

Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 15, 2026 | 10:00 AM
Liturgist: Bobby Higham

WHAT'S THE LEAST
I CAN
BELIEVE
AND STILL BE A
CHRISTIAN?

Jesus' Work: Where is God?

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

WELCOME

The chimes call us to a time of worship

Greeting Liturgist

Prelude

"How Great Thou Art" - Hine/Hamlin

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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(Please stand.)

***Call to Worship** Liturgist

One: The Lord is our shepherd. There is nothing we lack.

All: God guides us in proper paths for the sake of God's good name.

One: God bathes our head in oil; our cup is so full it spills over!

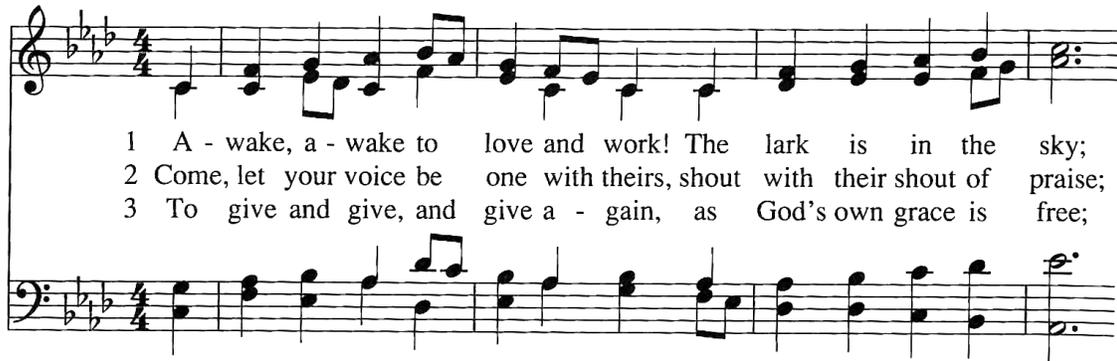
All: Yes, God's goodness and faithful love will pursue us all the days of our lives. Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn

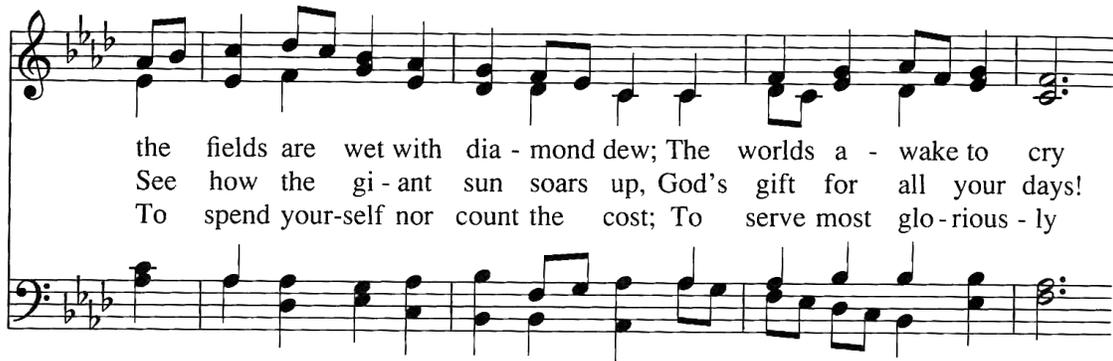
“Awake, Awake to Love and Work”

Awake, Awake to Love and Work

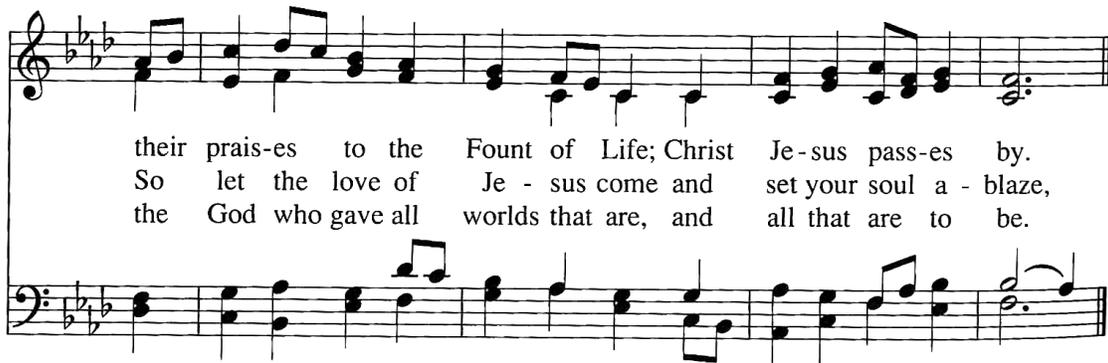
Geoffrey A. Studdert-Kennedy, 1921; alt.



1 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;
2 Come, let your voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;
3 To give and give, and give a - gain, as God's own grace is free;



the fields are wet with dia - mond dew; The worlds a - wake to cry
See how the gi - ant sun soars up, God's gift for all your days!
To spend your-self nor count the cost; To serve most glo - rious - ly



their prais-es to the Fount of Life; Christ Je - sus pass-es by.
So let the love of Je - sus come and set your soul a - blaze,
the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

Geoffrey Studdert-Kennedy was known in the United States as an eloquent preacher. He was a famed chaplain (Woodbine Willie) in World War I and later chaplain to the King of England. This hymn is part of a longer poem, "At a Harvest Festival."

Tune: MORNING SONG 8.6.8.6.8.6.
Kentucky Harmony, 1816
Harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940

***Call to Confession**

***Opening Prayer**

Gracious God, we are people who still love darkness rather than light. We keep shameful deeds secret, but flaunt our occasional acts of virtue. We see ourselves as blameless, but pass judgment on others. We do not stand firmly enough with those who are vulnerable, but step back, protecting ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Bring us into your light that we may see ourselves rightly. Bring us into your light that we may know ourselves loved. Bring us into your light that we may live more fruitful lives. Keep raising us, we pray, from the deadness of sin, and shine upon us with your grace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

***Passing the Peace**

One: As a forgiven and reconciled people - let us offer signs of Christ's peace to one another

Greeting: "The peace of Christ be with you!"

Response: "And also with you"

Anthem

"God of Grace" - Getty & Rea/Fettke

Chancel Choir, Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson

© 2003 and this arr. C. 2006 Thank you Music PRS (ADM. Worldwide by Worshiptogether.com Songs, excluding the UK and Europe, which is adm. By Kingsway Music.)

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

Children's Message

Meredith Treen

Special Music

"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus" and "Do Lord"

- Wesley & African American Spiritual

Piano Solo: Corey Cammel

WE LIFT OUR PRAISE & PRAYER TO GOD

Naming our Prayers before God

Moments of Silent Prayer

Intercessory Prayer w/ Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

HEARING GOD'S WORD FOR THE DAY

Scripture Lessons

First Lesson: Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

*Hymn of Preparation

“Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant” vs. 1-3

(words and music on the following page)

Gospel Lesson: John 1:1-5, 14

¹In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

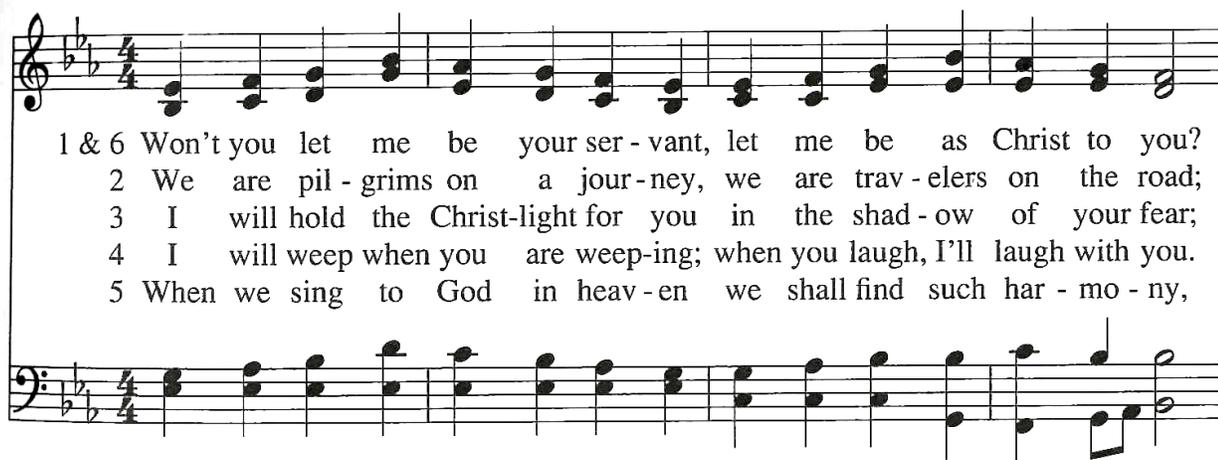
Sermon

*“What’s the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?:
Jesus’ Work: Where is God?” - Rev. Daniel Doty*

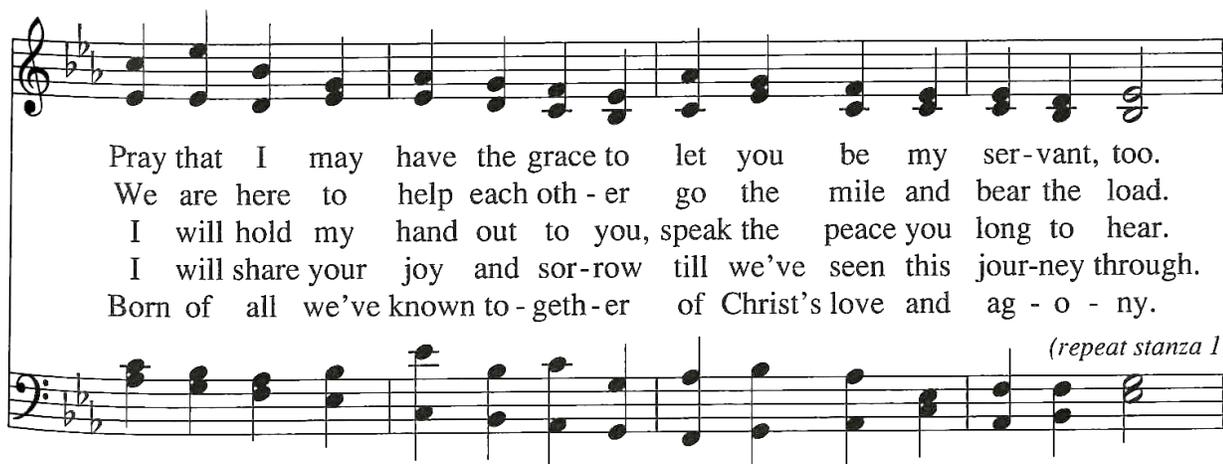
Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29



1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.
Richard Gillard, 1977
Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

THE OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering

GIVE ONLINE HERE



Offertory

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" - Dale Wood

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

© 2000 the Sacred Music Press

(Please stand.)

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host.

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

In gratitude, O God, we come to your table, into your presence, into your house. For all that you have done for us, most especially, for bringing us into the light of Jesus Christ; we offer our thanks and praise. We long to live as children of light, doing what is pleasing to you and bearing the fruit of the light through Jesus Christ, who awakens those who sleep, and raises those who are dead to new life. In his name we pray. Amen.

WE ARE SENT BY GOD TO BE THE GOOD NEWS

*Closing Hymn

“Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant ” vs. 4-6
(words and music on page 6)

*Benediction

*Congregation Response

**“Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.”**

Go Now in Peace—Besig, © Harold Flammer Music, A division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

Postlude

“Es ist das Heil” - arr. Behnke

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

c. Tune: 1524, c. 1996 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Tech Team:	Vince Scovern, Megan Farnsworth
Liturgist:	Bobby Higham
Ushers:	Dave Marconi, Jane Charles, Sandy Haydu, Gary Myers
Greeters:	Mark Clark and Marcus Hoffman

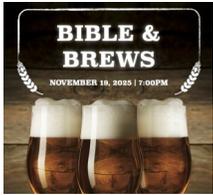
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UPCOMING EVENTS



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP | SUNDAY, MAR. 15, 4:00 PM

We are going to Scene 75. Invite a friend and join us!



BIBLE AND BREWS | WED. MAR 18, 7:00 PM—WEST AVE. TAVERN

Join Rev. Dan for drinks and conversation.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SPAGHETTI DINNER | MAR. 19, 4:30-6:30 PM

Our spaghetti dinners will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Save the date! This is a community dinner. We have saved a place at the table for friends, family and neighbors. Please encourage others to give us a try! Short on time.. call in for a dinner to go. 330-630-0704.



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST | SAT. MAR 21, 9:00 AM

All men are invited for breakfast and fellowship.



Tallmadge Good Neighbors will give gift cards to families in need of assistance at this time of year. Gift cards from grocery stores and department stores like Walmart, Target, and Meijer would be appreciated. In order to support these families, please bring gift cards to church and put them in the offering plate or give them to Cathy in the office by March 30th.

Rev. Daniel J. Doty, *Senior Minister*
Nancy Lynn Robinson, *Choir Director/Organist*
Wendy Brown, *Director of Family Ministries*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 am—3:00 pm
Fridays—9:00 am—12:00 pm

IN PERSON | PARKING LOT | ONLINE WORSHIP

SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

85 HERITAGE DR | TALLMADGE, OH 44278

THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723. *Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm*

The Ashley Family

Debbie B.

The Becking Family

Katie Ann Bickett

Joyce Bojarski

Margarete Boschert

Jim Brown

John Calvarese

Patti Calvarese

Sue Canavan

Jim Caplinger

Patty Conely

Rylin Davis and family

Sean and Sara Doty

Mark Downey

Elaine Engle

Ron Evans

Debbie Fickes

Karen Ford

Bonnie Fordham

Darrell Goodson

Eleanor Hall

Sue Hamilton

Alleen Hilbish

Jim Jackson

John James

Nancy Johnson

Anita Kelly-Lahrmer

Zell Lambert

Yvonne Larson

Roberta Lewis

Melba Moor

Gary Miller

Ron Mitchell

George Nehrenz

Bob Poff

David and Jackie Parker

LTJG John Norton

Heather Read

Richard Reynolds

Alice Sheeler

Eddie Showalter

Ensign 5 Kaylie Spear

Lt. Maxwell Spear

Richard & Karen Thomason

Kim and Noel Walters

Ensign 3 Kaitlyn Wetter

Don Woerz

Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2026 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS: 2026 Memorial Scholarship Applications are now available online. All parts of the application are due on Thursday, April 2nd, by 3:00 pm.



DIRECTORY UPDATE: We have completed the approval process and picture collection for our online directory. You can now access the directory via your Realm account. Because this directory is digital, pictures can be added and contact information can be changed at any time. If you need assistance accessing your Realm account or uploading a family photo, please scan the QR code and fill out the form.



We prefer that you use the online version of our directory, but if you would like a printed copy, you can request one by emailing Cathy Cotter, info@fcctallmadge.org. Please consider a \$5 donation if requesting a paper version, to help defer the cost of printing.



The 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday school class will be touring the Ronald McDonald House on April 19th. Please bring your pop tabs in by then so we can donate them that day.

Questions: Dianne Drummond 330-701-8231.

Easter Special Music Donation 2026

The 10:00 AM Easter service on April 5 will feature a brass quintet sponsored by our "Special Music Fund." Please consider contributing to this fund as a memorial or honorary gift. Simply fill out this form, then place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office with your check made out to First Congregational Church of Tallmadge. In the memo line at the bottom of your check, please write "Easter Special Music Donation." Names of those honored will be listed in the bulletin.

Forms must be returned to the office by March 22nd.

Name _____ Phone No. _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

If you are ordering flowers and donating money for music, PLEASE PROVIDE 2 SEPARATE CHECKS

Message _____