

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1817

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

Order of Worship

23 January 2022

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Prayer of Preparation

God of life, death, and resurrection, we are grateful for life and all its gifts. Increase in us the stuff that life is made of— faith, hope, and love, but especially love—that we may abide with you eternally through Jesus Christ, our lord. Amen.

Welcome

The Chiming of the Trinity

Introit

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

Havergal/Schumann

Call to Worship

Anthem

In the Bleak Midwinter

Rossetti/Holst

Confession

God, our Deliverer, we confess that we are too reluctant to speak and to live according to your truth. We grow comfortable with the way things are, passively condoning injustice. We see ourselves as “insiders,” excluding those we consider “outsiders.” We find it easier to pluck up and pull down, to destroy and overthrow, than to build and to plant. Forgive us, O God, for being timid disciples. Empty us of fear and shame, and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind. We pray this in the name of the One who humbled himself, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

We pause for a time of silent confession

In your name, we pray. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Summary of the Law

Matthew 22:37-39

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson

Jeremiah 1:4-10

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray

Affirmation of Faith

from The Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1

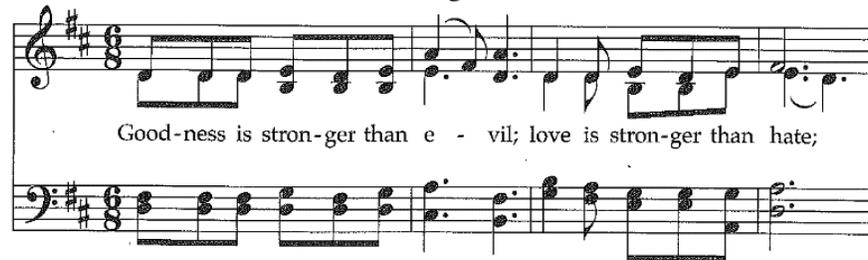
What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Hymn 750

Goodness is Stronger than Evil

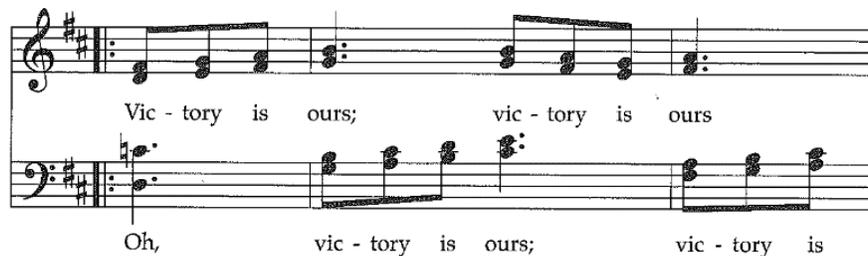
Desmond Tutu/John L. Bell



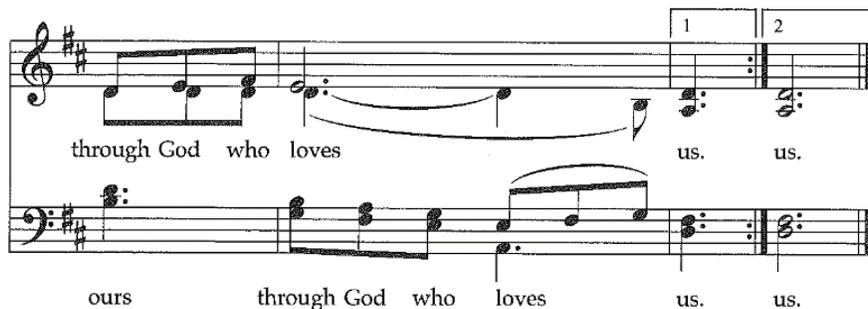
Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.



Vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is ours
Oh, vic - tory is ours; vic - tory is



through God who loves us. us.
ours through God who loves us. us. us.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: Betsy Conzelman, Beth Foley, Mildred Moore Lopez, Pat K. Rowlett

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