



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 31, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.**

Words of Welcome

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Sisters and brothers, we have been raised with Christ to new life,
freed from every fear, and granted every grace.

All: **With songs of praise, let us worship God!**

***Hymn (#716)**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God,

You lavish us with good gifts,

yet we persist in seeking after that which robs us of abundant life.

We hold fast to our anxieties and give in to our greed;

we desire the very things that harm us.

Forgive us, purify us,

and sustain us by the strength of your Holy Spirit,

we ask in Jesus' name. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: If God is for us, who is against us?

Many: In Jesus Christ, we have been set free!

One: Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace. Amen.

***Congregational Response (#581)**

Glory Be to the Father

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sharing Faith with God's Children

Anthem

Second Scripture Lesson Luke 12:13-21

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn (#174)**

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

***Congregational Response (#606)**

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

***Responsive Prayer of Dedication**

One: All we have and all we are comes from you, O God,
our Father, our Mother, our Creator, our Sovereign.

All: If we were to give thanks until the end of time,
we could not repay your benevolence and grace.
Take these meager offerings, we pray,
and increase our generosity,
that everything we say and do might show forth your irrepressible love.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn (#683)

Lord of All Hopefulness

*Charge & Benediction

*Postlude

***Please rise, in body or spirit.**

Called Congregational Meeting

The Session of North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church is calling for a hybrid meeting of the congregation to be held at approximately 12:00 noon after worship on Sunday, August 7, 2022. The purpose of the meeting is to hear and act upon a report from our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and to (should the way be clear) approve Terms of Call for a new Associate Pastor.



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.

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom 174



1 Come and seek the ways of Wis-dom, she who danced when
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis-dom, cry - ing in the
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who



earth. was new. Fol - low close - ly what she teach - es,
 mar - ket - place. Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us,
 seek re - birth. Spir - it - guide and close com - pan - ion,



for her words are right and true. Wis - dom clears the
 full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the word takes
 bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us to be -



path to jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 root and rip - ens, peace and righ - teous - ness em - brace.
 come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Drawing on numerous scriptural images of Wisdom (Greek: *Sophia*), especially in Proverbs, this text offers an alternative perspective on Trinitarian theology. The Wisdom tradition has played a role in Christian mysticism for centuries, as witnessed by the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

683 Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope-ful-ness, Lord of all joy, whose
 2 Lord of all ea-ger-ness, Lord of all faith, whose
 3 Lord of all kind-li-ness, Lord of all grace, your
 4 Lord of all gen-tle-ness, Lord of all calm, whose



trust, ev-er child-like, no cares could de-stroy: be
 strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be
 hands swift to wel-come, your arms to em-brace: be
 voice is con-tent-ment, whose pres-ence is balm: be



there at our wak-ing and give us, we pray, your
 there at our la-bors and give us, we pray, your
 there at our hom-ing and give us, we pray, your
 there at our sleep-ing and give us, we pray, your



bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

When first published in 1931, this "All-Day Hymn" (as it was titled) seemed very daring for not using traditional archaic pronouns to address Christ. Current pronouns no longer disturb, but the comforting Jesus portrayed here needs to be balanced by his call to discipleship.