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❖ **PRELUDE:** Christ lag in Todesbanden —
JS Bach

❖ **GATHERING SONG:** Spirit of the Living
God*

❖ **OPENING HYMN:** Awake, Awake to Love
and Work

❖ **ANTHEM:** Prayer by Robert Lau

❖ **RESPONSE HYMN:** O Jesus I have
Promised*

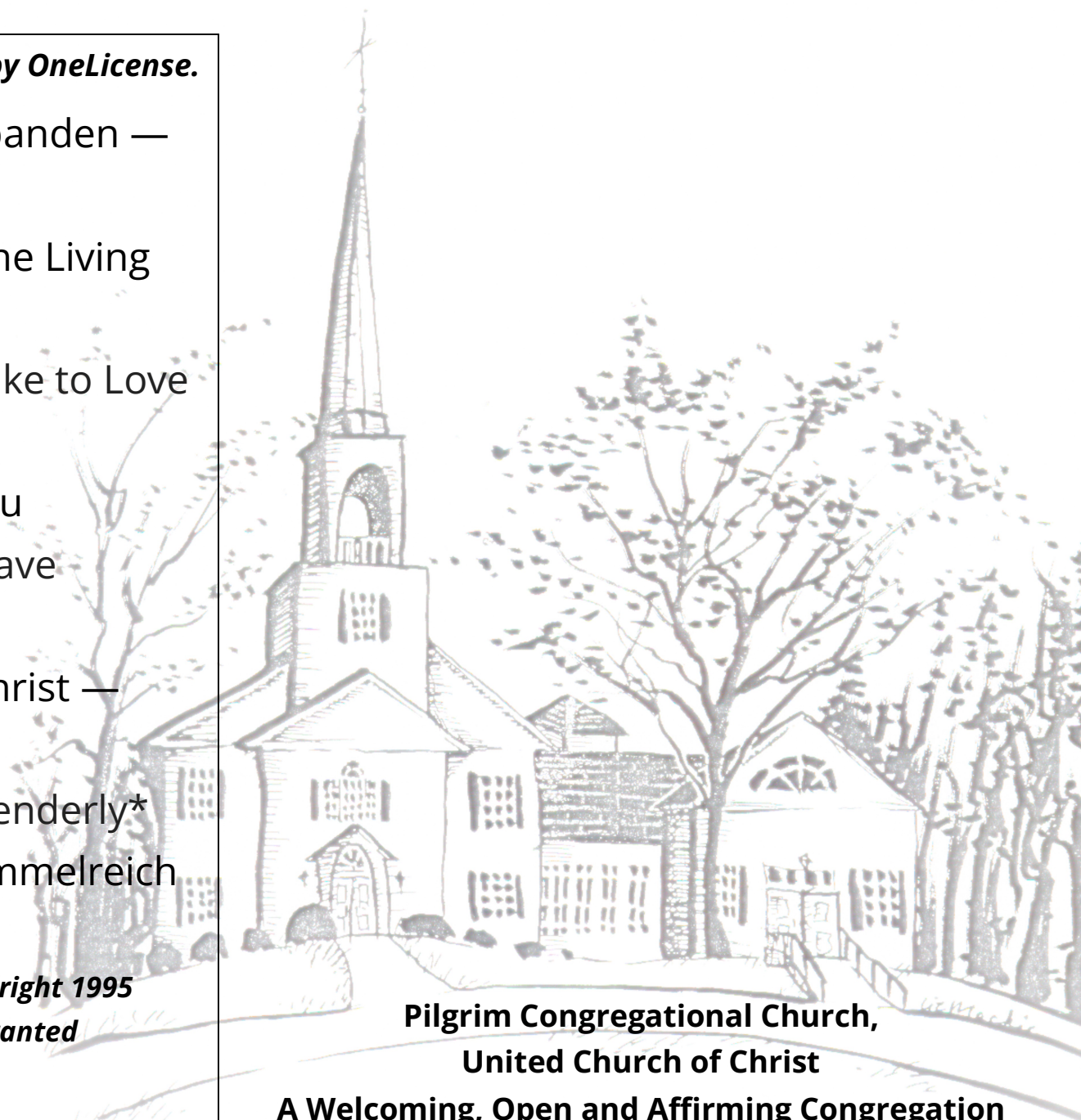
❖ **OFFERTORY:** The Church of Christ —
Fred Pratt Green

❖ **CLOSING HYMN:** Softly and Tenderly*

❖ **POSTLUDE:** Vater Unser in Himmelreich
— Dietrich Buxtehude

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Today's service will be recorded.



**Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

**A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation
February 25, 2024 — Second Sunday of Lent**

Worship Sunday, February 25, 2024

PRELUDE

Christ lag in Todesbanden — JS Bach

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING THE PEACE

Jeff Boehm

ONE: May you be at peace in mind, peace in body, and peace with your neighbors, family and friends. May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

GATHERING SONG

Spirit of the Living God — Black Hymnal 283



Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeff Boehm

(adapted from Psalm 34:9-14)

ONE: O fear the LORD, you holy ones of God,

ALL: for those who fear God have no want.

ONE: The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek God lack no good thing.

ALL: We come to listen; We come to learn reverence for God.

ONE: Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?

ALL: Keep our tongues from evil, and our lips from speaking deceit.

ONE: Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

*OPENING HYMN

Awake, Awake to Love and Work — Red Hymnal 34

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Reebee Girash

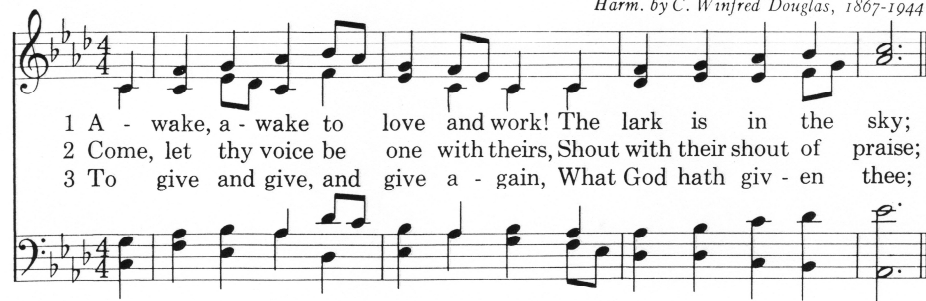
Gentle and holy God, we acknowledge to you, to one another, and to ourselves that we are not what you have called us to be. We have forgotten our gifts and lost our way. We have avoided opportunities to offer kindness, but have been quick to take offense. We have pretended that we could make no contribution to peace and justice in our world and have excused ourselves from risk-taking in our own community. Have mercy on us, forgive us our transgressions, and help us to live our lives differently. We pray in the name of Jesus, whose call to follow haunts our every prayer. Amen

Awake, Awake to Love and Work

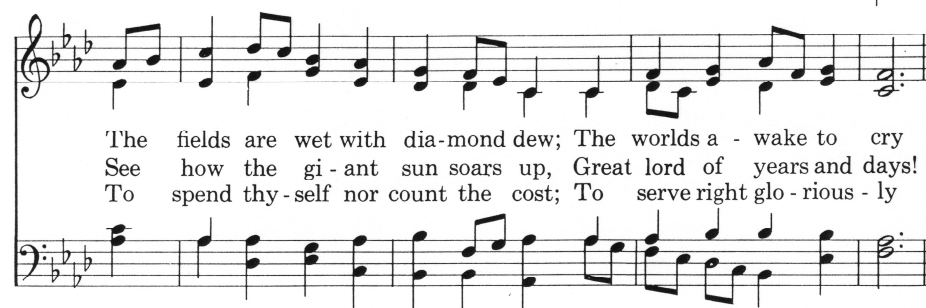
34

Geoffrey A. Studdert-Kennedy, 1883-1929

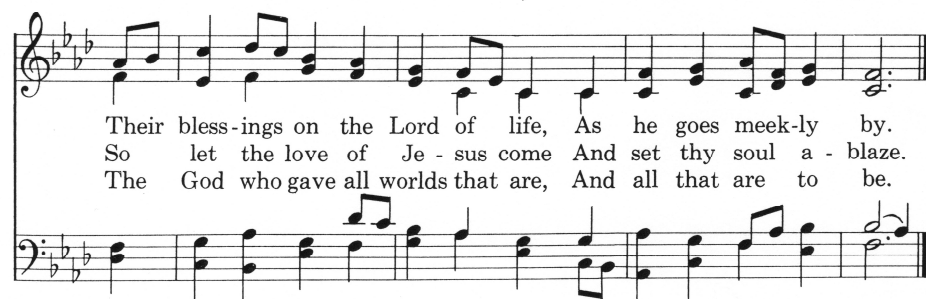
MORNING SONG 8.6.8.6.8.6.
Melody, "Kentucky Harmony," 1816
Harm. by C. Winfred Douglas, 1867-1944



1 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;
2 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, Shout with their shout of praise;
3 To give and give, and give a - gain, What God hath giv - en thee;



The fields are wet with dia-mond dew; The worlds a - wake to cry
See how the gi - ant sun soars up, Great lord of years and days!
To spend thy-self nor count the cost; To serve right glo - rious - ly



Their bless-ings on the Lord of life, As he goes meek-ly by.
So let the love of Je - sus come And set thy soul a - blaze.
The God who gave all worlds that are, And all that are to be.

MORNING

1 Awake, awake to love and work!

The lark is in the sky;

The fields are wet with diamond dew;

The worlds awake to cry

Their blessings on the Lord of life,

As he goes meekly by.

2 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs,

Shout with their shout of praise;

See how the giant sun soars up,

Great lord of years and days!

So let the love of Jesus come

And set thy soul ablaze.

3 To give and give, and give again,

What God hath given thee;

To spend thyself nor count the cost;

To serve most gloriously

The God who gave all worlds that are,

And all that are to be.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:32-52

Jeff Boehm

³²They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³saying, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.'

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' ³⁶And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' ³⁷And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' ³⁸But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' ³⁹They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.'

⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.' ⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' ⁵²Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

ONE: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Prayer by Robert Lau

Children are invited to participate in Sunday School at this time. Please gather at the rear of the Sanctuary with Sarah Jane Fuller and Izzy Leginsky.

SERMON

Rev. Reebee Girash

*RESPONSE HYMN

O Jesus I have Promised — Black Hymnal 493

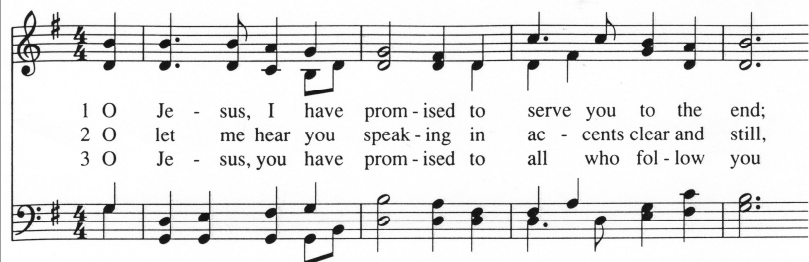
DISCIPLESHIP

O Jesus, I Have Promised

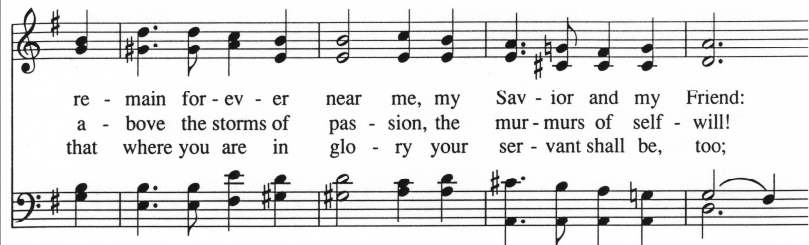
493

John E. Bode, 1868; alt.

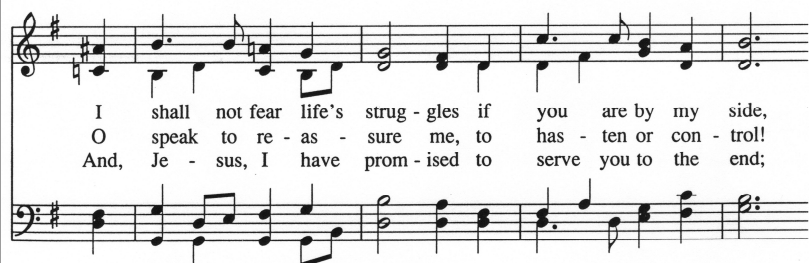
Luke 9:57; John 14:1-4



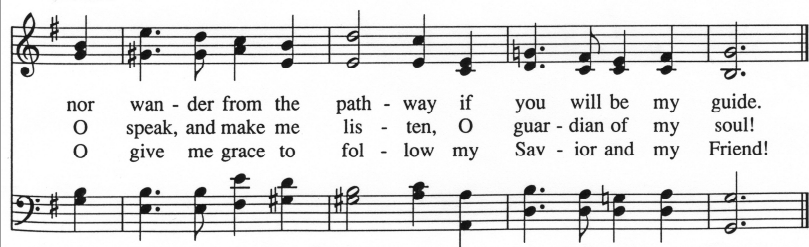
1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 3 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my Sav - ior and my Friend;
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will!
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be, too;



I shall not fear life's strug - gles if you are by my side,
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol!
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, O guar - dian of my soul!
 O give me grace to fol - low my Sav - ior and my Friend!

John Ernest Bode wrote these words when his daughter and two sons were confirmed. Although the Oxford scholar and rector wrote books of hymns, this is the only one to achieve lasting fame.

Tune: ANGEL'S STORY 7.6.7.6.D.
 A. H. Mann, 1883
 Alternate tune: MUNICH

1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
 remain forever near me, my Savior and my Friend:
 I shall not fear life's struggles if you art by my side,
 nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

2 O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
 above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will!
 O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control!
 O speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul!
 Master and my friend.

3 O Jesus, you hast promised to all who follow you
 that where thou are in glory you servant shall be too;
 And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
 O give me grace to follow, my Savior and my Friend!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father (Creator), 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.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Meryl Glassman, Dignity Matters

OFFERTORY

The Church of Christ — Fred Pratt Green

*DOXOLOGY

Red Hymnal 515

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**
or

**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**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Reebee Girash

God of life, we worship you by being abundant and fruitful with our lives. We worship you by offering up our gifts as if they were songs of joyful praise. Bless these gifts that they may lead to abundant life for all creation, for our neighbors and strangers alike. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN

Softly and Tenderly — Black Hymnal 449

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Vater Unser in Himmelreich — Dietrich Buxtehude

Thank you to our Zoom hosts, Isabella and Sydney Stevens, our Liturgist, Jeff Boehm and our Coffee hosts, the Mission Committee.

SOURCE NOTES

The Prayer of Confession is by Maren Tirabassi, #835 in the New Century Hymnal.

Softly and Tenderly

Will L. Thompson, 1880; alt.

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing, pass - ing from
 4 O for the won - der - ful love Je - sus prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me; See at the por - tals Christ wait - ing and
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not God's
 you and from me; Shad - ows are gath - er - ing, death - beds are
 you and for me; Though we have sinned Je - sus of - fers us

Refrain
 watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me. Come home, come
 mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me? Come home,
 com - ing, com - ing for you and for me.
 par - don, par - don for you and for me.

home, All who are wea - ry, come home;
 come home,

*Will Thompson established publishing firms in Chicago and East
 Liverpool, Ohio, the community to which he left a legacy of song.
 Dwight L. Moody once remarked that he would rather have
 written "Softly and Tenderly" than anything he had ever done.*

Tune: SOFTLY AND TENDERLY
 11.7.11.7. with refrain
Will L. Thompson, 1880

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
 calling for you and for me;
 See, at the portals Christ waiting and watching,
 watching for you and for me.

Refrain:

Come home, come home;
 All who are weary come home;

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
 pleading for you and for me?

Why should we linger and heed not God's mercies,
 mercies for you and for me? [Refrain]

3 Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
 passing from you and from me;

Shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming,
 coming for you and for me. [Refrain]

4 O for the wonderful love Jesus promised,
 promised for you and for me;

Though we have sinned, Jesus offers us pardon,
 pardon for you and for me. [Refrain]

Please join us for all our upcoming Lent and Easter Worship services:

Sunday Morning Worship — 10:30 am*

Palm Sunday Service — March 24, 2024*

Maundy Thursday Service — March 28, 2024 at 7:30 pm*

Easter Sunday — March 31, 2024*

**hybrid*