
Overbrook Presbyterian Church



Let the circle be wide 'round the fireside
And we'll soon make room for you
Let your heart have no fear,
there are no strangers here,
Just friends that you never knew.
—*Tommy Sands*

Worship Service
September 18, 2022
10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Overbrook Presbyterian Church
We are glad you are worshiping with us this morning!

Notes on Today's Service

If you are a visitor, we invite you to fill out a card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

Leading Worship Today:

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson, Pastor
Ron Homer, Liturgist
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music
The Overbrook Choir
Toffer Mihalka, tenor

Today's chancel flowers are given by Laurie Geers in loving memory of her sister, Diane B. Savage

Ushers: Laurie Geers, Bob Kaercher, Jonathan Kopcsik, Peter Seidel, Dick and Judy Williamson

Childcare is available during the worship service. Worship is for all ages, but should your infant or preschooler become restless during worship, excellent childcare is provided in our nursery.

Large Print Bulletins and Hymns are Available.

Please speak to one of the ushers if you have special needs.

Following worship today, please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Wistar Morris room. All are welcome!

We need hosts, please consider volunteering to host in the future.

*Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare for worship
and remember to silence all cell phones before the service.*

❖ *=Stand as you are able*

GATHERING IN

PRELUDE

Max Reger
Praeludium in F major, op. 85, no. 3 (1873-1916)

INTROIT

George Thalben-Ball
Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (1896-1987)

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Ron Homer

Leader: Gather us in, Creator God,

People: **That by being close to you we might notice your plan for creation.**

Leader: Weave us into one, Sweet Savior,

People: **That by living as you taught, we might create communities of
peace and joy.**

Leader: Gather us in, Spirit of Renewal,

People: **That by treasuring our past, we might shape our future.**

Leader: Weave us into one, Triune God,

All: **That together we might find the strength to build your kingdom
of grace and love. Amen.**

❖ HYMN No 645

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

WELCOME

Adam Hearlson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COURAGE (*unison*)
(*adapted from Common Prayer*)

Ron Homer

Holy be the bodies of those who know hunger;

sacred be the bodies of those who are broken;

blessed be the bodies of those who suffer.

In your mercy and grace,

soften our callous hearts and fill us with compassion.

Forgive us for our ignorance, our negligence, and our obliviousness.

Fill us with gratitude for all the gifts you have given us and the relationships
that surround us.

In your love, break down the walls that separate us,
and guide us along your path of peace.

Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

EMBRACING GOD'S GRACE

❖ GLORIA PATRI

HYMN No. 581

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.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Ron Homer
Pew Bible, p. 525

BIBLICAL STORYTELLING

Anthony Carrella

*(Following the storytelling, learners in Pre-K through Grade 5
are encouraged to recess with Anthony and volunteer teachers.
They should bring everything they need to Sunday School.)*

SOLO

You Are Present with Your Love
Toffer Mihalka, tenor

Wayne L. Wold
(b. 1954)

In the morning, every morning,
you are present as I wake.
You, sustaining, recreating
with each deeper breath I take.
In the morning I will praise you
for your dawning love and grace.

In the daytime, every daytime,
you are present come what may.
You, inspiring, energizing
in my busy work and play.
In the daytime I will praise you
for your vibrant love and grace.

(continued on next page)

In the evening, every evening,
you are present as I rest.
You, still giving and forgiving,
you embrace us; we are blessed.
In the evening I will praise you
for your healing love and grace.
At each moment, every moment,
you are present with your love.

OLD TESTAMENT
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Genesis 39:1-7, 11-18

Adam Hearlson
Pew Bible, p. 34

SERMON

“Living in Empire”

Adam Hearlson

*(Following the sermon, youth in Grades 6 through 12
are encouraged to recess with their teachers for Youth Sunday School.)*

❖ HYMN (*on next page*)

DICKINSON COLLEGE

New Every Morning Is the Love

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will 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.

1. New ev - ery morn - ing is the love
2. New mer - cies, each re - turn - ing day,
3. Old friends, old scenes, will love - lier be,
4. On - ly, O Lord, in thy dear love,

our wak - ening and up - ris - ing prove;
a - round us hov - er while we pray;
as more of heaven in each we see;
fit us for per - fect rest a - bove;

through sleep and dark - ness safe - ly brought,
new per - ils past, new sins for - given,
some soft - ening gleam of love and prayer
and help us, this and ev - ery day,

re - stored to life and power and thought.
new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.
shall dawn on ev - ery cross and care.
to live more near - ly as we pray.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

LIFE AT THE CROSSROADS

Adam Hearlson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharon Parker

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.

SHARING OF PEACE

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*(If you wish to leave an offering, we encourage you to use
the offering plate by the lectern as you depart the Sanctuary.)*

OFFERING

Felix Mendelssohn

Grant, O Lord, Thy Grace Unbounded (1809-1847)

The Overbrook Choir

Allison Chang, mezzo-soprano

Grant, O Lord, thy grace unbounded,
bend thine ear unto my prayer;
Thus thy wrath for sins recounted,
nevermore shall I endure.

Wilt thou always care and comfort,
and abide mine enemy?
Must I languish, weak and helpless,
and by thee forgotten be?

❖ DOXOLOGY

HYMN No. 607

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

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Ron Homer

As sure as daybreak, God's blessings are coming. God's grace is from everlasting to everlasting. May these gifts be the blessing someone needs. May they be as a ray of warm sunlight to the one who has been waiting out a cold night. Amen

SENDING FORTH

❖ HYMN No. 463

FOUNDATION

How Firm a Foundation

❖ BENEDICTION

Adam Hearlson

❖ CHORAL RESPONSE

The Peace of God

John Yarrington
(b. 1941)

POSTLUDE

Sortie

Louis Niedermeyer
(1802-1861)

*Please depart quietly for those who wish to listen to the postlude.
If you have a child or children who attended Sunday School,
you may meet them in Fellowship Hall.*

Music Spotlight: Closing Hymn

Did you know that "How Firm a Foundation" was once, in many traditions, sung to the tune of "O Come, All Ye Faithful"? As strange as that may seem, churches were reluctant to sing the present early American tune due to cultural bias. This tune is an example of "shape note music," which was a popular way of teaching singing in American schools in the 20th century; it is associated especially with Appalachia and the South. If you really want to get a sense of how it feels to sing shape note music, the best thing to do is to sing loudly and joyfully!

THIS WEEK AT OPC: 9/18-9/25

Sun	18	10:45 a.m.	Children's Sunday School	Fellowship Hall
		11:15 a.m.	Youth Sunday School	Fellowship Hall
		11:30 a.m.	Fellowship Hour	Wistar Morris Room
		4:00 p.m.	Youth Pool Party	Cosgriff/Piatt Home
Mon	19	<i>No events scheduled.</i>		
Tue	20	7:30 a.m.	Women's Prayer/Support	online
		3:15 p.m.	Mission and Outreach	Samuel Gompers School
Wed	21	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study	in person and online
		7:00 p.m.	Stewardship Committee	Keedra Carroll's Home
Thu	22	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Bell Room (upstairs)
		7:30 p.m.	Overbrook Ch. Rehearsal	Choir Room
Fri	23	11:30 a.m.	RPM Café	Wistar Morris Room
		all day	Youth Mission Trip	Baltimore, MD
Sat	24	all day	Youth Mission Trip	Baltimore, MD
Sun	25	10:30 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
		10:45 a.m.	Children's Sunday School	Fellowship Hall
		11:30 a.m.	Fellowship Hour	Wistar Morris Room
		12:00 p.m.	Junior Choir Meet/Greet	Williamson Room
		all day	Youth Mission Trip	Baltimore, MD

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Youth Sunday School Meet & Greet—after the sermon. All youth (Grades 6-12) will be dismissed following Adam's sermon for a Meet & Greet of the Youth Sunday School teachers in Adam's office.

Youth Ministry Pool Party—Today, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. All those in Grades 6-12 are invited to Elizabeth Cosgriff and Joe Piatt's home (251 Linden Ln, Merion Station) for an afternoon of swimming, eating, and fellowship as we begin our program year. Friends are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Adam (adam@overbrookpresb.org).

Fellowship Hour hosts needed for September and October. All are invited to participate in Fellowship Hour each Sunday following worship, and all are encouraged to consider serving as a Fellowship Hour Host. If you feel called to this *ministry of welcome*, please see Artia Benjamin during Sunday's Fellowship Hour, or contact her by email (clc@overbrookpresb.org). We are currently in need of hosts for the following dates: **September 25, and October 23 and October 30.**

Retired Person's Ministry—September 23, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All are welcome at the RPM Café! Please join us in the **Wistar Morris Room** for good-spirited fellowship, lunch, and a special presentation, “*So...What's Next on the Agenda?*” We will hear about life transitions from professionals in continuing care, celebrations of life, and end-of-life planning. Planning guides and reference materials will be available for all attendees. The Café menu for the day will include a choice of soups, fresh fruit, desserts, and beverages. BYO sandwich/salad... and a friend. RPM is a Parish Care Ministry; there is no cost to participate. Please contact **Sharon Parker** (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) for more information.

School Supply Donations—September 18 to October 9. Mission and Outreach is coordinating a school supply drive for two local schools: James Rhoads (<https://rhoads.philasd.org/>) and Gloria Caesarez (<https://casarez.philasd.org/>) Elementary Schools. Boxes will be set up in the **Wistar Morris Room** to accept donations. The supply list is as follows:

- Pencils, pencils, pencils (#2)
- Black and White composition notebooks (wide-ruled)
- Spiral notebooks (wide-ruled)
- Erasers
- Dry erase markers (all colors)
- Chart paper markers
- Tissues
- Disinfectant wipes

For more information, contact **Jeff Bowker** (bowkerjeffrey@gmail.com).

Junior Choir Meet and Greet—Sunday, September 25, noon. Are there any young singers in your family? Whether experienced choristers or undiscovered talent, they are welcome in the relaunched Overbrook Junior Choir! We will hold a meeting in the **Williamson Room** to discuss goals, brainstorm activities, and discuss our schedules while enjoying food and fellowship. Contact **Chris** (music@overbrookpresb.org) with questions.

The Adult Forum Returns!—Sunday, October 2, 9:15 a.m. Please join us in the **Williamson Room** before worship for conversations on how to grow spiritually and more fully in discernment, focusing on the intersection of life and faith following in the footsteps of Jesus. Childcare will be provided. For more information, contact **Trudy Sheau** (tsheau@yahoo.com).

Inquirers Class—Sundays, October 16 and 23, 9:00 a.m. If you would like to know more about OPC and to discern if you would like to become a member of this community, please join us in **Pastor Adam's office**. For more information, please contact **Elizabeth Mendoza** (egmendoza@comcast.net) or **Adam** (adam@overbrookpresb.org).

Concert: St. Thomas Gospel Choir—Sunday, October 16, 3:00 p.m. We are thrilled to welcome our neighbors from the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas to present an afternoon of gospel music. Under the direction of Waltier Blocker, the Gospel Choir comprises musicians of all ages and backgrounds and has performed all over the country, in addition to releasing several CDs. Suggested donation is \$10; reception to follow. For more information, contact **Chris Gage** (music@overbrookpresb.org).

Taste of Overbrook 2022—Saturday, October 22, 6:00 p.m. We are excited to bring back one of our most special events. We will be raising money to make the doors by the church office more accessible to open for all. Join us in Fellowship Hall as we share foods from around the world and support the ministry of the church. Tickets are on sale starting today with the early bird special discount. Tickets can be purchased after worship today in the Wistar Morris Room or scan the QR code below:



Please contact **Keedra Carroll** (keedracarroll@gmail.com) or **Will Schick** (willsch84@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

“Say it with Chancel Flowers.” Please consider donating the Sunday morning chancel flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply in celebration of or thanksgiving for the many blessings we receive every day. The cost of the flowers is **\$60.00**. Please feel free to contribute what you can to offset this cost and to honor someone or something special to you. You can reserve your chancel flowers by signing up in the Wistar Morris room during Fellowship Hour.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT OVERBROOK **Sunday Morning Tech Assistant**

Do you know someone who loves computers? Do you know someone who feels at home among wires, screens, and sound boards? Is there someone in your life for whom technology just makes sense? Wonderful! We need their help. Are you the person who loves technology? Even better! OPC is hiring a few people to serve as our **Sunday Morning Tech Assistants**. Ideally, we are looking for two or three reliable people to share the weekly task of running our live stream and assisting with all our tech needs on Sunday Morning. This job is open to anyone, especially

teenagers looking for extra cash. Pay starts at \$17/hour. If you or someone you know is interested, please email Adam at adam@overbrookpresb.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Civil Rights Pilgrimage Reflections- Sunday, October 2nd, 12:00pm. Last June our confirmation classes went on a three-day Civil Rights Pilgrimage through Atlanta, Montgomery, and Selma. After worship on October 2nd, those students will take time to reflect on the trip and discuss what they have learned. The congregation is invited to join them our pilgrims for lunch in the Fellowship Hall and stay for a chance to hear about the value of the trip in the lives of our confirmands. All are welcome!

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parents and Caregivers Meet and Greet—Sunday, September 18, after Worship. The Children and Family Ministry is hosting a short, informal meet and greet for parents and caregivers of the church. There, Children are invited to play on the playground while adults get to know each other and connect. Leaders of the Children and Family Ministry will be present to answer questions, promote volunteer opportunities, and hear your suggestions as the program year begins.

Take a Break, Parents and Caregivers!—Friday, September 30, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Sign up ASAP for *Parent's Night Out*, a free opportunity where young ones aged 3-11 enjoy a night at OPC while their parents enjoy a night to themselves. Spots are limited and are distributed at a first-come, first-served basis. Children's ministry volunteers plan to sing music, tell stories, play games, eat a meal, and watch a film with young ones. RSVP by emailing Anthony at anthony@overbrookpresb.org.

CFM Volunteer Opportunities: We are seeking volunteers to fill the following roles on Sundays at OPC:

Worship Shepherd (9:30-10:45 AM)	Biblical Storyteller/Assistant (10:45)
Sunday School Storyteller (10:45-Noon)	SS Classroom Aide (10:45-Noon)
Special Events Assistant (as-needed).	

Please reach out to Anthony, Christy, or Sabrina for more information and tips on how to get started!

CFM QUESTIONS?

Please contact the following committee leaders:

Anthony (anthony@overbrookpresb.org),
Christy (christiane.lang@gmail.com), or
Sabrina (sjohnson227@gmail.com).

ONGOING WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

The Work of the Church continues, and we continue to create programming for our community.

Sunday:

Adult Forum – Resuming on October 2 -9:15 a.m.

Children Sunday School – 2nd-last Sunday of the month-10:45 a.m.

Youth Sunday School-2nd-last Sunday of the month-11:15 a.m.

Tuesday Women’s Prayer & Support Group—7:30 a.m.

Join <https://bit.ly/3yxD2F4>

Meeting ID: 932 4865 5338

Wednesday Bible Study—10:30 a.m. (both in person and online)

Join <https://tinyurl.com/46n54thm>

Meeting ID: 894 5497 9360

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Committee	Monthly Meeting	Chair or Co-Chairs
Worship and Music	3 rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.*	Eileen Wiggins
Mission and Outreach	4 th Sunday, 12:15 p.m.	Jeff Bowker
Finance	1 st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.*	Lainie Blodgett
Children and Family (CFM)	Last Wednesday, 6:15 p.m.*	Christy Lang-Hearlson and Sabrina Johnson
Property	TBD	Bill Baker, Ted Dillon, and Jeff Bowker
Stewardship	Next meeting: 9/21, 7:00 p.m., Keedra’s home	Keedra Carroll and Will Schick
Congregational Life	TBD	Artia Benjamin
Welcoming	TBD	Elizabeth Mendoza
Youth and Family	TBD	Adam Hearlson

An asterisk (*) indicates that the committee meets virtually.

For more information about any of the committees, please contact the chair or one of the co-chairs. Contact information may be found by visiting Realm or contacting the office at office@overbrookpresb.org.

Prayer List

- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for Christy Lang Hearlson's mother, Judy, who has undergone surgery following a serious fall
- Prayers for comfort and healing for Aimerie Scherluebbe as she undergoes medical treatment for lymphoma.
- Prayers for restoration of health for Becky Lazo's mother, Susan Leach, who is undergoing medical care at Penn-Presbyterian Hospital
- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for Margaret Young's great-grandson, Yusuuf, who is undergoing chemotherapy and radiation at Children's Hospital.
- Prayers of peace and comfort for Mary Lou Ryce's friend, Lark, as she moves into an assisted living community.
- Prayers for comfort and healing for Kim Parris as she recovers from a fractured elbow.
- Prayers for comfort and healing for Trudy Sheau.
- Prayers of hope and strength for Kahil Taylor, nephew of Artia Benjamin, and his family during challenging times.
- Prayers for comfort and restoration of health for Ed Harvey.
- Prayers for hope and restoration of health for all who are under medical treatment for cancer.
- Prayers for all who face health challenges, especially Ernestine Harris, Caroline Skinner, Aqueelah Folwell, Stephanie Stokes, Terri Carter, Judy Swartz, Alyce Marsh, Ellen Burr, Bill and Jean Long, and Martha Brown.
- Prayers for Stephanie Morris and her family.
- Prayers of hope and strength for all who are experiencing challenges and transitions in their personal lives.

Please contact Bill Baker (wbaklava@aol.com) or Sharon Parker (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) to add names to the prayer list.

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OPC SESSION MEMBERS:

Adam Hearlson, Moderator

Raelyn Harman, Clerk of Session; Stephanie Morris, Treasurer

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2022

Elizabeth Cosgriff

Bob Harden, Jr.

Linda Huff-Paul

Deborah Rottinger**

Eileen Wiggins**

Class of 2023

Keedra Carroll

Kevin Davis**

Solomon Hunter

Becky Lazo**

Nathalie May

Class of 2024

Herb Brabham**

Elizabeth Mendoza**

Brian Taussig-Lux

Christoph Von Andreae

Mimi Winkler

OPC DEACONS:

Bill Baker, Moderator, Board of Deacons

Jason Sheau, Treasurer; Mary Lou Ryce, Secretary

** indicates second consecutive term

Class of 2022

Artia Benjamin**

Suchita Fiorillo**

Bill Baker

Bob Kaercher

Nickie Stokes**

Class of 2023

Peju Adebajo**

Miriam Harden

Ginny Leagans

Leah Mayne

Jason Sheau

Class of 2024

Gloria Brabham

Nancy Gilhool**

Mike Rottinger

Mary Lou Ryce**

Will Schick

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6376 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151

Phone: 215-877-2744 Email: office@overbrookpresb.org

www.overbrookpresb.org

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson - Pastor

The Rev. David McMillan - Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Christopher Gage - Director of Music

Anthony Carrella - Director of Children and Family Ministry

Sharon Parker - Parish Care Associate

Lisa Faso - Office Manager

Carol Rozmiarek - Financial Secretary

Leonard Robbins - Church Custodian

The Overbrook Quartet:

Iris Fairfax, soprano; Allison Chang, alto;

Toffer Mihalka, tenor; Matthew Lulofs, bass

“Overbrook Presbyterian Church actively seeks to worship God, serving each other and the world through a welcoming, loving, and inclusive ministry.”

645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief
 4 Thus all my toil-some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

mur - mur stilled:
 all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
 cho - sen band:
 take your part:

Sing Out, My Soul 646 Magnificat

G C D7 G (chords continue)

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and
 Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi -

glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free. Sing out, my soul.
 cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num. Ma - gni - fi - cat.

Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!
 Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a!

*May be sung as a canon.

This canonic chant from the Taizé Community is based on the opening phrase of Mary's song when she visited her relative Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist (Luke 1:39-56). Both Eastern and Western churches have used the full text for many centuries as part of daily prayers.

New Every Morning Is the Love

1. New ev - ery morn - ing is the love
 2. New mer - cies, each re - turn - ing day,
 3. Old friends, old scenes, will love - lier be,
 4. On - ly, O Lord, in thy dear love,

our wak - ening and up - ris - ing prove;
 a - round us hov - er while we pray;
 as more of heaven in each we see;
 fit us for per - fect rest a - bove;

through sleep and dark - ness safe - ly brought,
 new per - ils past, new sins for - given,
 some soft - ening gleam of love and prayer
 and help us, this and ev - ery day,

re - stored to life and power and thought.
 new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.
 shall dawn on ev - ery cross and care.
 to live more near - ly as we pray.

THE WORD

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.