

**Order for the Worship of God**  
**November 15, 2020**  
**24th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**11:00 AM Worship Service**

WE COME TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

Leader: Ever-present God, forever seeking us and always teaching us:

**People: Open our minds to the truth of Your word.**

Leader: Open our hearts to the gentle power of Your love.

**People: Open our lips to share good news.**

Leader: Open our hands to create beauty, to do justice, and to show kindness.

**People: Open our souls to the breath of Your Spirit.**

Leader: Open our mouths to prayer and praise.

**People: Let us worship God!**

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Variations on KREMSER”

Wilbur Held  
(1914-2015)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #612

“We Praise You, O God”

KREMSER

**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.**

**We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

**We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;  
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.  
When perils o’er take us, you will not forsake us,  
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we will.**

**With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.  
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Chris Curvin, Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

**Almighty and loving God, in the providence of your love you have cre-ated human beings in your image. You have blessed us with gifts and abilities to live lives full of joy and meaning. You call us to live out our God-given gifts not just for ourselves, but also for the blessing and benefit of our neighbors and for your church. Forgive us dear Lord when we live as if the gifts and talents you give are all about us, or when we are negligent in cultivating and employing them in the doing of your will. By your grace may we always be open to your Spirit working in us and through us for Jesus’ sake. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581

GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

ANTHEM

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

arr. Hal Hopson

*(Chancel Choir, recorded on October 13, 2019)*

*When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries, may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair, may Jesus Christ be praised!*

*The night becomes as day when from the heart we say, may Jesus Christ be praised!  
The powers of darkness fear when this sweet chant they hear, may Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound; may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply, may Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Be this, while life is mine; my canticle divine, may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this the eternal song through all the ages long, may Jesus Christ be praised!*

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 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.**

CALL TO OFFERING

HYMN #716

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

BEACH SPRING

**God whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,  
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:  
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall raise forever, gracious donor of our days.**

**Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ,  
your Son:  
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.  
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.**

**Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace  
conferred: ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel  
word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,  
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.**

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:14-30 (NRSV)

SERMON

“Taking Seriously the Gifts God Gives”  
Paul Means, Associate Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN

“For the Healing of the Nations”

CWM RHONDDA

*(stanzas 1,2,3)*

**For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;  
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,  
help us rise and pledge our word.**

**Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase,  
fear will die and hope increase.**

**All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;  
pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span,  
may we hallow life's brief span.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Now Thank We All Our God”

J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director  
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

## We Praise You, O God

612

1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;  
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and moth - ers;  
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
 through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.  
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,  
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
 and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
 To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

The author wrote this text when only nineteen years old in response to a request from the organist of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, who wanted another Thanksgiving text to sing to this Dutch tune. He regarded the usual text (see no. 336) as too full of conflict.

TEXT: Julia C. Cory, 1902, alt.

MUSIC: *Neder-landsch Gedenck-Clanck*, 1626; harm. Eduard Kremser, 1877

KREMSE

12.11.12.11

(this tune in a lower key, 336)


# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)  
F Dm B $\flat$



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of  
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) (Bm)  
F Dm



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly  
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es  
grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) (D) (A)  
B $\flat$  F C




cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn  
joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (A) (D)  
Dm Am Dm B $\flat$  C F



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall  
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,  
shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) (G) (D)  
Dm B $\flat$  F



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.  
MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958  
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 *The Hymn Society* (admin. Hope Publishing Company)  
Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

BEACH SPRING  
8.7.8.7.D