

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

100 Pitney Rd // Absecon, NJ 08201

609.641.1265 // abseconumc.com

abseconumc@comcast.net

The Reverend David L. Ledford III, Pastor

ReverendDaveLedford@gmail.com

**Priscilla Cunningham,
Director of Music and Organist**



Alpha and Omega

January 25, 2026

Today's Lay Reader: Jessica Yorke

Welcome

Prelude

Prelude in B Minor

Frederick Chopin

Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Come from our sanctuary or from your home. Come at 11 AM on Sunday or any time during the week. Come whenever and wherever you are. Come! Worship is called in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

People: **We come, ready to worship the one who is, beginning and the end, the first and the last.**

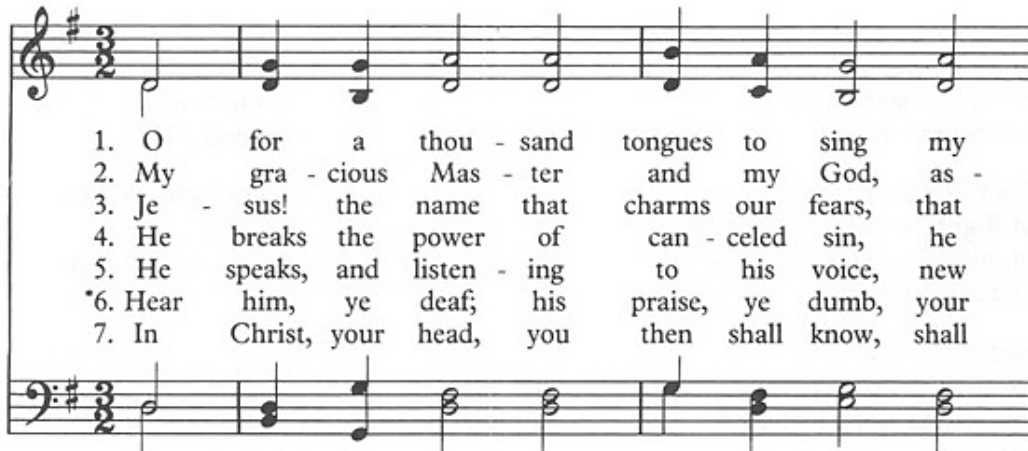
Leader: "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come.

People: **As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen, Amen!**

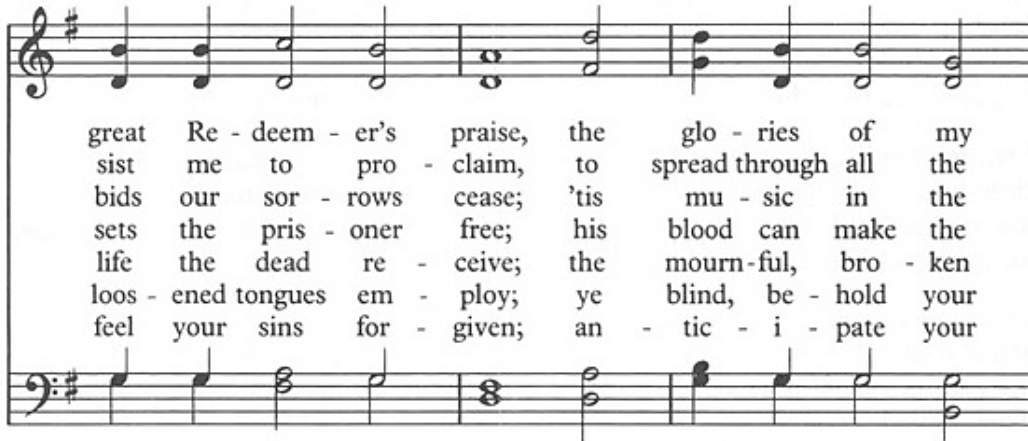
Hymn

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

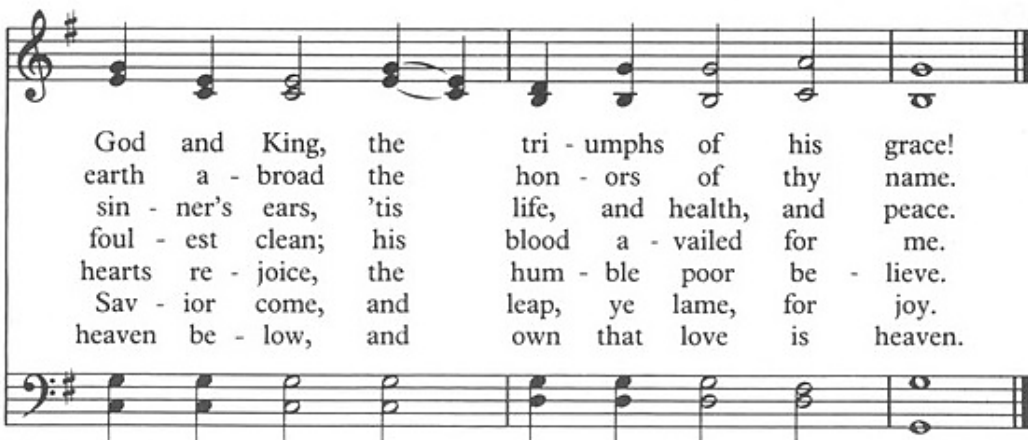
(verses 1 – 4)



1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
 2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
 3. Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that
 4. He breaks the power of can - celed sin, he
 5. He speaks, and listen - ing to his voice, new
 *6. Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your
 7. In Christ, your head, you then shall know, shall



great Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
 bids our sor - rows cease; 'tis mu - sic in the
 sets the pris - oner free; his blood can make the
 life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful, bro - ken
 loos - ened tongues em - ploy; ye blind, be - hold your
 feel your sins for - given; an - tic - i - pate your



God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
 earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
 sin - ner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.
 foul - est clean; his blood a - vailed for me.
 hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
 Sav - ior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.
 heaven be - low, and own that love is heaven.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, Alpha and Omega, who is and who was and who is to come, we come before you with grateful hearts. We thank you for your Word that blesses those who hear it, and for Jesus Christ, who loves us and has freed us from sins by his blood. Open our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit to receive your truth. To You be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Freely, Freely

1. God for - gave my sin in Je - sus' name, I've been
2. All power is given in Je - sus' name, in

born a - gain in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I
earth and heaven in Je - sus' name, and in Je - sus' name I

come to you, to share his love as he told me to.
come to you, to share his power as he told me to.

Refrain

The musical score is written for a Senior Choir in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "He said, 'Free - ly, free - ly you have re - ceived, free - ly, free - ly give. Go in my name, and be - cause you be - lieve, oth - ers will know that I live.'" The melody is simple and hymn-like, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.

Senior Choir

Hallelujah! Thine the Glory

Mary McDonald

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Scripture Lesson

Revelation 1:3-8

Blessed is the one who reads the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests serving[b] his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
 every eye will see him,
 even those who pierced him,
 and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him.

So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

Message

Alpha and Omega

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled

David Paxton

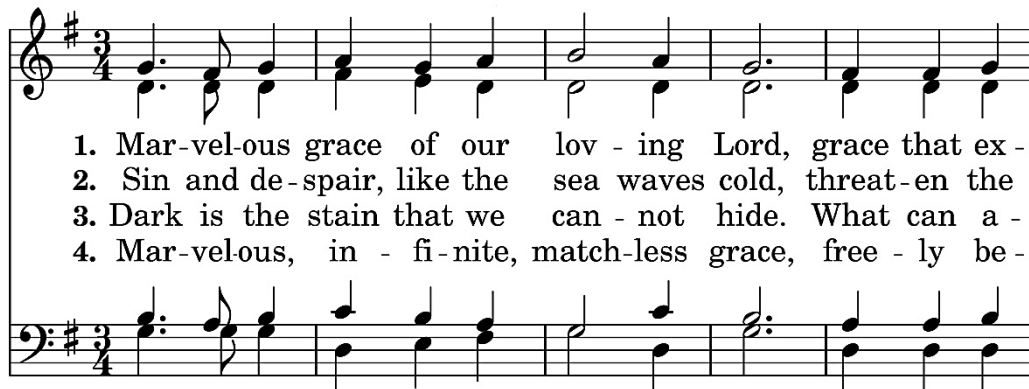
Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

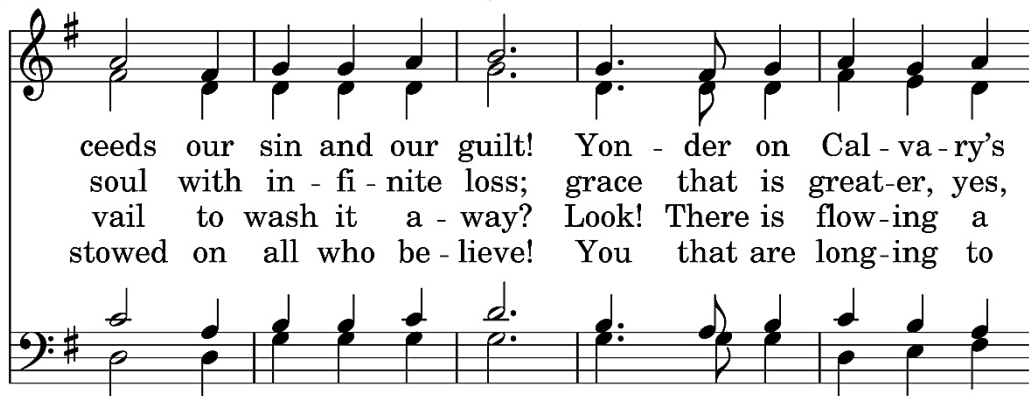
Hymn

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

(verses 1 and 4)



1. Mar-vel-ous grace of our lov - ing Lord, grace that ex -
2. Sin and de-spair, like the sea waves cold, threat-en the
3. Dark is the stain that we can - not hide. What can a -
4. Mar-vel-ous, in - fi-nite, match-less grace, free - ly be -



ceeds our sin and our guilt! Yon - der on Cal - va - ry's
soul with in - fi - nite loss; grace that is great-er, yes,
vail to wash it a - way? Look! There is flow-ing a
stowed on all who be - lieve! You that are long-ing to

mount out-poured, there where the blood of the Lamb was
 grace un - told, points to the ref - uge, the might - y
 crim - son tide, bright - er than snow you may be to -
 see his face, will you this mo - ment his grace re -

Benediction

Postlude

Rhythmic Trumpet

Seth Bingham