

COMMUNION SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*Third Sunday After Pentecost
Celebrating the Musical Gifts of Fanny Crosby*

*June 9, 2024
10:00 AM*

*Oh, what a happy child I am,
although I cannot see!
I am resolved that in this world
contented I will be!
How many blessings I enjoy
that other people don't!
So weep or sigh because I'm blind,
I cannot—nor I won't.*

~ Fanny Crosby (1820–1915)

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Men's Breakfast at Robin Hood, Wednesday (6/12) at 8:30 AM.
- Strawberry Festival Potluck, Sunday (6/30) at 11:30 AM.

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Isaiah 42:6-8)*

ONE: I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,

MANY: I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

ONE: I have given you as a covenant to the people,

MANY: A light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,

ONE: To bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,

MANY: From the prison those who sit in darkness.

ONE: I am the LORD, that is my name;

MANY: My glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

ONE: Let us worship God!

HYMN

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**To God be the glory;
Great things he has done!
So loved he the world
That he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life
An atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate
That all may go in.**

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;

Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father

Through Jesus the Son,

And give him the glory:

Great things he has done!

**Great things he has taught us;
Great things he has done,
And great our rejoicing
Through Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher
And greater will be
Our wonder, our transport,
When Jesus we see.**

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;

Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father

Through Jesus the Son,

And give him the glory:

Great things he has done!

READING

Meeting Fanny Jane Crosby

HYMN

Near the Cross

NEAR THE CROSS

**Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There a precious fountain;
Free to all, a healing stream,
Flows from Calv'ry's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest, beyond the river.**

**Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;
There the Bright and Morning Star
Sheds its beams around me.
In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest, beyond the river.**

**Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
Bring its scenes before me;
Help my walk from day to day
With its shadow o'er me.
In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest, beyond the river.**

**Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
Hoping, trusting ever;
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river.
In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest, beyond the river.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:46–52

READING

Poverty and Greatness

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

(Scan the QR Code to give online →)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM



COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Sharing of Bread and Wine

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayer of Thanksgiving

HYMN

The Lord's Prayer (Sung)

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as 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.

READING

Wrapping Up Well

CLOSING HYMN

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

**This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

**This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story; this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.**

BENEDICTION *(from “Showers of Blessing,” based on Ezekiel 34:26)*

Pour from Thy windows upon us

Showers of blessing today.

Showers of blessing, we need them,

Showers of blessing from Thee;

Showers of blessing, oh, grant them,

Thine all the glory shall be.

POSTLUDE

Reflection Questions for June 9, 2024: *Mark 10:46-52*

1. The Mark text presents us with the theme of restoration after a long season of suffering. How do you offer hope without minimizing the suffering of others?
2. Fanny Crosby worshipped in churches of different denominations and was a key contributor to the Wesleyan holiness movement, attending Wesleyan/Holiness camp meetings. She was a friend of Walter and Phoebe Palmer, "the mother of the holiness movement" and "arguably the most influential female theologian in Christian history," and their daughter Phoebe Knapp, with whom she wrote "Blessed Assurance." Fanny often visited the Methodist camp meeting grounds at Ocean Grove, New Jersey, as their guest. She vacationed each summer at Ocean Grove between 1877 and 1897 (and possibly longer), where she would speak in the Great Auditorium (for which today's postlude was written) and hold receptions in her cottage to meet her admirers. Why do you think the hymns of Fanny Crosby are still popular? What resonates for you with the imagery they present to us from one who is blind but "sees?"
3. True or false:
 - a. Fanny was the first woman to speak in the United States Senate.
 - b. Many of Fanny's hymns are included in the African American Heritage Hymnal.
 - c. Fanny Crosby and Bing Crosby were related.

WORSHIP NOTES:

“Happy Child” was written by Fanny Crosby and published by J. H. Hall in the *Biography of Gospel Song and Hymn Writers*, New York: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1914, p. 40–41.

The **Prayer for Illumination** is adapted from a prayer written by Anne Osdieck posted on The Sunday Website of Saint Louis University. <http://liturgy.slu.edu/BapLord C011313/main.html>

The **Readings** are adapted from “A Hymn Festival Celebrating the Gift of Fanny Crosby on the 200th Anniversary of Her Birth,” written by Laurie Tenhave-Chapman and published in *Reformed Worship*, March 2020, No. 135, 28-35.

The **Prayer for the People** was adapted from prayers written by Neill Thew in **Bread of Tomorrow**, edited by Janet Morley, SPCK, 1995. <http://www.amazon.com/Bread-Tomorrow-Prayers-Church-Year/dp/0883448319>, and Rev. Dr. Safiyah Fosua, from 21st Century Worship Resources for the Twenty-First Sunday Sunday after Pentecost, Year B, Copyright 2009 General Board of Discipleship. All Rights Reserved. Posted on the **Long Green Valley Church of the Brethren** website. <http://rockhay.tripod.com>

The **Postlude** was written by Clarence Kohlmann and published in 1941 by the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association.

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