

## We Gather as the People of God

‡Musical Call to Worship      *God So Loved the World*      arr. Whitworth

‡Greeting, Announcements, and Invitation to Discipleship

Introit      *Lord, We Adore and Bless You*      Dubois

\*‡Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus said, "When I am lifted up, I will draw all people to myself."

**People: Blessed be the God of our salvation who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

\*‡Hymn No. 69      *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*      HERE I AM (Schutte)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*(Let us pray with one voice.)*

**Redeeming God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, and have not loved our neighbors as we ought; we have strayed from your commandments.**

**Do not remember our sins, but forgive our iniquities, that we may fix our eyes on you and sin no more, through Christ our Lord. Amen**

*(Moment for Silent Prayer)*

Kyrie 555      *O Lamb of God*      LAND OF REST

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us, Lamb of God,  
and grant us your peace.**

Assurance of Pardon

\*‡Exchange of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Greet one another in the peace of Christ.

\*‡Response Hymn No. 625      *O Lord My God*      HOW GREAT THOU ART  
(verse 4)

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy will fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, "My God. How great thou art!"**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

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## We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

# 69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

## Here I Am, Lord

*Leader or All* G Am D G C G D

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Refrain All* G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.

Anthem

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
(Words printed on the back of the bulletin.)

Martin

New Testament Reading

John 12:20-33

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*How Can Jesus Be Prophet, Priest, and King?*

Rev. Dr. Steven M. Marsh

\*Hymn No. 718

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

BOURBON

## **We Respond to God's Word**

\*Affirmation of Faith

(from *The Larger Catechism*)

Q. What is God?

**A. God is a Spirit, in and of himself infinite in being, glory, blessedness, and perfection; all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, everywhere present, almighty, knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.**

Q. Are there more Gods than one?

**A. There is but one only, the living and true God.**

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

**A. There be three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one true, eternal God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory; although distinguished by their personal properties.**

Q. What are the personal properties of the three persons in the Godhead?

**A. It is proper to the Father to beget the Son, and to the Son to be begotten of the Father, and to the Holy Ghost to proceed from the Father and the Son from all eternity.**

Joys and Concerns of the People

**Joy:** First Presbyterian Church, Freeport

**Ministry:** Interim Journey Town Hall Meeting #1

**Care and Comfort:** Patricia Benjamin, Beth, Larry Cracraft, Hillary Holstad, George Marsh, Gloria Rose, Karen Wagner

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

(Traditional)

**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.**

Offertory Sentence

Offertory

*Were You There?*

arr. Sherman

\*Doxology

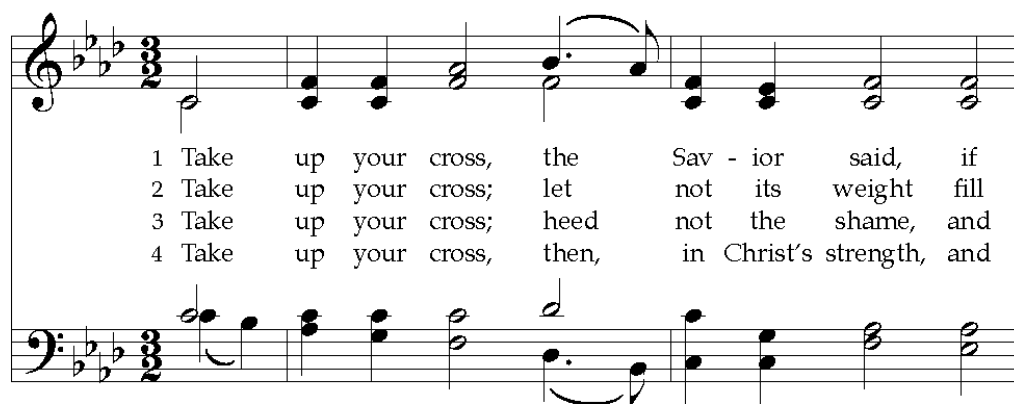
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Let us pray with one voice.)

**Merciful God, we thank you for your wonderful works among humankind. Accept this offering with the dedication of our lives and help us be for the world an emblem of your steadfast love, in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

# Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718



1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if  
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill  
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and  
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and



you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with  
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your  
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -  
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -



will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.  
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.  
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.  
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

# We Are Sent as God's Servants into the World

\*Hymn No. 171

*A Sower Came from Ancient Hills*

SEACHRIST

\*Charge and Blessing

Leader:

Amen.

**People:**

**Amen.**

The Postlude

*Beach Spring*

arr. McKibben

*\*(Please rise in body or in spirit.)*

‡(Time to seat those who arrive after the start of the service)

The flowers this morning are given by Strom Sloan in memory of Jim Sloan for his birthday.

## Leading and Serving in Worship Today

Rev. Dr. Steven M. Marsh, Interim Pastor

Jasper Lesage, Liturgist

Tyler Morris, Director of Chancel Choir

Bryce Mulkey, Bell Choir Director

Kelsey Wise, Organist

Chancel Choir

Bell Choir

Charlene Randle, Reader

## Worship Notes

As is our annual custom, we visually mark our progress through Lent with black drapes progressively covering our stained-glass windows. Each week more of the windows are hidden until on Good Friday they will be entirely covered. On Easter morning we remove the drapes and rejoice in the warmth and light that are restored to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### ***Lord, We Adore and Bless You*** (Introit)

by Theodore Dubois

Lord, we adore and bless you.

Hear us, O Lord, as we praise you.

Lord on the holy cross you save us,

King of all salvation.

Lord, we adore and bless you.

### ***When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*** (Anthem)

by Gilbert Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the prince of glory died,  
My richest gain, I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it Lord, that guy should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
Sorrow and love, flow, mangled down!  
Did ever search love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present for two small;  
Love, so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Amen!

## 171 A Sower Came from Ancient Hills



1 A Sow - er came from an - cient hills and cast good  
 2 A Sow - er walked through - out the land and, ev - ery -  
 3 The Seed was bur - ied deep in death be - neath a  
 4 O Christ, you come a - mong us still, the Sow - er



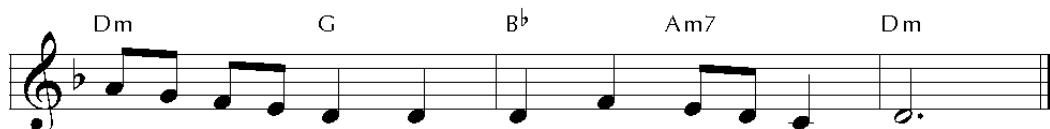
seed a - broad: his field, ten thou-sand hu - man hearts; his  
 where he trod, he sowed his life be - cause he was him-  
 blood-red sky, and deep - er still was bur - ied hope for  
 and the Seed. As once you sowed the truth of God in



seed, the word of God. And some who lis - tened would not  
 self the Seed of God. But then, a - top a bar - ren  
 those who watched him die. But then, in Jo - seph's gar - den  
 glow - ing word and deed, im - plant your Word in wait - ing



hear, and some who heard for - got. But some re - ceived in  
 hill, be - neath a dark - ening sky, they threw God's Seed on  
 fair, as dawn broke o'er the land, the Seed, from three days'  
 hearts, and let it there take hold, un - til it bears in



fer - tile soil the truth the Sow - er taught.  
 ston - y ground and left it there to die.  
 si - lent sleep, a - woke at God's com - mand!  
 fruit - ful lives a har - vest hun - dred - fold.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

All three synoptic gospels record both the telling and the explanation of Jesus' parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3-8, 18-23/ Mark 4:3-8, 14-20/ Luke 8:5-8, 11-15). Because the seed equals "the word," Jesus (as the Word made flesh) becomes the Seed in this expansion of the parable.