

“A Joyous Psalm”

Based on Psalm 138 | By Eugene Butler (1935-2024)

I give Thee thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart.  
O God, I sing Thy praise and give thanks unto Thy Name,  
For Thy love, for Thy steadfast love, for Thy love and faithfulness.  
Alleluia, Alleluia... (repeated)

All the kings of the earth shall praise Thee, O Lord.  
They have heard the words, the words of Thy mouth,  
And shall sing of the ways, they shall sing of the ways of the Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia... (repeated)

Sing praise, sing praise to our God.

About the Choir's Hymns Today:

Dr. Eugene Butler was a world-renowned composer of choral music with over a thousand published works. A native of Durant, Oklahoma, he received his education at Oklahoma University (B.M.E.), Union Theological Seminary (M.S.M.), and the University of Missouri-Kansas City (Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition). Throughout most of his career, Dr. Butler was the Director of Choral Activities and Music Theory at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas. He was simultaneously Director of Music and the Arts at Valley View United Methodist Church for twenty-eight years. For twenty years, he also directed the local community choir, Johnson County Chorus. He served as an adjunct professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. In 1998, having received many commissions for new works, Dr. Butler retired from all other employment to pursue composition full time.

Perhaps the most shining accomplishment of Eugene Butler's life was his undying passion for serving others and sharing his gifts. While he could have had a storied career at any major research university, he served his community tirelessly. Even after his full retirement, he sang in his church's choir in Mission, Kansas until near the time of his death at age 89. Dr. Butler was exceedingly generous with his time and talents, an example each of us may strive to follow.

Today's choral introit, "Lord of All Hopefulness," (see hymn #683) is by Jan Struther (1901-1953), pen name of Joyce Anstruther, later Joyce Maxtone Graham and Joyce Placzek (after her second marriage in 1948). She is best known for her novel, *Mrs. Miniver*, which portrayed British family life before World War II. Joyce published poetry, essays, and short stories, along with twelve hymns in *Songs of Praise* (1931) at the personal behest of Canon Percy Dearmer of Westminster Abbey. This text is often set to SLANE (a.k.a. Be Thou My Vision), but our new hymnal paired it with the tune COURTNEY by David Schoweibel (b. 1957). He named this tune after the youngest of his three daughters. Schoweibel was Minister of Music/Composer in Residence at Derbyshire Baptist Church in Richmond, VA from 1997-2019 prior to going freelance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad  
Tuesday August 24 Morning Bible Study 10:30am  
Tuesday August 24 Ladies Dinner 5pm  
Wednesday August 26 Youth 6pm  
Thursday August 27 Choir 4:30pm  
Saturday August 29 Sat. Lunch Ministry  
At 2pm today Jackson Weller & Ashley Stanley Robey will lead worship at Stratford House. The service is in the Evergreen Room all are invited to attend.  
Save the Date for our annual Church Picnic. It will be held at Angler's Park on Sunday October 11th from 4 – 8 pm. More info to follow.

SERVING TODAY

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Minister of Discipleship | Jackson Weller       |
| Music Director           | Ashley Stanley Robey |
| Video/Sound              | Alex Walthall        |
| Liturgist                | Ray Beale            |
| Greeter                  | Kim Wimer            |
| Side door/Offering       | Kathy Dolianitis     |
| Counters                 | Reynolds/Ramey       |

List of Session members

Class of 2026: Ava Barrett, Barry Cutright, Gail Jones, Kim Wimer  
Class of 2027: Harriet Beale, Pat Pinckney, Joan Reynolds, Kent Shelton  
Class of 2028: Eddie Blount, Jr., Sam Meadema, Jackie Rockford, Alex Walthall  
Trustees: Bob Newnam, Ray Beale, Gary Wimer

2026 Budget Update

|              | July 2026       | FY 2026         |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Revenue      | \$21,063.75     | \$238,732.69    |
| Expenditures | \$50,637.29     | \$264,865.34    |
| Difference   | (- \$29,573.54) | (- \$26,132.65) |

A Warm Welcome

We would love to have you join our church family. If you are moved to do by the Lord, please talk to one of the elders or our pastor.

Scan the QR code for today's scripture readings.

# A Service for the Worship of God

## GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

*Please greet your neighbors and pass the Fellowship Pad to them.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR  
WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS  
CHORAL INTROIT      "Lord of All Hopefulness"

Jan Struther/David Schwoebel

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Hear O Israel! I am calling! Are you listening?

People: We are here and we are ready.

Leader: Beloved Children, who do you say that I am?

People: You are our rock and our redeemer. Our trust is in you. Our hearts, minds and souls belong to you!

Leader: I created you, named you and have a calling for your life.

People: We give thanks with our whole hearts for your steadfast love!

\*HYMN#330

Our Help Is in the Name of God (Psalm 124)

### INVOCATION

Heavenly Father, we begin this service with thanksgiving. Thank you for life, salvation, and the opportunity to gather. We are grateful for your provision and presence. Let gratitude overflow from our hearts and shape our worship today.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of truth, like a moth that gnaws at wool, our brokenness eats away at our souls. We allow the cacophony of greed, selfishness, apathy and ignorance to drown out your voice as you call us to see the suffering in our world and respond to the needs of your children. In our busy lives, we convince ourselves that there is no time to help, no space for prayer and no need for justice. Forgive us. Remind us that only when we slow down and breathe deeply of your Holy Spirit and holy Word can our ears hear your voice. Inspire us to greater love for you and for one another. Amen.

### SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ACCURATIONS OF PRIDE

### SIGNS OF RECONCILIATION

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

**Leader:** Let us the children of God, having confessed our sins and been reconciled to God, having been assured of God's graciousness and mercy, stand and offer that same peace and reconciliation to our brothers and sisters in Christ, forgiving each other and offering grace and peace.

*Please remain standing for the "Gloria Patri."*

### \*RESPONSE

*"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.*

### CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Paul wrote that we are the body with many members, each with a different function. Our gifts are myriad, yet our calling is common: to return to God that which we have received according to God's grace.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Abundance, we have received blessings from you and today we hear your call to share our time, our talent and our treasure with your beloved community. May these gifts bring your light, love and hope to all who need them.

### OFFERTORY

"God Will Take Care of You"

Walter S. Martin, arr. Cindy Berry

### \*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ANTHEM

"A Joyous Psalm"

Eugene Butler | Text - Psalm 13