

# *Cheerfulness*

**IN NEGATIVE WORLD**



**AUGUST 17, 2025**

# Worship at a Glance

## A Brief Overview of our Worship Service and How to Participate

### A Note to Parents

Children are encouraged to be in the sanctuary because we believe the Bible commands us to include children in the worship service. Parents have the privilege of training their children for worship every Lord's Day. We are happy to partner with you in that training. To assist in training, we encourage families with children to sit closer to the front with their kids and make use of the children's worship bags in the sanctuary. Childcare rooms are also available when additional training or discipline is necessary. For more information, feel free to contact Nadine Michalak or Pastor Nate.

### What is a Bulletin?

The bulletin contains our order of worship and includes all the information you need to worship with us on Sundays. The bulletin is not something we simply "work through" but a guide that helps us in our worship of God. Our worship services are approximately 90 minutes.

### Announcements

Announcements about the ministry are given before the worship service begins. In the summer, we include a time of musical instruction as part of the announcements.

### Prelude

The prelude is a musical selection that is played at the beginning of the worship service. During that time, worshipers are encouraged to pray and prepare their hearts and minds for worship. The prelude ends with the "ringing of the hour," which includes the Westminster Chime, followed by a Trinitarian bell.

### Congregational Responses

Worship at Beverly Heights is "dialogical," meaning it is a dialogue between God and His people. The Pastor calls and the congregation responds throughout the service. All responsive readings for the congregation are in **bold**. The congregation also responds by kneeling for confession, standing for the reading of God's word before the sermon, and declaring "Amen" after prayer and song.

### Confessions of Sin and Faith

Each Sunday, the congregation is invited to confess their sins. We first confess corporately, followed by a time of silent and private confession. Everyone is invited to bow their heads and, for those who are able, to kneel for confession. Following the confession of sin, the pastor offers assurance of your forgiveness. The congregation then joins in a unison confession of faith through one of the ecumenical creeds (Apostles' Creed, Nicene Creed, Definition of Chalcedon).

### Music

Our worship service includes weekly special music. Normally, the choir (which is the "first-fruit" of the voice) sings an anthem on behalf of the congregation. When the choir is in recess, special music is offered by soloists or ensembles. We refrain from clapping for these musical offerings but respond as a congregation by lifting up our hands and singing the Doxology *a cappella*. All congregational music for the service can be found in the bulletin, the Trinity Hymnbook, or the Summer Psalter. Our Director of Music cantors to assist the congregation in singing.

### Scripture Readings

There are two scripture lessons during the worship service, normally one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. We always stand for the reading before the sermon in keeping with the model found in Nehemiah 8:5.

### Sermon

The preaching of the word is understood as a direct address by God through the preacher to the congregation. Our sermons are predominantly exegetical (derived from the text) but sometimes topical. Most sermons will include an introduction, an explanation of the text, an application, and a takeaway (call to action).

### Offering

Every Lord's Day includes the opportunity to present an offering to the Lord in the form of gifts, tithes, offerings, and prayers. (A "tithes" is defined by the scriptures as a tenth of our income.)

### Pastoral Prayer

Following the offering, a pastoral prayer is made on behalf of the congregation. The subject of the prayer varies weekly, and worshipers are encouraged to join in the prayer by faith.

### Communion

We practice weekly communion in worship. All baptized believers who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper (See additional note in bulletin). Worshipers come to the front of the sanctuary to receive the bread and wine, but all partake of the elements together in the pews. As you receive the elements, the congregation is invited to sing. After communion, there is a "Eucharistic" (thanksgiving) prayer, followed by the singing of the threefold "Amen."

### Closing

After communion, the congregation sings a closing hymn or Psalm, followed by the benediction. The benediction is a blessing given by God to the congregation by the pastor. All worshipers are encouraged to stretch out their hands as a gesture of receptivity as they receive the benediction.

### Postlude

The service ends with the playing of a postlude.

# Beverly Heights Church

---

Welcome and Greeting

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Announcements

Amy Lucas, Church Administrator

Psalm Instruction: *'Tis by Thy Strength*

Elissa Winkler, Director of Music in Worship

## THE LORD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

*Fanfare and March on "St. Theodulph"*  
Jinna Park, *Accompanist and Organist*

Dixon

*The first note of the prelude marks the beginning of worship. Please use this brief period of time for prayer and preparation while keeping conversation at a low volume and to a minimum. **Please refrain from clapping unless led to do so.***

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made!

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Congregational Introit **Psalm 134**

3-Part Canon: Men, Women and Children

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Psalm of Praise **No. 135**

vv. 1, 2

*Hallelujah! Praise the LORD's Name*

Responsive Reading

Psalm 146

Dr. Kyle David Bennett

Leader: Praise the LORD! 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.

**People: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

**People: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the sojourners; He upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin. The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

**THE LORD CLEANSSES OUR SIN**

Unison Prayer of Confession, Followed by Silent Confession of Sin

*Please bow your head. For those who are able, you are invited to kneel during the confession of sin.*

**Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for ignoring Your immensity and greatness. Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that You rule the nations and our small lives. Holy Spirit, we offend You in minimizing Your power and squandering Your gifts. We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Have mercy upon us. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Hear the good news of the gospel: God said, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."*

Unison Confession of Faith

Definition of Chalcedon

**Therefore, following the holy fathers, we all with one accord teach men to acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards his Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards his manhood; like us in all respects, apart from sin; as regards his Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards his manhood begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the virgin, the God-bearer; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from earliest times spoke of him, and our Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us, and the creed of the fathers has handed down to us.**

**THE LORD SANCTIFIES OUR LIVES**

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

Mr. Peter A. Chace

Psalm of Praise **No. 1**

vv. 1-3

*That Man Is Blessed*

Holly Devlin, Amy Lucas, Jen Tan, *women's trio*; Chad Winkler, *piano*

*God, You're the Gardner and Jesus the Vine; come have Your way in the branch of my life.  
 Whatever is growing that doesn't belong, cut it away. Whatever is thriving, rooted and strong, oh let it stay.  
 For my good, for Your glory; do what You have to do, do what You have to do.  
 Make me pure, make me holy; prune me to bear Your fruit, do what You have to do.*

*Jesus, You grafted me into Your tree; through every season You're working in me.  
 Whatever is growing that doesn't belong, cut it away. Whatever is thriving, rooted and strong, oh let it stay.  
 For my good, for Your glory; do what You have to do, do what You have to do.  
 Make me pure, make me holy; prune me to bear Your fruit, do what You have to do.*

*Let there be love and joy and peace; let there be patience, kindness, goodness in me.  
 Let there be gentleness and self-control, bear Your fruit in my life, O Lord, whatever You want, oh, bring it to pass in my heart.*

Congregational Response No. 731

Doxology

Chord symbols for the first system: G, D, Em, Bm, Em, D, G.

Chord symbols for the second system: D, Em, C, G, D, Em, D, G, D, G, C, D, G.

Chord symbols for the third system: D, G, Em, D, Am, G, D, G, C, G.

Lyrics:  
 Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
 crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:  
 praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*All children remain in worship with their families.*

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:46-52

Sermon

**Cheerfulness in Negative World**  
Cheerful Calling

Pastor Devlin

**THE LORD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS AND HEARTS**

Call for the Offering and Offertory

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Giamanco

Prayers for the People

Prayer for Teachers

Dr. Kyle David Bennett

**THE LORD MEETS US AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution and Examination of Conscience (\*See below)

Invitation and Coming to the Table

*Please note: we will eat together in the pen.  
Those who are unable to come to the table will be served in the pen.  
The Elders are serving bread and wine.  
To better serve those with restrictions,  
please see Pastor Devlin for gluten-free bread and/or grape juice.*

Communion Hymn

See Screen

*Everlasting Arms*

Prayer of Thanksgiving followed by the Threefold Amen **No. 740**

*Trinity Hymnal*

**THE LORD SCATTERS US TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM**

Closing Hymn

*Franklin Gloria*

Benediction

Postlude

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Forrest

---

***\*May I Come to the Lord's Table?***

*All baptized believers who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, including those from other congregations, are a part of the true Church and are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper. As we come to the table we rejoice as we remember our need to trust in Jesus Christ as Lord, to repent of sin, and to covenant once more to live as followers of Jesus. Those who are ignorant in their knowledge of Christ or who are living ungodly and unrepentant lives should refrain from the table. Baptized children may be admitted to the Lord's Supper provided their parents have appeared before the Pastor or Session to share their child's profession of faith, in a manner acceptable to the Session.*

# Sermon Materials

Within the story of American secularization, there have been three distinct stages:

- **Positive World (Pre-1994):** Society at large retains a mostly positive view of Christianity. To be known as a good, churchgoing man remains part of being an upstanding citizen. Publicly being a Christian is a status-enhancer. Christian moral norms are the basic moral norms of society and violating them can bring negative consequences.
- **Neutral World (1994–2014):** Society takes a neutral stance toward Christianity. Christianity no longer has privileged status but is not disfavored. Being publicly known as a Christian has neither a positive nor a negative impact on one's social status. Christianity is a valid option within a pluralistic public square. Christian moral norms retain some residual effect.
- **Negative World (2014–Present):** Society has come to have a negative view of Christianity. Being known as a Christian is a social negative, particularly in the elite domains of society. Christian morality is expressly repudiated and seen as a threat to the public good and the new public moral order. Subscribing to Christian moral views or violating the secular moral order brings negative consequences.

~Aaron Renn, "The Three Worlds of Evangelicalism," *First Things*, February 2022

## Sermon Notes

# Cheerfulness in Negative World

August 3, 2025	Cheerful Faith	Matthew 9:22
August 10, 2025	Cheer Over Fear	Matthew 14:27
August 17, 2025	Cheerful Calling	Mark 10:49
August 24, 2025	Cheer Overcomes Negative World	John 16:33
August 31, 2025	Dwelling in the Tents of Kedar	Psalms 120

## THIS WEEK AT BEVERLY HEIGHTS

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

9:00 AM Worship Service  
10:30 AM Linger Longer Fellowship

### MONDAY, AUGUST 18

*Church Offices Closed*

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

10:00 AM Staff Meeting  
3:00 PM Prayer Team Meeting  
4:30 PM Teen Tone Chime  
Rehearsal  
7:00 PM Women's Chorale Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

7:00 PM Men's Chorale Rehearsal

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

9:00 AM Worship Service  
10:30 AM Linger Longer Fellowship

---

## Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church

1207 Washington Road ❖ Mt. Lebanon, PA ❖ 15228

[www.beverlyheights.org](http://www.beverlyheights.org) ❖ 412-561-5100

**Gathered By His Love For Us ~ Scattered By Our Love For Him**

## 'Tis by Thy Strength

From Psalm 65:6-13

1. 'Tis by Thy strength the moun-tains stand, God of e-ter-nal pow'r;  
melody

The sea grows calm at Thy com-mand, And tem-pests

The sea grows calm at Thy com-mand, And tem-pests cease to roar,  
Thy com-mand, And tem-pests cease to roar,  
calm at Thy com-mand, And tem-pests cease to roar,

And tem-pests cease to roar, And tem-pests cease to roar.

2. Thy morning light and ev'ning shade  
Successive comforts bring;  
Thy plenteous fruits make harvest glad;  
Thy flow'rs adorn the spring.

3. Seasons and times and moons and hours,  
Heav'n, earth, and air are Thine;  
When clouds distill their fruitful show'rs,  
The Author is divine.

4. Those wand'ring cisterns in the sky,  
Borne by the winds around,  
With wat'ry treasures well supply  
The furrows of the ground.

5. The thirsty ridges drink their fill,  
And ranks of corn appear:  
Thy ways abound with blessings still,  
Thy goodness crowns the year.

# Psalm 134

269

A Song of Ascents.

3-part canon

<sup>1</sup> Behold, bless the LORD, All you servants of the LORD, Who by night stand in the house of the LORD!

<sup>2</sup> Lift up your hands in the sanc-tu-ar - y, And bless the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> The LORD who made heav'n and earth Bless you from Zi - on!

G G D Em  $\frac{G}{D}$  C  $\frac{G}{D}$  D G

Music: David R. Erb, 2007 ©

Text: *Holy Bible, New King James Version*, 1982 ©

# 135A

Psalms 135:1-12

## Hallelujah! Praise the LORD's Name

*We have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose. — Ephesians 1:11*

1. <sup>1</sup> Hal - le - lu - jah! Praise the LORD's name!  
2. <sup>5</sup> For I know how great the LORD is;  
3. <sup>8</sup> He killed all of E - gypt's first - born;

Praise Him, ser - vants of the LORD,  
Our Lord is a - bove all gods.  
<sup>9</sup> E - gypt, He sent signs to you,

<sup>2</sup> You that in the LORD's house serve Him,  
<sup>6</sup> Yes, the LORD does what He pleas - es  
Signs to Phar - aoh and his ser - vants.

In God's court - yard stand - ing guard.  
In the skies, earth, seas, and floods.  
<sup>10</sup> He struck na - tions, kings He slew;

<sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD! How good the LORD is!  
<sup>7</sup> He it is who lifts the va - pors  
<sup>11</sup> Might - y Si - hon, Og of Ba - shan—

Sing His name— how sweet its tone!  
 From the ends of earth and sea,  
 All of Ca - naan's king - doms fell!

<sup>4</sup> For the LORD has cho - sen Ja - cob,  
 Who with light - ning brings the rain down,  
<sup>12</sup> He their land gave to His peo - ple,

Is - ra - el to be His own.  
 From His store the wind sets free.  
 Willed it all to Is - ra - el.

# That Man Is Blessed

*For He Himself is our peace.*

*—Ephesians 2:14*

# 1A

Psalm I



1. <sup>1</sup> That man is blessed who does not walk As wick-ed men ad - vise,  
2. <sup>3</sup> He's like a deep - ly plant-ed tree Be - side a wa - ter stream,  
3. <sup>5</sup> The wick-ed there - fore will not stand When time of judg - ment comes,



Nor stand where sin - ners meet, nor sit Where scorn - ers pose as wise.  
Which in its sea - son bears its fruit, Whose leaves stay fresh and green.  
Nor will the sin - ners stand a - mong As - sem - bled righ - teous ones.



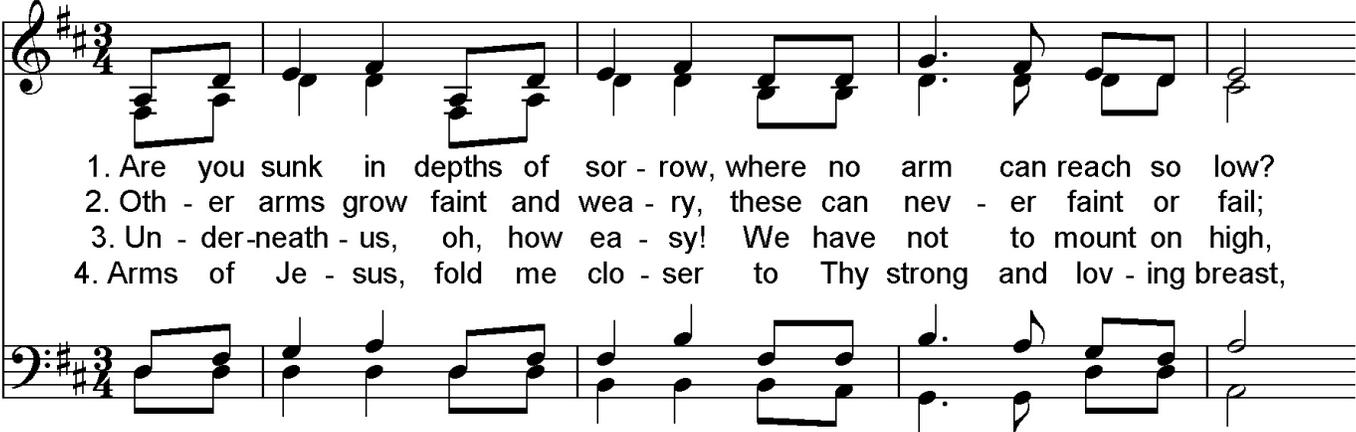
<sup>2</sup> In - stead he is the one who makes The LORD's law his de - light,  
In all he does he will suc - ceed.<sup>4</sup> The wick - ed are not so,  
<sup>6</sup> Be - cause the LORD the righ - teous loves; The path they walk He knows.



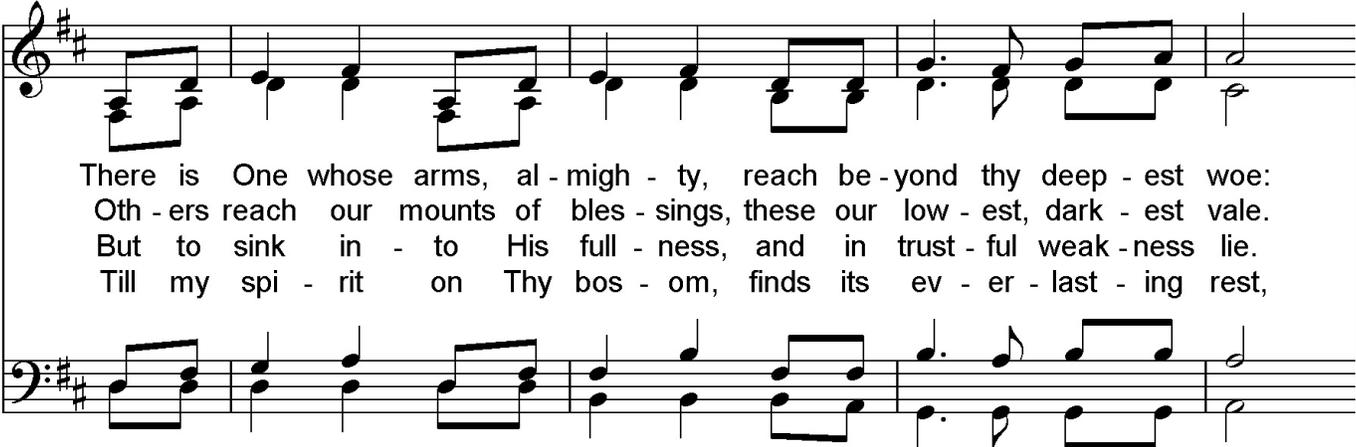
And in that law he med - i - tates By day and in the night.  
But they are like the scat - tered chaff Swept by the winds that blow.  
The wick - ed walk a dif - ferent path, That to de - struc - tion goes.



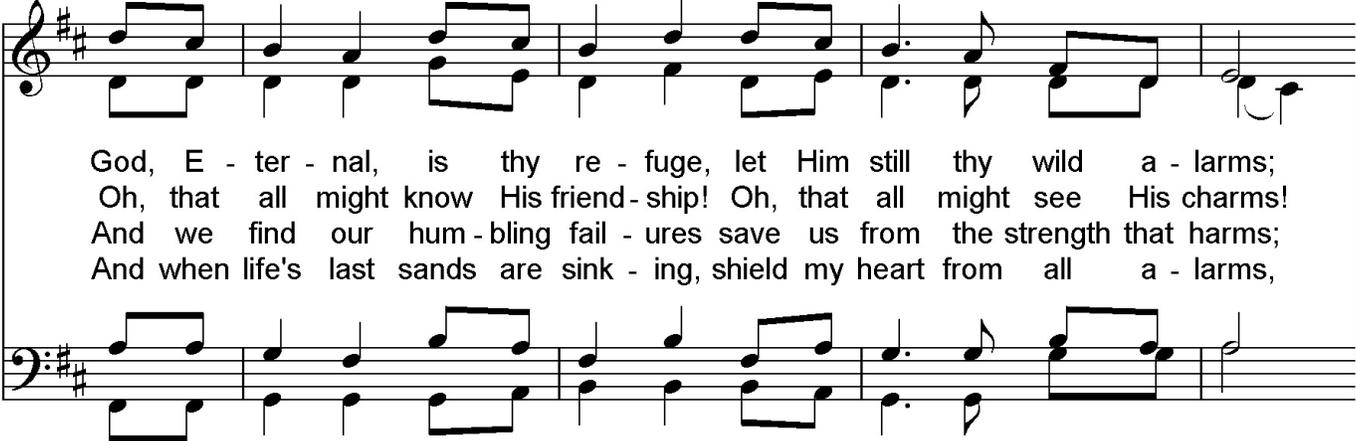
# Everlasting Arms



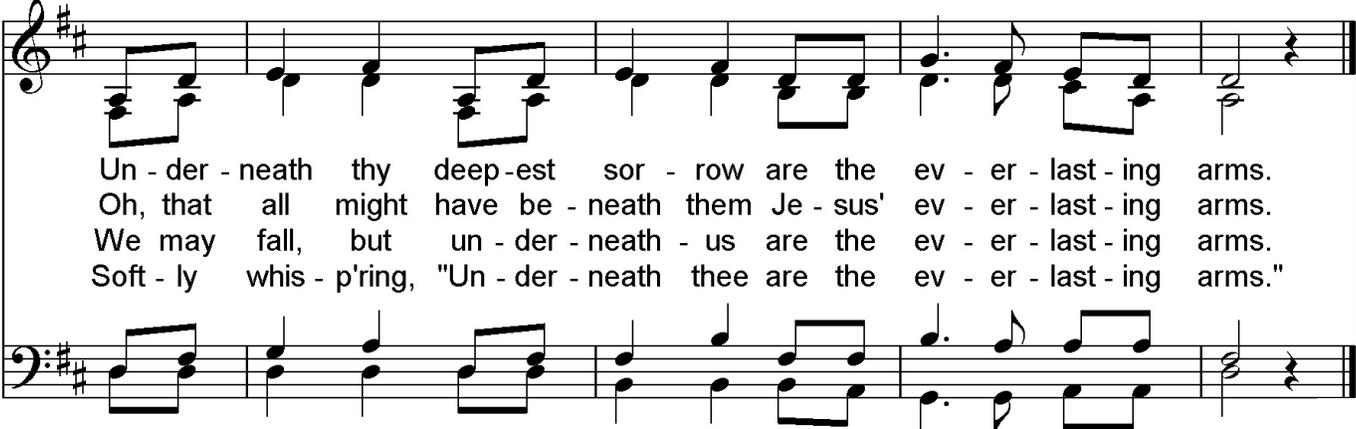
1. Are you sunk in depths of sor - row, where no arm can reach so low?  
2. Oth - er arms grow faint and wea - ry, these can nev - er faint or fail;  
3. Un - der - neath - us, oh, how ea - sy! We have not to mount on high,  
4. Arms of Je - sus, fold me clo - ser to Thy strong and lov - ing breast,



There is One whose arms, al - migh - ty, reach be - yond thy deep - est woe:  
Oth - ers reach our moun - ts of bles - sings, these our low - est, dark - est vale.  
But to sink in - to His full - ness, and in trust - ful weak - ness lie.  
Till my spi - rit on Thy bos - om, finds its ev - er - last - ing rest,



God, E - ter - nal, is thy re - fuge, let Him still thy wild a - larms;  
Oh, that all might know His friend - ship! Oh, that all might see His charms!  
And we find our hum - bling fail - ures save us from the strength that harms;  
And when life's last sands are sink - ing, shield my heart from all a - larms,



Un - der - neath thy deep - est sor - row are the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
Oh, that all might have be - neath them Je - sus' ev - er - last - ing arms.  
We may fall, but un - der - neath - us are the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
Soft - ly whis - p'ring, "Un - der - neath thee are the ev - er - last - ing arms."

# Franklin Gloria

Gregory D Wilbur, 2012

C F G A min F C/E G A min

Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace to His peo-ple on earth.

Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace to His peo-ple on

F C/E G A min F C/E G C F

Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace to His peo-ple on earth. We praise

earth. Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace on earth.

G F G F A min D min C/E G sus4 G

You! We bless You! We a - dore You! We glo - ri - fy!

C F G A min F C/E G C

We give You thanks for Your glo - ry. We give You thanks for Your glo - ry.

We give You thanks for Your glo - ry. We give You thanks.

2012 Gregory D Wilbur

CCLI # 6471202