



Westminster Presbyterian Church

*We are called to be and to make disciples
who love God and who love our neighbors.*

March 9, 2025

11:00 a.m.

*Please greet each other warmly as the congregation gathers for worship.
Take a moment and sign the friendship register.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Rev. Tricia Petraven

PRELUDE

Prelude in A Minor

JS Bach

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

FROM PSALM 19

One: The Lord's teachings are perfect,

All: They give new strength.

One: The Lord's rules can be trusted,

All: They make plain people wise.

One: The Lord's orders are right,

All: They make our hearts rejoice.

One: The Lord's commands are radiant,

All: They light up our way.

**All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

◆ PRAYER

◆ HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

◆ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, you enter into our lives in ways that we cannot anticipate. As we live and make our decisions, you come into our hearts and guide our thoughts and actions. Too often, we ignore these whispers and thoughts, feeling that they do not fit into the way we are planning our days. Forgive us, Lord, for not responding to your Word, for not trusting that your plans are holy plans that we should not ignore. Forgive us, Lord, when we take control despite your teaching, when we live up to our standards, not yours.

-Silent Personal Confession -

◆ SONG OF CONFESSION



◆ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

◆ SONG OF RESPONSE

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.**

◆ SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

All: **And also with you!**

Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor

TIME FOR CHILDREN TO SHINE

Claire Winkles

*Following Children's Time, children ages 2-3K (Wee Church) and 4-5 K (Children's Church) will gather
in the narthex with adult leaders and then be led to the Children's Building.*

Parents may pick them up following the service.

ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision
Sanctuary Choir

ALICE PARKER

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; nought be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Father, I thy true son; thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise. Thou mine inheritance, now and always; thou and thou only first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure thou art. High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 19-20

PEW BIBLE O.T. PAGE 65

SERMON

Contentment

◆ HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 175

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

◆ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

◆ HYMN NO. 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

◆ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Strong in the Faith

EDWARD BROUGHTON

◆ *Please stand, if able*

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY:

Priscilla Holtzclaw, Parish Associate;
Tom Whetstone, Liturgist;
Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries;
Sarah Shayban, Director of Music
Acolytes: Eleanor Christian, Aurora Davis
Children's Church: Brenda Clarey and Lindy Coleman
Wee Church: Kendall and Greg Ramsay
Ushers: Henry Shepard*, Ruth Marie Emblar, Ben Whitener, Matt Teitsort

Ushers: 11:00 am Livestream at www.wpccharleston.org, YouTube (Westminster Presbyterian Charleston)
Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #2778901

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE ARTS AT PARK CIRCLE

Today we welcome the Rev. Tricia Petraven to share news of a New Church Development in Park Circle. Tricia is preaching part time at Harbor View Presbyterian on James Island and is also working for our presbytery, exploring the possibility of a *Presbyterian Church of the Arts* that would meet at the Presbytery Office (formerly Park Circle Presbyterian). Working together to plant a new church is a great way to extend the reach of God's love. This church will have several core commitments. It will be Christ Centered, Creative in Worship and Faith, Radically Inclusive, and a Place of Healing for those previously wounded by the church.

A healthy church like Westminster can and should be supportive of such efforts, and we will. We can pray, contribute, and even offer opportunities for our own members who feel called to participate in the birthing process. If that is the kind of thing that makes you want more information, please reach out to Pastor Daniel or directly to Rev. Petraven 843.425.4775

PRAY THROUGH LENT WITH LENTEN PRAYER CARDS

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, March 5. It is the 40 days (not counting Sundays) leading up to Easter. Traditionally, it is a time of reflection, repentance and discipline in preparation for the joy of Easter. In the same way Moses and the Israelites were in a season of preparation for 40 years before coming into the Promised Land and Jesus was in the wilderness for 40 days of preparation prior to his public ministry, we can take 40 days to reset our hearts and minds with the Lord.

We're encouraging you to use the prayer cards we're providing to guide you through Lent each day. On one side is a thought-provoking question, and on the flip side is a corresponding prayer. (Interestingly, the prayers are written by Sarah Are Speed, the daughter of former WPC minister Tom Are.) Cards are available in the Narthex (or you can see the daily cards on WPC Social Media), and you can use the cards alone or with a group- we even have a Sunday School Class that will use the cards together.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE.

Please take a moment to sign and pass the Friendship Register in the pews. If you are visiting and wish to learn more about Westminster, leave your contact information. If you are interested in becoming a member, check 'wish to join' and a pastor will be in touch with you.

NEW HERE? MAKE SOME CONNECTIONS AT WESTMINSTER

Connections: An opportunity for those visiting or new who want to meet others and learn more about LIFE at Westminster. The next Connections Class date will be announced soon. We meet from 10:00 – 10:40 in Pastor Daniel's office at the end of the Admin Hall. Kids are welcome or can go to Sunday School/Nursery. Save your spot for the next class by emailing office@wpccharleston.org.

LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER!

Name tags are available on the name tag cart in the Narthex. Please find yours and wear it on Sunday mornings, returning it before you leave. If yours is missing, please use a sticky badge and put your name on the 'I need a name tag' form.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO JOIN THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY?

Here's how you can do it.

Fill out a New Member Form and put it in the offering plate in the narthex. Forms are available at the Hospitality Table in the narthex, or you may fill one out online under the visitor tab at wpccharleston.org or using the QR code.



One of our pastors or someone from the Membership Committee will quickly be in touch, providing an opportunity individually or with a group to learn more about the church.

On a Sunday morning, you'll attend a meeting with the Session for reception into membership. We'll handle paperwork if you're transferring from another church or arrange baptism if you've never been baptized.

That same Sunday morning, you'll be introduced to the congregation during worship. Questions? Speak with an usher or one of our pastors following the service.

WAYS TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Church Pew Envelope: Place cash or check in the Pew Envelope and drop it in the Offering Plate in the narthex.

Online: Click the "Give Now" button in the top right of our homepage wpccharleston.org.

Text: "charlestonwpc" to 73256. Thank you for giving.

PRAYER REQUEST?

Leave your written requests in the basket next to the main sanctuary doors. WPC staff will pray for your request at our weekly meeting and throughout the week.

FROM THE WESTMINSTER PULPIT: We're taking a quick tour of the book of Exodus. The delivery of God's people from the bonds of slavery is a fulfillment of the promises God made long ago, a window into the future Christ the deliverer, and descriptive insight into human nature and the power and character of God.

March 9	Exodus 19-20: The 10 Commandments. The 10 Commandments and their place in our lives today.
March 16	Exodus 21-24: Weird Laws. Some strange laws and their place in our lives today.
March 23	Exodus 25-31: The Tabernacle. The instructions for and meaning behind the tabernacle.
March 30	Exodus 32: The Golden Calf. The golden calf and the human tendency toward idolatry.
April 6	Exodus 33-34: The Radiance of Glory. Moses meets with God, face to face, on the mountain. God's glory is evident.

SECOND SUNDAY LUNCH TODAY!

All are welcome to a fried chicken luncheon in Covenant Hall following 11:00 a.m. worship the 2nd Sunday of each month. Cash donations for fried chicken welcome, bring a pot luck side or dessert to the kitchen during the Sunday School hour to share. Be filled with fellowship!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

Men of all ages: Join us for Breakfast and Bible Study from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on the Second Tuesday of every month. We are meeting for breakfast at Trotters Restaurant at Town and Country Inn and Suites (2008 Savannah Highway). Pastor Daniel will be leading; join us for the Fellowship and Encouragement!

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Gather with friends and family of all ages for food and fellowship March 12 as we listen (and sing along) to Irish Hymns with Chris Dorsel. Menu will be Chicken and Waffles, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Garden Salad and Dessert. Adults \$8, children \$4 and a family cap of \$25 via cash, card or check.

YOU'RE INVITED! ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

****The Life Class:** (Formerly the New Class) We're using Lenten Prayer cards created by Sanctified Art to guide our journey through the 40 days of Lent. The prayer cards will be distributed to the whole congregation, but in this class, we'll take a deeper dive with the questions, prayers, and Scriptures that get our hearts ready for Holy Week and Easter. Emphasis is on fellowship, prayer and growth. It's a great option for beginners and seasoned Christians. This class is led by Pastor Daniel and Lindy Coleman. It meets in the Church Parlor. ****This new offering begins today****

****Faith and Science:** For Reformed Christians, science is both promising and provocative. It raises deep and thoughtful questions about how God creates, what it means to be human, and where technology might lead us in the future. This class will explore how faith and science intersect, offering a space to rejoice in God's creation and thoughtfully wrestle with how these two fields interact. Whether you're curious, skeptical, or simply eager to learn, we welcome you to join us for this thought-provoking and engaging study. Meets for 5 weeks in the Church Library and is led by Pastor Priscilla. ****This new offering begins today****

The Anchor Class: This class emphasizes fellowship, good discussion, and growth. They are studying the Gospel of Luke using J.I. Packer's series entitled "Knowing the Bible." Luke is the most thorough historical account of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ., but Luke's Gospel is more than just history; it's also a rich source of life-giving theology, revealing Jesus' identity as Israel's long-awaited Messiah and the Redeemer of the world. Class is led by David Jump and meets in Room 15 of the Education Building.

The Cary Grayson Class: This class is facilitated by a team of leaders that engage in a study and reflection of the Bible. The peers bring their ideas, knowledge, and understanding of the Bible to accentuate on their outlook of the Lord's teachings. The current book being reviewed is 2 Samuel. A variety of outlooks are always welcome! Class meets in Room 4 of Covenant Hall.

ELEMENTARY CHOIR SPRING DATES AND SPECIAL MUSIC:

Do you have a child in 1st-5th grade who loves to sing and worship the Lord? Then mark your calendars for the following Elementary Choir practices! Children are invited to come practice and sing with Ms. Nancy, Ms. Claire, and Mrs. Mellany for 15 minutes in the sanctuary. We encourage your children to participate in these fun practices as much as they can before singing for the congregation! If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Claire at cwinkles@wpccharleston.org. We hope to sing with your children soon!

Schedule:

Wednesday, March 19 at 5:45
Sunday, March 23 at 12:00
Wednesday, March 26 at 5:30pm
Wednesday, April 2 at 5:30pm
Sunday, April 6- children will sing at 11:00 worship.

FEMALE SINGERS!

A female ensemble will sing a one time song on March 23 at the early service. We would love to have you join with us! Everyone with a voice, even untrained!! Very short practices of about 15 minutes. Contact Nancy Parrish or Claire Winkles cwinkles@wpccharleston.org for more info.

Schedule:

Wednesday March 12 at 5:30
Sunday March 16 at 12:00
Wednesday March 19 at 5:30
Sunday March 23- we sing at the 9:00 service.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, June 22 – Thursday, June 26 Children ages 3K up to 5th grade are invited to join us for VBS. This year's theme is Children of the Light. "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light!" -Ephesians 5:8. We are also inviting Youth and Adults to volunteer for this most special and fun week of worship! Scan the QR Code for all details, volunteering forms and registration.



SAVE THE DATE FOR SAMs! We are going to the Birds of Prey Center March 20! This will include morning flight demonstrations, time to see birds in enclosures, a break for lunch at Sewee and optional afternoon re-entry for more flight demos. A sign-up sheet is posted in the admin hallway. Spots are limited, so sign up soon! Tickets are \$20, (cash only, please), which is due to the office by March 18. Carpooling from the church will be 9 am March 20th

READ GOOD BOOKS IN 2025!

Join Pastor Daniel in reading any (or all!) of these books in 2025. A variety of topics, authors, and genres, the choices are designed to stimulate the heart and mind and be a catalyst for growth in discipleship. Read each in preparation for the group discussion at 5:00 p.m. on the 4th Sunday of every other month. Books may be purchased online or at church (\$8 for *Life Together*)

- **On April 27th we'll discuss Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*.** Martyred at the hands of German Nazis, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a renowned Christian minister, professor, and author of *The Cost of Discipleship* recounts his unique fellowship in an underground seminary during the Nazi years in Germany. Giving practical advice on how life together in Christ can be sustained in families and groups, *Life Together* is bread for all who are hungry for the real life of Christian fellowship.
- **On June 22nd we'll discuss Peter Aelred's *To Melt a Golden Calf*.**
- **On August 24th we'll discuss C.S Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*.**
- **On October 26th we'll discuss John Mark Comer's *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*.**
- **In December (date TBD) we'll discuss Fleming Rutledge's *Advent*.**

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary, please contact the church office or access the flower calendar on the church website. The cost is \$60. A member of the Flower Committee will contact you regarding your flower preference. You may take the arrangement home after worship or share it for pastoral care visits made by our pastors and deacons. The flower committee will create and place the arrangement for the sanctuary on Sunday with a take-home liner or break down flowers into vases to share with our members.

COLLECTING CANDLES FOR MIDDLETON PLACE

Have used candles that you would like to donate to repurpose? There is a box in the Narthex for them! These will go to Middleton Place for their candle making workshops. Candles in glass containers will not be accepted.

WALK FOR WATER 2025

Millions of women and children walk more than three miles to collect water each day for their families. Often, the water collected is unsafe to drink. But there is hope. This year we're joining our mission partner Water Missions Walk for Water event to walk to raise funds and awareness to help fight the global water crisis. Together, we will walk to bring clean, safe water to 14,000 people in need around the world. We walk, so others don't have to. Join our Walking Team or Donate by scanning the QR Code.



NEWS FROM THE APNC

Please remember your Associate Pastor Nominating Committee in your prayers. Here's where they are in the search process:

The APNC receives Personal Discernment Profiles (PDP's) from candidates through referrals and the CLC. Through prayer and interviews, the APNC narrows the field of candidates.

The APNC extends a call to a candidate.

The candidate accepts the terms of call.

The candidate is examined by the Commission on Ministry.

The candidate is called by the congregation.

The candidate is installed as the new Associate Pastor at WPC!

The APNC: Natasha Akery, Lindy Coleman (Chair), Andrew Hopkins, George McAbee, Mark Patrick, Sandy Pell.

TIME TO REGISTER FOR BETHELWOODS!

Did You Know? Westminster offers scholarships for our children who register for Bethelwoods Summer Camps. We will pay for 1/2 of the Tier 1 price for each registered child. Here's how it works: get registered through the Bethelwoods website and then submit a scholarship request form to Westminster for reimbursement. Forms are available by contacting the Church Office or Ms. Claire. * Kids can go to Bethelwoods anytime during the summer. Westminster families traditionally register for the week of July 28.

THIS WEEK AT WESTMINSTER

Sunday, March 9

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
12:00 pm Second Sunday Lunch
5:00 pm All Youth Dinner
5:30 pm Middle and High School Fellowship
7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Monday, March 10

10:00 am Hooks and Needles, Room 4
11:30 am Village Luncheon

Tuesday, March 11

6:30 am Toastmasters, Covenant Hall
8:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast, Town and Country
10:00 am Staff Meeting
10:00 am Circle 5, Parlor
10:30 am Circle 4, Room 4

Wednesday, March 12

12:15 pm Women's Bible Study, Covenant Hall/Room 4
6:00 pm Wonderful Wednesday
6:30 pm Hand Bell Rehearsal
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

Thursday, March 13

10:00 am Smocking Guild, Room 4
1:00 pm SAMS Steering Committee, Parlor

Friday, March 14

Saturday, March 15

Sunday, March 16

9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service
5:00 pm All Youth Dinner
5:00 pm Diaconate Meeting
5:30 pm Middle and High School Fellowship
6:00 pm Session Meeting
7:30 pm AA Meeting, Covenant Hall

COMMUNITY SUPPORT NUMBERS

Al-Anon (843) 762-6999

Neighbors Together (843) 747-1788

Community Resource and Support Hotline 211

Mental Health Crisis Hotline 988

VOTE FOR OUR PRESCHOOL

Voting for the Lowcountry Parent Magazine's Mom's Choice Awards has opened (and it appears you can vote daily)! Let's see if we can win the **Best Preschool and/or Best Private School and/or Best Childcare** categories this year! Voting is through March 12th. Thank you for your support! This link jumps you to the "Best Preschool" category, then at the top click on "School & Education", select "Best Private School" lastly, scroll up the categories to find "Best Childcare".

Link: <https://www.postandcourier.com/lowcountryparent/contests/momschoice/#/gallery/?group=505845>

WESTMINSTER PRAYS

Cary Alexandre (WPC)	Grayson Family (WPC)	Nita Rodemann (WPC)
Joyce Aydlette (Becky Grafton)	Megan Hatfield (Debbie McQueeney)	Gloria Ricoma (Karen McInnes)
Daryn Baker (Jane Acker)	Harter Family (Jennifer Binnicker)	Kevin Ritzel (Neil Ritzel)
Mary Ashley Barbot (Lisa Couch)	Betsy Henson (Ashley Snider)	Rushton Family (WPC)
Ron Booth (WPC)	Chris Huff (Gloria Purcell)	Jim Seay (WPC)
Sissie Brigman (WPC)	Debbie Kieffer (Daniel Smoak)	Tradd Shepard (WPC)
Susie Cashion (WPC)	Mary Laird (Ashley Snider)	Rachel Singletary (Sara Bobo)
Childs Family (Paige Dadin)	Fran Ligon (WPC)	Jerry Smoak (WPC)
Lauren Choate (Sara Dwyer)	Jane Livingston (Tom Livingston)	Rab Snider (Ashley Snider)
Cherie Couche (Dana Tumbleston)	Ray Long (Ellen Bollinger)	Dave Stanton (WPC)
Lydia Crosby (WPC)	John Martschink (WPC)	Towne Family (WPC)
Martin Davis (Kevin Mikles)	Mary Martschink (WPC)	Gloria Underhill (Laura Nunn)
Rose Derrick (Brenda Clarey)	Love Moody (WPC)	Jacqueline Vance (Sara Dwyer)
Hosanna Eadie (Katie Baturin)	Jennifer Morgan (Susie Cashion)	Aileen Wiese (WPC)
Roxanne Eadie (Katie Baturin)	Roy Nickles (WPC)	Janet Wilson (Gloria Purcell)
Debbie Eastwood (Jill Lundgrin)	Joe Nuchols (Debbie McQueeney)	Donnie Woods (Presbytery)
Julia Fletcher (Niblock Family)	Nancy Plowden (WPC)	Robbie Yarnall (WPC)
Pat Finn (Dee Bee Wright)	Pratt Family (WPC Preschool)	Zemp Family (WPC)
Edward Fitzgibbon (Joan Frye)	Monnie Privette (Robert/Sylvia Coker)	
Harold Fountain (Henry Shepard)	Donna Purcell (WPC)	
Joan Frye (WPC)	Reed Family (Dee Bee Wright)	
Janie Hammersmith (WPC)	Charles Reeves (Carol Patrick)	

PRAYER LIST UPDATED MARCH 2025

If you need to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please email Suzann at office@wpccharleston.org

Friend of the Week	College Student	Mission of the Week	Church Family
Nancy Wells Wichmann 119 Riverland Drive Charleston, SC 29412	Cole McLaughlin USC Student Box 84602 1300 Wheat Street Columbia, SC 29225-01142	Boy Scout Troup 79	Michael & Stacy Patrick -Ella, Hannah, Sarah, Amber Appell & Skylar Frasier

ELDERS AND SESSION COMMITTEES

Administration: Tom Whetstone and Michael Patrick; **Buildings and Grounds:** Matt Teitsort and Randy Davis; **Christian Education:** Lindy Coleman and Cathy Grills; **Fellowship:** Mike Niblock, Betsy McLaughlin and Jon Bazzle; **Finance:** Sarah Schumann and Joshua Robinson; **Membership:** John Dounian and Cameron Baker; **Missions:** Mary McAbee and Matthew Patrick; **Preschool:** Ashley Snider; **Worship:** Allyn Bruce and Deborah-Anne Ferguson; **Clerk:** Carole Russell; **Assistant Clerk:** Lindy Coleman; **Treasurer:** Nancy Dixon; **Assistant Treasurer:** Patty Stokes

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Claire Winkles, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, cwinkles@wpccharleston.org
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Suzann Lilienthal, Office Administrator, office@wpccharleston.org
Tommye Owen, Financial Administrator finance@wpccharleston.org
Alicia Crosby, Preschool Director, preschool@wpccharleston.org
Meg Dorsel, Communications Coordinator, mdorsel@wpccharleston.org

463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

175

Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
 3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and its righ - teous - ness,
 seek, and you shall find;
 but by ev - ery word

The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4 emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.

TEXT: Stanza 1, Karen Lafferty, 1971, alt.; stanzas 2-3, anon.; Spanish trans. anon.;
 Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee

LAFFERTY
 Irregular

MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1971

Text and Music © 1972 Universal Music - Brentwood Publishing/Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa dba CCCM Music
 (admin. Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing)

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.