



CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 7, 2025

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 139 & Jeremiah 18)

Tony Perrou

Leader: Like clay on a wheel

People: God forms us: shaping us, molding us, creating us.

Leader: And like moldable clay,

People: God continues to shape us in love.

Leader: Let us worship God.

* OPENING SONG

"Let the Praises Ring"

Lincoln Brewster

O Lord, my God, in You I put my trust. O Lord, my God, in You I put my hope.
O Lord, my God, in You I put my trust. O Lord, my God, in You I put my hope.
In You, in You I find my peace. In You, in You I find my strength.
In You I live and move and breathe
Let everything I say and do be founded by my faith in You
I lift up holy hands and sing, "Let the praises ring!"
O Lord, my God, to You I give my hands. O Lord, my God, to You I give my feet
O Lord, my God, to You I give my everything
O Lord, my God, to You I give my life
In You, in You I find my peace. In You, in You I find my strength.
In You I live and move and breathe
Let everything I say and do be founded by my faith in You
I lift up holy hands and sing, "Let the praises ring!"

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Tony Perrou

Leader: In the very beginning, God made us in God's own image. And yet, in the most common of human actions, we stray from God's pure intentions for us. Let us return to our Lord, acknowledging our mistakes both individually and as a community.

All: Creator God, you know us better than anyone else. You formed us in your own image. And yet, we sometimes stray from the gift you've given us. We keep people at a distance, letting systemic and personal barriers get in the way of relationships. Forgive us, Lord. Let us hear your call to change and do better. Empower us to ask for forgiveness from those whom we have wronged. Help us to think of you and those around us.

silence

Leader: Friends, the good news is this: God is not done with us. Our Creator is still forming and shaping us, forgiving us and allowing us to grow. Hear the Good News of the Gospel:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

"Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)"

No. 581
Glory to God

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the
Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now, and e - ver shall be, world with - out
end. A - men, A - men.

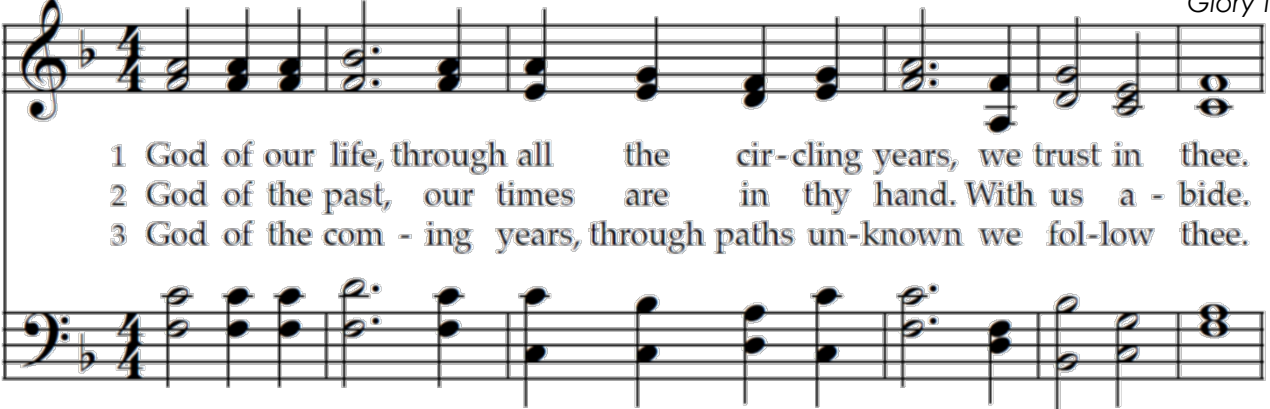
TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(All children are invited to the front of the church. Afterwards, they may return to their seats to participate in the remainder of worship and Communion.)

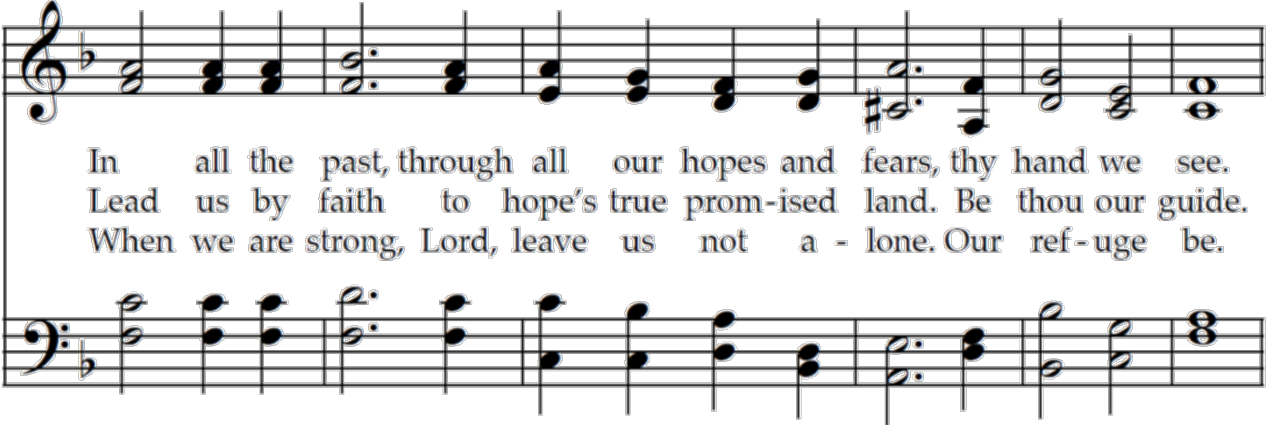
* HYMN

"God of Our Life"

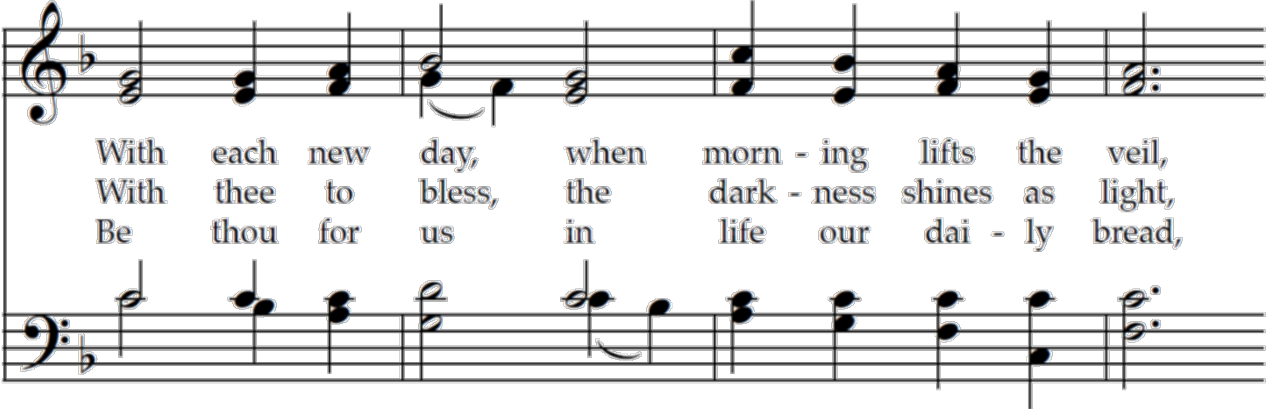
No. 686
Glory to God



1 God of our life, through all the cir-cle years, we trust in thee.
2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a - bide.
3 God of the com - ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.



In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.
Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone. Our ref-uge be.



With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,
With thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,
Be thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,



we own thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.
and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight.
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 14:25-33

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

SERMON

Grasping the Reality of Discipleship

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

* SONG

"In Our Midst"

Jenny DeVries

Lord, we take this bread.
We eat remembering you
Lord, we take this cup.
We drink remembering you
Every time we eat this bread,
Every time we drink this cup
You are here in our midst.
Lord, we take this bread.
We eat remembering you
Lord, we take this cup.
We drink remembering you
Every time we eat this bread,
Every time we drink this cup
You are here in our midst.
You said this is the new covenant.
This is the new covenant
Sealed with My blood,
Your sins are washed away
To let my love pour in
Lord, we take this bread.
We eat remembering you
Lord, we take this cup.
We drink remembering you
Every time we eat this bread,
Every time we drink this cup
You are here in our midst.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God. Your Spirit hovered over the waters and brought forth all creation. You breathed into us the breath of life and set us on the earth to praise and serve you. When we lost our way, you called us back, then sent your own Son to save us. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: When Jesus was at table with his disciples he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat. Whenever you do this, remember me. In the same way he took and poured the cup, saying: Take and drink. Whenever you do this, remember me. Now whenever we eat and drink at this table, we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection until he comes again. Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this cup from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

People: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of our risen Lord until he comes in glory.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

If you are worshipping via live stream, place a plate with bread or crackers and a cup with juice, wine, water, or other common beverage in your home worship space. Wherever you are, you are invited to partake of the bread and the cup.

If you are worshipping in person, please come down the center aisle to receive the communion elements. You can choose intinction (dipping the bread into the cup) from the servers nearest the center aisle or bread and individual cups from the servers nearest the outside aisles; partake and return to your seat using the side aisles. All communion bread is gluten free. Ushers will bring communion to the seats of those who cannot come forward.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and juice. Unite us with Christ and with all who trust in him, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

People: Amen.

OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

African American spiritual

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (based on Philemon 1)

Pastor: How often do we not appeal to others in love? The world around us is filled with hate, destruction, and war. Our country is divided by grudges held between neighbors and family. Lord, allow love to be at the center of our world instead of hate.

How often do we not appeal to others in love? We judge our neighbors who ask for help. We forget that you have formed us all, and as part of that formation, have connected us all to one another in your image. Help us remember that deep connection. Empower us to begin every interaction with love.

How often do we not appeal to others in love? Lord, let us remember that love includes self-love. We look in the mirror and think about what we want to change. We forget that you have created and formed us as sacred, and that your love is reflected in everything that we see as our imperfections. Let us be kind to ourselves, to our bodies, our minds, our spirits. Let us appeal to ourselves in love.

How often do we not appeal to others in love? Fill us with love that we may support those who are sick, who are dying, who are hurting. May we show up with radical compassion. May those we encounter feel the love we bring on behalf of your people. Let love bring peace and comfort.

God of love, hear our prayers. Continue to help us see your love, especially in the ups and downs of this time and place.

And now, let us pray as you have taught us to pray, saying:

All: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

If you would like to privately share a concern, thanksgiving, or request for healing, please come to the Stephen Ministry banner on the east wall of the Sanctuary immediately following the service for individual prayer with a Stephen Minister.

* CLOSING SONG

“Your Grace Is Enough”

Matt Maher

Great is Your faithfulness, Oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart
So remember Your people,
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, Oh God
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.
Great is your love and justice, God our maker
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of our salvation
And all Your people sing along
So remember Your people,
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, Oh God
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.
So remember Your people,
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, Oh God
Your grace is enough,
Heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me.
God, I see Your grace is enough.
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me, for me.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **"The Lord Whom We Love"**
Congregation may join hands

Kurt Kaiser

The Lord whom we love, whom we wor-ship and a -
dore, we will serve through - out this com-ing week. He it
is who binds us to - geth - er, and he it is who sends us a -
part, to be God's peo-ple, be God's peo-ple. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a congregational response. It consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time, written in a key with three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a half note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The second staff begins with a half note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a half note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a half note F#3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, a half note C3, and a quarter note B2. The third staff begins with a half note A2, a quarter note G2, a quarter note F#2, a half note E2, a quarter note D2, a quarter note C2, a half note B1, a quarter note A1, a quarter note G1, a half note F#1, a quarter note E1, a quarter note D1, a half note C1, and a quarter note B0. The fourth staff begins with a half note A1, a quarter note G1, a quarter note F#1, a half note E1, a quarter note D1, a quarter note C1, a half note B1, a quarter note A1, a quarter note G1, a half note F#1, a quarter note E1, a quarter note D1, a half note C1, and a quarter note B0.

* POSTLUDE

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Liturgy by Julie Burkley, © Presbyterian Outlook, 2025.

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Audio/Video: Bruce MacLean and Noor Bitar

Music Director: Keith Atwater

Piano: Gabe Bisho

Drums: Will Condrey

Vocalists: Karen Gray and Laura Leek

