A photograph of a person's arm holding a dark brown leather-bound Bible. The Bible is open, and the words "Holy Bible" are visible on the cover. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green grass and trees. The text is overlaid on the upper left portion of the image.

Blessed is anyone
who endures temptation.
Such a one has stood the test
and will receive the crown of life
that the Lord has promised
to those who love him.

(James 1: 12)

February 1, 2026
Holy Communion on
The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

(†) The congregation is invited to stand or (Sit with Gusto)
(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Silent Prayer and Time for Centering

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Witherell Handbell Choir led by Dan Saucier*

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus *Arr. by Kevin McChesney*

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*CALL TO WORSHIP ***

People of God,

who do you come to worship?

We come to worship the one true God.

How will you worship?

Not with words alone,

but by living lives of justice and love.

Come, you who belong to God.

Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

Come and abide in God's tent

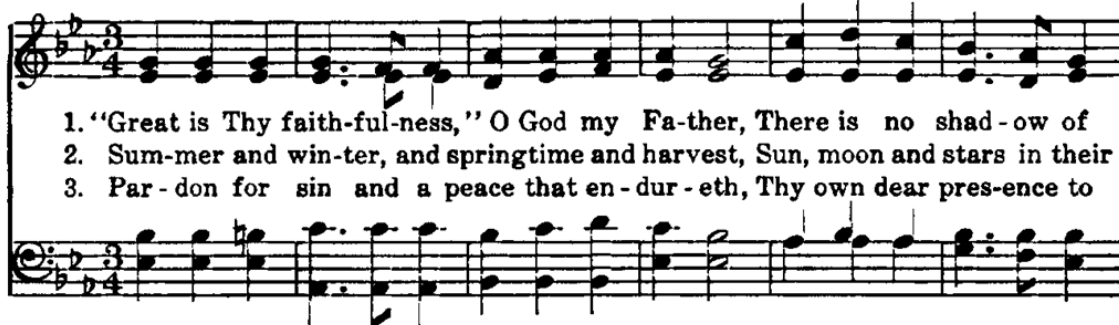
and in God's heart, now and forever.

11

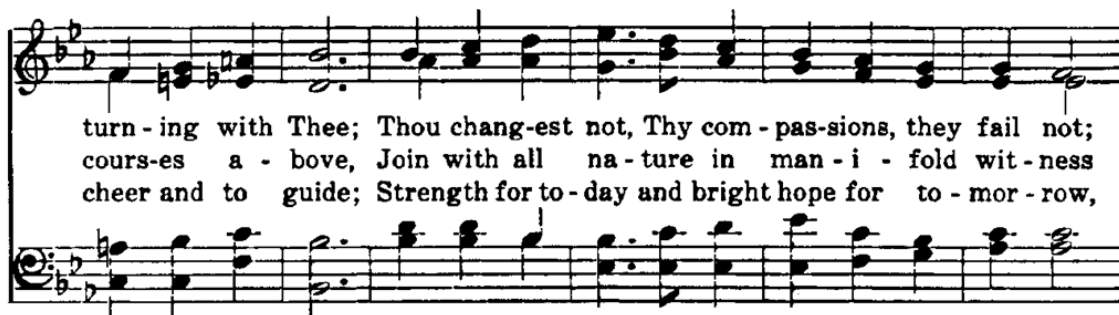
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Thomas O. Chisholm, b. 1866

William M. Runyan, b. 1870

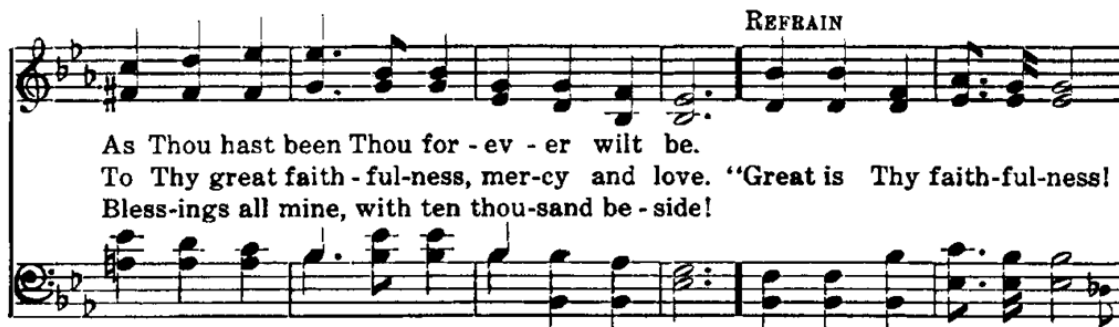


1. "Great is Thy faith-ful-ness," O God my Fa-ther, There is no shad-ow of
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their
 3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, Thy own dear pres-ence to

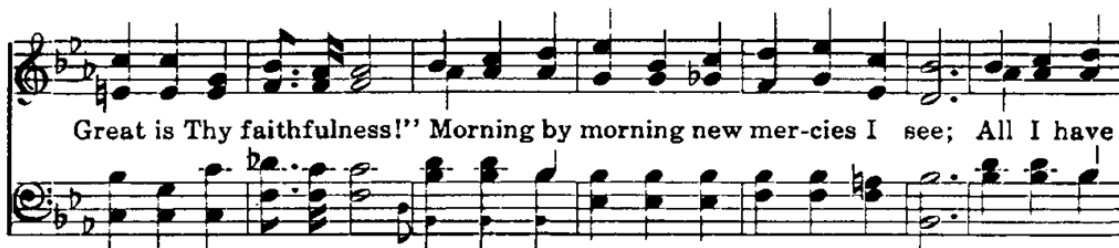


turn-ing with Thee; Thou chang-est not, Thy com-pas-sions, they fail not;
 cours-es a - bove, Join with all na-ture in man-i - fold wit-ness
 cheer and to guide; Strength for to-day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

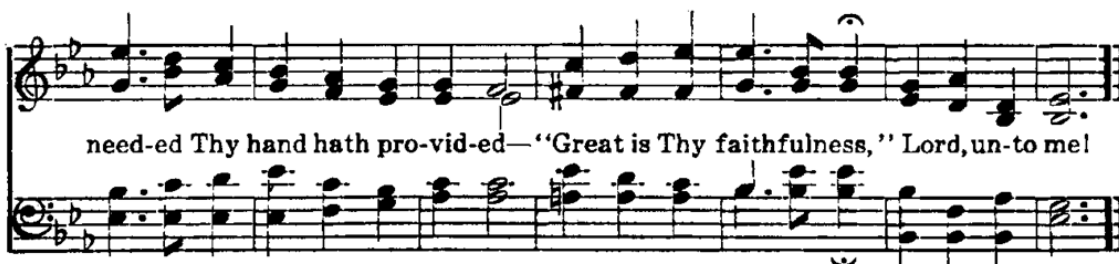
REFRAIN



As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful-ness, mer-cy and love. "Great is Thy faith-ful-ness!
 Bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!



Great is Thy faithfulness!" Morning by morning new mer-cies I see; All I have



need-ed Thy hand hath pro-vid-ed—"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, un-to me!

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† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Far too often, O God,

we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world.

We have not spoken truth with our hearts.

We have said and done hurtful things to our friends.

We have forgotten our true identity,

wandering into ways that are not yours.

We have forgotten what true discipleship is.

Forgive us and help us live

into becoming the people you have created

and called us to be:

people of justice and love and truth and humility,

and yes, even foolishness.

May we be fools for Christ,

embracing our true identity,

even in the face of the world's scorn and derision. Amen.

† WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God's love embraces us even when we fall short
of what God desires for our lives and actions.

Know that the God of blessing

loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness.

And in so knowing, may our lives and souls be transformed.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson: *James 1* *(Pg. 980) ***

Anthem: *O Taste and See* Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:

Blest is the man that trusteth in him. (##)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

† HYMN OF PREPARATION

Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom 508



1. Faith, while trees are still in blos - som, plans the
 2. Long be - fore the dawn is break - ing, faith an -
 3. Long be - fore the rains were com - ing, No - ah
 4. Faith, up - lift - ed, tamed the wa - ter of the
 5. Faith be - lieves that God is faith - ful: God will

pick - ing of the fruit; faith can feel the thrill of
 tic - i - pates the sun. Faith is ea - ger for the
 went and built an ark. A - bra - ham, the lone - ly
 un - di - vid - ed sea, and the peo - ple of the
 be what God will be! Faith ac - cepts the call, re -

har - vest when the buds be - gin to sprout.
 day - light, for the work that must be done.
 mi - grant, saw the light be - yond the dark.
 He - brews found the path that made them free.
 spond - ing, "I am will - ing, Lord, send me."

WORDS: Anders Frostenson, 1960; trans. by Fred Kaan, 1972 (Heb. 11)
 MUSIC: V. Earle Copes, 1960

FOR THE BREAD
 87.87

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† GOSPEL LESSON:

Matthew 5: 1-12

(Pg. 785) **

PRESIDER: For the word of God in Scripture,
 For the word of God among us,
 For the word of God within us,

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

† GLORIA PATRI

The musical score for 'Gloria Patri' is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.' The music is a simple, hymn-like setting with a steady rhythm.

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GREATOREX
Irr.

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SERMON: Ho-Soon Han

Wisdom from James 1—
"Faith Under Pressure"

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

1. When we are called to sing your praise with hearts so filled with pain
 2. When we are called to sing your praise and can-not find our voice,
 3. When we are called to sing your praise and life a-head looks grim,

that we would rath-er sit and weep or stand up to com-plain,
 be-cause our los-ses leave us now no rea-son to re-joice,
 still give us faith and hope e-nough to break forth in a hymn,

re-mind us, God, you un-der-stand the bur-dens that we bear;
 re-mind us, God, that you ac-cept our sad la-ments in prayer;
 a thank-ful hymn, great God of Love, that you are ev-ery-where;

you, too, have walked the shad-owed way and known our deep de-spair.
 you, too, have walked the shad-owed way and known our deep de-spair.
 you walk the shad-owed way with us and keep us in your care.

WORDS: Mary Nelson Keithahn

MUSIC: Trad. English melody; arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER SONG

LIFE-GIVING BREAD

Ricky Manalo

Life - giv - ing Bread, as our

hearts are trans - formed a - new, and

Life - giv - ing Wine, may we

share in a life with you.

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SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER SONG (See Above)

[Presentation of Tithes and Offerings](#)

During this time, we are grateful for your continuing financial support of our ministries.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Unison



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:

Harmony



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

Unison



Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts!

Refrain (Harmony)



Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison



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

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978

MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

88.44.88 with Refrain

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Offertory Prayer:

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING **

The Lord be with you....

And also with you.

Lift Up Your hearts.....

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.....

It is right to give our thanks and praise

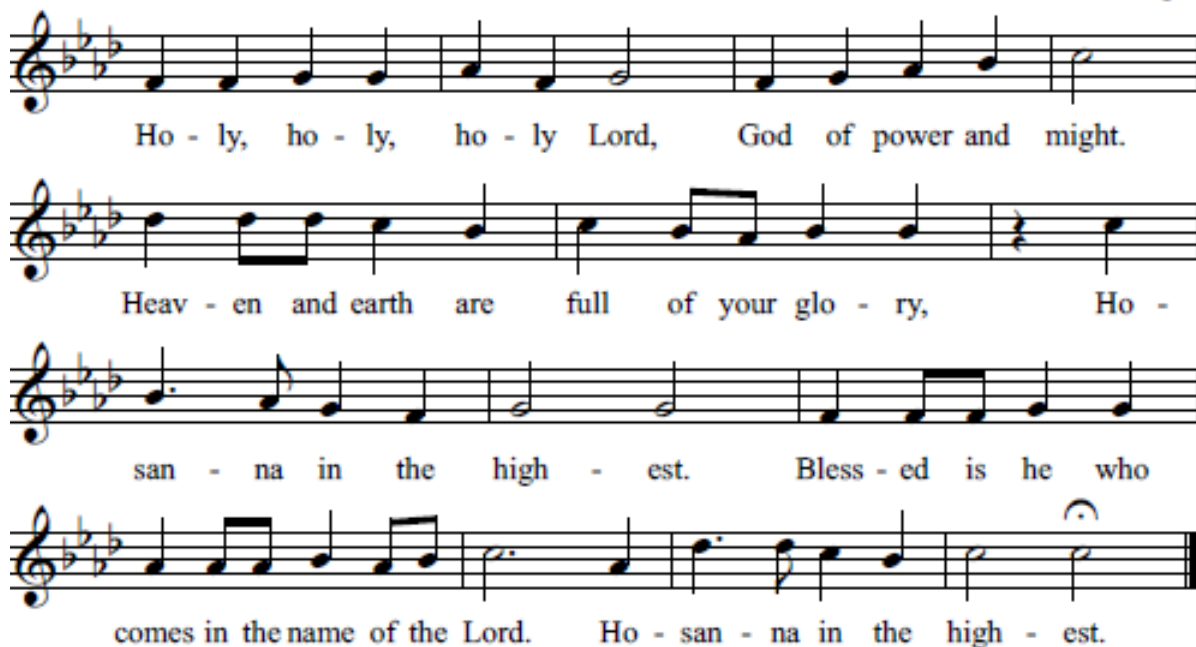
(The Celebrant continues with the prayer for the season;)

..... *and all the company of heaven*

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Great Thanksgiving Setting D, TUMH pp.23-24 Sanctus

Carlton R. Young



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

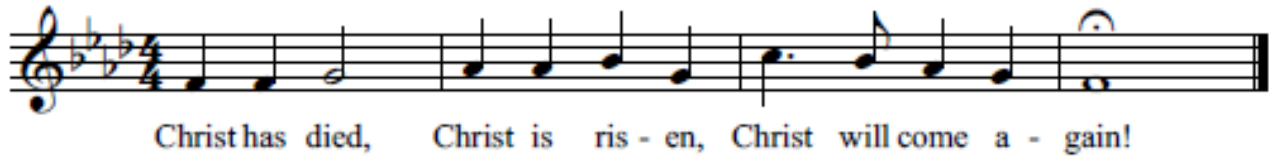
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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..... *in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.....*

Memorial Acclamation

Carlton R. Young

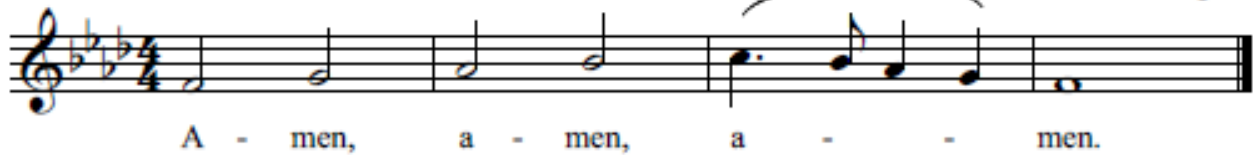


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..... all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

The Great Amen

Carlton R. Young



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The Lord's Prayer

(UMH p. 895)

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Prayer Following Communion:

Eternal God,

**we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.**

**Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

† HYMN OF DEDICATION

The Kingdom of God



1. The king - dom of God is jus - tice and joy;
2. The king - dom of God is mer - cy and grace;
3. The king - dom of God is chal - lenge and choice:
4. God's king - dom is come, the gift and the goal;



For Je - sus re - stores what sin would de - stroy.
The cap - tives are freed, the sin - ners find place,
Be - lieve the good news, re - pent and re - joice!
In Je - sus be - gun, in heav - en made whole.



God's pow - er and glo - ry in Je - sus we know;
The out - cast are wel - comed God's ban - quet to share;
God's love for us sin - ners brought Christ to his cross:
The heirs of the king - dom shall an - swer his call;



And here and here - af - ter the king - dom shall grow.
And hope is a - wak - ened in place of de - spair.
Our cri - sis of judge - ment for gain or for loss.
And all things cry "Glo - ry!" to God all in all.

Text: Bryn A. Rees, 1911-1983, © Mrs. Olwen Scott
Tune: LAUDATE DOMINUM, 10 10 11 11; Charles H. H. Parry, 1848-1918

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*Benediction

Voluntary

Assisting with Worship today:

Liturgist:

Kristen Sturtevant

Video and Sound Engineer

Brogan Meehan

Cover Art: Created by FUMC Staff

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***Worship elements by Steve Garnaas-Holmes at unfoldinglight.com & Ho Soon Han

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Looking Ahead

Readings for February 8, 2026
Fourth Sunday after The Epiphany
[Isaiah 58:1-12](#) / [Psalm 112: 1-10](#)
[1 Corinthians 2:1-16](#) / [Matthew 5:13-20](#)



First United Methodist Church

"Feed the Need"

Putting Our Faith into Motion
By Feeding the Body, Mind, and Soul

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