WEST BERLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1876 Dr. Robert J. Gustafson, Pastor Jordan Family, Liturgist
Julia Roll and Edmund Cox, Organists Amy Martindale, Principal Vocalist
Proper 28 **November 15, 2026**
GATHERING TIME (10:15 – 10:30 AM) Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6145951009
Dial 929 436 2866 or 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 614 595 1009

WELCOME & PRELUDE God is Good. **All the time.** & All the time. **God is good.**

CALL TO WORSHIP
L: Clothe yourselves with faith and love; **P: be confident in your salvation in Christ Jesus.**
L: The Lord is with us! **P: Let us worship God.**

CALL TO CONFESSION
God has not destined us for wrath, but for salvation in Jesus, who died for us. Confident in God's mercies, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Almighty God, you have shown us the ways of justice and nurtured us with love. Even so, we have not lived according to your will. When we are oppressed or unjustly accused we cling to fear and forget to trust in your deliverance. When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others,
we hold tight to our privilege and forget your laws. Have mercy on us, Lord, for we are weak and prone to disobedience. Hear our confession, and respond to us with kindness, that we might turn to you again, walk in the light, and live in equity and peace; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS
Children of light, because we belong to our Lord Jesus Christ, we need not fear— for he lived for us, he died for us, he was raised for us and prays for us. Believe the promise of your baptism: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Gloria Patri" No. 9
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 FOR ILLUMINATION & FIRST READING **Psalm 123** A Song of Ascents
1 To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! **2** As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy upon us. **3** Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. **4** Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

YOUTH MESSAGE Eyes Up to God

SPECIAL MUSIC "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" Elizabeth Fisher, Violin

SECOND READING Matthew 25:14-30 The Parable of the Talents

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to
one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went
away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five
more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one
who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After
a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had
received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me
five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy
slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of
your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to
me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter
into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying,
'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not
scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But
his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather
where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I
would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one
with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but
from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw
him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON "Me and My Talents"

HYMN "More Love to Thee" No. 463 (See attached)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS & CONCERNS – PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – 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.

CALL TO OFFERING –DOXOLOGY-PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

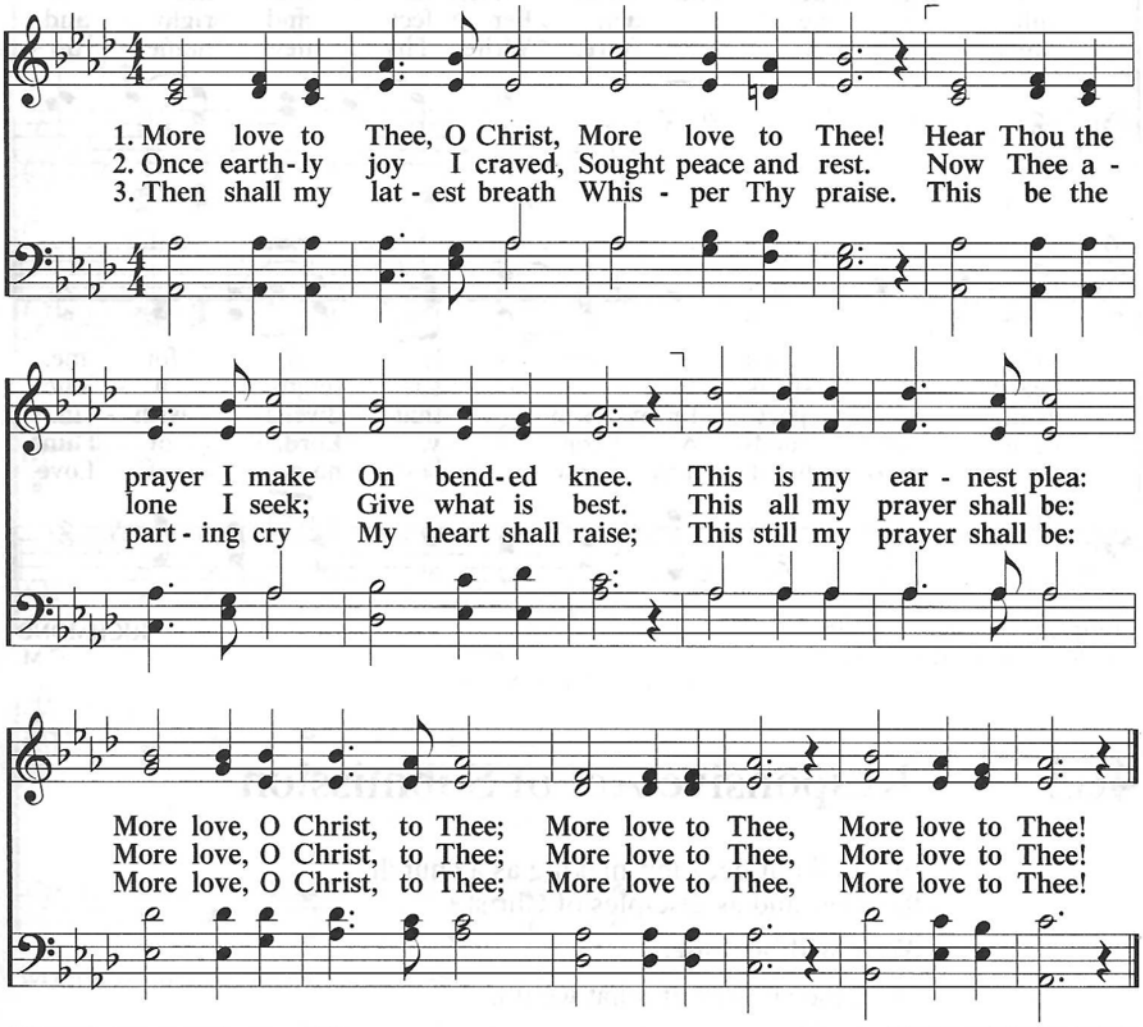
HYMN "Blessed Assurance" No. 442 (See attached)

CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

M**ay the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.**
Grant you joy, perfect peace, strength in every endeavor.
Lift your eyes and see his face, feel his grace forever.
May the Lord mighty God bless and keep you forever.

More Love to Thee 463

This is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more. Philippians 1:9
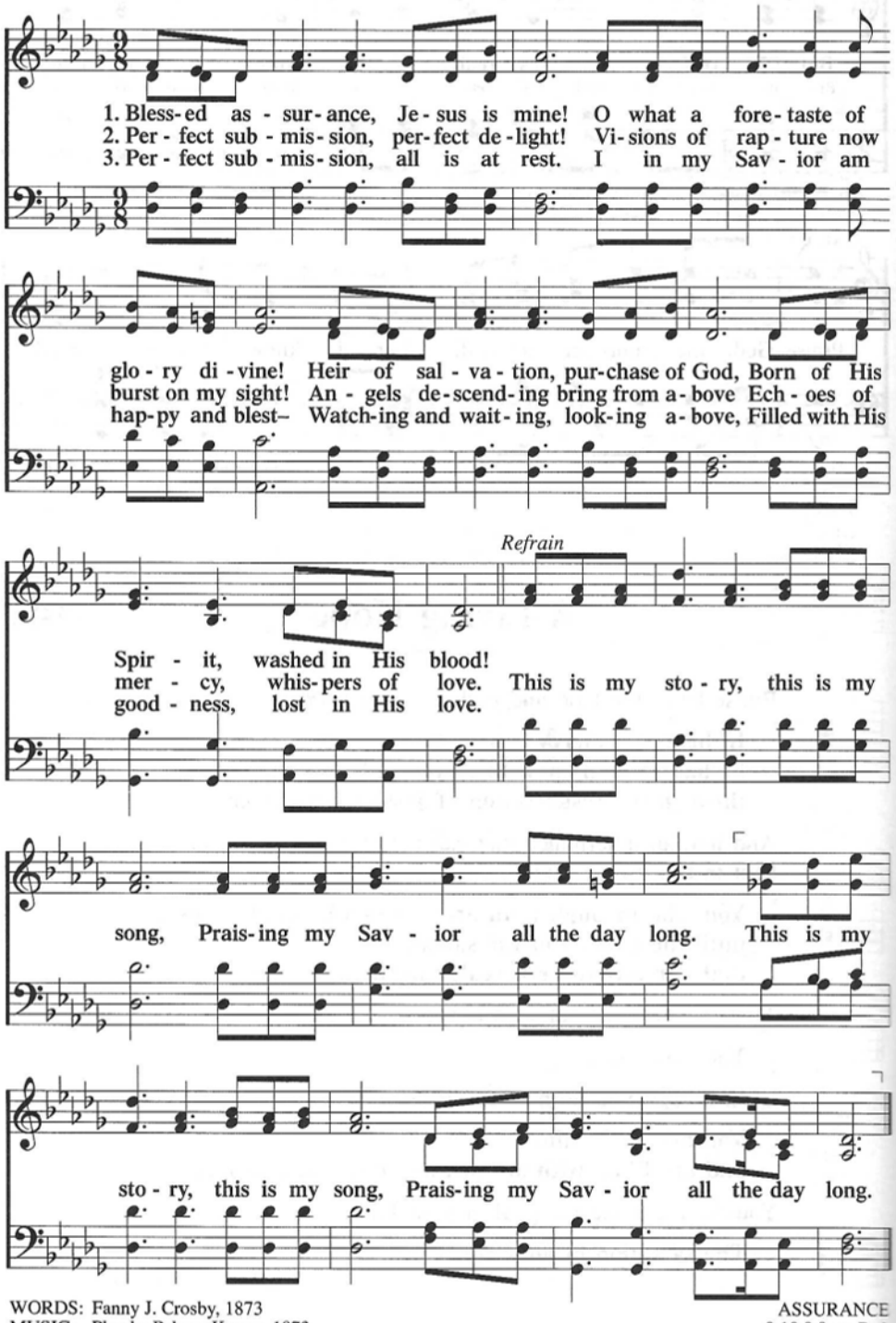


WORDS: Elizabeth Prentiss, 1856
MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1870

MORE LOVE TO THEE
6.4.6.4.6.6.4.

442 Blessed Assurance

We are more than conquerors through him who loved us. Romans 8:37



WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873
MUSIC: Phoebe Palmer Knapp, 1873

ASSURANCE
9.10.9.9. w. Ref.