

Lexington Presbyterian Church  
120 South Main Street  
Lexington, VA 24450  
[www.lexpres.org](http://www.lexpres.org)  
13 September 2020  
11:00AM

## GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

SIGN IN AND FELLOWSHIP

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

We do not live to ourselves,

***And we do not die to ourselves.***

If we live,

***we live to the Lord.***

If we die,

***we die to the Lord.***

So then, whether we live,

***or whether we die, we are the Lord's.***

Today we live,

***so let us not cast judgment on one another.***

Today we live,

***so let us not despise one another.***

For God alone is judge, and we know it is written,

***every knee shall bow***

every tongue confess,

***that Jesus Christ is Lord!***

So with bended knee and praise drenched tongues,

***let us worship!***

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

***God of love, make us so aware of your presence in new ways today. In our singing, tune our hearts to you. In our reading, let new understanding dawn. In the word proclaimed, convict us for spirit-filled action. In our praying, let us deepen our connection to you. It is in the powerful name of the Risen Christ we pray. Amen.***

OPENING HYMN 691

*Lord, When I Came into This Life*

A TIME OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

***When Peter asked, "How often should we forgive each other?" you made it clear no count should be kept. But we keep count God. Count of slights, perceived insults, of the many ways we have been wronged. We are quick to point to the speck in the eyes of others while being ignorant of the plank in our own eye. Forgive us Jesus. Forgive us for keeping count; forgive us for daring to receive your forgiveness, but failing to offer ours to others. Instill in us not just a desire to be forgiven, but to forgive. We can never repay what has been done for us in Jesus Christ. Help us to live like we believe that is so. Amen.***

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn 444, v. 4 [tune: Dundee]

*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

***Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease.  
Then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.***

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

David Dugan

THE BLESSING OF OUR OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 606

*The Doxology*

***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.***

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 18:21-35

SERMON

*The Math of Forgiveness*

Rev. Clayton Rascoe

HYMN OF REFLECTION (tune: Aurelia)

*Remember Christ, Our Savior*

***Remember Christ, our Savior, who paid the debts you owed,  
to God the heavenly Father, and to you mercy showed.***

***When others sin against you, be ready to forgive.  
Since you have been forgiven, with them in peace now live.***

***Go first to find your brother, your sister, or your friend.  
Do not reveal to others the hurt you need to mend.  
Confront in humble spirit the one whose sin caused pain,  
that he might seek forgiveness, and you a friend again.***

**O Father, Son, and Spirit, O patient Trinity,  
who lifts from us sin's burden, and from its debt sets free,  
grant us the will to pardon all those who us offend,  
that we might enter heaven with them when ages end.**

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CALL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

CONFIRMATION

Presentation

Lighting of Candles

Profession of Faith

Affirmation of Faith

***I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. 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.***

Affirmation in Song - Hymn 581

*Gloria Patri*

***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.***

Prayer of Renewal

Laying on of Hands and Anointing

Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you. Remember you are God's beloved.

***May the Lord make His face to shine upon you.***

May the Lord give you comfort and peace.

***Remember you are Christ's own. May the Lord challenge and convict you, guard and guide you through the Power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

Hymn 486, vs. 2&3

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

***Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits; into joy and laughter lead.  
Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.  
Back to God we humbly give you: Live as one who bears Christ's name.***

WELCOMING THE CONFIRMANDS AND SHARING THE PEACE

The Peace (responsive)

Let us greet one another with the Peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.  
**and also with you...**

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

**SENDING**

HYMN 445

*God, How Can We Forgive*

BLESSING IN WORD

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE - Hymn 300, v. 4

*We Are One in the Spirit*

***All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

FELLOWSHIP/BREAKOUT ROOMS

This morning three of our young people will make their profession of faith. These young people met on a regular basis with John Turnbull, Bill Klein, and Kelly-Ann Rayle beginning last fall. They also met with an adult "mentor." Tuesday March 3, 2020 the Confirmands came before the Session to share their faith statements and to answer questions. You will find their faith statements printed in the bulletin. The list of Confirmands and their Adult Mentors are as follows:

Confirmands/Adult Mentors

Grace Evanoe Fure/Mary Atthowe

Kevin James Squire/David Dax

Ryan Christopher Squire/Rich Bidlack

We offer our congratulations to these young people...and express our gratitude to their adult mentors.

**See Next Page for their Statements of Faith**

**Thank you** to Mary Atthowe for being our Worship Assistant.

**Thank you** to David Dugan for providing today's Life of the Church

**Thank you** to our worship team this morning: Andy Coffey - Moderator, Jan Hathorn - Waiting Room, and Cindy Irby - Cameras

The **flowers** are given by JoAnn Wilson to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, Joe, and her son, Steve.



## STATEMENTS OF FAITH BY OUR CONFIRMANDS (2020)

My first memory of prayer was when I was a child saying the Lord's Prayer each night with my Dad. I didn't really understand the prayer until I became more connected with the church. Every year in Sunday School we would learn the stories of the Bible, and each year I would have a deeper understanding of their meaning.

Another influence on my developing Christianity was my camp church services. Every Sunday we would gather outside in nature in front of a beautiful lake and sing songs and pray. Being in nature so close to God influenced me as much as what was said and done. When I was in Tanzania on a trip, I felt especially close to God because I saw so much beauty in nature that only God could have created.

God to me is the creator of heaven and earth. He has blessed me and my family with good health, food, and a roof over our heads. Jesus, his son, has taught me through the stories in the Bible and the example of his life. He gave the ultimate sacrifice for all of us through his death. We have the Holy Spirit in our lives to guide us through the ups and downs of our lives. I believe the church is a safe space in growing your Christianity.

I believe being a Christian is not only believing in God but acting through Him by being kind to others. I also believe in treating others with kindness and acceptance. My family and the church have planted a seed of learning about the faith. Because of this seed I will continue to grow and learn as a Christian.

*Grace Evanoe Fure*

Mentor: Mary Atthowe

I believe God helps and guides us through indirect means. I believe Jesus was and is here to show what the ideal person should be and what we should all try to become. I believe the Holy Spirit is what makes all people strive to be more like Jesus. Sinfulness is the negative pull to the dark side or temptation. I believe the church is meant to help bring people together, guide people, and develop their beliefs in God and Jesus. I believe the sacraments are meant to keep people on the right path to becoming more like Christ. I will exercise my faith by coming to church and to Sunday School and helping anywhere I can.

*Kevin James Squire*

Mentor: David Dax

Faith has less directly impacted any specific event in my life, and instead has shaped the process by which I overall see it and have come to appreciate it thereby affecting my happiness. The ways I appreciate nature have been augmented by Jesus. How He died to save us, makes me value the actions of simple things around me, and helps make them so much more meaningful. The Holy Spirit, although less in my consciousness, I know affects my unconscious thinking, and it reassures me to know I can pray and to have the Holy Spirit be with all those who are less fortunate or in need. I believe God is always trying to make the world a better place and has made me a part of his mission to do so. Through His guidance and advice from the church, I hope to be as beneficial as I can to his mission for the world, and I hope I can help others do the same.

*Ryan Christopher Squire*

Mentor: Rich Bidlack

## Music Attributions

Lexington Presbyterian Church: Congregational Hymns/Songs – **September 13, 2020**

PUBLIC DOMAIN (text and music):

Hymn 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn 581 Glory Be to the Father

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Hymn 691 Lord, When I Came into This Life

Text: Fred Kaan, 1976. Music: American folk melody, harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

Text © 1979 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Co.)

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Hymn 444 Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Text: © Rosamond E. Herklots, 1969, 1983

Tune (Dundee): Public Domain

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Hymn Remember Christ, Our Savior

Text: © 1990 Robert E. Smith

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Hymn 486 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Text © 1981 Ronald S. Cole-Turner Tune (Hyfrydol): Public Domain

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Hymn 445 God, How Can We Forgive

Text: Ruth Duck, 1994. Music: Jewish melody, 17<sup>th</sup> cent., adapt. Lyon/Olivers, 1770

Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press Music: Public Domain

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Hymn 300 We Are One in the Spirit

Text & Music: Peter Scholtes, 1966.

Text & Music: © 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp.

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Numbered hymns from *Glory to God* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2013).

Unnumbered hymn text from *hymnary.org*.

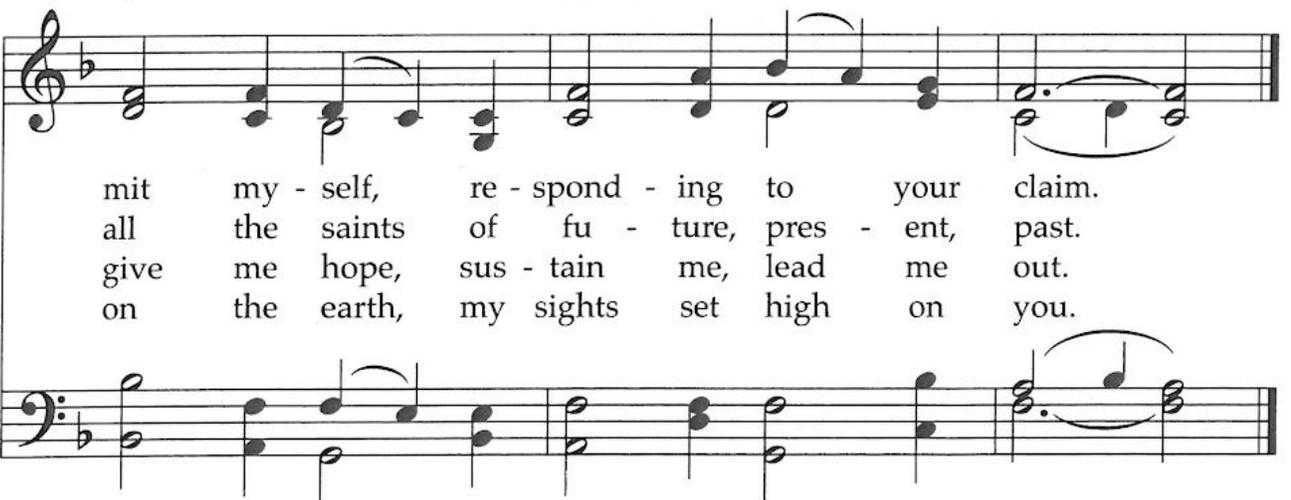
# Lord, When I Came into This Life 691



1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you  
2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as  
3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -  
4 So help me in my un - be - lief and

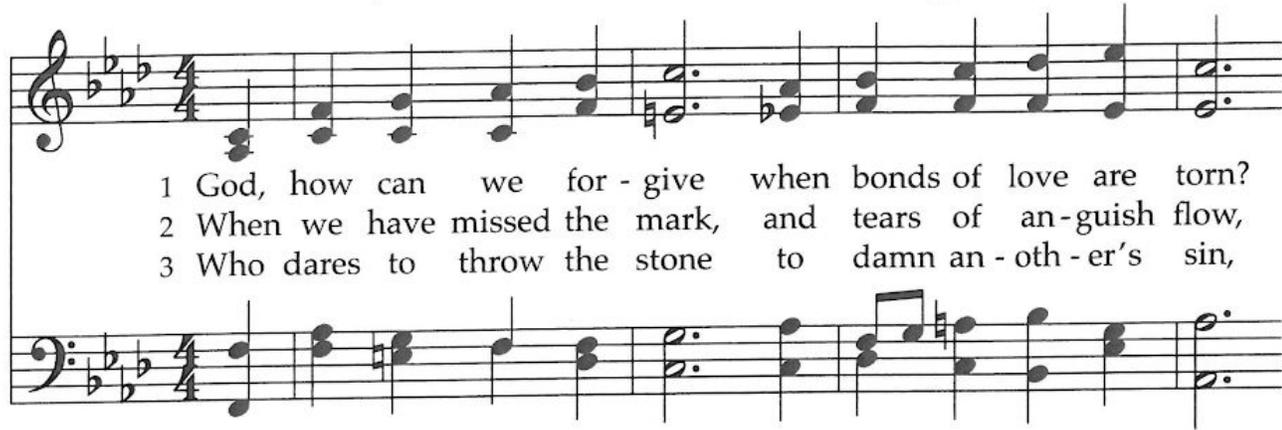


called me by my name; to - day I come, com -  
mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with  
tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it  
let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed

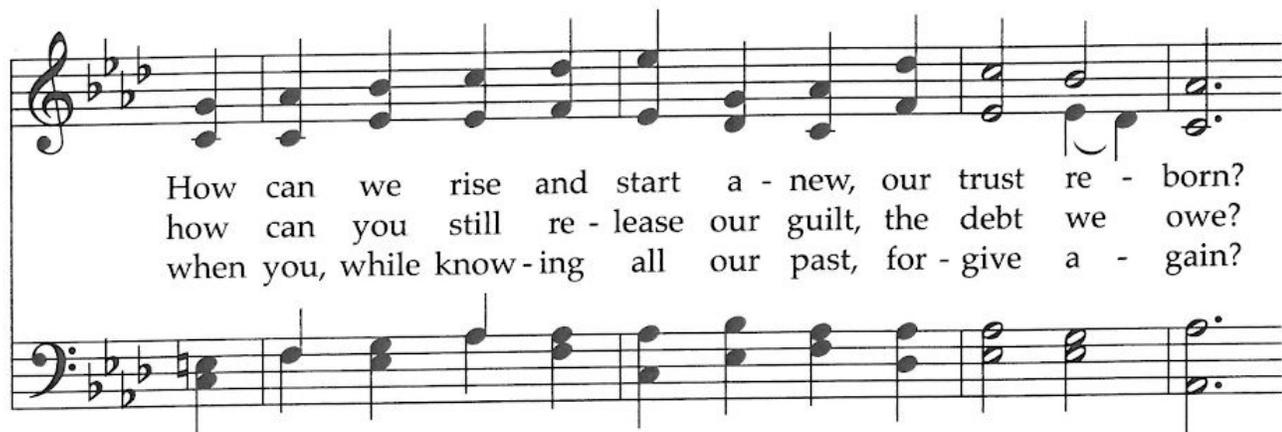


mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.  
all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.  
give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.  
on the earth, my sights set high on you.

# 445 God, How Can We Forgive



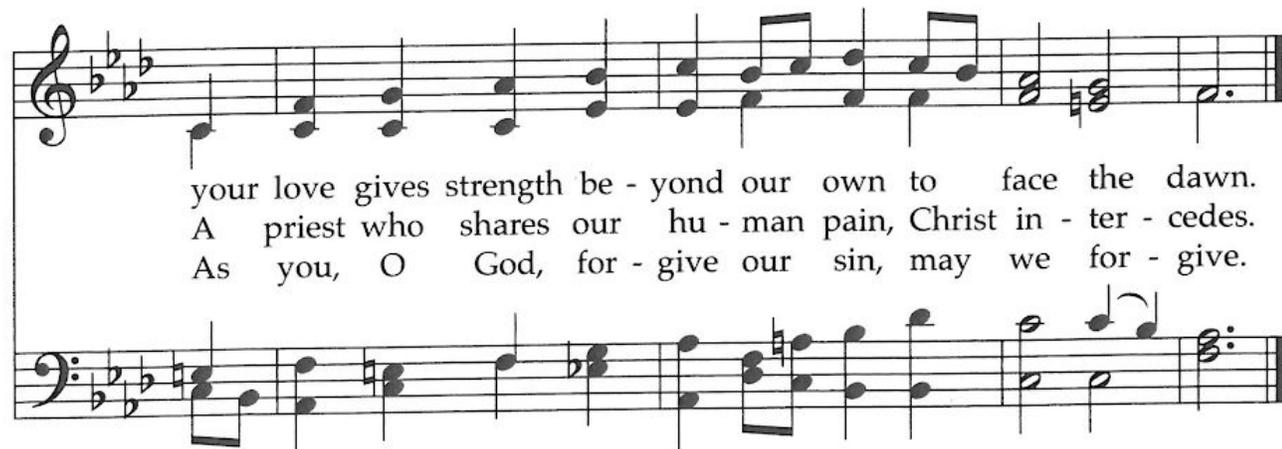
1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?  
2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,  
3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,



How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?  
how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?  
when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?



When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,  
The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.  
No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.



your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.  
A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.  
As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

