

## THE GATHERING

### PRELUDE FOR ORGAN

I Love Thee, My Lord

Early American melody, arr. George Shearing (1919-2011)

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

### GREETING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

### PEALING OF THE BELL AND SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*O God, light of the minds that know you,  
life of the souls that love you,  
strength of the thoughts that seek you:  
help us so to know you that we may truly love you,  
so to love you that we may fully serve you,  
whose service is perfect freedom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### CHORAL INTROIT

Let the Heaven Light Shine on Me

arr. Roland M. Carter (b. 1942)

Let the heaven light shine on me, for low is the way to the upper bright world. Amen.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: People of God, hope in the LORD!

**People: For with the LORD there is steadfast love,**

Pastor: and with God is great power to redeem.

**All: Let us worship God.**

### \*HYMN 463

How Firm a Foundation

*Foundati*

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, we confess that often our faith is weak, our love for others faint, our prayers timid, and our gratitude unconvincing. We look to you in times of need, yet you feel far away.

*Silent prayers of confession are offered.*

Ruler of all, draw near in mercy to forgive us and fill us with your Spirit. Grant us the deep peace, the sustaining hope, and the abiding courage that come through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON *(sung by the choir)*

Leon C. Roberts (1950-1999)

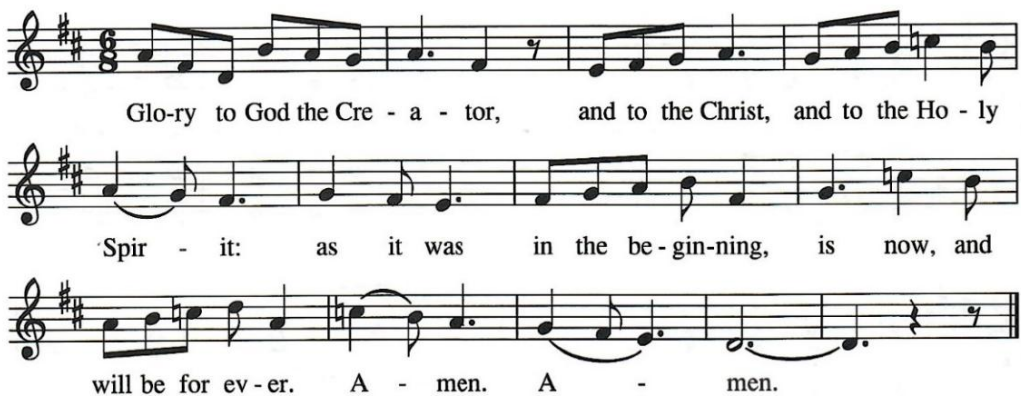
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

*-Greek, 5th/6th century; transl.*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*GLORIA PATRI

Ronald A. Nelson, 1986



Glo-ry to God the Cre - a - tor, and to the Christ, and to the Ho - ly  
Spir - it: as it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and  
will be for ev - er. A - men. A - men.

*-3rd/4th century Latin; transl.*

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR GEORGE WILLIAM CAVALIERE

*(Please refrain from taking photographs.)*

### STATEMENT ON BAPTISM

### PRESENTATION

### QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS

### QUESTION TO THE GODPARENTS

### QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

**Deacon:** Do you, on behalf of the whole church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture George, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his Church?

**We do.**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH** *(congregation standing)*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe 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 at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Blessed are you, almighty God, creator of the universe, ruler of heaven and earth. You are the source of light and life for all creation. In your goodness you give us the sign of water.

**People: At the beginning, your Spirit was at work, brooding over the waters of creation's birth, bringing forth life in all its fullness. Through the gift of water, you nourish and sustain all living things.**

Pastor: In the time of Noah, you cleansed the earth through the waters of the flood. By the pillar of cloud and fire you led Israel through the waters of the Red Sea out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

**People: In the waters of the river Jordan, Jesus was baptized by John and anointed by the Holy Spirit. He is the never-failing spring who has promised that all who thirst can come to the living water.**

Pastor: By the baptism of his own death and resurrection he set us free from bondage to sin and death and opened to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

**People: We thank you, O God, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. From it we are raised to share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: Send your Spirit to move over this water that it may be a fountain of deliverance and rebirth. Wash away the sin of all who are cleansed by it. Raise them to new life, and graft them to the body of Christ. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon George, that he may have the power to do your will and continue forever in the risen life of Christ.

**People: To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, be all praise, honor, and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

## THE BAPTISM

### GIVING OF THE LIGHT

Deacon: Receive the light of Christ; you have passed from darkness into light.

People: **You have been enlightened with Christ; walk always as a child of the light.**

RESPONSE *(sung by all)*

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

*This setting is printed in the hymnal at no. 377, the first stanza.*

*Children age 4 through Grade 5 may go to Sunday School classes during the singing of this response.*

**I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.**

**God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

**In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.**

**The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

*-Kathleen Thomerson, 1966*

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Douglas Carey, *lay reader*

### HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 12:1-3

(Pew Bible, Old Testament, page 10)

*after each reading:*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 1:6-11

(Pew Bible, New Testament, page 118)

### SERMON

“God Is Already There”

Deb Milcarek

*General Presbyter, Hudson River Presbytery*

## THE RESPONSE

### \*HYMN 51

To Abraham and Sarah

*Llanfyllin*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, 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 *(sung by the choir)*

Jeremy Fletcher, 2017

CALL FOR THE OFFERING *(Please visit [ryepc.com/give/](http://ryepc.com/give/) or scan the QR Code in our announcements to give online.)*

## ANTHEM FOR CHOIR AND ORGAN

Let No Sad Thought Oppress Thee

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Let no sad thought oppress thee, distress thee;  
fear nothing, trust God's own will, and be thou still, my spirit.

Heed not with care and sorrow the morrow:  
our Father, who all doth see, shall give to thee thy portion.

From righteous paths then range not and change not;  
be steadfast, for God is just; give him thy trust forever. Amen.

-Paul Flemming (1609-1640);  
transl. John Rutter (b. 1945)

## \*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

*This setting is printed in the hymnal at no. 606.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

-Thomas Ken, 1674; alt.

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### THE SENDING FORTH

## \*HYMN (see back of bulletin)

How Many Times We Start Again

Forest Green

stanza 4 harm. Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019)

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE FOR ORGAN *(All are invited into the chancel to listen to the postlude.)*

Fugue in F Major [BWV 556/ii]

attr. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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## *Welcome to Rye Presbyterian Church*

If you are a guest today, we welcome you and hope you are enriched and inspired by this time of worship. You may go to [ryepc.com/im-new/](http://ryepc.com/im-new/) and fill out the welcome form online.

If you or a family member need to step out of the sanctuary during worship, please feel free to do so. There is live audio from the service in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary and live video in the church library.

To help children feel welcomed and engaged during worship, Rainbow Bags – filled with crayons, books, and coloring pages – are located in boxes at each sanctuary entrance door. Please return Rainbow Bags following worship.

The sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop assistive listening system. To access the system, please switch your hearing aid setting to "T" (telephone).

*This morning, the Sacrament of Baptism is being administered to:  
George William Cavaliere, son of Krystina and Adamo Cavaliere.*

*Participating in worship:*

*Today's Preacher:*

Deborah Milcarek began work at Hudson River Presbytery as the General Presbyter in November 2018, after having served 13 years at the Presbytery of Baltimore as the Associate Presbyter for Reconciliation. Her work in Baltimore included connecting congregations to their neighbors, racial reconciliation, and shepherding partnerships in Cuba, Guatemala, and the Dakota Presbytery. Deb was called to Hudson River to guide the Presbytery in living into its stated mission of building partnerships, nurturing strong leadership, and creating healthy, vital communities of faith.

Deb has been a Ruling Elder for 40 years and holds a Business Degree from Loyola University and a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Maryland. She has three grown daughters, living in Austin, Texas, Towson, Maryland, and nearby Garrison, who have gifted her with three spectacular granddaughters.

*Lucas Kidder, crucifer*

*Melissa Belleville, Margaret Blum, Ashley Ginnings, and Elizabeth Parks, ushers*

*The chancel flowers are given by*

*Amber Nee, in loving memory of Owen and David.*

## TODAY

*Coffee Hour will take place in the Assembly Room.*

*Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary*

*High School Youth Officers, 5:00 p.m., Youth Rooms*

*Dance Class, 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room*

*Men's Bible Study, 8:00 p.m., Library*

## THIS WEEK

### **Monday, February 24**

9:00 a.m. Monday Morning Bible Study – Zoom

### **Tuesday, February 25**

1:00 p.m. Women's Discipleship – Library

7:30 p.m. Trustees – Westminster Room/Zoom

### **Wednesday, February 26**

3:45 p.m. Stories and Songs for Children – Westminster Room

5:30 p.m. Middle School Connection – Youth Rooms

7:30 p.m. Session – Westminster Room

### **Thursday, February 27**

10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop

5:30 p.m. Coming Home – Library & Westminster Room

## GENERAL NOTICES

### 2025 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN



**As of February 20, here's how our light shines:** 230 pledges for \$1,105,000.  
Of those 230, 24 are new pledges, and 89 households increased their pledge!

**All pledges received by February 27 will be gratefully acknowledged in the March 2 bulletin.**

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of your gifts to the mission and ministry  
of your church - and how together we will Arise and Shine in 2025!

If you haven't yet made your pledge, you can do so here: [ryepc.com/stewardship-2025/](https://ryepc.com/stewardship-2025/).



### COMING HOME

The 2025 program is underway. Coming Home seeks to empower those who are returning to the community from incarceration. The 18-week program offers several volunteer opportunities, including serving as mentors who are paired with participants, as well as cooks who prepare and serve the evening meal. If you are interested in serving contact Program Coordinator, Kevin Bunch, at 914-473-2221 or by email at [savedmedic2001@yahoo.com](mailto:savedmedic2001@yahoo.com); or Mission and Outreach Committee Liaison, Douglas Carey, at 914-565-6748 or by email at [poningoeearthcare@gmail.com](mailto:poningoeearthcare@gmail.com).



### WEST COAST SWING DANCE CLASSES

**This Week: Today, February 23**

**No Class on Thursday, February 27**

After This Week: Every Thursday from 6-7 p.m.  
in the RPC Assembly Room

Taught by Dance Instructor Christopher Bledsoe  
\$20/person/session – all levels welcome!

[www.westie-night-out.com/](http://www.westie-night-out.com/)

Brought to RPC by the Fellowship and Formation Committee.  
Contact Carol Love at [cloveny5@gmail.com](mailto:cloveny5@gmail.com) for more information.



### CHILDCARE

Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is available to care for children 3 months to 3 years old while parents attend worship services. Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education Wing. If you have any questions, please reach out to Anne Halloin at [ahalloin@ryepc.com](mailto:ahalloin@ryepc.com).

## CHILDREN'S COMMUNION WORKSHOP

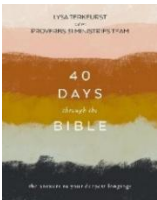
**Saturday, March 1, 10:00-11:15 a.m.**

A Warm Welcome to the Table

If your child or children have been curious about the Lord's Supper, this is a great opportunity for them to learn more about it, and for you to grow in your faith together.

On Saturday, March 1, from 10:00–11:15 a.m., children in the second through fifth grades are welcome to come with a parent to this special workshop. Together we will explore the meaning of the sacrament and how we celebrate it here at Rye Presbyterian Church.

Space is limited, so please sign up by contacting Rev. Love at [dlove@ryepc.com](mailto:dlove@ryepc.com).



## WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

**Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30 p.m., in the Library**

Please join us for our study of *40 Days Through the Bible*, by Lisa Terkeurst, on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. in the library. All are welcome!

For more information, please contact Alicia Baldwin at [alicia.baldwin@verizon.net](mailto:alicia.baldwin@verizon.net) or Courtney Bennett at [courtneybennett910@gmail.com](mailto:courtneybennett910@gmail.com).



## THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is open on Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

For more information on donations, please check the church website.

You can also email the shop at [RyeThrift10580@gmail.com](mailto:RyeThrift10580@gmail.com).

Regular Drop-Off Times: Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study meets twice a month on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. We are reading the whole of the Bible. Our upcoming meeting dates are March 1 and 8. Please join us! For more information, please contact Cynthia Wells at [cynthialwells@gmail.com](mailto:cynthialwells@gmail.com).



## GIVING AT RPC

Online donation options are available on our giving page, at [ryepc.com/give/](http://ryepc.com/give/) and through the QR code. Contact Maida Robinson at [mrobinson@ryepc.com](mailto:mrobinson@ryepc.com) with any questions. *Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the church.*



*We are a Stephen Ministry church that offers a one-on-one caring ministry to those in need.  
If you need assistance from your pastors, deacons, or a Stephen Minister, please call at (914) 967-0842.  
If you are experiencing an acute crisis, you can call or text 988  
and you'll connect with a mental health professional through the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.*



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I Love Thee, My Lord  
Music arr. George Shearing  
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Let the Heaven Light Shine on Me  
Text adapt. Roland M. Carter Music arr. Roland M. Carter  
Text adapt. and music arr. © 1978 Mar-Vel. Used by permission.

Lord, Have Mercy  
Music: Leon C. Roberts  
Music © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Glory to God the Creator  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson  
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I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (*Houston*)  
Text and Music: Kathleen Thomerson  
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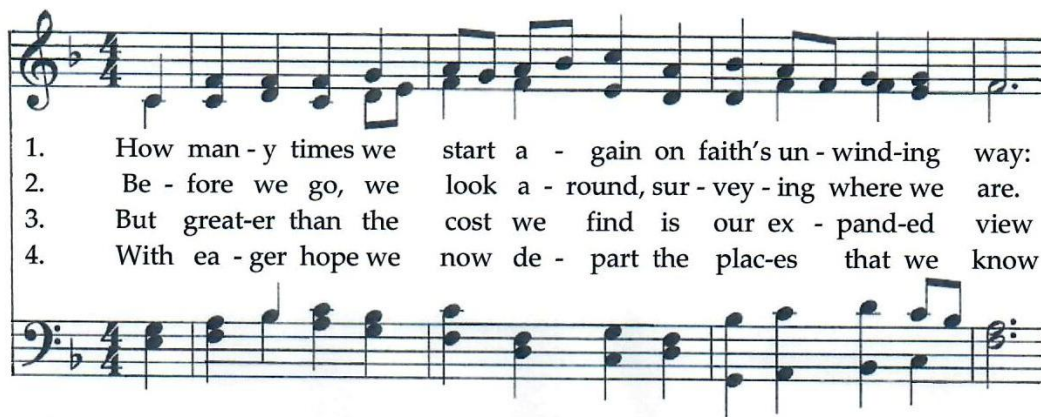
To Abraham and Sarah  
Text: Judith A. Fetter  
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Let No Sad Thought Oppress Thee  
Text transl. John Rutter  
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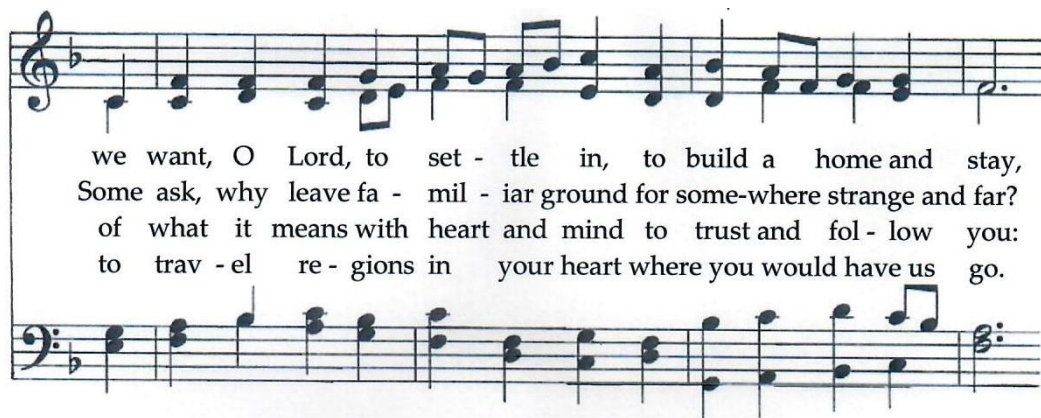
How Many Times We Start Again (*Forest Green*)  
Text: Thomas H. Troeger Music harm. Noel Rawsthorne  
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# How Many Times We Start Again

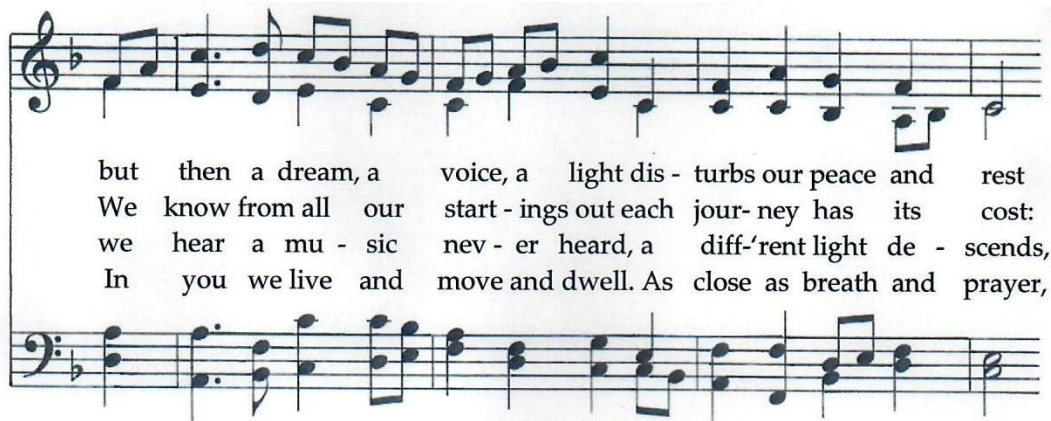
*Forest Green*



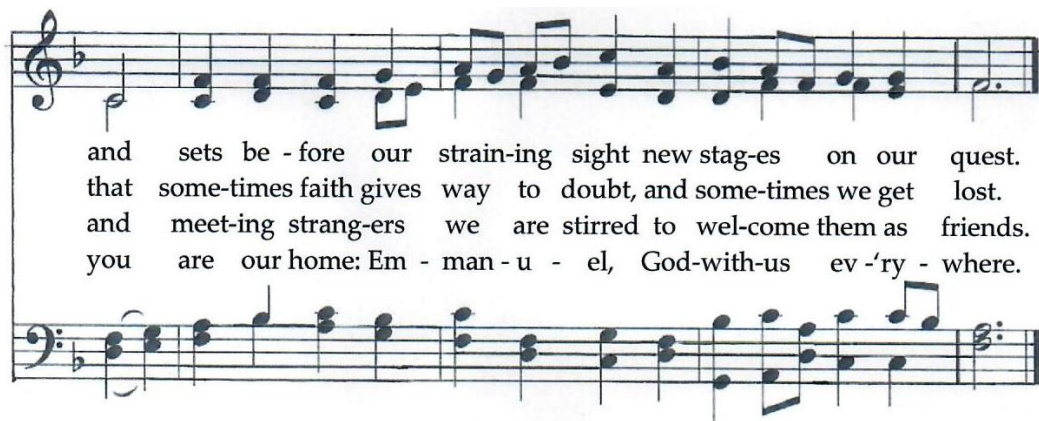
1. How man - y times we start a - gain on faith's un - wind - ing way:  
2. Be - fore we go, we look a - round, sur - vey - ing where we are.  
3. But great - er than the cost we find is our ex - pand - ed view  
4. With ea - ger hope we now de - part the plac - es that we know



we want, O Lord, to set - tle in, to build a home and stay,  
Some ask, why leave fa - mil - iar ground for some - where strange and far?  
of what it means with heart and mind to trust and fol - low you:  
to trav - el re - gions in your heart where you would have us go.



but then a dream, a voice, a light dis - turbs our peace and rest  
We know from all our start - ings out each jour - ney has its cost:  
we hear a mu - sic nev - er heard, a diff - rent light de - scends,  
In you we live and move and dwell. As close as breath and prayer,

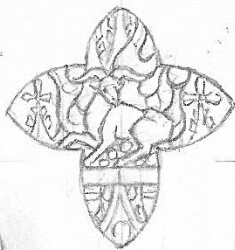


Text: Thomas H. Troeger (1945-2022)  
Music: English folksong, harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

#### CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Daniel Love, *Co-Pastor*  
Anne Halloin, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*  
Jason Charneski, *Director of Music and Organist*  
Maida Robinson, *Chief Administrative Officer*  
Peggy Berretta, *Administrative Assistant*  
Max Crawley, *Administrative Assistant for Communications*  
Aileen Lynch, *Office Assistant*  
Juan Velasquez, *Head Sexton/Building Manager*  
Alonso Osorio, *Sunday Sexton*

Rye  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



Scale 1. INCH



RONP