



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

Sunday, January 28, 2024
Annual Meeting
10:00 A.M.

Prelude

They'll Know We Are Christians
Sanctuary Ringers

arr. Jeffrey Honore

***Call to Worship**

Adapted from *Liturgy of Creation*

Leader: In the beginning God created all things,

People: *and God saw that they were good.*

Leader: At our beginning, God created us

People: *unique and irreplaceable, known and treasured by God.*

Leader: In all our new beginnings, God creates something new

People: *so we will seek God in the freshness of each morning, in the laughter of friends, in the colors of creation, and in sacredness of every holy space.*

***Processional Hymn 634**

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Elder Bob Eager

Call to Confession

*Indicates that the congregation will please rise, in body or in spirit.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Hymn 581**

Glory Be to the Father GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

*Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

Message For All God's Children

The Reverend Thomas A. Brown

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson from the Hebrew Bible: Genesis 1:1-5

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Anthem

"2. In the beginning" from *The Creation (Die Schöpfung)*

Chancel Choir

Franz Joseph Haydn

Lesson from the Gospels: John 1:1-5

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Sermon "Chaos and Light"

The Reverend Thomas A. Brown

***Hymn 308**

O God in Whom All Life Begins

NOEL

***Affirmation of Faith** (in unison)

from *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer "debts . . . debtors"

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.

Minute for Mission

Alpha Course

Elder Sarah Murchison

Call to Offering

Offertory

Teach Me, O Lord
Chancel Choir

Philip Stopford

***Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn 850**

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction Hymn 600**

Amen

AMEN

*Amen, amen.
Amen, amen, amen.*

Postlude

To God Be the Glory
Sandy Batten, *piano*

arr. Amy Potter

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Today's worship leaders are Associate Pastor Thomas A. Brown
and Elder Bob Eager.

Our ushers this morning are Doug Haislip and Doug Magill.

Special thanks to Nathan Brown, Gage Johnson, and Lynn Apolinaro
for their technical assistance today.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: January 29 – February 3

Monday

6:30 pm Boy Scouts, Mulford Hall

Tuesday

10:00 am Staff Meeting, Halldorson Hall

12:00 pm Staff Luncheon with Personnel

Wednesday

6:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting,
Staff Conference Room

7:00 pm Christian Education Mtg., Zoom

Thursday

6:00 pm Sanctuary Ringers, Sanctuary

7:15 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday

6:00 pm Fellowship Drop-In Event

Untied Brewing Co.

New Providence

6:30 pm Cub Scouts, Mulford Hall

NEXT SUNDAY, February 4, 2024

The Sacrament of Communion

Ordination and Installation of New Officers

10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary; Nursery Care, A-9

10:15 am Church School & Breakfast Club

11:00 am Coffee and Fellowship, Mulford Hall

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

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634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

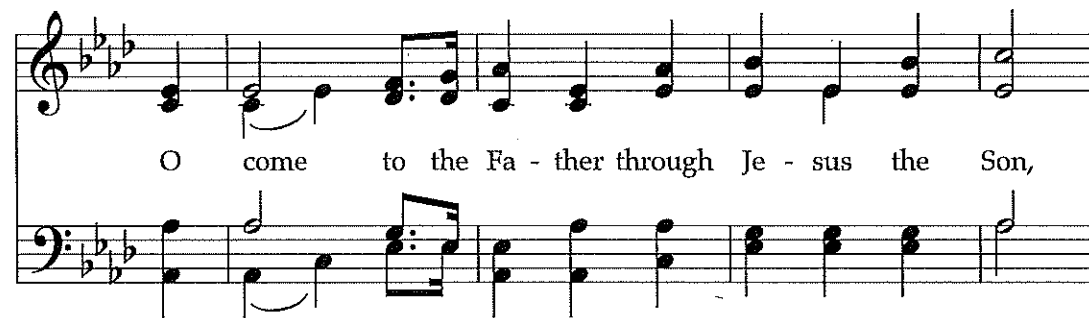
Refrain



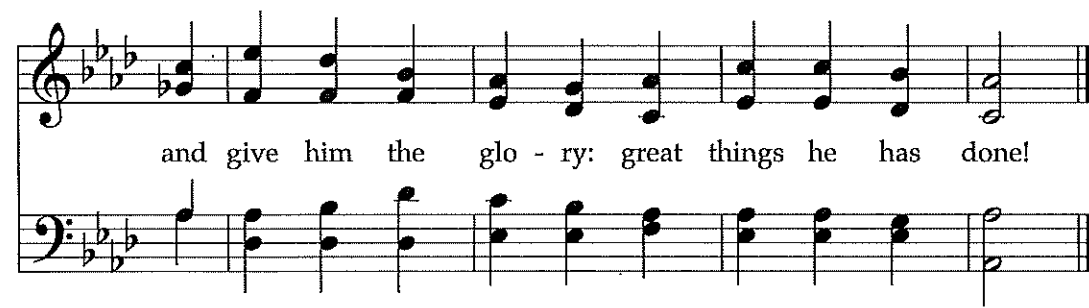
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

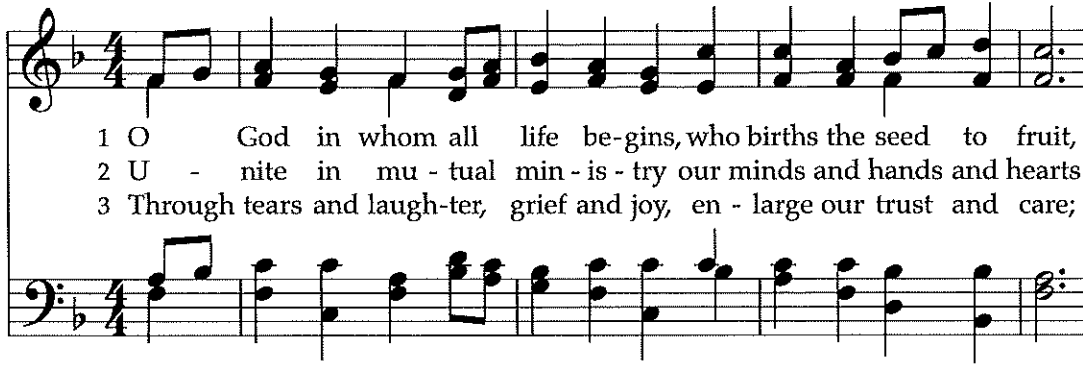


O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,

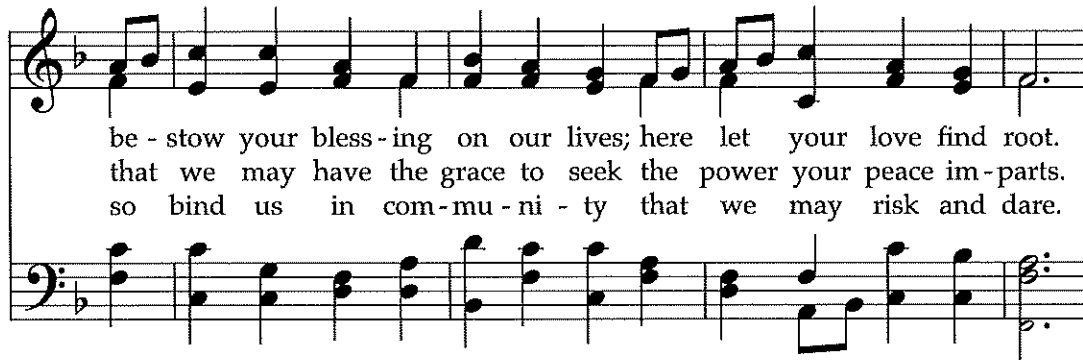


and give him the glory: great things he has done!

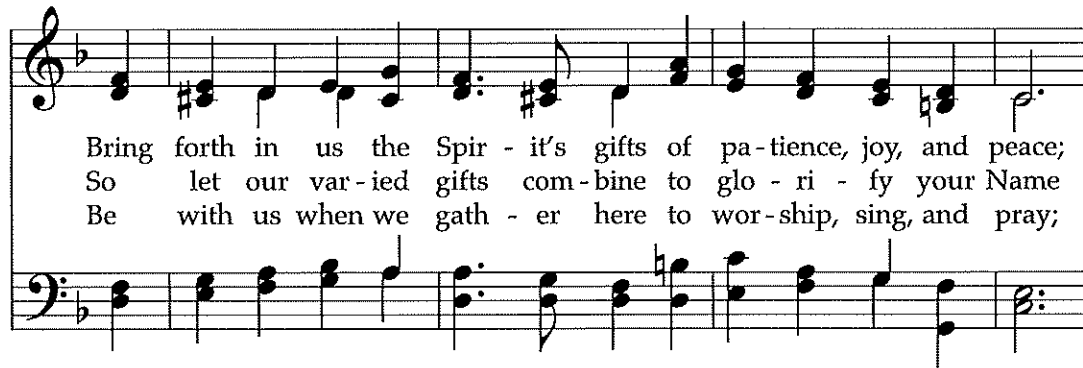
O God in Whom All Life Begins 308



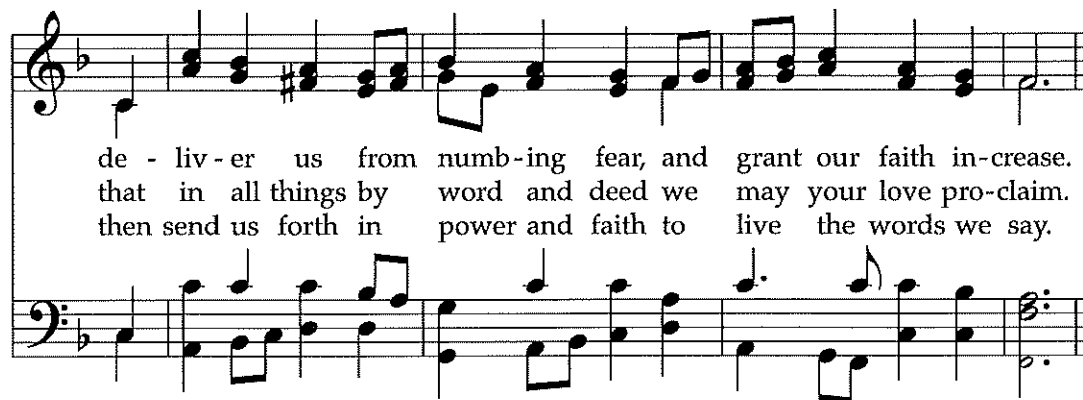
1 O God in whom all life be-gins, who births the seed to fruit,
2 U - nite in mu - tual min - is - try our minds and hands and hearts
3 Through tears and laugh-ter, grief and joy, en - large our trust and care;



be - stow your bless - ing on our lives; here let your love find root.
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace im - parts.
so bind us in com - mu - ni - ty that we may risk and dare.



Bring forth in us the Spir - it's gifts of pa - tience, joy, and peace;
So let our var - ied gifts com - bine to glo - ri - fy your Name
Be with us when we gath - er here to wor - ship, sing, and pray;



de - liv - er us from numb - ing fear, and grant our faith in - crease.
that in all things by word and deed we may your love pro - claim.
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshiping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

850 In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness



1 In a deep, un-bound-ed dark-ness, long be-fore the first
 2 Though our world is ev-er-chang-ing, you are con-stant, firm,
 3 Joy trans-forms our lips to boast-ing on-ly in your match-
 4 God of Ha-rah, God of Sa-rah, God of no-mad A-



light shone, you, O God, be-yond all mer-it worked a
 and sure, faith-ful to your cov-enant prom-ise. Trust-ing
 less grace, send-ing Christ to dwell a-mong us, Word made
 bra-ham; God of Mir-yam, God of Mo-ses, Fi-ery



won-der faith makes known: in your mer-cy, in your
 you, we live, se-secure: sing-ing prais-es, sing-ing
 flesh in time and space: Friend and Sav-ior, Friend and
 Pil-lar, great I AM: lead us home-ward, lead us



mer-cy, you em-braced us as your own,
 prais-es, long as heart and breath en-dure,
 Sav-ior, in whose life we glimpse your face,
 home-ward, to the love-feast of the Lamb,



ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

Setting this translation of a Chinese hymn to Western plainsong enhances the universal context of the opening stanza. The familiar pattern of creation, covenant, and incarnation in the first three stanzas leads to a far-reaching final stanza that looks both backward and forward.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 28, 2024

We are delighted you've chosen to worship with us today. Please let an usher or minister know if we can assist you in any way. Our Sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop system for those with hearing difficulties.

TODAY AT CHURCH

- 10:00 am** **Worship, Sanctuary; Nursery Care, A-9**
- 10:15 am** **Extended Church School & Breakfast Club**
- 11:00 am** **Annual Meeting & Winter Breakfast, Mulford Hall**



CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of our mothers and grandmothers Irene Bryniarski and Jane Ogsbury, by Susan Keating.

ANNUAL MEETING AND WINTER BREAKFAST: Today

Please join us this morning for our Winter Breakfast and the Annual Meeting in Mulford Hall following worship. Your attendance is important as we vote on Nominating Committee recommendations for Elders and Deacons, the Terms of Call for the Associate Pastor, and the approval of By-Laws as amended. We'll also review the 2024 Budget as approved by the Session and the Annual Financial Reports from 2023.

FELLOWSHIP DROP-IN EVENT

Friday, February 2, 6:00 pm at Untied Brewing Company in New Providence

Start off the New Year spending a casual evening with PCCT friends. This will be a "drop-in" event - no RSVP required. BYOF (Bring Your Own Food. Outside alcohol not permitted.) Friends are invited! For questions, contact Rob Eisenhardt at rob.eisenhardt@gmail.com. The brewing company is located at 140 Spring Street Unit C in New Providence.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

Sunday, February 4

The Ordination and Installation Service will take place on Sunday, February 4 during worship. Please join us as we welcome our new elders and deacons into the ministry of the church.

USHER CAPTAINS & USHERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few usher team captains and more ushers for 2024. Easy instructions are provided. Please contact Gloria Newson if you are interested or have any questions.

FLOWER MINISTRY

To place a dedication for 2024, you can sign up on the board in the Upper Lobby or on our website (click on the "News" tab). If you have any questions, please contact Gloria or call the church office at 973-635-2340.

SAVE THE DATE: Ash Wednesday Dinner and Worship

February 14, 6:30 pm, Mulford Hall

Join us for a time of fellowship and worship as we move into the season of Lent. A main entrée will be provided, with a kid-friendly option available. Please bring a salad, side-dish or dessert to share. A brief, reflective worship service with communion will follow the shared meal. RSVPs requested but not required. Please sign up in the weekly eblast or on our website.

ALPHA COURSE: Meeting on Thursday Evenings

February 15 - May 2

You are invited to join leaders from the Roman Catholic church in **the Alpha Course**, a dinner table conversation and class on Christian faith exploration. They meet at St. Vincent Martyr Church in Madison for dinner (free) on Thursdays at 6:30 pm with conversation and course materials ending at 8:15 pm. Please contact the church office for more information or you can go to the website at St. Vincent Martyr's Church at <https://svmnj.org/alpha> to register and learn more about the course.

VIRTUAL COMMENT BOX

We're glad that you are here worshipping with us! Please share your worship experience with us today and every time that you attend worship. You may submit feedback via the QR code at any time! Thank you.

Managed by the Worship & Music Committee

