

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 26, 2025 | On Demand on YouTube | 9a & 11:15a



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Preparation for Worship

Open unto me light for my darkness, courage for my fear, hope for my despair, peace for my turmoil, joy for my sorrow, strength for my weakness, wisdom for my confusion, forgiveness for my sins, love for my hates, thy Self for my self. Lord, Lord, open unto me!

Howard Thurman

Gathering and Preparing for God's Word		
Welcome and Announcements		
Leader:	The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.	
People:	And also with you.	
Minute for Stewardship		The Blumer Family
Prelude	<i>Fanfares on "A Mighty Fortress"</i> Lau	
* Call to Worship	Psalm 95	
Leader:	O come, let us sing to the Lord.	
People:	Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!	
Leader:	Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving.	
People:	Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!	
All:	Let us worship God!	
* Hymn 624	"I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"	TOULAN
* Prayer of Confession		
Holy God,		
we confess that our hearts are often turned inward.		
Our thirst for control leads to self-centered lives.		
Our hunger for status leads to broken communities.		
Our preoccupation with possessions leads to shallow faith.		
Our indifference toward our neighbor leads to immature love.		
Forgive us, O Lord,		
and reconcile us by the power of your Spirit.		
Help us to be courageous with our decisions,		
generous with our gifts,		
gentle with our words and hopeful with our journey.		
We ask it all in Christ's holy name. Amen.		
* Assurance of Pardon		
Leader:	Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.	
People:	In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.	
* Gloria Patri, Hymn 581	GLORIA PATRI	
<i>Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.</i>		

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Sacrament of Baptism		9a	Eleanor Quinn Moore
		11:15a	Margot Helen Lisle
Congregational Response		Baptized in Water	BUNESSAN
			
11:15a Children in K5 - first grade are invited to leave for Children's Church.			
Hearing God's Word			
Prayer for Illumination			
First Scripture Lesson, Luke 24:28-35			p. 861
Second Scripture Lesson, Deuteronomy 15:1-11			p. 150
Leader: The Word of the Lord.			
People: Thanks be to God.			
Sermon		"Open"	
Responding to God's Word			
* Affirmation of Faith		<i>The Apostles' Creed</i>	
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,			
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;			
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,			
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,			
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;			
the third day he rose again from the dead;			
he ascended into heaven,			
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;			
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.			
I believe in the Holy Ghost;			
the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;			
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;			
and the life everlasting. Amen.			
Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession			
The Lord's Prayer			
Offering			
Offertory		Be Thou My Vision	arr. Sorenson
* Doxology, Hymn 606		OLD HUNDREDTH	
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God,			
all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly			
host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.			
* Prayer of Dedication			
* Hymn 716		"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"	BEECH SPRING
* Charge and Benediction			
* Postlude		Now Thank We, All Our God	Schulz-Widmar
*All who are able may stand			

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Leading Worship **this Morning**
Ben Dorr, *preaching*
Lauren Slingerland, *liturgist*
Kathryn Freedman (9a), Blake Hoffman (11:15a), *sponsors*
Betsy Raines (9a), Janell Pitman (11:15a), *scripture readers*
Sanctuary Choir (11:15a)
Sanctuary Choir Small Ensemble (9a)
Ben Bloodworth, *cello*
Jay Bloodworth, *violin*
Walker Miller (9a), Brad Hawkins (11:15a), *head ushers*
Sam White, Jr., Betsy Raines, Mary Mac Fairey,
Zach Weaver, Roger Gower (9a), *greeters*
Betsy Raines, Coleman Dixon, George Howell,
Kathryn Freedman, Mandy Pruitt (11:15a), *greeters*
Luke Pruitt (11:15a), *acolyte*

WORSHIP NOTES	Join Us in Welcoming
NURSERY	BAPTISM
Childcare is available for infants through 4K. Our nurturing staff of experienced caregivers and parent volunteers offers a welcoming environment for children. The Nursery is located on the mezzanine level. The entrance is at Westminster Drive, at the columbarium or near the Westminster Weekday School offices. The Family Lounge, located down the stairs from the front office and straight down the hallway on the right, is available for any child caregiver and includes worship livestream, comfortable seating, and a changing table.	This morning we welcome into our fellowship <i>Eleanor Quinn Moore</i> , daughter of Kyle & Sarah Moore.
WORSHIP BAGS	BAPTISM
Each Sunday we offer worship bags in the Atrium for children. The worship bags are designed to include reusable items that engage children in open ended play during worship. While children attend worship with their families, they can participate in worship and play to make meaning in faith. Please return the zipper bag and its contents each Sunday.	This morning we welcome into our fellowship <i>Margot Helen Lisle</i> , daughter of Grant & Polly Lisle.

WELCOME TO WPC!	CONGREGATIONAL MEETING THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26
Please fill out a name tag and find more information about WPC at the Welcome Table in the Atrium. First time visitors are also invited to take home a WPC mug.	The Session has called a meeting of the congregation for this Sunday, October 26, immediately following the 11:15a worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the 2025-26 Nominating Committee. The proposed slate for the Nominating Committee is Stephen Ridgeway (chair), Denise Broderick, Mandy Pruitt, Tony Threatt, Charles Little, Sarah Matthews, Rob Morgan, Nancy White, and Rachel Workman.
In Memoriam	FALL SERMON SERIES:
Larry Wagner (9/8/1956 – 10/16/2025)	THE EXODUS STORY:
<i>"I am the resurrection and the life."</i>	FAITH, FEAR, & FREEDOM
– John 11:25	Our fall sermon series will explore the story of the Exodus: God's liberation of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt. It's a story about what it means to be heard by God, saved by God, and called into covenant relationship with God. It's a story of fear and courage, of wandering in the wilderness, of God's transcendence and God's imminence, of what it means to live in covenant community with one another. It's the central salvation story of the Old Testament, and one that echoes throughout the New Testament as well. To help you follow along, we will provide scripture passages to read in preparation for the upcoming Sundays. For the next three weeks, the suggested readings are the following:
	Oct 26: Deuteronomy 15:1-11
	Nov 2: Deuteronomy 34:1-8
	Nov 9: Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Texts for vocal solos and choral music may be found online by scanning this QR code.

TRICK OR TREAT AT TERRA BELLA

Our annual Witness & Service trick-or-treat event at Terra Bella will be Wednesday, October 29. Our children will bring joy to residents at Terra Bella Retirement Home as they go trick-or-treating in their Halloween costumes. Arrive at the church at 5:30p to walk over together to trick-or-treat with residents. We'll return to the Fellowship Hall for dinner afterwards. There is no cost. There will be a basket for donations to offset the cost of the meal at the event. We ask that you sign up so we will know how much food to prepare.

VISITATION MINISTRY

Can you spare one hour a month? Are you a good listener or a good conversationalist? Would you like to get involved in a meaningful ministry at WPC? If so, the WPC Visitation Ministry just might be a good fit for you. The Visitation Ministry consists of volunteers who commit to visiting a fellow WPC member once a month. Recipients of this visitation ministry are those who are elderly, infirmed or isolated and may no longer be able to come to church. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the Visitation Ministry contact Janie Little at 864-414-0184 or jrlittle42@gmail.com.

TEXT "wpcgreenville"

Wondering if weather will postpone an event? Need a reminder to sign up for a church-wide meal? Text "wpcgreenville" to (864)232-2424 to get up-to-date information about our life together! We promise we won't bombard you. Text today or follow the QR code. Text replies are not frequently monitored, please note that this number does not belong to a member of WPC staff.



2025 ADVENT DEVOTIONS

It's that time of year again when we are looking for volunteers to write short devotionals to be included in the 2025 Advent Devotions series. Please contact Abbie Coleman at abbie.garrison3@gmail.com if you would be willing to help with this.

LIGHTLY SEASONED

Lightly Seasoned is a Westminster fellowship group for those in (or near) their fifties and sixties. We will next meet on Saturday, November 1, at 6:30p at the home of Mike & Joanie Martin (66 Woodvale Ave). Watch your email for more information or check the church's website ("Connect" then "Events Registration" tabs) or contact Susan Grier (susan@grierfamily.org) for details.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

We are offering free blood pressure screenings the first Sunday of each month. Beginning November 2, screenings will take place in the Friendship Court immediately following the 10a Sunday School hour. If you have any questions or if you are a healthcare professional and would like to help, please contact Emily Cole at ecole1217@gmail.com.

GIVING TO WPC

Did you know that you can fulfill your pledge or give an unpledged gift to Westminster online? Your gift helps our church keep faith with community partners and maintain excellence in our programming. To learn more about online giving, or to make a gift, follow the prompts from the QR code below.



wpcgreenville | wpc-online.org | 2310 Augusta St.

THE HARBINGER
Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Street
Greenville, South Carolina 29605
(864) 232-2424
www.wpc-online.org
THE HARBINGER: (USPS No. 764160)
Published weekly by the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 Augusta Street, Greenville SC 29605. Periodical postage paid at Greenville SC 29605.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 26–November 2, 2025

Sunday, October 26
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00a Worship Service
10:00 Sunday School
10:15 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
12:15p Congregational Meeting
4:00 First Steps in Music (Class 1)
4:30 First Steps in Music (Class 2)
5:00 Youth Choir Rehearsals
6:00 Youth Dinner
6:30 Middler Youth Group
Senior High Youth Group

Monday, October 27
7:00 Monday Game Night
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, October 28
12:00p Al-Anon
Gifts & Gratitude Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 29
2:30p It's Elementary
3:30 Cherub Choir
4:30 Junior & Senior Choristers
5:30 Trick or Treat at Terra Bella
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 30
10:00a Bible Study
12:00p Endowment Committee Meeting
5:00 Health & Safety Committee Meeting
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, November 1
6:30p Lightly Seasoned

Sunday, November 2
All Saints' Sunday
9:00a Worship Service
10:00 Sunday School
10:15 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:55 Sunday Session Meeting
11:15 Worship Service
2:00p Nominating Committee Meeting
4:00 Vespers Service
4:00 First Steps in Music (Class 1)
4:30 First Steps in Music (Class 2)
5:00 Youth Choir Rehearsals
6:00 Youth Dinner
6:30 Middler Youth Group
Senior High Youth Group

Our Vision:
Open minds open hearts.

Our Pillars:
*Hospitality
Generosity
Justice
Imagination
Joy*

Our Goals:
*Connect
Serve
Grow*

the
HARBINGER
open minds open hearts

VOLUME LXXVIII | October 26, 2025 | No. 29

From the Pews, Pam Alexander Powell

About two years ago, my husband Scott and I started searching for a new church home. I think it is interesting that many times “church” and “home” are coupled together. How were we going to know that a church feels like home? Sure we had a mental list of what we hoped for in a church home. But, does just "visiting" reveal the heart of a church?

Well, this congregation made it easy for us. On our first visit we sensed it. We chose a random pew, risky I know, and ended up behind a family that was multi-generational: grandparents, grown children, and grandkids. Check. Here was a church with deep roots and family commitment.

The music began. We heard a beautiful flute, incredible voices and later even drums. Every visit revealed an outstanding, moving music program. Check. Children were eventually invited to join the children's program. The aisles were full of excited, energetic kids. Check. A vibrant growing congregation.

Then, the sermon. Selfishly, I always want the message to speak to me. It did that and more. And, has been doing so every Sunday since; providing us with deep rooted biblical backgrounds, filled with encouragement and personal challenges. We heard how God’s grace is for all of his children, showing us that this church was living out its mission.

We have since been involved with Lightly Seasoned, Suppers with Seven, a women’s Bible study and preparing meals with Rise Against Hunger. The mission opportunities, sense of community and spiritual growth are the reasons we kept returning to explore and eventually joining WPC. Financially supporting the open minds and hearts mission allows us to help others find a church home at WPC.

Back to School Adult Sunday School Term
Classes will meet October 19 – November 9

Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount
Led by the Reverend Ron Shive, retired PCUSA pastor
Room 209 and Streaming

We have all been inspired this fall by the sermon series on Exodus and particularly the central character of Moses. This four-week study will be a complement as we focus on Matthew’s New Moses – Jesus. While the first five books of the Old Testament are often called “The Books of Moses,” Matthew edits the sayings of Jesus into five “books” or rather clusters of sayings. The first of these is what we all know as the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7. This sermon or rather redacted discourse is referred to as “the constitution of the church” (Tom Long), “the life calling of the Christian” (Elias Chacour), or “Jesus’ Alternative Plan” (Richard Rohr). We quickly learn that the values of Jesus the New Moses and hopefully of his followers turn our culture’s values upside down.

What We Talk About When We Talk About Salvation: Jesus, Sin, and the Battle for Humanity
Led by Leigh Stuckey
Room 212

Is there a cosmic battle between good and evil? If so, how does Jesus fit into that picture? Is Jesus simply a model for how to live in a conflicted, chaotic world? Was Jesus a paschal lamb who bore our sins or a ransom sacrifice to a vengeful God? How do we understand “atonement” (the reconciliation of God and humanity) and the Jesus Christ who we proclaim to be our Savior? Join Leigh for this four-week look at Soteriology, the theological study of salvation.

Discussion Sunday School Class:
Room 211

Join us each week for a discussion-based Sunday School class to dive into a weekly topic and scripture passage. All are welcome to join us on a journey of faith and fellowship – come every week or come when you can. Topics change every week, and the class is facilitated by rotating members.

October 26: LeAnne White

Children on Sunday Mornings

Nursery is available for infant through 4K on the Mezzanine level.

During Nursery, children in 4K explore the Bible story through play.

Children Sunday School Class Locations

Shine Curriculum – *5K/1st (Room 109)*
2nd/3rd (Movie Room)
4th/5th (Room 112A)

Youth on Sunday Mornings

Middlers will meet each week during the Sunday School hour in the Youth Suite. Facilitated by Claire & Mac Gilliland, this class will study the *Feasting on the Word* curriculum.

Senior Highs are invited to join our Senior High WestConnect facilitated by youth elders, Ben Bloodworth and Mary Mac Fairey. On Sundays when Senior High WestConnect is not meeting, older youth are more than welcome to join the Middler class.

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VESPERS -
NOVEMBER 2, 4P
In the Reformed Tradition we do not pray to or celebrate particular saints. Instead, we recognize the Priesthood of all Believers, celebrating that all Christians are called play a role in God's story, to serve God and neighbor, and to be faithful in their lives. All of us are made saints in the eyes of God. On November 2, All Saints Sunday, join us for an afternoon vespers service as we give thanks and remember the Saints of our lives past and present.

NOVEMBER 9, 4P
***Te Deum* BY HANDEL**
Handel's stirring Baroque masterwork *Utrecht Te Deum* will be presented by Westminster's Sanctuary Choir with guest soloists and orchestra during Vespers on Sunday, November 9, at 4p. Composed to celebrate peace after years of war, Handel's jubilant work resounds with triumphant choruses, radiant solos, and orchestral brilliance in a musical setting of one of the earliest liturgical texts in the Christian tradition that offers a message of gratitude and hope as relevant today as it was when it premiered in 1713. Whether you are a longtime lover of Baroque music or new to Handel's genius, this service will be sure to lift your spirit as we move into the seasons of Thanksgiving and Advent. Make plans to join us for this uplifting concert - and bring friends!

WITNESS AND SERVICE SPOTLIGHT
Last weekend the Men of Westminster participated in a service day with Rebuild Upstate. Rebuild is one of our Witness and Service partners that works to provide affordable housing, through repairing and maintaining homes to increase safety and accessibility. We worked on a deck for a woman named Ms. Wanda, repairing a handrail on the wheelchair ramp that provided access to the primary entrance on her back porch, and stabilizing the deck for wheelchair use. As the smell of coffee, and the sounds of drivers and saws filled the air, we joined together in fellowship and service. We met new faces and learned new names. We witnessed where Christ showed up as we built community and served our neighbors. We look forward to continuing to strengthen this partnership, and future service days with Rebuild!

WPC SENIOR ADULTS
INVITED TO DINNER
WITH WPC YOUTH GROUP
The WPC Youth Group invites Westminster's senior adults to dinner at 6p on Sunday, November 2, in the Fellowship Hall. As the youth study relationships, we will discuss relationships with our neighbors at 6:30p. Afterwards, we'll have games and crafts. Contact the church office at (864) 232-2424 to make your reservation to join in this special dinner and discussion time with our youth.

YOUNG ADULTS
Young Adults are invited to an oyster roast on Sunday, November 16, from 3-5p at the home of Tyler & Mary Knight Felt (214 Aberdeen Dr). Cost is \$20 per adult and covers oysters and appetizers. Please BYOB. Children are welcome and eat for free! To reserve your spot, please Venmo @ MaryKnightFelt. Questions? Contact Mary Frances Weed (mfhb08@gmail.com).

WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER
We are excited for a season filled with connection, encouragement, and growth in faith! Please save these dates for our upcoming events - we'd love for you to join us and bring a friend!
• Social at Tacozinni-Tues, Nov 11, 6p
• Advent Luncheon-Sun, Dec 7, 12:30p
• Women's Retreat-Feb 13-15, 2026, at Kanuga Conference Center
For more information or to get involved, contact Rachel Workman (rachelworkman@gmail.com). We look forward to growing together!



We are kicking off a drive for personal care items for Soteria Women's house. They are in need of feminine hygiene, undergarments, body wash, loofah sponges, journals, small wallets/handbags, simple make-up and more.
BAPTISM CLASS
If you would like to have your child baptized at Westminster, our next Baptism class is scheduled for Sunday, November 9, at 12:30p. Please notify the church office if you would like to attend, and we will be glad to send you the information for this class.

VESPERS -
NOVEMBER 2, 4P
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Handel's stirring Baroque masterwork *Utrecht Te Deum* will be presented by Westminster's Sanctuary Choir with guest soloists and orchestra during Vespers on Sunday, November 9, at 4p. Composed to celebrate peace after years of war, Handel's jubilant work resounds with triumphant choruses, radiant solos, and orchestral brilliance in a musical setting of one of the earliest liturgical texts in the Christian tradition that offers a message of gratitude and hope as relevant today as it was when it premiered in 1713. Whether you are a longtime lover of Baroque music or new to Handel's genius, this service will be sure to lift your spirit as we move into the seasons of Thanksgiving and Advent. Make plans to join us for this uplifting concert - and bring friends!

WITNESS AND SERVICE SPOTLIGHT
Last weekend the Men of Westminster participated in a service day with Rebuild Upstate. Rebuild is one of our Witness and Service partners that works to provide affordable housing, through repairing and maintaining homes to increase safety and accessibility. We worked on a deck for a woman named Ms. Wanda, repairing a handrail on the wheelchair ramp that provided access to the primary entrance on her back porch, and stabilizing the deck for wheelchair use. As the smell of coffee, and the sounds of drivers and saws filled the air, we joined together in fellowship and service. We met new faces and learned new names. We witnessed where Christ showed up as we built community and served our neighbors. We look forward to continuing to strengthen this partnership, and future service days with Rebuild!



WPC SENIOR ADULTS
INVITED TO DINNER
WITH WPC YOUTH GROUP
The WPC Youth Group invites Westminster's senior adults to dinner at 6p on Sunday, November 2, in the Fellowship Hall. As the youth study relationships, we will discuss relationships with our neighbors at 6:30p. Afterwards, we'll have games and crafts. Contact the church office at (864) 232-2424 to make your reservation to join in this special dinner and discussion time with our youth.
YOUNG ADULTS
Young Adults are invited to an oyster roast on Sunday, November 16, from 3-5p at the home of Tyler & Mary Knight Felt (214 Aberdeen Dr). Cost is \$20 per adult and covers oysters and appetizers. Please BYOB. Children are welcome and eat for free! To reserve your spot, please Venmo @ MaryKnightFelt. Questions? Contact Mary Frances Weed (mfhb08@gmail.com).
WOMEN OF WESTMINSTER
We are excited for a season filled with connection, encouragement, and growth in faith! Please save these dates for our upcoming events - we'd love for you to join us and bring a friend!
• Social at Tacozinni-Tues, Nov 11, 6p
• Advent Luncheon-Sun, Dec 7, 12:30p
• Women's Retreat-Feb 13-15, 2026, at Kanuga Conference Center
For more information or to get involved, contact Rachel Workman (rachelworkman@gmail.com). We look forward to growing together!

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art 624

1 I greet thee, who my sure Re - deem - er art,
 2 Thou art the King of mer - cy and of grace,
 3 Thou art the life, by which a - lone we live,
 4 Thou hast the true and per - fect gen - tle - ness;
 5 Our hope is in no oth - er save in thee;

my on - ly trust and Sav - ior of my heart,
 reign - ing om - ni - po - tent in ev - ery place;
 and all our sub - stance and our strength re - ceive;
 no harsh - ness hast thou and no bit - ter - ness.
 our faith is built up - on thy prom - ise free;

who pain didst un - der - go for my poor sake;
 so come, O King, and our whole be - ing sway;
 sus - tain us by thy faith and by thy power,
 O grant to us the grace we find in thee,
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,

I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
 and give us strength in ev - ery try - ing hour.
 that we may dwell in per - fect u - ni - ty.
 that in thy strength we ev - er - more en - dure.

The original French text, sometimes attributed to John Calvin, seems to be a Protestant reworking of a Roman Catholic hymn, not a typical practice for him. Yet this text and tune (adapted from GENEVAN 124) clearly date from the early years of the Reformed tradition.

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D)

F

(Bm)

Dm

(G)

B $\flat$ 

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D)

F

(Bm)

Dm



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G)

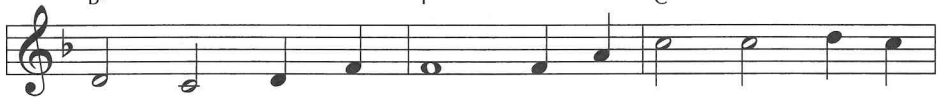
B $\flat$

(D)

F

(A)

C



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm)

Dm

(F $\sharp$ m)

Am

(Bm)

Dm

(G)

B $\flat$

(A)

C

(D)

F



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm)

Dm

(G)

B $\flat$

(D)

F



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.