



# Welcome

**PINNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday, January 15, 2023 | 10:00 am  
2nd Sunday after Epiphany

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>My Lord! What a Morning</i> Lorraine Brugh, organ	spiritual, arr. Emma Lou Diemer
<b>Lighting of the Candles</b>		Zadie Jensen
<b>Words of Welcome</b>		Wes Avram
<b>Call to Worship</b>		Wes Avram
<b>*Opening Hymn</b>	<i>In Christ There is No East or West</i>	No. 317
	1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.	
	2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find; his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.	
	3 Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be. All children of the living God are surely kin to me.	
	4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north. All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.	
<b>Prayer of Adoration</b>		Lia Jensen
<b>Call to Confession</b>		Erik Khoobyarian

**Common Confession and Assurance** (unison)

Erik Khoobyarian

Thou Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being, we humbly confess that we have not loved thee with our hearts, souls and minds, and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us. We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ. We often give in order to receive. We love our friends and hate our enemies. We go the first mile but dare not travel the second. We forgive but dare not forget. And so as we look within ourselves, we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against you. But thou, O God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be. Give us the intelligence to know your will. Give us the courage to do your will. Give us the devotion to love your will. Now hear our silent prayers of confession. (silence)

**\*Congregational Response** (unison) *We Are Forgiven*

No. 447

(first sung by the Choir, second by All)

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Erik Khoobyarian

**Children's Message**

Michael Hegeman

Children leave for Church School & 6th-8th Grade Youth remain in worship.

**Special Music**

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

African American Spiritual, No. 825, vs. 1 & 4

Pinnacle Men's Quartet

Refrain:

*Swing low, sweet chariot,  
coming for to carry me home.*

*Swing low, sweet chariot,  
coming for to carry me home.*

*1 I looked over Jordan, and what did I see  
coming for to carry me home?  
A band of angels coming after me,  
coming for to carry me home. O, (Refrain)*

*4 I'm sometimes up and sometimes down,  
coming for to carry me home,  
but still my soul feels heavenly bound,  
coming for to carry me home. O, (Refrain)*

**Congregational Response** (unison)

No. 547

Go, my children with my blessing, never alone;  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;  
In my love's baptismal river, I have made you mine forever,  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

For those joining us online, you may make your donation by texting  
pinnaclepres to 833-245-8445 or online at [pinnaclepres.org/give-now](http://pinnaclepres.org/give-now)

Offertory

Musical Offering

*He Never Failed Me Yet*

Robert Ray

Thomas Strawser, soloist • Chancel Choir, Ilona Kubiaczyk-Adler, director  
Lorraine Brugh, piano

*I will sing of God's mercy,  
Every day, every hour, He gives me power.  
I will sing and give thanks to Thee  
For all the dangers, toils and snares  
That He has brought me out.  
He is my God and I'll serve Him,  
No matter what the test.  
Trust and never doubt,  
Jesus will surely bring you out,  
He never failed me yet.*

Solo:

*I know God is able to deliver in time of storm.  
I know that he'll keep you safe from all earthly harm.  
On day when my weary soul is at rest,  
I'm going home to be forever bless'd.*

*Trust and never doubt,  
Jesus will surely bring you out,  
He never failed me yet.*

*I will sing of God's mercy...*

Solo:

*Didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh?  
And didn't He cool the fiery furnace  
for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?  
When I think of what my God can do,  
He delivered Daniel, I know He will deliver you.*

*Trust and never doubt,  
Jesus will surely bring you out,  
He never failed me yet.*

*I will sing of God's mercy...*

\*Doxology (*Old Hundredth*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

No. 606

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 5:43-48 Wes Avram

**Sermon** *Be Perfect!: Perfect Loving* Wes Avram

**Common Prayer, Lord's Prayer** (unison) Leah Quarles

**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.**

**\*Closing Hymn** *Lift Every Voice and Sing* No. 339

1 Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,  
ring with the harmonies of liberty.  
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
let us march on, till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.  
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
come to the place for which our parents sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;  
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;  
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,  
true to our God, true to our native land.

**\*Charge & Benediction** Wes Avram

**Sending Music** *Toccata on Lift Every Voice* Mark Miller  
Ilona Kubiacyk-Adler, organ

\* Please rise.

Today's Common Confession is a prayer of Dr. Martin Luther King, collected in *Thou, Dear God* (edited by Lewis V. Baldwin, Beacon Press, 2012).

# Scripture

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## Matthew 5:43-48

### Love for Enemies

43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the gentiles do the same? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) updated edition

## About the Music

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To celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and the African American Heritage Month, most of the music selections today and this month are by African-American composers. Florence Beatrice Price (1887-1953), whose orchestral compositions recorded by the Philadelphia Orchestra were awarded a Grammy, was also a notable organist. You will hear many of her compositions this month.

Pinnacle Men’s Quartet performs a well-known African American spiritual “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot.” Its text is attributed to Sarah Hannah Sheppard, a slave in Tennessee, who was sold to a plantation in Mississippi and separated from her daughter. The motherless daughter grew up to become Ella Sheppard Moore, the pianist for the original Fisk Jubilee Singers. After the group’s first tour, Ella was able to find her mother, whom she brought to live with her in Nashville.

The composer of the choral anthem today “He Never Failed Me Yet” is Dr. Robert Ray. He is a composer, conductor, clinician, and Professor Emeritus of Music at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and received an Honorary Doctorate of Music from Vincennes University.

## Notes of Interest

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**Ushers** are Judy & J.D. Helms, Shelly & Tom McCahan, Bob Purkey, Robert Slegers, and Mary Upchurch. **Head Usher** is Robert Armstrong.

**The flowers are given** by Patti & Mark Blackwell in celebration.

# Prayer Requests

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Please pray for the following members & friends:

- For Don, fighting cancer;
- For Jan, in hospice care;
- For Emma, a 10-month-old having surgery for cleft palate;
- For Ron, diagnosed with Alzheimer's and his family to adjust to a new normal;
- For Lillian, suffering from edema related to chemo treatments;
- Prayers of gratitude for Foothills Caring Corps and Duet;
- For our healthcare workers, first responders, and local and federal government workers who are serving our communities during these challenging times;
- For the people of Haiti and Harmony Ministries;
- For our men and women in the military.

To add your prayer requests to the Pinnacle prayer list, please email [prayer@pinnaclepres.org](mailto:prayer@pinnaclepres.org) or call 480.585.9448.

If you would like to join our prayer request email list to receive a weekly list of people needing your prayers and monthly prayer guidelines, please send your name and email to [prayer@pinnaclepres.org](mailto:prayer@pinnaclepres.org).