

**Sunday, May 4, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

“Lift Up Your Light” by Mary MacDonald

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Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 30)

Sing praises to God, all you faithful ones

God hears us in our fear and our sorrow

Where there was no way

God leads us in a new way

Where there was no mercy

God surprises us with fresh mercy

Where there was weeping

God invites us to step into a new dance.

***Hymn**

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

New Century Hymnal #27

Contributors: Isaac Watt, 1719s; harm: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 © public domain.

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, You meet us where we are — on the shore, in the everyday, in our doubt and our labor. Open our hearts as You opened the eyes of the disciples, that we may recognize You in the ordinary. Speak through the mystery of this text, through the Spirit that stirs within us. Let Your Word call us again, from failure to forgiveness, from silence to calling, from fear to love. May we hear Your voice, and may we respond— with trust, with courage, and with joy. In the name of the risen Christ, Amen.

Anthem

“One Bread, One Body” by John B. Foley

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Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

We celebrate this holy meal because Jesus’ ministry happened around tables: tables where the unwelcome were invited in, where the powerful were taught and humbled, where the hungry were fed and the thirst were given something to drink. In these meals God’s saving presence was revealed and made real, and a new form of community was given birth. **We come to this table to meet Jesus, made known in the breaking of the bread.**

God be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, we give thanks for your presence made known through your creation. We are thankful that it was your words, borne on your very breath...

.... We give thanks for the gifts of this table, the bounty of your beautiful earth, for it is here that all gathered, filled with good things to eat, and sent into your world to proclaim *shalom*. **Holy, holy God of love, the whole creation speaks of your glory.**

Words of Remembering

Prayer of Consecration

Come, Holy Spirit and bless these earth-born gifts of bread and fruit. Bless us as we receive them that we might be made ready to feed your sheep, to return flourishing to the land, to heal the lame and blind and deaf, to unstop the mouths of the mute for your praise. Make us faithful in all thing to which you have called us. **In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, God. We give thanks that you have called us to serve your world and your people.**

Sharing of the Elements

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you God because you have invited us to this table. Here we are strengthened for the task ahead of us: the loving of the world. Here we receive all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith. Help us love one another and your creation more. Teach us to pray, share, sing, teach, feed, heal, call, and welcome as you have done to us. Make our lives a form of praise for your love shown to us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture

Luke 21:19-31

Allison Cacace

*Hymn

"Listen to Your Savior Call"

New Century Hymnal #250

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Sermon

"Do you love me?"

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

"To My Humble Supplication" *Genevan Psalter*

Contributors: Joseph Bryan 1620; Genevan Psalter 1543 © Public Domain

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**

“The Summons”

please see insert

Contributors: John Bell. Tune: Arr. by John L. Bell; © 1987, WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, © 1987, WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #739919-A. All rights reserved

Benediction

Benediction Response *“To Him Who Sits Upon the Throne”* attr. Jeremiah Clarke

Contributors: Isaac Watts; Tune attr. Jeremiah Clarke © Public Domain

Postlude

From All That Dwell below the Skies

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 117

Unison

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let the Cre - a-tor's praise a -
 2 E - ter-nal are your mer-cies, God; your truth stands ev - er high and

(Harmony) *(Unison)*

rise; Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Let the Re - deem - er's name be
 broad: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Your praise shall sound from shore to

(Harmony)

sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
 shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

(Unison)

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

Isaac Watts, author of more than 600 hymns, paraphrased the two verses of Psalm 117 into this two-stanza hymn, which was included in his *Psalms of David*, 1719. The tune originated in a German Catholic hymnal.

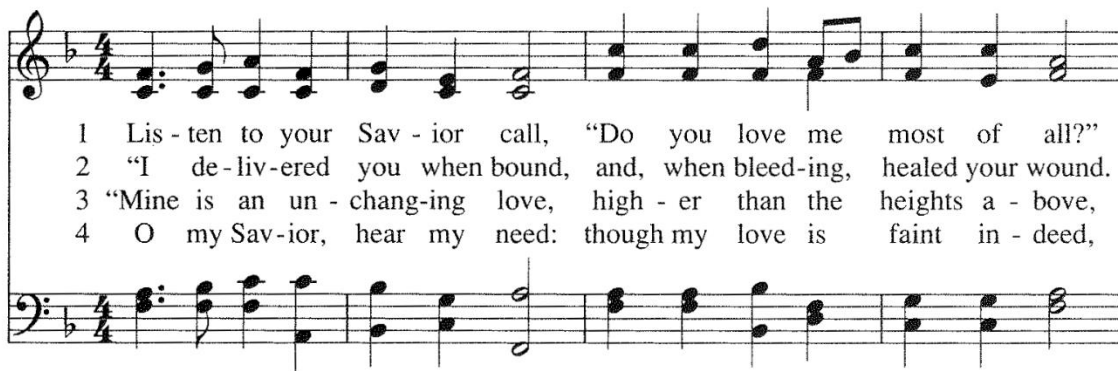
Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN
 8.8.4.4.8.8. with alleluias
Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623
 Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Listen to Your Savior Call


250

William Cowper, 1768; alt.

John 21:15-16



1 Lis - ten to your Sav - ior call, "Do you love me most of all?"
2 "I de - liv - ered you when bound, and, when bleed - ing, healed your wound.
3 "Mine is an un - chang - ing love, high - er than the heights a - bove,
4 O my Sav - ior, hear my need: though my love is faint in - deed,

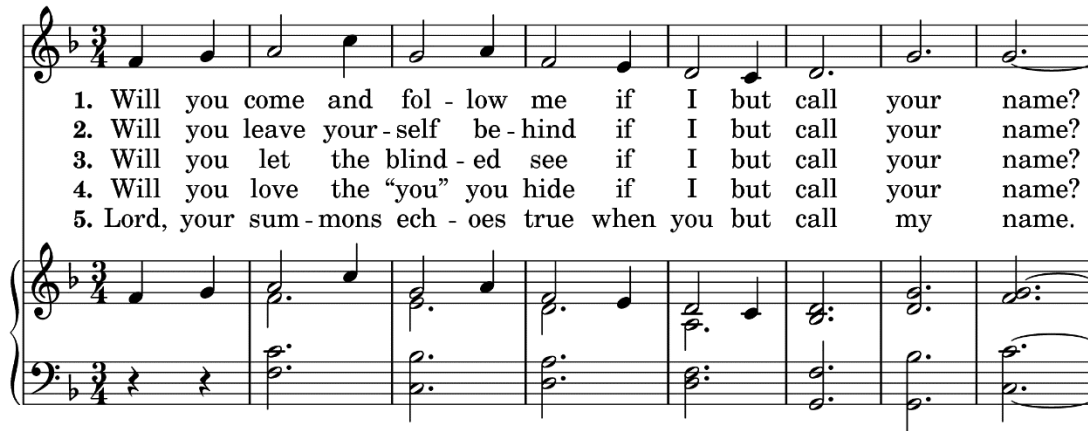


Je - sus speaks, and speaks to you: "Love me as I first loved you."
Sought you wan - dering, set you right, for your path - way gave you light."
Deep - er than the depths be - neath, free and faith - ful, strong as death."
Still I love you and a - dore— oh, for grace to love you more!

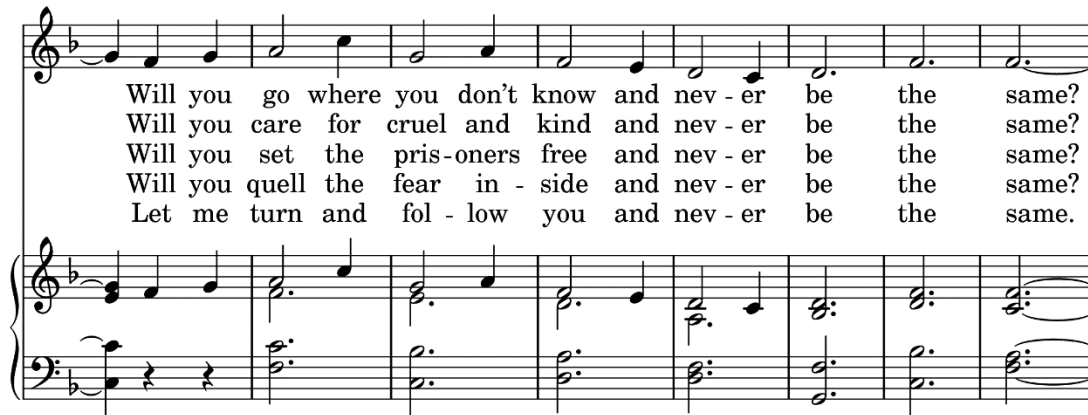
William Cowper was trained as a barrister. He suffered from severe depression, but during a time of wellness he wrote this hymn based on John 21:15—a dialogue between Jesus and the individual.

Tune: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS 7.7.7.7.
French melody, early 13th century
Arr. Richard Redhead, 1853

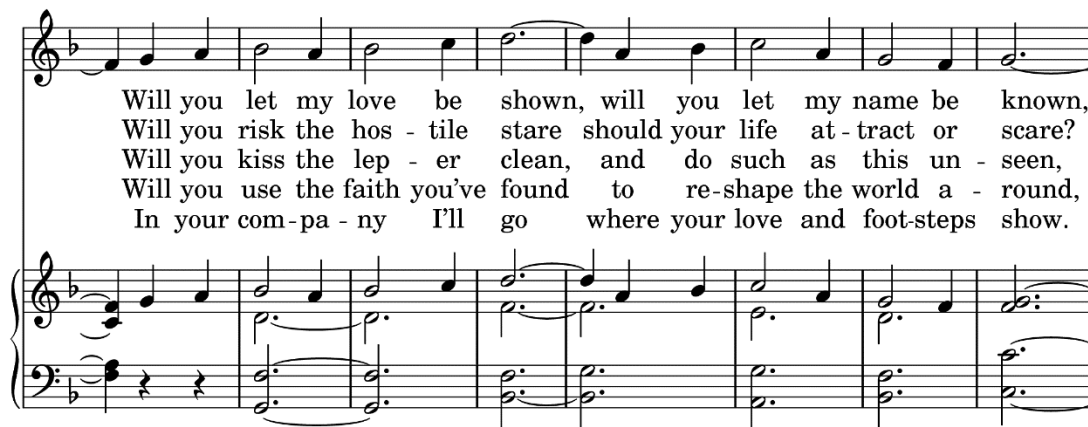
The Summons



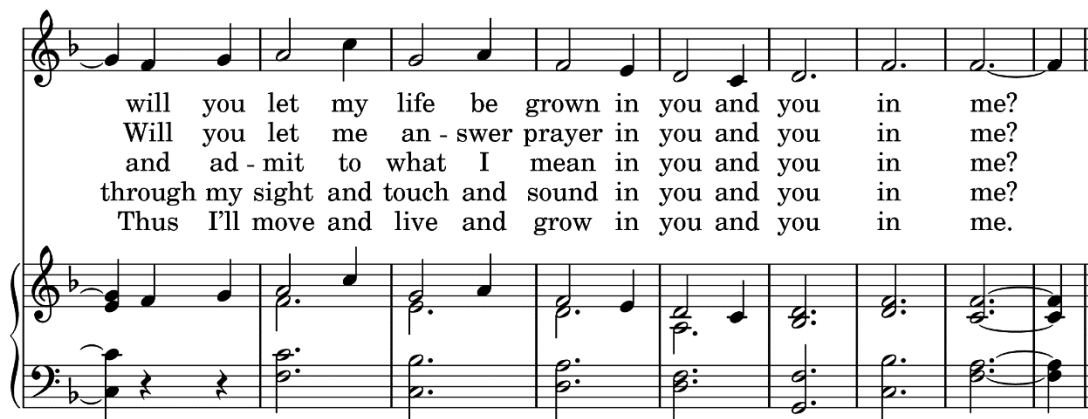
1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2. Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

