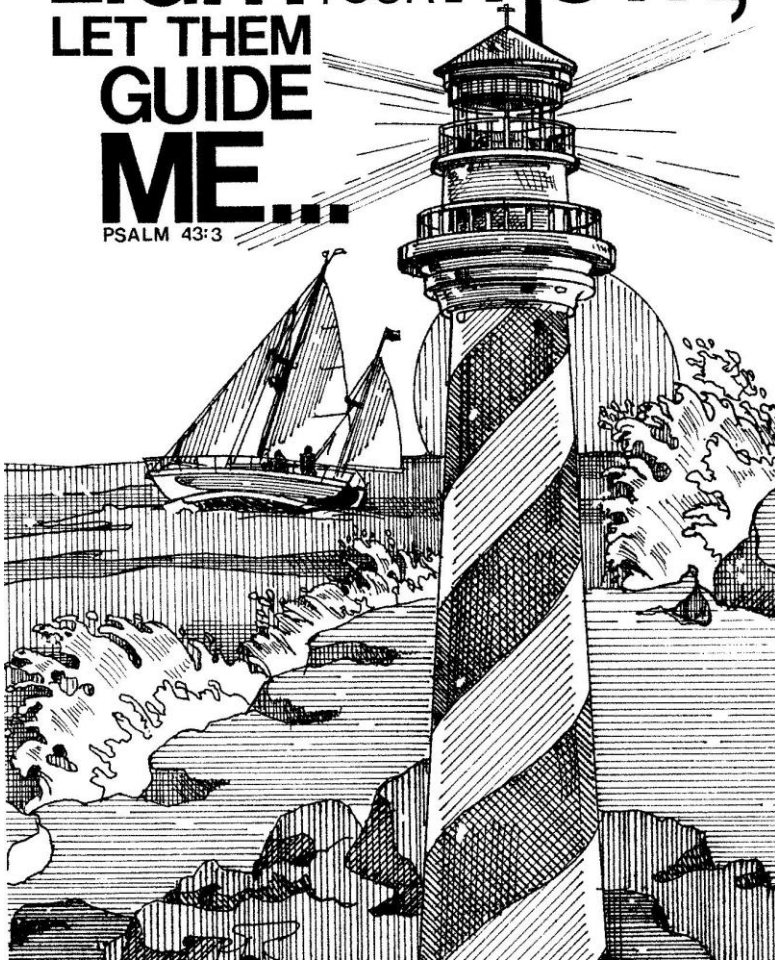


**SEND FORTH YOUR  
LIGHT AND YOUR TRUTH,  
LET THEM  
GUIDE  
ME...**

PSALM 43:3



**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:**

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!  
We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name  
and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us"  
rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks  
and placed in the offering plate.

**The Service for the Lord's Day  
Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
November 14, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.**

*\* Indicates congregation standing if able.  
Congregational responses indicated in bold.*

GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: With the faithful, as well as the foolish;  
with the voiceless, and those who talk too much:

**P: we gather to praise our God.**

L: With those who find it easy to follow,  
with those who stumble along the Way:

**P: we rejoice in Jesus, who makes us whole,  
and calls us sisters and brothers.**

L: With all who are heirs to the promises of grace,  
with all who share hope with others:

**P: we give thanks to the Spirit of peace,  
who cradles us in the arms of hope.**

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

O God, be present with us always, dwell within our hearts.

With your light and your Spirit guide our souls, our thoughts,  
and all our actions, that we may teach your Word,

that your healing power may be in us and in your church universal.  
Amen.

Hymn No. 816 “IF THOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE THEE”

TUNE: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

*If thou but trust in God to guide thee,  
with hope-ful heart through all thy ways,  
God will give strength, what-e'er betide thee,  
to bear thee through the e-vil days.  
Who trusts in God's un-chang-ing love  
builds on the rock that naught can move.*

*On-ly be still, and wait God's lei-sure  
in cheer-ful hope, with heart con-tent  
to take what-e'er thy Keep-er's plea-sure  
and all-dis-cern-ing love hath sent,  
No doubt our in-most wants are clear  
to One who holds us al-ways dear.*

*Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,  
But do thine own part faith-ful-ly.  
Trust the rich prom-is-es of grace;  
So shall they be ful-filled in thee.  
God nev-er yet for-sook at need  
the soul se-cured by trust in-deed.*

\* Call to Confession

Let us come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children.  
With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

\* Corporate Prayer of Confession

**We search for your light, God,  
but too often end up settling for the dimness of temptation.  
Our motives for seeking to find Christ are not always pure,  
for we expect him to fulfill our desires,  
rather than your hopes for us.**

**We want the gifts of wealth, health, success, fulfillment,  
rather than those of servanthood, of compassion, of peace.**

**Forgive us, Our Creator,  
for we are foolish to put our needs ahead of your grace.**

**Help us find hope, instead of a destination;  
to find grace, instead of gratitude;  
to find salvation, instead of a sign.**

**As we journey with your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,  
fill us with the light of your joy and love.**

\* Assurance of Pardon

Almighty whose very nature is steadfast love,  
has promised forgiveness of sins to all  
who with repentance and faith turn towards God's love:

May God have mercy on you;  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins;  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

\* Sung Response No. 635 "SING, PRAISE, AND BLESS THE LORD"

*Sing, praise, and bless the Lord. Sing, praise, and bless the Lord.*

*Peo-ples! Na-tions! Al-le-lu-ia!*

*Sing, praise, and bless the Lord. Sing, praise, and bless the Lord.*

*Peo-ples! Na-tions! Al-le-lu-ia!*

## THE WORD

### Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

Holy One, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul.  
Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding  
that our hearts and minds may be opened to hear your word. Amen

Readings from Holy Scripture

Wisdom Psalm 42 (*Longing for God and His Help In Distress*) Pg. 487

Psalm 43 (*Prayer to God in Time of Trouble*) Pg. 487

Sermon: "Hang On"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\*Affirmation of Faith

Written by Bruce Prewer

**I believe in an innovative God,  
who does not wait for us to find ourselves  
but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.**

**I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,  
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power  
to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.**

**I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,  
calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty  
and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.**

**I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,  
called to respect and support one another  
through joys and tribulations  
as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.**

**Because Christ has called me  
in this I truly believe. Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

The 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 sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Offering

With generosity of spirit, let us bring our gifts to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer;  
and grant that our whole lives may give you glory and praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## THE SENDING FORTH

Hymn No. 410 “GOD IS CALLING THROUGH THE WHISPER”

*God is calling through the whis-per  
of the Spir-it's deep-est sighs,  
through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties  
that can catch us by sur-prise.  
Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der;  
hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:  
God is call-ing – can you hear?  
God is call-ing – can you hear?*

*God is call-ing through the voic-es  
of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,  
through their long-ing for re-demp-tion  
and for res-cue from de-spair.  
Place of hurt or face of need-ing;  
stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:  
God is call-ing – can you hear?  
God is call-ing – can you hear?*

*God is call-ing through the mu-sic  
of sub-lime and hu-man arts,  
through the hymns of earth and an-gels,  
and the car-ols of our hearts.  
Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing;  
days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:  
God is call-ing – and we hear!  
God is call-ing – and we hear!*

\* Benediction

\* Postlude

MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“Sing. Praise, and Bless the Lord”

Text: Taizé, Community, 1980

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1980

Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

“God is Call through the Whisper”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, 2003

Music: Polish carol; harm. Wilbur Lee, 1958

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