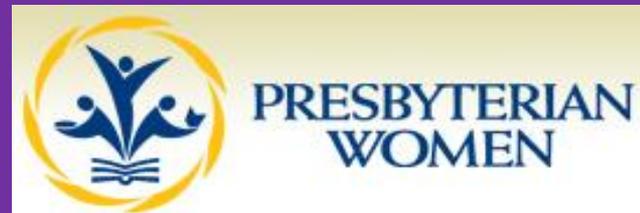


Homecrest Presbyterian Church

Worship of the Lord's Day
March 6th, 2016

4th Sunday in Lent
Celebration of Gifts of Women



Gathering Around the WORD

Call To Worship

(Based on Luke 1:46-49)

*Our souls magnify God,
and our spirits rejoice in our Savior,*

***For the mighty One has done great things
for us. Holy is God's name.***

God has looked upon me with favor.

From now on, all generations will call me blessed.

***For the mighty One has done great things
for me. Holy is God's name.***

*Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is she who believes,*

***For the mighty One has done great things
for us. Holy is God's name.***

Gathering Hymn

#804 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

***Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.***

***Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!***

Gathering Hymn

#804 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

***With voice as full and strong
as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
the psalms of ancient days.***

***Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!***

Gathering Hymn

#804 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

***Yes, on through life's long path,
still chanting as ye go,
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe:***

***Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!***

Gathering Hymn

#804 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

***At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest.***

***Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!***

Gathering Hymn

#804 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

***Then on, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.***

***Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!***

Gathering Around the WORD

Call to Confession

Sisters and Brothers, God has called us all to exercise our gifts and to serve God faithfully. In humility and faith, let us come to worship and honor God through our humble prayer and our contrite spirit. Let us pray the Prayer of Confession in unison:

Gathering Around the WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of mercy, God of hope.

Forgive us for our complicity – intentional or unintentional – in those structures and systems that oppress women, and violate the image of God they bear.

Forgive us for the violence committed against women in all its forms, physical and emotional.

Forgive us when we look the other way, or give in to feelings of helplessness and hopelessness.

Gathering Around the WORD

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Forgive us for acquiescing to a culture that tells women: whatever you look like – you're not good enough; whatever you aspire to – you will have to work harder than a man; whatever you accomplish – your work will not be valued as a man's is.

Forgive us for forgetting, for silencing, for oppressing those sent to grace us as our sisters.

God of mercy, God of hope, forgive us, and set us free to remember, to hear, and to heal. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Gathering Around the WORD

Declaration of Forgiveness

Sisters and brothers, hear the good news: in Christ we are forgiven! Believe the good news: in Christ we are made whole. So let us respond together:

As we rejoice and celebrate the good news of Christ's forgiveness for all people – we commit to remember and respect. We commit to listen and learn. We commit to work for healing and so be healed. Thanks be to God, Amen.

Gathering Around the WORD

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.***

Gathering Around the WORD

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

(1 John 4:7-8)



Proclaiming the WORD

***Message to the Youth/
Prayer of Illumination***

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading

(Romans 16:1-16)

I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchreae, ² so that you may welcome her in the Lord as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well.

³ Greet Prisca and Aquila, who work with me in Christ Jesus, ⁴ and who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading

(Romans 16:1-16)

⁵ Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert in Asia for Christ. ⁶ Greet Mary, who has worked very hard among you. ⁷ Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives who were in prison with me; they are prominent among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was. ⁸ Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord. ⁹ Greet Urbanus, our co-worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys. ¹⁰ Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the family of Aristobulus.

Proclaiming the WORD

Scripture Reading

(Romans 16:1-16)

¹¹ Greet my relative Herodion. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of Narcissus. ¹² Greet those workers in the Lord, Tryphaena and Tryphosa. Greet the beloved Persis, who has worked hard in the Lord. ¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord; and greet his mother-- a mother to me also. ¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers and sisters who are with them. ¹⁵ Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. ¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.



Proclaiming the WORD

Our Heroine of the Faith

(Romans 16:1-16) Rev. Dr. Grace May

Eve

Sarah

Deborah

Ruth

Abigail

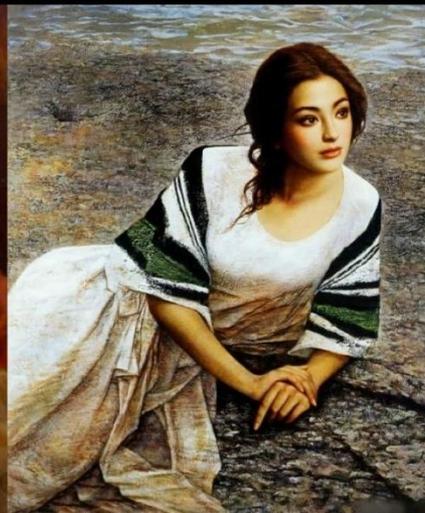
Great Women of The Bible

Esther

Mary

Mary Magdalene

Dorcas



Responding Hymn

324 “For All the Faithful Women”

*For all the faithful women
who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be given;
to all, their story told.*

*They served with strength and gladness
in tasks your wisdom gave.*

*To you their lives bore witness,
proclaimed your power to save.*

Responding Hymn

324 “For All the Faithful Women”

***We praise your name for Miriam,
who sang triumphantly
while Pharaoh’s vaunted army lay
drowned beneath the sea;
for Ruth, who left her homeland
and ventured forth in faith,
who pledged to serve and worship
Naomi’s God till death.***

Responding Hymn

324 “For All the Faithful Women”

***We sing of busy Martha,
who toiled with pot and pan
while Mary sat in silence
to hear the word again.***

***We praise the other Mary,
who hastened to the tomb
and found her Lord arisen,
dispelling doubt and gloom.***

Responding Hymn

324 “For All the Faithful Women”

***Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas,
who served the sick and poor.
Her hands were cups of kindness,
her heart an open door.***

***O God, for saints and servants,
our fervent prayer we raise,
that, faithful in your service,
our lives may sing your praise.***

Responding to the WORD

Litany of Celebration of the Gifts of Women

One: We gather to celebrate God's call to phenomenal women whose stories are told in the scriptures, and God's call to women throughout time.

All: Mothering God, we celebrate Eve, whose name means life because she became the mother of all generations.

One: We celebrate the mothers of Israel: Sarah, Hagar, Rebecca, Leah, Bilhah and Zilpah, whose descendants became a nation called by God.

All: We celebrate the wilderness women: Jael, Rahab, and Ruth, famous for their courage in war and in peace. We celebrate women who were prophets: Miriam, Deborah, Huldah, and Anna.

Celebrating the Gifts of Women Sunday, written by PC(USA) Horizons

Responding to the WORD

Litany of Celebration of the Gifts of Women

One: O God, help us rejoice in Shiphrah, Puah, and Vashti, who dared to stand against tyrant kings.

All: Help us rejoice in the first evangelist, the Samaritan woman who met Jesus at a well and whose testimony brought an entire village to see him with their own eyes.

One: Help us rejoice in the sisters of Bethany –

All: Mary, the disciple who anointed Jesus' feet, and Martha, who proclaimed, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Responding to the WORD

Litany of Celebration of the Gifts of Women

One: God of all people, we lift up Mary of Magdala, who followed Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem, watched at the cross, went to the tomb and became the first disciple to announce the Easter news: “I have seen the Lord.”

All: We lift up the gifts of Tabitha and Phoebe, called as deacons to serve, and of Lydia and Priscilla and the other “women of high standing” whose home became the first sanctuaries of the Christian church.

Celebrating the Gifts of Women Sunday, written by PC(USA) Horizons

Responding to the WORD

Litany of Celebration of the Gifts of Women

One: May we commit to celebrating the phenomenal women of the scriptures and the phenomenal women of our community of women who have proclaimed the faith, taught the children, and sung the anthems, fed the hungry, prayed for the sick, comforted the bereaved and volunteered countless hours to Christian service.

All: As we call ourselves to celebrate women, let us celebrate God's call in each of us!

Celebrating the Gifts of Women Sunday, written by PC(USA) Horizons

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World

Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns

- We will continue our regular afternoon **Bible Study** group **Next Sunday**. We will be studying a seven-part series on the **Seven Days of Glory: Holy Week** in preparation of the coming Lenten Season. Please join us downstairs at 12:30 in the basement. All are welcomed.
- The **Women's Group** will be meeting over at the Manse (2048 E 14th Street) every **Wednesday evening @ 7:30pm**. They are currently studying the book of Genesis. They will also be meeting every other Sunday morning before service at 9:30am over at the Manse for prayers and fellowship. For more information, please contact **Margaret Lesman** or **Cara Chin**.

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World

Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns

- **Upcoming Dates:**

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 3/13 | Lenten Breakfast (Last One) |
| 3/19 | St. Patrick's Day Dinner (6pm) |
| 3/20 | Palm Sunday after Church –
Distribution of Palm Crosses
at St. Joachim & Anne Nursing Home |
| 3/25 | Good Friday Service (7pm)
(Service joined by Resurrection Sheepshead Bay) |
| 3/27 | Easter Sunday (11am) |



DON'T FORGET TO **SPRING FORWARD**

REMEMBER TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS **AHEAD** 1 HOUR
SATURDAY NIGHT

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World

Prayer of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven.

Halloweth be thy name.

Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts; as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptations, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory forever.

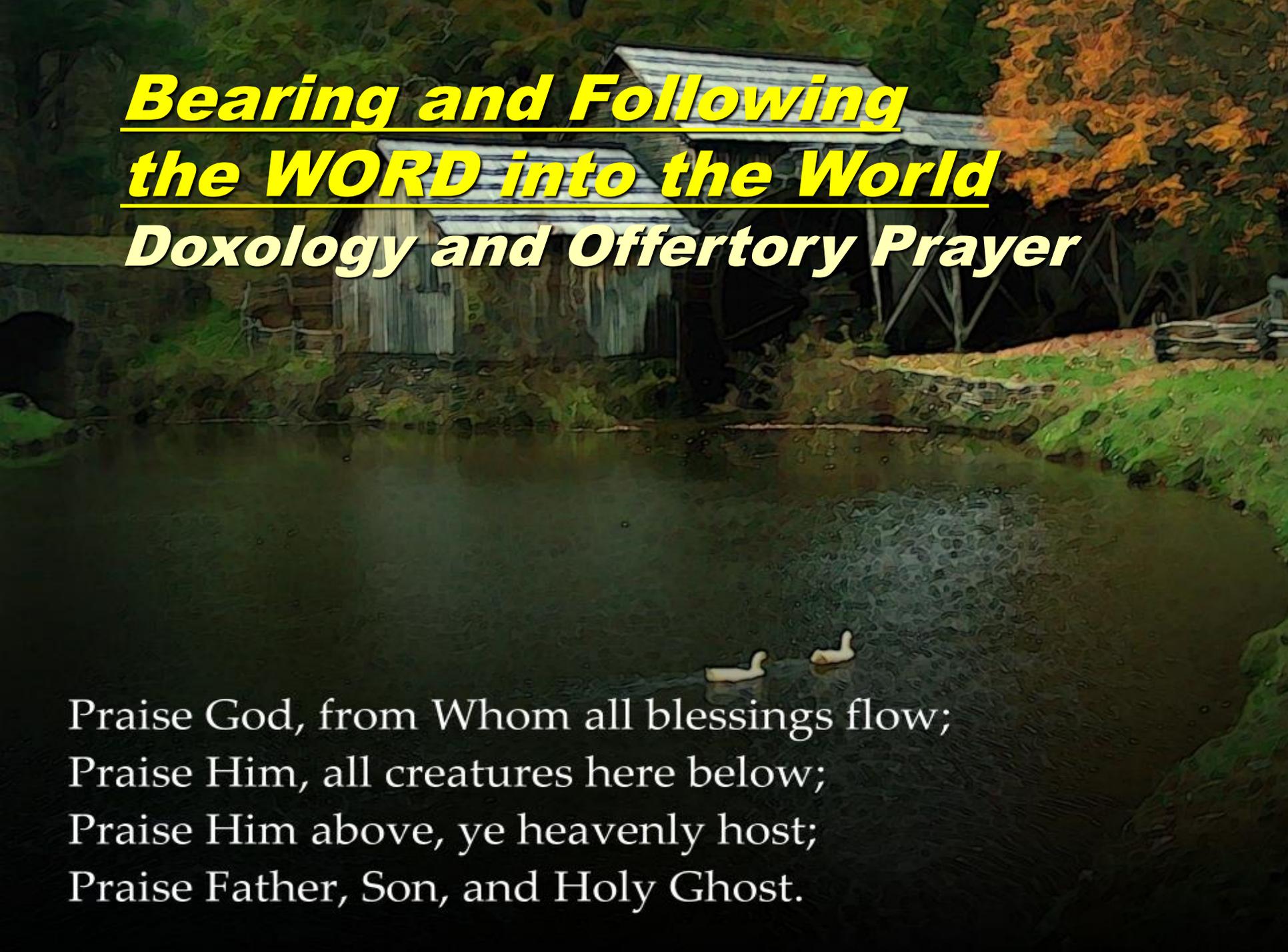
Amen.

**Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
*Offering of our Gifts and our Lives***

Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

“Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.
And whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”
2 Corinthians 9:6



A painting of a rural scene. In the background, there is a large, weathered barn with a corrugated metal roof. To the right, there are trees with autumn foliage in shades of orange and yellow. In the foreground, a dark, still pond reflects the scene. Two small, white ducks are swimming in the water. The overall style is impressionistic with visible brushstrokes.

Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Doxology and Offertory Prayer

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.

**Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Holy Communion**

Communion Hymn #527

“Eat This Bread”



Sending Hymn

527 "Eat This Bread" 3x

***Eat this bread; Drink this cup;
come to Christ and never be hungry.***

***Eat this bread; Drink this cup;
trust in Christ and you will not thirst.***



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Holy Communion

God the Spirit calls us in the midst of our own wilderness. We've responded to God's calling as members of the same body. Some are strong and some are weak. Yet God calls all of us in the same Spirit that binds us all together as One.

Indeed, we have come as one body, joined around this table of LOVE. We celebrate God's presence among us wherever the Spirit leads us through our struggles and challenges. We acknowledge that we are in need of God's grace.



**Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Holy Communion**

***This is the table of the Heavenly Feast,
the joyful celebration of the people of God.***

***Christ invites those who confess their faith and
baptized in Him to eat the bread of life and to
drink the cup of the new covenant.***



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Holy Communion

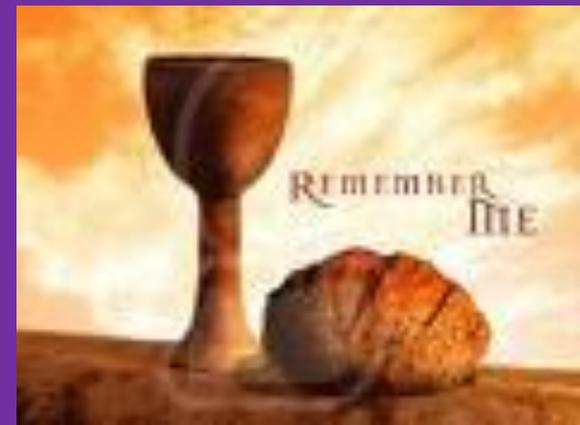
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Holy God, we praise you for your love:
bringing order out of chaos, breathing life
into dust, challenging us to see the world
as you intend it to be, opening our eyes of
our hearts with compassion to those who
need your grace.*



**Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
*Holy Communion***

Therefore we join our voices with saints and angels
and all the faithful of every time and place singing:

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Holy Communion

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ: Word made flesh, light of the world, living water, the good shepherd and the gate, the way, the truth, and the life.

On the night before He died, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying:

Take, Eat, this is my body, which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Holy Communion

In the same way after supper, He took a cup, saying,
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink of it, Do this in remembrance of me.

With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, O God.

Sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying: Come Lord Jesus!

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Holy Communion

Jesus said, *"I am the bread of life.*

*They who come to me shall never hunger;
they who believe in me shall never thirst."*

These are the gift of God for the people of God.



Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Holy Communion

Prayer after Communion: (in unison)

God of abundance and mercy,

*We joyfully give you thanks for your eternal love
and healing presence in our celebration of
bread and wine.*

*Bless these gifts that they may be for
us the body and blood of Christ.*

*Enable us to attend faithfully to our
callings as your servants with others
and throughout the world. Amen.*



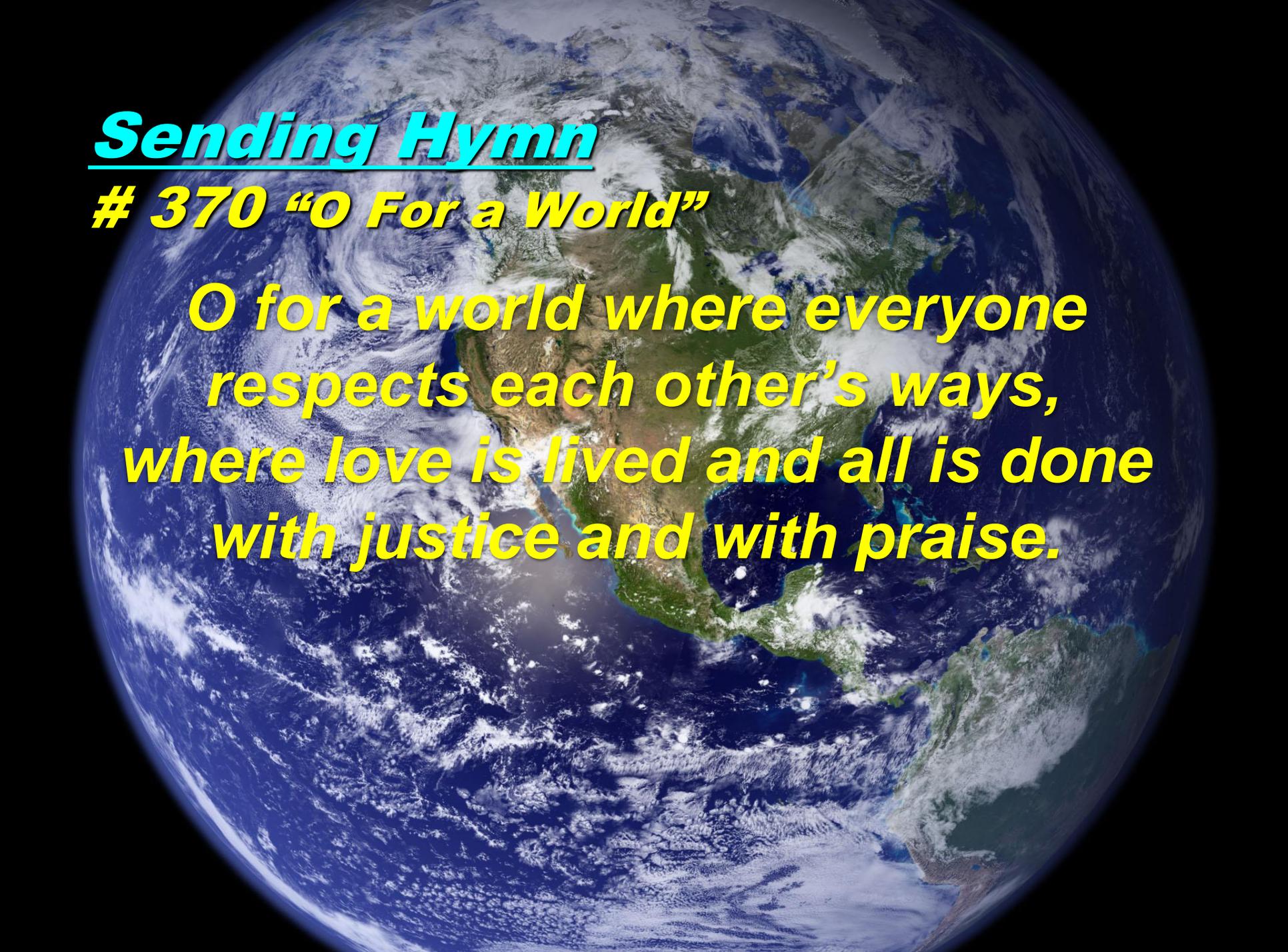
**Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World**

**Receiving of the Deacons' Benevolence
Offering**

Giving is Worship

GIVING BACK TO THE ONE WHO FIRST GAVE

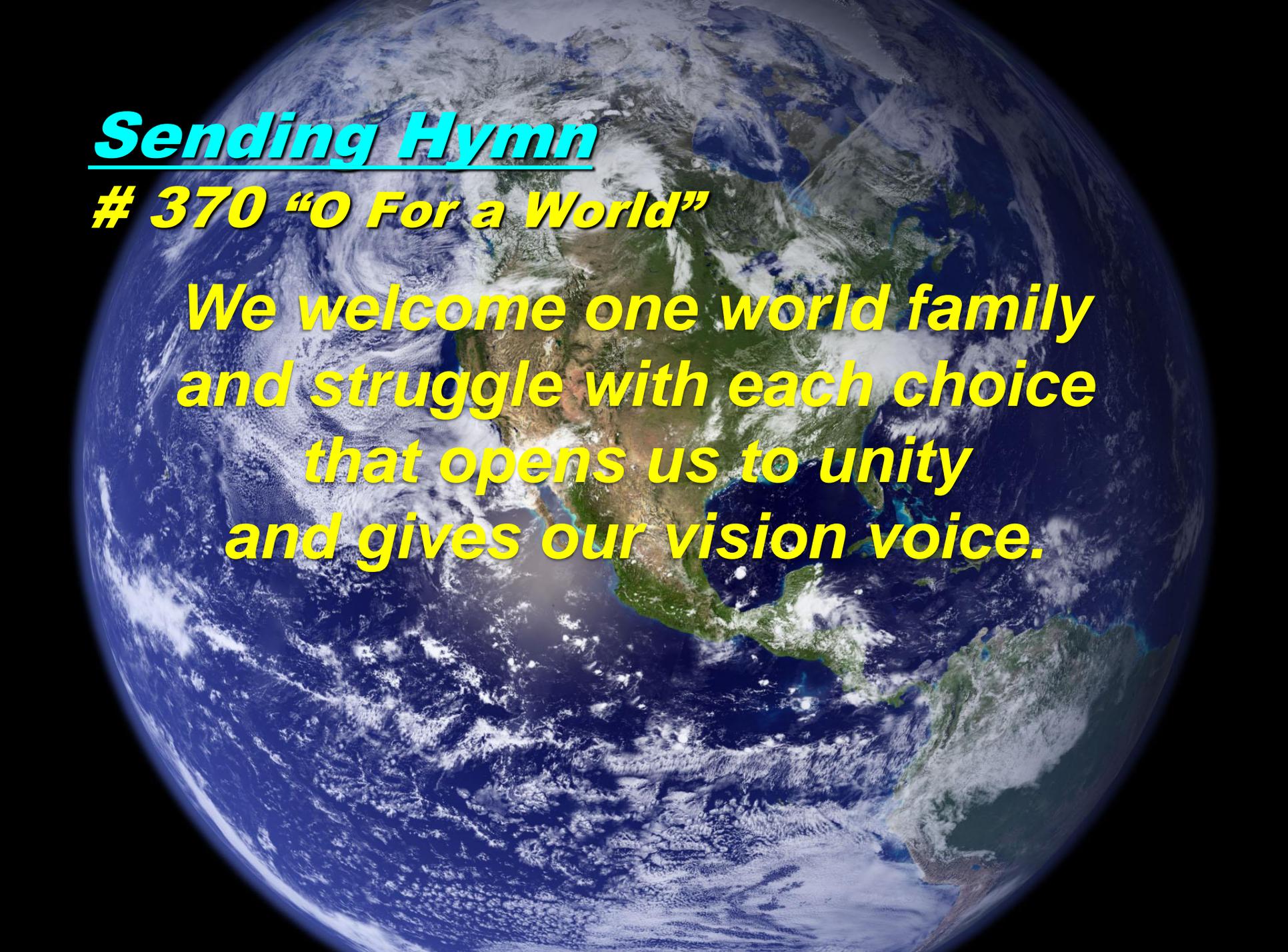




Sending Hymn

370 "O For a World"

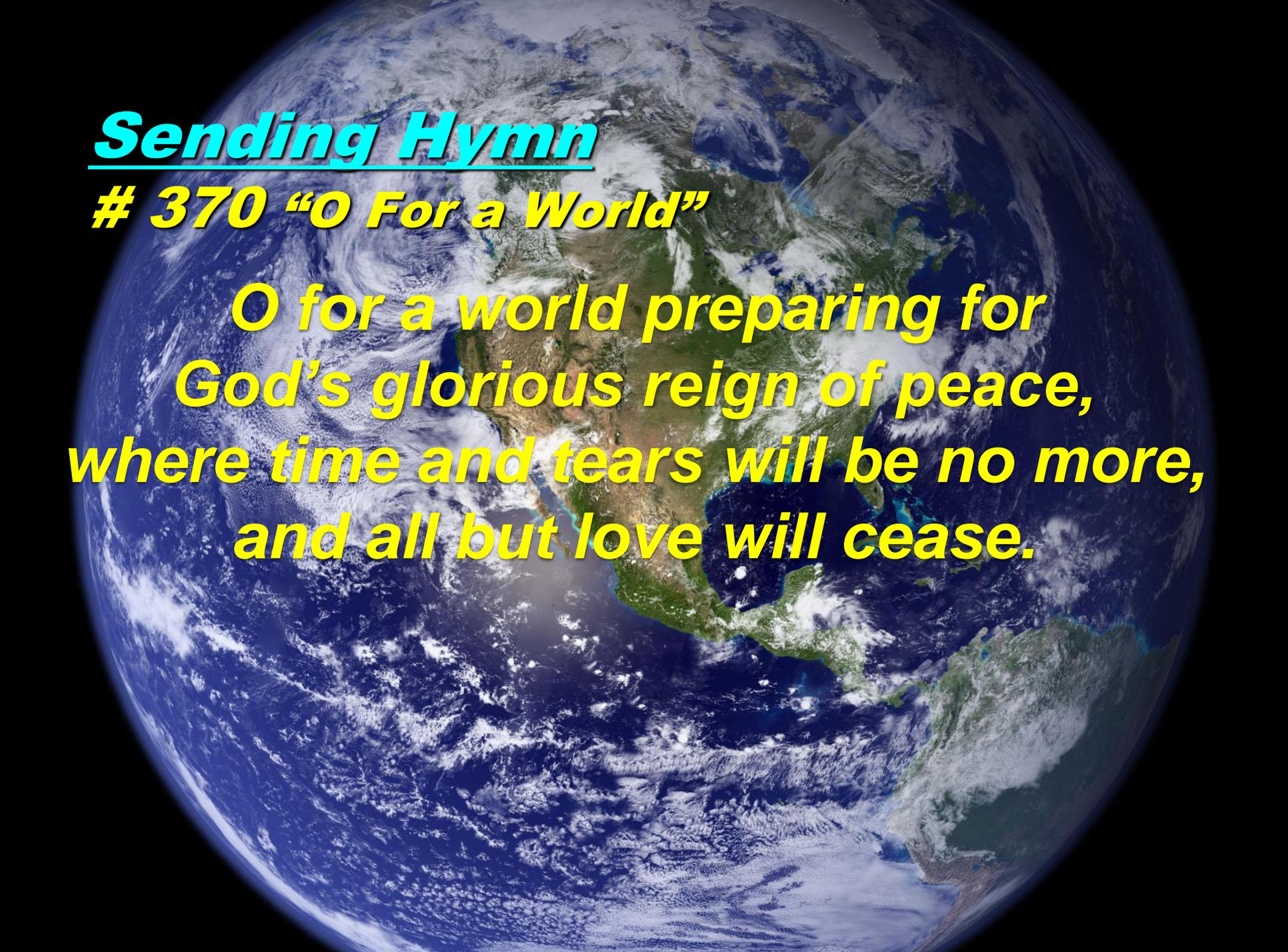
***O for a world where everyone
respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done
with justice and with praise.***



Sending Hymn

370 "O For a World"

***We welcome one world family
and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity
and gives our vision voice.***



Sending Hymn

370 "O For a World"

***O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.***

**Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
The Charge and Benediction**



Bearing and Following
the WORD into the World
Benediction Response

**#140 “Shalom, Chavarim!
Farewell, Good Friends”**

Shalom, Good friends!

Shalom, Good friends!

Shalom, Shalom!

Till we meet again, till we meet again,

Shalom, Shalom.

Homecrest Presbyterian Church

Worship of the Lord's Day
March 6th, 2016

4th Sunday in Lent
Celebration of Gifts of Women

