

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Santa Clarita

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost — Proper 27

10:30am — November 10, 2024

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Before the service begins, we encourage you to use the following for meditation.

We each are called to make a whole-self-offering to God. In the example of Mary, we are assured that, though it might not be an easy offering, it won't be a lonely one. And we are assured that in bearing that offering to God, we too will be blessed. — Br. Lain Wilson, SSJE

Prelude

Trois Études, No. 2

Frederic Chopin

Please stand as you are able.

Entrance Hymn #9

“Not here for high and holy things” (vs. 1-4)

Morning Song



1. *Not here for high and ho - ly — things we ren - der thanks to
 2. *the roy - al robes of — au - tumn moors, the gold - en gates of
 3. *of faith and hope and love un - dimmed, un - dy - ing still through
 4. A - wake, a - wake to — love and — work! The lark is in the
 5. Come, let thy voice be — one with theirs, shout with their shout of
 6. to give and give, and give a - gain, what God hath giv - en



thee, but for the — com - mon things of — earth, the
 spring, the — vel - vet — of soft sum - mer — nights, the
 death, the — re - sur - rec - tion of the — world, what
 sky, the — fields are — wet with dia - mond dew, the
 praise; see — how the — gi - ant sun soars up, great
 thee; to — spend thy - self nor count the — cost; to



pur - ple pa - gean - try of — dawn - ing — and of
 sil - ver glis - ter - ing of — all the — mil - lion
 time there comes the breath of — dawn that — rus - tles
 worlds a - wake to cry their bless - ings on the
 lord of years and days! So — let the — love of
 serve right glo - rious - ly the — God who gave all



dy - ing — days, the splen - dor of — the sea,
 mil - lion — stars, the si - lent song they sing,
 through the — trees, and that clear voice that saith:
 Lord of — life, as he goes meek - ly by.
 Je - sus — come and set thy soul a - blaze,
 worlds that — are, and all that are — to be.

THE WORD OF GOD

Priest: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Priest and People:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Priest: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSONS

The First Reading 1 Kings 17:8-16

Reader: Cheryl Sena

A Reading from the First Book of Kings.

The word of the Lord came to Elijah, saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said,

“Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146

Reader: John Fortman

- 1 Hallelujah!
Praise the Lord, O my soul! *
I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- 2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.
- 3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, *
and in that day their thoughts perish.
- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- 9 The Lord shall reign for ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

The Second Reading Hebrews 9:24-28

Reader: John Fortman

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself

again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gradual Hymn #686

"Come, thou fount of every blessing"

Nettleton

1. Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!
 2. Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er, by thy help, I've come;
 3. Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!

Streams of mer - cy ne - ver ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some mel - o - dious son - net sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove.
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering from the fold of God;
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The Gospel Reading Mark 12:38-44

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

As Jesus taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Priest: The Gospel of the Savior.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand as you are able.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Reader: Kelsey Raub

Christ appears in the presence of God on our behalf. With such a great advocate, let us pray to God for ourselves and for others, saying, "Blessed are you, O God; you supply all our needs."

God of blessing, we wait in hope for you. We wait for your kingdom to come; we wait for the return of your Son; we wait for you to visit us with your Holy Spirit once again today. We wait in hope for you; give us patience.

Silence

Intercessor: Blessed are you, O God;

People: You supply all our needs.

God of blessing, we pray you guide and protect our service men and women. Let us those who trust in you never be put to shame.

Silence

Intercessor: Blessed are you, O God;

People: You supply all our needs.

God of blessing, we pray that you bless the earth to bear much fruit. May there be enough to feed all of the people of the world. May those with much and those with little rejoice together in your bounty.

Silence

Intercessor: Blessed are you, O God;

People: You supply all our needs.

God of blessing, we thank you for our public libraries. We ask that you increase in our land knowledge and wisdom. We thank you for institutions that meet the needs of all people.

The congregation may add their own thanksgivings.

Silence

Intercessor: Blessed are you, O God;

People: You supply all our needs.

God of blessing, you are the hope of the hopeless; you give sleep to the anxious and wholeness to those who feel alone. Comfort and care for those in need of your healing touch this day. We pray for all those on the prayer list, especially Roberto, Mia, Corrine, Paul, Pat, Jenni, Carla, Mark, Bruce, Lisa, Lou, Katherine, Will, Amy, Dylan, Blake, Jeff, and Johnnie.

The congregation may add their own petitions.

Silence

Intercessor: Blessed are you, O God;

People: You supply all our needs.

God of blessing, you make us heirs of eternal life through your blessed Son. May we be made like him in his eternal and glorious Kingdom. We trust to you our dead, praying especially today for all those who died for the causes of freedom and peace. We pray for those who have died, especially Tom, Sister Miriam and Linda Canaday.

Silence

Intercessor: Blessed are you, O God;

People: You supply all our needs.

Priest:

O Gracious God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, the one, holy and undivided Trinity; God, Son & Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Priest: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Members of the congregation who are joining us via livestream are encouraged to post "Peace be with you" in the comments or to use the "like" or "love" reaction button to take part in the virtual exchange of God's peace with the rest of the congregation at this time.

Please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

We are pleased to celebrate the following birthdays: Brendan Krabach on Nov. 4th, Tayson Bernabe & John Noonan on Nov. 12th, Colleen Gibbons on Nov. 13th, Diana Patino on Nov. 14th, and Monica Bellows on Nov. 16th. We also celebrate the wedding anniversaries of Tracy & John Stapp on November 6th, Julie & Jeremy Johnson on November 7th, Kimberly and James Torres on Nov. 8th and Rev. Christopher & Erick Long on November 10th.

Stewardship Reflection

Diane & Michael Sayre

Offertory Prayer

The People remain seated and say together:

Loving God, you alone are the source of every good gift. Everything we have, and all that we are, comes from you. Now, help us to be grateful, accountable, and, with praise and thanksgiving, to give of ourselves generously, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Offertory

Be Still and Know
St. Stephen's Parish Choir

Steven Curtis Chapman

Please stand as you are able.

Presentation

Old 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures,
here below. Praise God, you hosts in heav'n a -
bove; Praise God the Trin - i - ty of Love. A - men.

G D Em Bm G D G D Em
C G D Em D G Am G/B C F#dim/A
Em D/F# G C#dim/ED C G/D D7 G G7 C G

Priest: God be with you.
 People: **And also with you.**
 Priest: Lift up your hearts.
 People: **We lift them to God.**
 Priest: Let us give thanks.
 People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

Baity

Ho - ly Lord, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, -
 Ho - ly Lord, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Heav'n and
 earth are full of your glo - ry, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho
 san - na, ho-san-na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Blest is he, blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
 Blest is he, blest is he whocomes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
 san-na, ho-san-na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high est. Ho
 san-na, ho-san-na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho
 san-na, ho-san-na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Standing or kneeling as you are able.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Priest and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Stephen, and all your people, into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Priest and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Please remain standing during the Fraction Anthem.

Fraction Hymn #S 154

Hurd

Cantor will sing the refrain first, followed by the congregation.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there-fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome to receive communion. The table we set belongs to God.
Wherever you find yourself on your spiritual journey you are welcome to receive
the Bread and Wine made holy.*

*The church teaches that temporal isolation cannot constrain the sacrament's ineffable power.
Calling us to "massive, corporate, spiritual communion,"*

The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Priest and People say together:

In union, O Christ, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, O Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

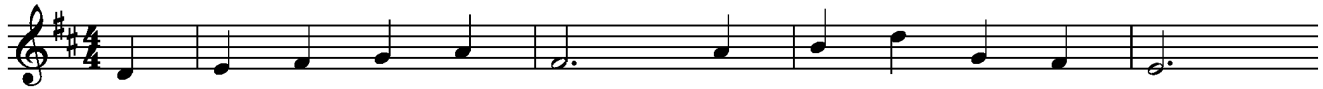
Please follow usher instructions for taking communion.

Communion Music

Hymn #656

“Blest are the pure in heart”

Franconia



1. Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
 2. The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring,
 3. He to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part
 4. Lord, we thy pre - sence seek; may ours this bless - ing be;



the se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
 to dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King.
 and for his dwell - ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
 give us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

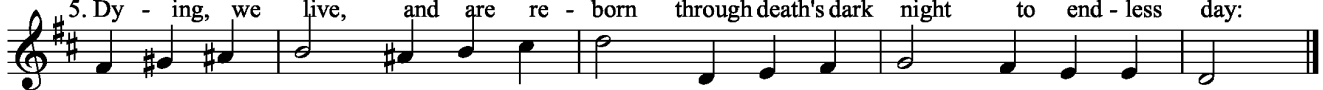
Hymn #593

“Lord make us servants of your peace”

Dickinson College



1. Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is hate, may we sow love;
 2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
 3. Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con - soled, but to con - sole,
 4. May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to love un - self - ish - ly,
 5. Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark night to end - less day:



where there is hurt, may we for - give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 where all is night, may we sow light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 nor look to un - der - stand - ing hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 for in our giv - ing we re - ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

Please stand as you are able.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Loving God,
 we give you thanks
 for restoring us in your image
 and nourishing us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
 Now send us forth
 a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
 that we may proclaim your love to the world
 and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

May God give you grace never to sell yourself short;
 Grace to risk something big for something good;
 Grace to remember that the world is too dangerous
 for anything but truth, and too small for anything but Love.
 And the blessing of God Almighty, the one, holy and
 undivided Trinity be among you and
 remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn #594

“God of grace and God of glory”

Cwm Rhondda

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy pow'r;
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
 3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
 4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;
 crown thine an - cient Chur - ch's sto - ru; bring her bud to glo - rious flow'r.
 From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise;
 shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
 let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age for the liv - ing of these
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -
 hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Dismissal

Priest: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
 People: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People taken from *Praying the Scriptures* by Jeremiah D. Williamson, ©2014 by Jeremiah D. Williamson. All Rights Reserved.
 From: *The Hymnal 1982* #376 "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee", Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852–1933) Music: *Hymn to Joy*; Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796–1867), alt. Copyright: Words: Reprinted with the permission of Charles Scribner & Sons. #S 154 Title: The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover Music: From *New Plain-song*; David Hurd (b. 1950) Copyright: Copyright © 1981, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. #S128 Title: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus* Music: William Mathias (b. 1934) Copyright: © 1976, Oxford University Press, Inc. #679 "Surely it is God who saves me" Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah* Music: *Thomas Meriton*, Ray. W. Urwin (b. 1950) Copyright: Words: Copyright © 1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. Music: © 1984 Ray W. Urwin. #416 "For the beauty of the earth", Words: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835–1917), alt. Music: *Lucerna Laudoniae*, David Evans (1874–1948) Copyright: Music: By permission of Oxford University Press. #495 "Hail, thou once despised Jesus", Words: John Bakewell (1721–1819) and Martin Madan (1726–1790), alt. Music: *In Babilone*, melody from *Oude en Nieuwe Hollanise Boerenlities en Contradanseu*, 1710; harm. Roy. F. Kehl (b. 1935) Copyright: Music: Harmonization © 1984, Roy F. Kehl.
 From *Lift Every Voice and Sing It!*: #222 *Jesus Loves the Little Children*, Words: Words: Anonymous Music: George F. Root (1820–1895)
Doxology — Music: Old 100th, melody from *Pseumna octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. After Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).