

The Worship of God

August 26, 2018

Finally, be strong in the Lord
and in the strength of his power.

—Ephesians 6.10

Gathering at God's Invitation

Music for Gathering

Marietta Mobley *piano*

Christ Candle

Harrison Rose

Opening Sentences

Rev. Alan Sherouse

Prelude

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

Trio

Baker Lawrimore, *organist*

†Call to Worship

Christina McCord

O God, you summon the day to dawn,
you teach the morning to waken the earth.

**For you the valleys shall sing for joy,
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**

For you the kings of the earth shall bow,
the poor and the persecuted shall shout for joy.

**Your love and mercy shall last forever,
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.**

Great is your name.

Great is your love. Amen.

†Hymn of Praise 20

ODE TO JOY

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

†Words of Friendship

Christina McCord

Blessing of the Backpacks

Following each reader's blessing and the words "**The Lord says,**" you will reply, "**Be Strong and Courageous.**"

Chris Cherry, Joyce Kayombo, Carter Bland,
Lindsey Pegram, Catherine Scott Little, Maggie Martin,
Ryan Moody, Christina McCord

Prayers of God's People

Rev. Courtney Willis

Hearing God's Word

Opening of God's Word

Katie Parrish

During the congregational verse, children ages four through first grade may attend **Junior Church** and return to the sanctuary after the sermon.



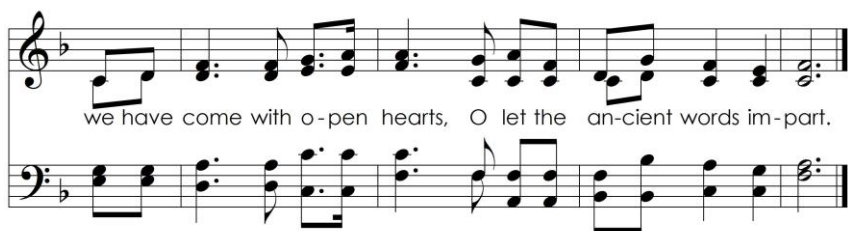
Ho-ly words long pre-served for our walk in this world, they re -



sound with God's own heart; O let the an-cient words im - part.



An-cient words ev-er true, chang-ing me and chang-ing you;



we have come with o-pen hearts, O let the an-cient words im-part.

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Scripture Lesson

Dr. Steve Sumerel

2 Samuel 23.1-7

Sermon

Rev. Sherouse

Last Words

Responding to God's Word

†Hymn 661

FETKE

Be Strong in the Lord

Musical Interlude

Offertory Prayer

Jack Foxworth *deacon*

Musical Offering

Travis Cottrell

Forevermore

Jamell Strickland, *vocal soloist*

Sending into God's World

†Benediction

Rev. Sherouse

†Doxology

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

God all crea-tures high and low; praise God for all that Love has

done: Cre - a-tor, Christ and Spir - it One. A - men.

†Postlude

arr. David Paxton

Festive March in D

Guests are warmly welcomed today. There are several ways during the worship hour that we can become better acquainted. During the **Words of Friendship** we will share a personal greeting with those sitting around us. You will find a **Connection Card** in the bulletin that can be filled out and dropped in the offering plate as it is passed in the service. **Ministers** will also be greeting worshippers at each exit door after the service.