

# 731

## Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

Capo 1: (D)  
 Eb (A) (Bm) (G)  
 Bb (B) Cm Ab

- 1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all a -
- 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, be - yond mere
- 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a spar - kling
- 4 Give thanks for saints of a - ges past and saints a -

(D) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (A) (F#m)  
 Eb Bb Eb Ab Fm Bb Cm

round seems bleak: on God's good prom - ise they re - ly, so  
 minor - tal sight: who seek the cit - y God has planned, the  
 pre - cious stone: they show by what they say and do an  
 live to - day: though of - ten by this world de - spised, their

(Bm) (G) (Em) (A7) (D)  
 Cm Ab Fm Bb7 Eb

while they live and when they die how force - ful -  
 true, e - ter - nal prom - ised land, and steer on  
 in - ward beau - ty, warm and true, for God's con -  
 hearts by God are rich - ly prized. Give thanks that

(A7) (B) (Em) (G) (A7) (D)  
 Bb7 C Fm Ab Bb7 Eb

ly they speak: the strong who once were weak  
 toward that light: a bea - con ev - er bright.  
 cerns they own: God's love through them is known.  
 we may say we share their pil - grim way.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

### RESPOND MARY MAGDALENE

**look**  
 - Take a few moments to gaze upon the artwork. Sit still in quiet meditation as you observe the visual qualities of what you see: color, line texture, movement, shape, form. Now take a deeper look. What parts of the image are your eyes most drawn to? What parts of the image did you overlook? Now engage your imagination. What story do you give to the figure?

**reflect**  
 - The oldest manuscripts of Mark's gospel ended with the women seized in fear in verse 8. The shorter and longer endings of the chapter were appended at a later date. What if the story of the resurrection ended with verse 8? How would that change what we know about Christ's resurrection?

- The gospels name Mary Magdalene over a dozen times, she helped fund Jesus' ministry (see Luke 8: 2-3), she had demons cast out of her, and she was the first person to witness the resurrected Christ. Why do you think Mary Magdalene was such a prominent figure? What do you imagine her relationship to Christ was like?

- Name a situation in the present or past where proclaimed a message that was widely disbelieved. How do we believe those who seem unbelievable?

**write**  
 In Aramaic, "Magdala" means "watchtower" or "fortress." In the space below, name the attributes and actions that make one a fortress of strength as a disciple.

**pray**  
 God of the unbelievable, make me a fortress of strength through my willingness to discover your grace. Amen.

The first three stanzas of this text are organized around the three great virtues—faith, hope, and love—mentioned in 1 Corinthians 13:13. These have indeed been the marks of the faithful people of God always and everywhere, and the final stanza sums up our gratitude for them.