



In Preparation for Worship

"Nehemiah 8 shows us what it looks like when the people gather to hear the written word proclaimed and interpreted and let that proclamation shape and energize their life in community." - *Anathea Portier-Young*

Gathering Prayer

Prelude

Trio

Josef Rheinberger

Welcome and Announcements

At this time, please take a moment to let us know you are worshipping online with us by sharing your name in the "comments" on our video feed, as well as filling out the [online friendship pad](#) at [slpres.org](#).

The Light of the Hour

Worshippers are invited to light a candle with us, a reminder that we are connected by the Holy Spirit. #SaintLukesConnected

Hymn #74*

When God Restored Our Common Life

**Hymn sheets are located at the end of the bulletin.*

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Leader: The Lord be with you. Let us pray...

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and soul and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy,
forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.

Hear also our personal confessions that we offer in silence... *(Silence is kept for personal reflection.)*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Praise

Doxology

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

Passing of the Peace of Christ

We encourage you to pass the peace with your fellow worshippers in the "comments" of the video feed and to take time today to reach out and share Christ's peace with your friends, neighbors and family.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 8:1-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

Sermon

Leaning into Life

Shannon Dill

Meditation

Meditation on O Waly Waly

Affirmation of Faith

from The Confession of Belhar

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;

We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ;

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another.

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.

Offering

*Giving is a tangible sign of worship. During this interesting time in our world, we encourage you to continue to share your time, talent and treasure. You may also "Text to Give" to **73256**. The body of the text needs to start with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.*

Hymn #847*

Our Hope Our Life

**Stanzas 1,3 and 4. Hymn sheets are located at the end of the bulletin.*

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude

Marcel Dupre

When God Restored Our Common Life

74

(Psalm 126)



1 When God re - stored our com - mon life, our hope, our lib - er -
 2 We went forth weep - ing, sow - ing seeds in hard, un - yield - ing
 3 Great lib - er - at - ing God, we pray for all who are op -



ty: at first it seemed a pass - ing dream, a
 soil; with laugh - ing hearts we car - ry home the
 pressed. May those who long for what is right with



wak - ing fan - ta - sy: a shock of joy swept
 fruit of all our toil. We praise the One who
 jus - tice now be blest. We pray for those who



o - ver us, for we had wept so long: the
 gave the growth, with voic - es full and strong. The
 mourn this day, and all who suf - fer wrong: may



seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.
 seeds we wa - tered once with tears sprang up in - to a song.
 seeds they wa - ter now with tears spring up in - to a song.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

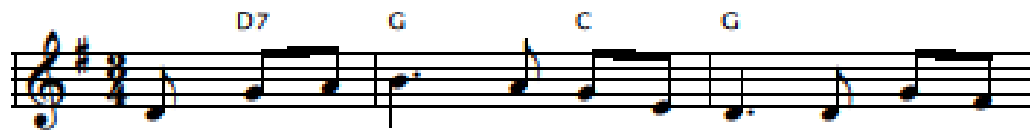
This paraphrase brings Psalm 126 to life in two ways: by turning the "they" of the final verses of the psalm to "we," and by adding a prayer for all who still wait for release from oppression. The shape note tune provides just the right balance of gratitude and urgency.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1981
 MUSIC: U.S.A. folk melody, Lewis's *Beauties of Harmony*, 1828; harm. Erik Routley, 1976
 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.
 Music Harm. © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

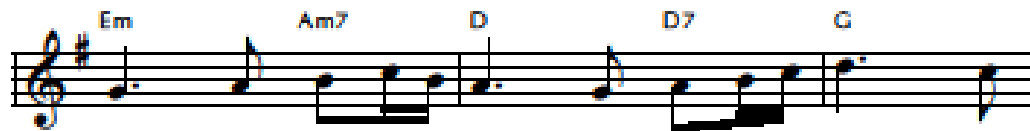
RESIGNATION
 CMB
 (alternate harmonization, 803)
 (alternate tune: NOEL)

847 Our Hope, Our Life

(Psalm 49)



1 Our hope, our life are in the Lord, the God we
 2 Some flaunt their gold; some trust its power, but what they
 3 Though wealth or learn - ing may be ours, or fame that
 4 Be - yond this age of shame and sham we glimpse a



hon - or and con - fess. Why crave re - nown or
 cher - ish will de - cay; and still the ran - som
 spreads through - out the land, the shack - les of mor -
 bet - ter des - ti - ny: the Lord will lift us



op - u - lence? They fade, those things we now pos - sess.
 for a soul re - mains a price too great to pay.
 tal - i - ty pre - vent so much that we have planned.
 free from death to dwell in praise e - ter - nal - ly.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

As this recent paraphrase of Psalm 49 illustrates, human beings have long been tempted to put their trust in earthly assets, especially wealth and fame. But these are not enduring possessions, and they cannot save us. Only in God can we find unfailing hope and eternal life.