you to care for us. Though you have named us your beloved children, we try to make our own name for ourselves. Yet we strive for status and power; we crave money, possessions, and attention. We envy instead of celebrating the successes of others. We forget that your grace alone is sufficient for our need. Forgive us, loving God. Give us such security in your care that we need not seek it anywhere else. Free us to be joyful, generous, and loving, choosing not to be served, but to serve, as did the one we follow, Jesus Christ.

(Let each worshipper pray silently.)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA PATRI** (*The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 579*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalms 104:1-9, 24, 35c (Pew Bible, OT Section, page 532)

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

***HYMN No. 272** *God of the Sparrow* ROEDER

SERMON LESSON: Mark 10:35-45 (Pew Bible, NT Section page 43)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Walking Tall
Guest Speaker: Jeannie Harsh

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** – (*In Unison*) Apostles' Creed (traditional)
The Presbyterian Hymnal p. 14

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Come Thou Almighty King* Arr. Curnow
Doug Reitsma, Trumpet

***PRESENTATION, The Doxology** (*The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 592*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***HYMN No. 150** *Come, Christians Join to Sing* MADRID

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *O Worship the King* Arr. Curnow

***Those who are able, please stand**

MUSICAL NOTES

The Anthem, Great is Thy Faithfulness, a favorite of many in this congregation, is Hymn No. 276 in our hymnal. We invite you to reflect on the text as we sing. May the familiar words enter into your hearts and minds in a new and different way this day. May you feel the 'greatness' of the faithfulness of our God.

In his book, Then Sings My Soul, Robert J. Morgan tells about this hymn:

The author of this hymn, Thomas Obediah Chisholm, was born in a log cabin in Kentucky. At age 16, he began teaching school, despite the paucity of his own education. He came to Christ at age 27 under the ministry of evangelist H.C. Morrison. But Chisholm's health was unstable, and he alternated between bouts of illness and gainful employment in which he did everything from journalism to insurance to evangelistic work. Through all of the ups and downs, he discovered new blessings from God every morning. The third chapter of Lamentations 3 became precious to him: *His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness* (Lamentations 3:22-23).

Thomas later admitted there was no dramatic story behind the writing of "Great is Thy Faithfulness." While serving the Lord in Vineland, New Jersey, Thomas sent several poems to his friend, musician William Runyon, who was so moved by this one that he

prayed earnestly for special guidance in composing the music. Runyan was in Baldwin, Kansas, at the time, and the hymn was published in 1923 in Runyan's private song pamphlets.

"It went rather slowly for several years," Thomas recalled. Then Dr. Will Houghton of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago discovered it, and would say in chapel, "Well I think we shall have to sing 'Great is Thy Faithfulness.'" It became an unofficial theme song for the Institute; and when Houghton died, it was sung at his funeral.

Still, it remained relatively unknown until popularized around the world by George Beverly Shea and the choirs at the Billy Graham Crusades.

A special thank you to Doug Reitsma for his trumpet solo this morning and to the rest of the Brass Choir whose ministry through music is so great appreciated. Thank you all.

WELCOME JEANNIE HARSH

We welcome Jeannie Harsh, Associate Executive Presbyter of Scioto Valley Presbytery to the pulpit today. An ordained Elder and a Christian Educator, Jeannie serves our presbytery as she works to enrich the Mission and Ministry of its congregations.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY November 3 at 1:30 PM. Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 170 Mansfield Ave., Mount Vernon. For more information, contact Gretchen Stultz at 397-7748.