

WAYS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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HELPFUL TO KNOW

If you'd like to join us for Sunday worship service live, please go to our Facebook page or YouTube and connect with the following link:

<http://upc-superior.com/youtube>

Please feel free to place any questions you may have by replying in the comments section (YouTube), or contact the church office by phone or email and request to be added to our email list.

PRAYER REQUEST

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the Prayer Time during each worship service. You can share a prayer request online in the comments section (YouTube) or by contacting the church by email or phone with your request.

The Prayer Chain may be activated by calling
Jan Heckman at 715-392-1072 (jan_KB9LTA@yahoo.com) or
Dean Hecht at 715-398-6532.

Choirmaster & Handbell Director

Church Secretary

Custodian

Director of Children,

Youth & Family Ministries

Financial Secretary

Nursery Coordinator

Organist & Pianist

Pastor

Treasurer

Jane Wester

Tiffany Willie

Beth Lisak

Laura Foote

Jan Letsos

Iris Miller

Alexander Sandor

Rev. Brett M. Foote

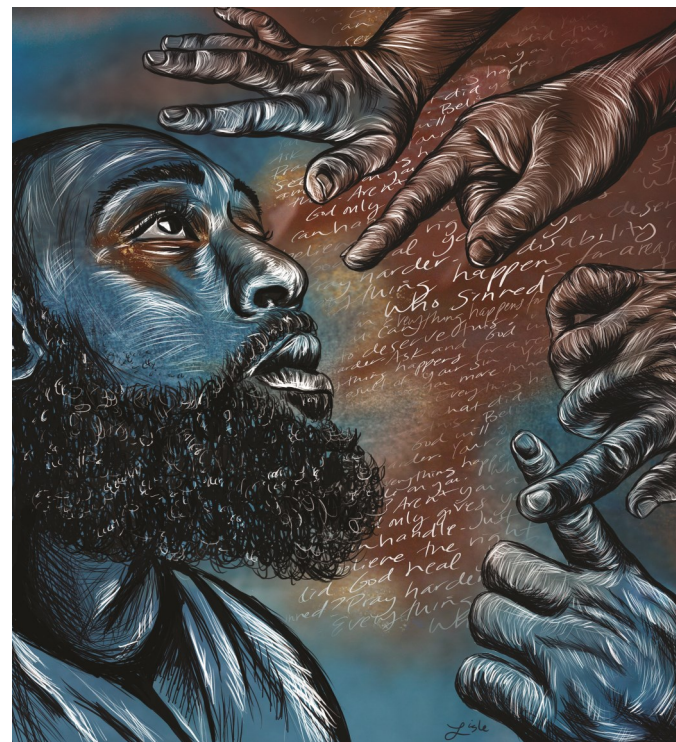
Christy Willmore

Cover Art: "insight" Lisle Gwynn Garrity
Inspired by John 9:8-41

Silk painting with digital drawing and collage



A CONGREGATION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)



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Online Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19th, 2023

10:00 AM

If you are joining us online, please light a candle to remind yourself of the presence of God.

* Please rise in body or spirit.

If the text is bolded, everyone is invited to say the words in unison.

PRELUDE **Alex Sandor**
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP & THEME FOR LENT: I Refuse To Be Comforted Easily**
(Verse 3 only)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: ... Let us pray. Who here has sinned?

All: We have sinned. Sometimes we put our heads in the sand. Often, we have ignored people in need. We have made false assumptions and failed to be kind. We are in need of forgiveness.

One: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

All: Thanks be to God for a Creator who runs after us and loves us so extravagantly...

Have you sinned?

One: I have sinned. I put my head in the sand. I ignore people in need. I make false assumptions and fail to be kind. I, too, am in need of forgiveness.

All: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

One: Thanks be to God for a Creator who runs after me and loves me so extravagantly. Amen.

***HYMN** **My Faith Looks Up to Thee** **#829**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

You are invited to bless those around you with the words, **"The peace of Christ be with you."** In response you may say **"And also with you!"** (You may pass the peace in the comments section.)

RESPONSE **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah (2x, chorus only)** **#591**

SCRIPTURE READINGS **Eric Schlacks**
Old Testament Reading **1 Samuel 16:1-13**

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM **Lenten Meditation**

SERMON **"Who Sinned?: Asking The Right Questions"**
Rev. Brett M Foote
New Testament Reading **John 9:1-12, 15**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

One: Let us affirm our faith together...

We believe in a merciful God,

All: a God who does not keep score,
a God who wants good for us

One: We believe in a creative God,

All: a God who would heal with mud,
a God capable of seeing what we cannot.

One: We believe in a saving God,

All: a God who heals,
a God who greets our questions with patience,
a God who sends us out with hope and joy with every move we make.

One: What wondrous love is this. Amen.

***HYMN** **Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters** **#490**

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP & MISSION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY **Alex Sandor**
***RESPONSE** **#607**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people, here below.

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

PRAYER OVER OFFERING

One: Let us bless these gifts.

All: God who heals with mud and makes ministers out of all of us.

May we be good stewards of these gifts and may we be loving neighbors. May all those who have been pushed aside find in us good friends and companions on the journey. As we give of our time, talents, or treasures, may we reflect Christ to others. Help us to be people of change in our community. Help us to connect with, serve, and care for our community so that Superior, Duluth and the rest of the Northland may know your precious love. Amen.

Prayers to be Shared Please email or call the church with your prayer requests or share them in the comments section. (YouTube)

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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** **Blessed Assurance** **#839**

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** **Alex Sandor**

Some of the prayers are adapted by Pastor Brett from prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 9:1-12, 15

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.' Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.'

United Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY 3/19

8:45 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Morning Worship
10:15 AM Children's Church
4 PM Community Dinner
6 PM Volleyball

MONDAY 3/20

4-8:30 PM Piano Lessons

TUESDAY 3/21

3:45-7:30 PM Piano Lessons
4 PM Pickleball

WEDNESDAY 3/22

12 PM Staff Meeting
2-6 PM CSA Pickup
4-4:45 PM Piano Lessons
6:15 PM Soup Supper
6:30 PM Lenten Worship

THURSDAY 3/23

1 PM UPBeat Deadline
5 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
7 PM AA Meeting

FRIDAY 3/24

5-7 PM Boy Scout Fish Fry

SATURDAY 3/25

Building Reserved

Birthdays This Week

3/19 Mary Peterson
3/20 Skye Palmer
3/21 Leroy Hanson

LOOKING AHEAD

March 26
April 7

Spud Day
Good Friday Service

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE?

At United Presbyterian Church, we offer many opportunities to give of yourself to glorify God. From signing up to volunteer to donating financially, if you'd like to support the mission and vision of the church you can do so at the following link:

<https://www.upc-superior.com/donate>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CURRENT COVID PROCEDURES

As of Friday, March 17th, Douglas County is at a Low COVID-19 Community Level. At this level, the Session-approved guidelines recommend that our community members stay up to date on vaccinations, mask in spaces with older folks and other potentially immunocompromised individuals, and stay home when sick.

However, due to the amount of congregants who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past two weeks, we are strongly encouraging masking at this time. Masks are available on the bookshelf outside the office.

LITURGIST & COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP

There are two sign up sheets at the back of the Narthex, one to sign up to host our coffee hours following the service, and one where you can sign up to be a liturgist during our Sunday worship services. These are both great opportunities to get involved with the church!

LENTEN WORSHIP

Each Wednesday during Lent we will be gathering around tables in the fellowship hall at 6:15 to enjoy dinner and worship...at the same time! Join us for this creative, informal, discussion based, and delicious time of worship and fellowship. It is potluck style and the Wednesday Night Soup sign ups are in the narthex.

FELLOWSHIP AND OUTREACH NEWS

Spud Day is back! Join us on **March 26th** after church for a yummy lunch of baked potatoes with all the fixings.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY:

Join us in April and May as we learn to plan AHEAD. The 7-session workshop, taught by Chelsea Thompson, covers the topics of end-of-life planning, including legal directives, estate planning, handling financial changes, and final wishes. Please feel free to grab a flyer for more information.

Join us for pickleball every **Tuesday from 4-6 PM** and volleyball every **Sunday from 6-7:30 PM**.

A big THANK YOU to Jane Wester for taking our church directory photos. If you marked down that you wanted your pictures sent to you, look for an email in the next couple of months.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adolescents ages 12-18. You'll build skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to young people who are struggling. You'll also learn how to help connect them to appropriate support. This training will take place on April 19 from 8a-4p here at UPC. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and spots are limited. To register go to: <https://go.wisc.edu/yk82kk>. If you need assistance with registering please connect with Laura after the service or call Tiff during open office hours.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

On April 7th, United will be part of an Ecumenical/Interdenominational Good Friday Service held at Central Assembly of God. The service will be at 6:30 PM. We hope to see you there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INCLUSIVE CARE UNIT

We are currently accepting: **mittens, hats, scarves, hand warmers, coats, toiletry items (toothbrushes, toilet paper, bars of soap, etc.), and non-liquid, sealed food items.** Please bring donations in during office hours or on Sunday morning. *Thank you for your donations!*

NURSERY AVAILABILITY

Our nursery is staffed 15 minutes before the service begins for children who are newborn through 4 years old. Stop by the Nursery and meet Iris, our Nursery Coordinator and her volunteer assistants. Once checked in, your young ones can play in a safe environment during worship.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

After the Passing the Peace portion of our service, children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to Children's Church! This is a time designed specifically for our young ones to learn and grow in their faith. Children's Church takes place in the Youth room, which is next to the Nursery. *There will be no Children's Church this Sunday, March 19th.*

SECOND SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every second Sunday of the month there is a Bible study for our high school students. Easter is the second Sunday in April, therefore our next and last meeting will be April 16.

CONGREGATION MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF UPC

Every once in a while when there are enough changes to our prayer chain member rosters, I revise and reprint new ones. This is a perfect time to add any new folks who are willing to pray for the intentions that come our way.

The email chain is particularly easy to be on. You simply pray for any intentions you see in emails from Jan Heckman, our e-chain coordinator. The prayers don't need to be long or formal, just sincere and from the heart. Please consider joining. You just need to call or text me, at 715-919-1325, or email me at deanwhecht@gmail.com

2023 UPC COMMUNITY GARDEN SIGN-UP STARTS NEXT SUNDAY

Get ready for this year's UPC Community Garden! Starting next Sunday (March 26), you can sign up to grow veggies for our Community Dinners. Like last year, the large pots and the raised bed on the church grounds will be used for the garden (plus we'll have a second raised bed). Please consider getting involved in this mission to address food insecurity in the Twin Ports community. Questions? Contact Deborah Schlacks at desertswan@aol.com or at 218-348-6032.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

Order forms for Easter Flowers are due next Sunday, March 26th. Extras are available at the back of the Narthex and in the office.

COMMUNITY DINNER

Please join us for our free Community Dinner this Sunday, March 19th. Dine in is available from 4-5 PM, then at 5 PM, leftover meals will be packaged up and distributed for anyone who would like to enjoy a hot meal at home instead. We cannot guarantee pick up availability, nor can we distribute pickups any earlier than 5 PM. We will be serving super chicken, green beans, salad, rolls, and cake.

77B I Refused to Be Comforted Easily

Unison Cm Fm Cm

1 In com-plete des-per-a-tion and in ut-ter frus-
 2 With my eyes shut in fright and with no hope in
 3 Will God al-ways re-ject me? Will he nev-er re-
 4 Then, at last, I re-mem-bered all the things I'd for-

Fm Cm A^bma7 G7sus G7

tra-tion, I called out and God lis-tened to me.
 sight, I was much too dis-tract-ed to speak;
 spect me? Has God's love for me failed ut-ter-ly?
 got-ten, all the won-ders you, Lord, had be-gun.

Fm/G Cm/G Fm/G

Both by day and by night, with hands raised and fists
 I i-ma-gined times past which I knew could-n't
 Has his grace been for-got-ten, has he grudged me com-
 And I saw how mis-for-tune had dis-tract-ed at-

Cm/G Fm/G C^{sus} Cm

tight, I ex-pressed and re-peat-ed my plea.
 last and my heart, will, and bo-dy grew weak.
 pas-sion, does his right hand not strength-en or free?
 ten-tion from your faith-ful-ness in all you've done.

Refrain Fm7 B^b7 E^bma7 A^bma7

1-3 I re-fused to be com-fort-ed eas-i-ly
 4 Now I'm sure that your way is a ho-ly way,

Fm G7 Cm

and the tears of dis-tress made me blind:
 for its pro-gress and path I can see;

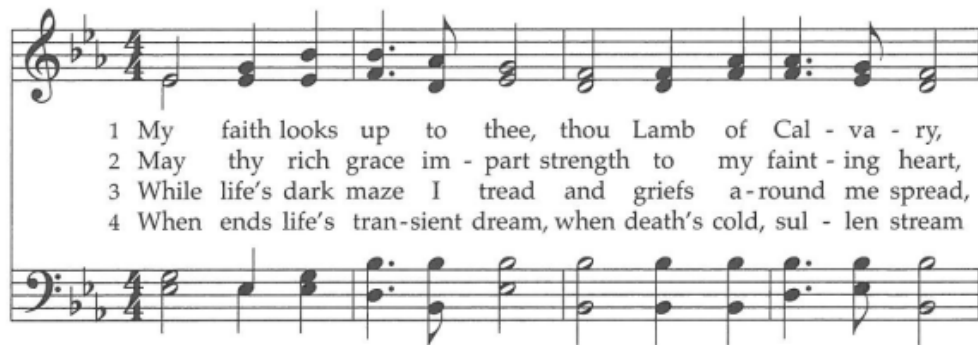
Fm7 B^b7 E^b7 A^bma7

I turned faint when my thoughts went too deep for me
 and I know that your faith-ful-ness in the past

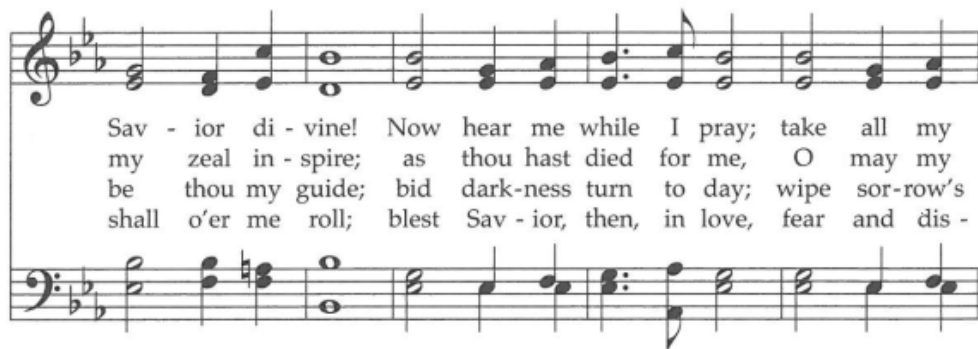
Fm Gm7 Cm

and I groaned when I called God to mind.
 will be real and I be pre-sent for me.

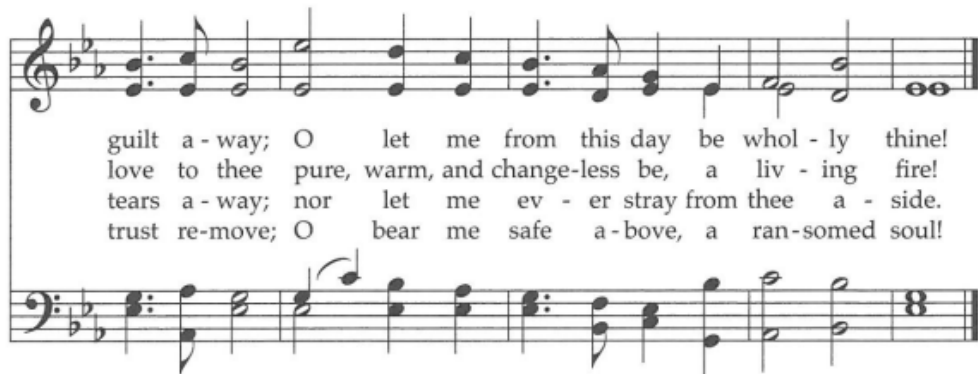
My Faith Looks Up to Thee 829



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran-sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor-row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way; nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran-somed soul!

591 Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Refrain



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!
 hal - le -



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!
 Hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -
 hal - le -



lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Fine

490

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat

1 Wash, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, new-born crea-tures
2 Ev-ery day we need your nur-ture; by your milk may
3 O how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-i-mag-ined,

(D) F (Bm) Dm

of your womb. Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple, raised like
we be fed. Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of
all your ways! To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our

(G) B \flat (D) F (A) C

Christ from death and tomb. Weave them gar-ments bright and
bless-ing, liv-ing bread. God, re-new us; guide our
lives we wor-ship, praise! We your peo-ple stand be-

(Bm) Dm (F \sharp m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (A) C (D) F

spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light. Fill, a-noint them;
foot-steps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in
fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born. By your grace, our

(Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (D) F

send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion,
rap-ture now burst on my sight; an-gels de-scend-ing,
Sav-ior am hap-py and blest, watch-ing and wait-ing,

pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry; this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

The first system of the musical score is written in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The vocal melody (treble clef) consists of eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The vocal line concludes with a half note. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.