

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do you believe in God the Source, the fountain of life?

I believe in God.

Do you believe in Christ the Servant, embodied in Jesus of Nazareth and in the church?

I believe in Christ.

Do you believe in the Spirit the Guide, the liberating wellspring of life?

I believe in the Spirit.

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES, PARENTS, & GODPARENTS:

Rev. Abby Gackenheimer

Pastor to Candidates:

Do you, *Kellan*, desire to be baptized today? If so please say, "I do". **Kellan: "I do"**

Do you, *Ryder*, desire to be baptized today? If so please say, "I do". **Ryder: "I do"**

Pastor to Parents: Do you desire to have your children baptized into this Christian community? If so please say, "we do". **Parents: "we do"**

Pastor to Candidates:

Do you, *Kellan*, believe in God and in Jesus, God's son? If so please say, "I do". **"I do"**

Do you, *Ryder*, believe in God and in Jesus, God's son? If so please say, "I do". **"I do"**

Pastor to Parents and Godparents: DeAnna, Ryan, Nick, and Lauren - Will you encourage *Kellan and Ryder* to learn from the wisdom of the prophets; doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with their God? If so please say, "we will" **All: "we will"**

Pastor to Candidates:

Will you, *Kellan*, follow the ways of Jesus who taught us how to love and serve our neighbors? If so please say, I will" **"I will"**

Will you, *Ryder*, follow the ways of Jesus who taught us how to love and serve our neighbors? If so please say, I will" **"I will"**

Pastor to Parents and Godparents: DeAnna, Ryan, Nick, and Lauren - Will each of you take on the responsibility for seeing that *Kellan and Ryder* are brought up in the Christian faith, loving and serving their neighbors and understanding Jesus as a guide to how God would have us live? If so please say, "we will" **All: "we will"**

Pastor to Candidates:

Will you, *Kellan*, continue to explore your faith, as you ask questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and how to be a faithful follower of Jesus? If so please say, I will" - **"I will"**

Will you, *Ryder*, continue to explore your faith, as you ask questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and how to be a faithful follower of Jesus? If so please say, I will" - **"I will"**

Pastor to the Parents and Godparents: DeAnna, Ryan, Nick, and Lauren - Will you teach *Kellan and Ryder* to honor the faith questions that belong to them throughout their life? If so please say, "we will" **All: "we will"**

Pastor to Parents and Godparents: DeAnna, Ryan, Nick, and Lauren - Will you continue to join with *Kellan and Ryder* as they journey to discover the wonder of God's love made manifest here this day? If so please say, "we will" **All: "we will".."**

Pastor to the Candidates:

Kellan and Ryder, do you promise, to help to share God's love broadly? If so, please say "we promise, with the help of God." **"we promise, with the help of God."**

CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

Chris Smith, Deacon

Jesus calls us to welcome children into the full life of our community, opening our table and hearts to those most vulnerable, offering the wisdom of the ages to all who hunger for truth. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to *Kellan and Ryder* who are being baptized today, as they live and grow in this Christian community?

Congregation: *We promise our love support and care.*

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

Rev. Abby Gackenhaimer

We thank you, God, for the gift of creation made known to us in water and word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters....

ACT OF BAPTISM

Rev. Abby Gackenhaimer

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Chris Smith, Deacon

God of wonder and grace, we thank you for your love revealed here as this community, these children, their parents, and their godparents come together making covenant promises. We pray that this community will have the grace to uphold the promises made here this day, providing a safe shelter of your love in which these beloved children of God may grow and play. We pray that these parents, DeAnna and Ryan, may continue to feel the sweet wonder of your presence so transparent here today. We pray that Kellan and Ryder will bask in your love as they each make their own journey through this life. In your love we pray. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Rev. Abby Gackenhaimer

***Hymn**

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

New Century Hymnal #325

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Scripture

Matthew 19:13-15; Deuteronomy 24:17-22

Fran Kelly

***Hymn**

"Spirit of the Living God"

New Century Hymnal #283

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Sermon *The Good News is... protection and care for the vulnerable* **Rev. Abby Gackenhaimer**

Music of Reflection

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

Prayer Response

***"The Lord is My Song"* by Taizé Community**

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Call to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology** *Pilgrim Hymnal #515* **[alternative words]*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him [God], all creatures here below
Praise Him [God] above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father [Creator], Son [Christ], and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

God, we offer you these gifts, and pray that you would take this offering and turn it into ministry. Use these gifts to transform the world we live in to better reflect the home you have envisioned for us—a home of peace, a home built on the foundation of love. Gratefully we pray, amen.

***Hymn**

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

New Century Hymnal #82

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Benediction

Benediction Response ***“Raise a Song of Gladness”*** *by Taizé Community*

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Postlude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

*Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13**Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.*

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
 2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
 3 You are giv - ing and for-giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blessed,
 4 Mor-tals, join the might-y cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open-ing to the sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 Bound-less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
 Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, teach us what our praise should be.
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri-umph song of life.

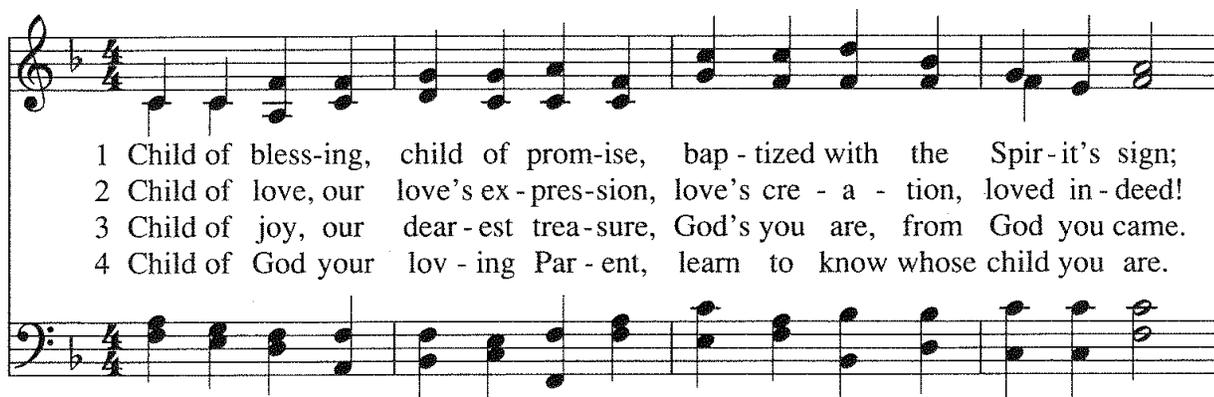
Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this hymn with Beethoven's ninth symphony, but few are aware of the original poem by the German classicist F. Schiller (1759–1805) that inspired Beethoven.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
 Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
 Adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

325

Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1981



1 Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap - tized with the Spir-it's sign;
 2 Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre - a - tion, loved in-deed!
 3 Child of joy, our dear-est trea-sure, God's you are, from God you came.
 4 Child of God your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.



With this wa - ter God has sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
 Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
 Back to God we hum-bly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.
 Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

Ronald Cole-Turner, a teacher of theology, is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. He is an award-winning author on the interface of science and religion.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
Attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660–1716), in Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715

Spirit of the Living God

283

Daniel Iverson, 1926

Acts 11:15; 2 Cor. 3:1-6; Gal. 5:25

F Gm D Gm F Dm C F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me;

F Gm D Gm F Bb/C C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Bb F G7 C

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

F Gm D Gm F Dm C7 F

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Presbyterian minister Daniel Iverson was inspired to write this chorus one evening while attending revival services led by the George T. Stephens Evangelistic Party in Orlando, Florida, in 1926. It became widely popular at similar meetings before it was published several years later.

Tune: IVERSON 7.5.7.5.8.7.5.
Daniel Iverson, 1926

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983, 1990; alt.

1 Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone;
2 Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me;

Wak - ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own;
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis-mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er,
Here my Spir - it's pow-er filled you, here with ten - der com-fort stilled you;

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own.
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free.

For marriage services, this stanza may be sung between stanzas 1 and 2 above.

In this un-ion I have joined you hus-band and wife,
Now, my chil-dren, live to-geth-er as heirs of life:
Each the oth-er's glad-ness shar-ing,
each the oth-er's bur-dens bear-ing,
Now, my chil-dren, live to-geth-er as heirs of life.

American hymnwriter and translator Jaroslav Vajda crafted this benediction text as though God were "dismissing the congregation after worship, while drawing together a review of the events that transpired during the service." The wedding stanza was a later addition.

Tune: AR HYD Y NOS 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4.
Traditional Welsh melody

For another harmonization, see 425