

Calvary Church Sunday Worship

July 12, 2026

* Please rise as you are able.

Bold text is spoken by the congregation.

Nursery care is available; ask a greeter for directions.

Prelude: Prelude in C Major, J.S. Bach

Susan Schmidt, organ

Welcome and Poem

Susan Stewart

*Gathering Words

Johan de Besche

We walk the path of faith

Scattering seeds as we go

Seeds of love and hope

Of meaning and purpose

Jesus walks beside us

Scattering seeds of inclusion and justice

We walk the path of faith

We don't know where we are headed but we know God is with us

We don't know what will happen

But we trust that God's word will guide us and sustain us

We walk this path

The journey is long and Jesus walks before us.

*Unison Prayer

Johan de Besche

Guide us, O God, on this path of life and faith.

Guide us on this journey of promise and possibility.

Guide us on this path which is fraught with difficulty and disappointment, with anxieties and fears.

Guide us on this path filled with potholes and valleys, mountains and rumble strips.

Help us to follow in the footsteps of your son, the steps of love and peace, of challenge and contentment.

Help us to find our way in your way.

Amen.

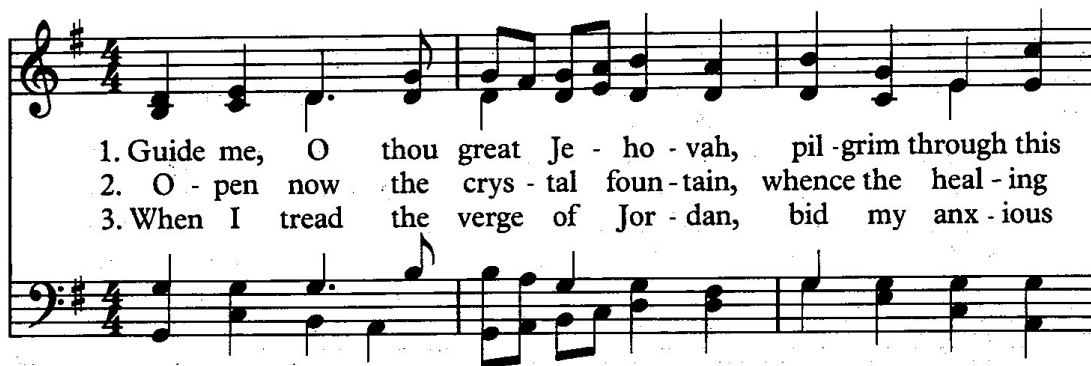
*Passing the Peace

Johan de Besche

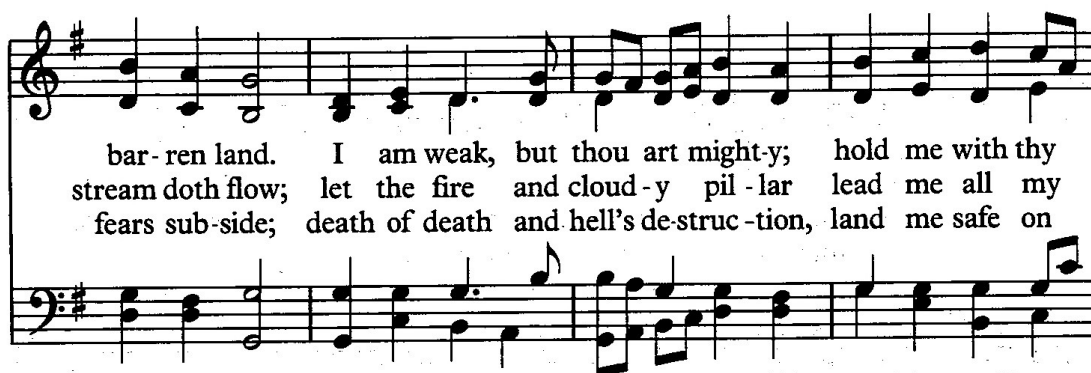
Peace be with you. **And also with you.** *Please share a sign of peace with your neighbors.*

*Hymn: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

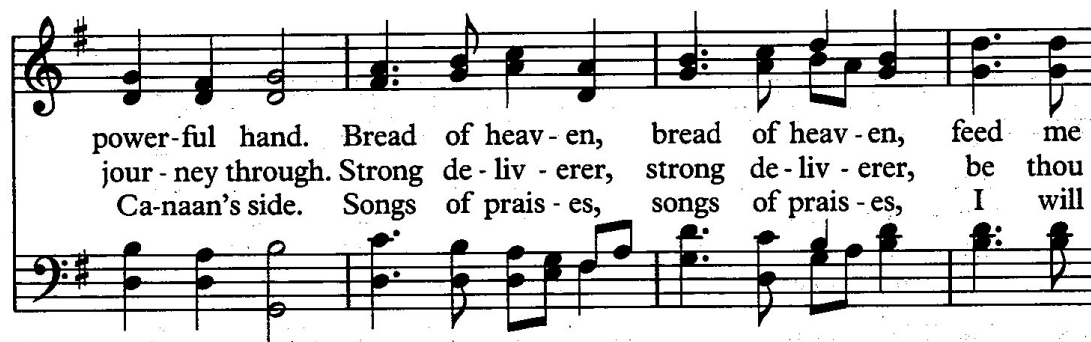
127 [large hymnal]



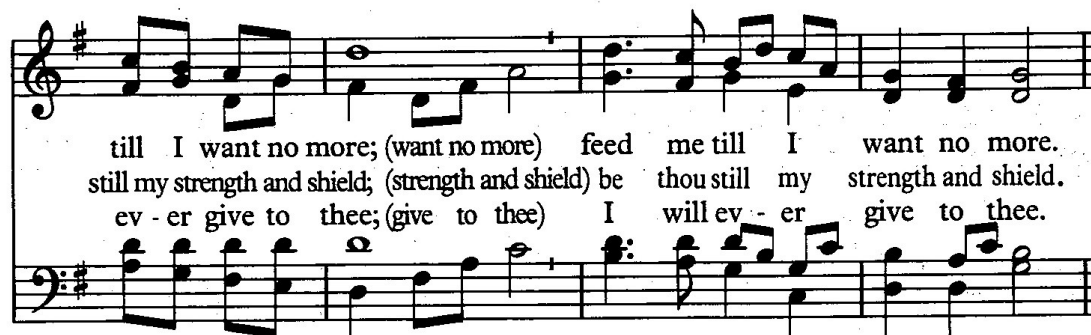
1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on



power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en, feed me
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer, be thou
Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es, I will



till I want no more; (want no more) feed me till I want no more.
still my strength and shield; (strength and shield) be thou still my strength and shield.
ev - er give to thee; (give to thee) I will ev - er give to thee.

WORDS: William Williams, 1745; trans. from the Welsh by Peter Williams and
the author, 1771
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
87.87.87

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Johan de Besche

After telling everybody that he regarded only those who do things God's way as his true family, Jesus left the house and went and sat on the beach. He was soon crowded out by people wanting to hear more of what he had to say, so using a boat as his platform, he taught the crowd gathered on the beach. One of the many stories he used to illustrate his points went like this:

"Listen up! When it was time to plant the crops, a farmer spread the seeds widely across the farm. Some of the seeds fell on the tracks, and the birds made a meal of them in no time. Other seeds fell on ground where the topsoil was shallow and there was nothing but rock underneath. They sprouted quickly enough, but because they were unable to put down roots, they didn't survive when the heat of the sun hit them. Other seeds fell where the weeds were out of control, and being unable to compete with the weeds, they were soon strangled to death. But there were other seeds that fell on good soil and went on to produce a bumper harvest: some reproducing themselves a hundred times over, and others at least sixty or thirty times over. Don't miss what I'm saying. If you've got ears, use them!"

Speaking to his closest followers later, Jesus said:

"Don't miss the point of my story about the farmer sowing seed. When people hear the message of the new culture and it means nothing to them, the evil one swallows up what was sown in their hearts before they can give it a second thought. It is just like the seeds sown on the tracks. What about the seeds sown in the shallow topsoil with rock below? This is like the people who hear the message and latch on to it with great enthusiasm. But they are too shallow to put down any decent roots, so they don't last long. As soon as the message they have accepted attracts any heat, their enthusiasm wilts and they are gone. And what about the seeds which were sown among the weeds? This is just like the people who get the message but it can't compete with all the other agendas that have taken over their lives. Their real priorities – being noticed and getting ahead – quickly strangle the message and nothing comes from it. But what about the seeds which were sown on good soil? Now we are talking about the people who hear the message and really take it to heart. It bears fruit in their lives and the harvest of good is multiplied, a hundred times over in some people; and at least sixty or thirty times over in others."

The word of God to us. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Time

Susan Stewart

After the song, young children are invited to the nursery (room 3).

Song: "Walk With Me"

refrain 2242 [small hymnal]

**Walk with me, I will walk with you
and build the land that God has planned
where love shines through.**

Scripture: Psalm 119: 105-112

Johan de Besche

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Every pilgrim knows what it feels like to walk only by enough light to take the next steps, but not all the way down the road. The perfect example of the road we do not quite see ahead of us.

The word of God for us. **Thanks be to God.**

Music: “La Chapelle” by Eugenie Rocherolle

Susan Schmidt, piano

Thoughts

Brayan Martinez Davalos, intern at Connexion

*Hymn: Christ Taught Us Of a Farmer

tune 545 [large hymnal]

Christ taught us of a farmer who went out sowing seeds.
A few had trouble growing among the rocks and weeds,
Yet others grew till harvest in soil that was so good.
O God, you sow the gospel: The seed is your own word.

You sowed your word of love here so many years ago.
Your message found a welcome; your word began to grow.
By grace, this church was built here by saints who followed you.
The seed took root and flourished: we hear and follow, too.

We thank you for each member who lives in loving ways:
For those who seek to serve you without expecting praise,
For hearts and songs uplifted, for work and sacrifice.
The seed you planted grows here: we grow in Jesus Christ.

In times of joy we praise you, in struggling times we search,
And always we are learning to be your faithful church.
Your Spirit gives us vision — and hearts and lives made new.
Your harvest is for sharing: sent out, we work for you.

*Affirmation of Faith from Dorothy McRae-McMahon

Susan Stewart

We believe in God who created us from nothing and goes on bringing to birth new things beyond our imagining.

We believe in Jesus Christ who entered our unknown journey and experienced all our living.

Who walked in our earthiness and can still be discovered in our midst.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who calls us on to truth in light beyond our seeing.

Who stirs within our being like a melody of possible music.

Who dances on before us in the freedom of passionate life.

Sharing of Prayers and Prayer of the People

Susan Stewart

We invite you to use your chosen words for God: Father, Mother, or...

Our 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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

If you wish to make a monetary donation, you can leave cash or a check in the offering baskets located at the entrances to the sanctuary or scan the Venmo code at the right.



*Doxology

Old 100th (95, large hymnal)

Praise God whose breath fills all the earth
Whose love reveals our sacred worth
Whose Spirit forms one family
Whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Susan Stewart

O God, may we be light on the path of others, may our gifts be used to share your grace, may we follow your leading and reveal your love in all we do. Amen.

*Hymn: "You are The Seed"

583 [large hymnal]

You are the seed that will grow a new sprout; you're a
You are the dawn that will bring a new day; you're the
star that will shine in the night; you are the yeast and a
wheat that will bear gold-en grain; you are a sting and a
small grain of salt, a bea-con to glow in the dark.
soft, gen-tle touch, my wit-ness - es wher - e'er you go.
Go, my friends, go to the world, pro - claim - ing
Be, my friends, a loy - al wit - ness, from the
love to all, mes - sen - gers of my for - giv - ing peace,
dead I a - rose; "Lo, I'll be with you for - ev - er,
e - ter - nal love. till the end of the world."

2. You are the flame that will lighten the dark,
sending sparkles of hope, faith, and love;
you are the shepherds to lead the whole world
through valleys and pastures of peace.
You are the friends that I chose for myself,
the word that I want to proclaim.
You are the new kingdom built on a rock
where justice and truth always reign.
3. You are the life that will nurture the plant;
you're the waves in a turbulent sea;
yesterday's yeast is beginning to rise,
a new loaf of bread it will yield.
There is no place for a city to hide,
nor a mountain can cover its might;
may your good deeds show a world in despair
a path that will lead all to God.

Refrain

Refrain

Words: Cesareo Gabarain trans. by Raquel Gutiérrez-Achon and Skinner Chávez-Melo Music: Cesareo Gabarain harm. by Skinner Chávez-Melo

Announcements

Susan Stewart

Weekly Event:

Helping Hands Thursday 10 AM

Benediction

Susan Stewart

Postlude: "How Firm a Foundation," early US melody

Susan Schmidt, organ