



Bedford Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

Worship in Podcast Format

GATHERING TOGETHER

Chimes

Gathering Music

“Prelude in D/Ein’ Feste Burg”

Bach/Maynard

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor John Sawyer

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Elder Andy Wickwire

We have been in the wilderness—

Discerning and working, seeking and dreaming.

We have been in the wilderness—

Grieving and wondering, praying and hoping.

We have been in the wilderness—

Longing and running, creating and waiting.

We have been in the wilderness, but we have not been alone –

For God walks with us, every step of the way.

So let us worship the God of our darkest nights and our brightest days.

Let us worship God, together.

Hymn # 275 (see below)

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

EIN’ FESTE BURG

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you raised your Son, Jesus, from the dead and give life to our mortal bodies. Your very Spirit fills us with life – life that you call us to offer to the world with every breath. We do not always live as you would have us, but trust in your power of forgiveness, resurrection, and new life. Lord, you are the resurrection and the life. As we worship you this day, show us who we are: bearers of good news and messengers of resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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.*

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

Special Music

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”
Emily, Sarah, and Maddy Costello

arr. Page

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Listen now for the Word of God.

Our ears are open. . .

Second Scripture Reading

John 11:32-44

Pastor John Sawyer

. . . The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn # 250 (see below)

“In the Bulb There is a Flower”

PROMISE

Affirmation of Faith – from the Confession of 1967 (9.22-23)

Elder Maddy Costello

The new life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace. The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

Call for the Offering

Deacon Sarah Costello

Offertory

“A Mighty Fortress”

arr. Raney

*At this time, you are invited to offer your tithes and offerings,
by writing a check and putting it in an envelope to the church,
or through our church’s online giving website
(<https://bedfordpresbyterian.org/giving/one-time-gifts-pledges/>),
or by scanning this QR code and making a donation.*



*Your giving has a direct impact on the ministry and mission
of Bedford Presbyterian Church!
Thank you!*

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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. Amen.*

OR

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Deacon Emily Costello

Holy God, giver of life, we thank you for raising us up and joining us together as one people, your people, flesh and bone in the body of Christ. As you have delivered us from death, use our lives to proclaim the good news of new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (“debts/debtors”)

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.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***Charge and Benediction and Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And with you.

Closing Song

NORTHUMBRIA MORNING BLESSING

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home, rejoicing, at the wonders he has shown you.

May he bring you home, rejoicing, once again into our doors.



Liturgists and Leaders in today's worship service –

The Reverend John Sawyer, Pastor

Mrs. Barbara Flocco, Music Director

Elder Andy Wickwire, Liturgist

Emily, Sarah, and Maddy Costello – Singers and Liturgists

Elder Marcia Morgan, Sound and Video Technician

This service was recorded live on the morning of Sunday, March 29, and can be found at the Bedford Presbyterian Church page on SoundCloud:

<https://soundcloud.com/bedfordpresbyterianchurch>.

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

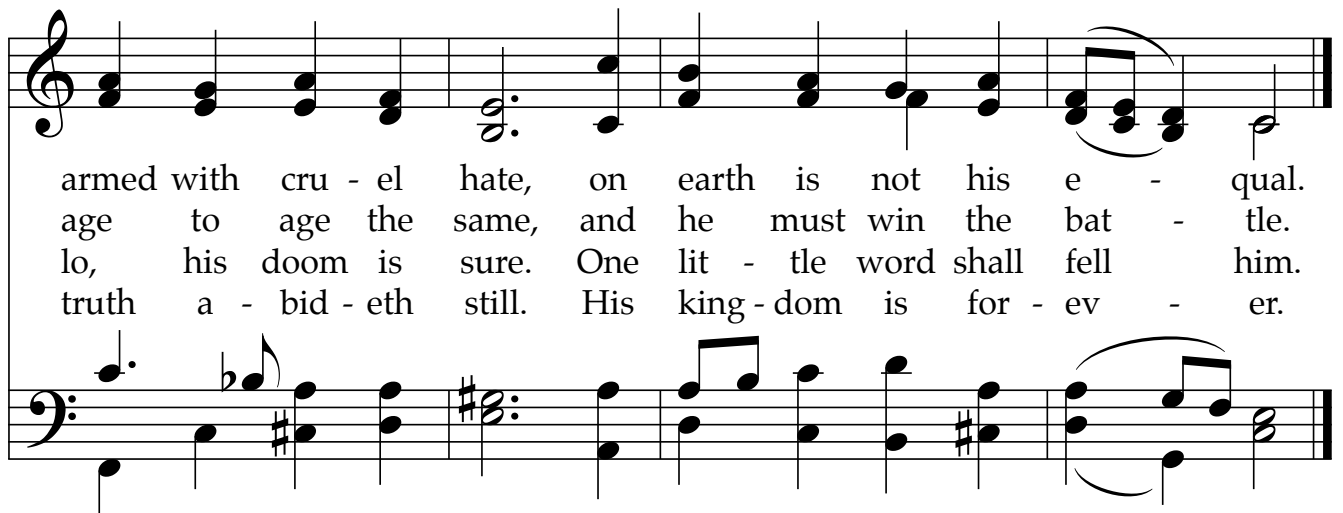
fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do - us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN



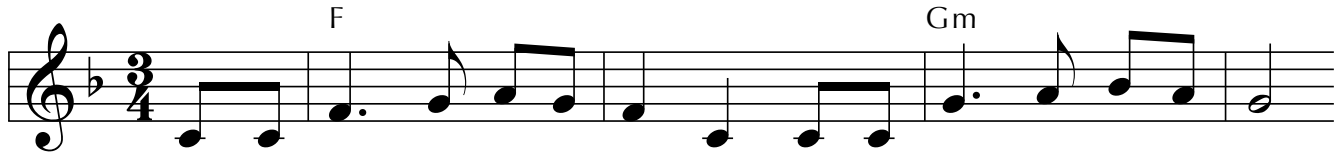
armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise

Capo 3: (D)

(Em)



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7)

(D)



in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(D7)

(G)

(Em)

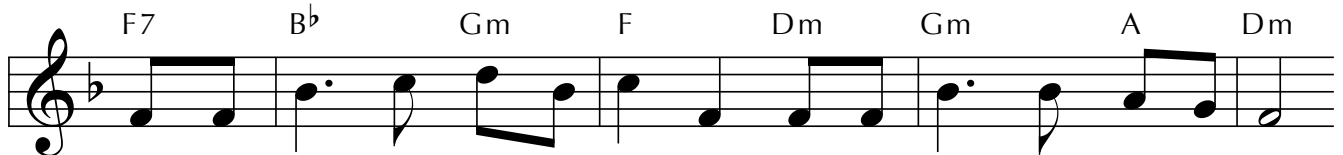
(D)

(Bm)

(Em)

(F#)

(Bm)



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

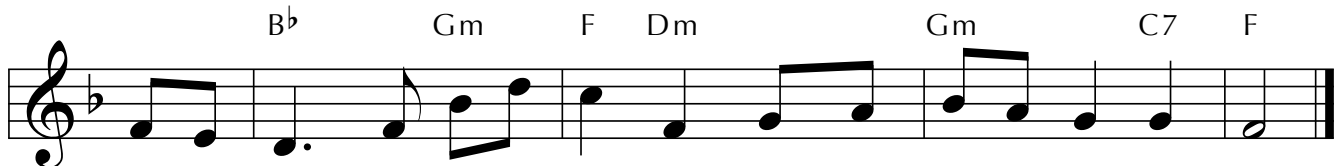
(G)

(Em)

(D) (Bm)

(Em)

(A7) (D)



un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

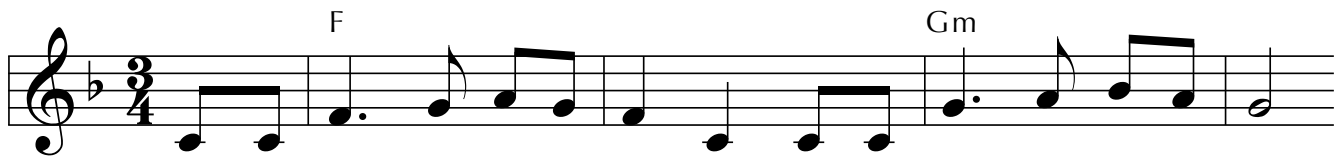
The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning." Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise

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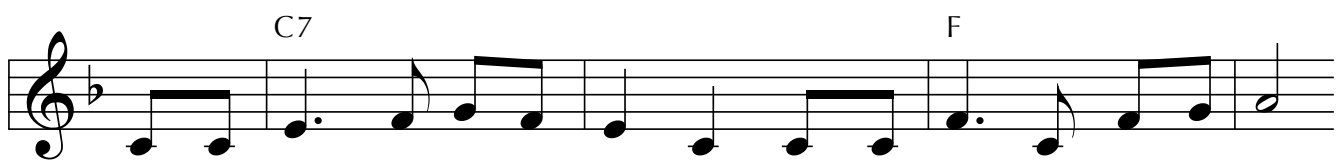
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(G)

(Em)

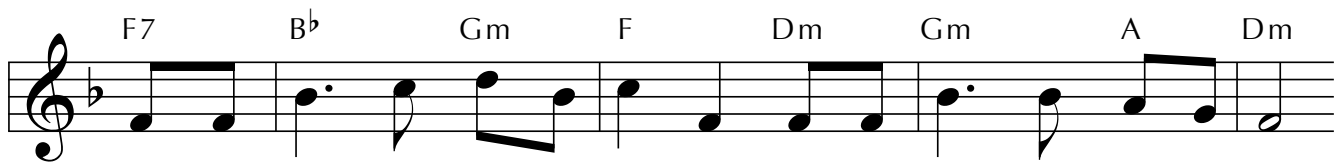
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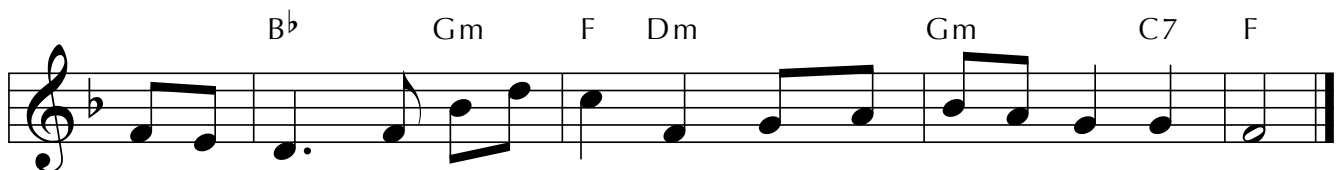
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truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

The musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a vocal line with lyrics. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The piece concludes with a double bar line.