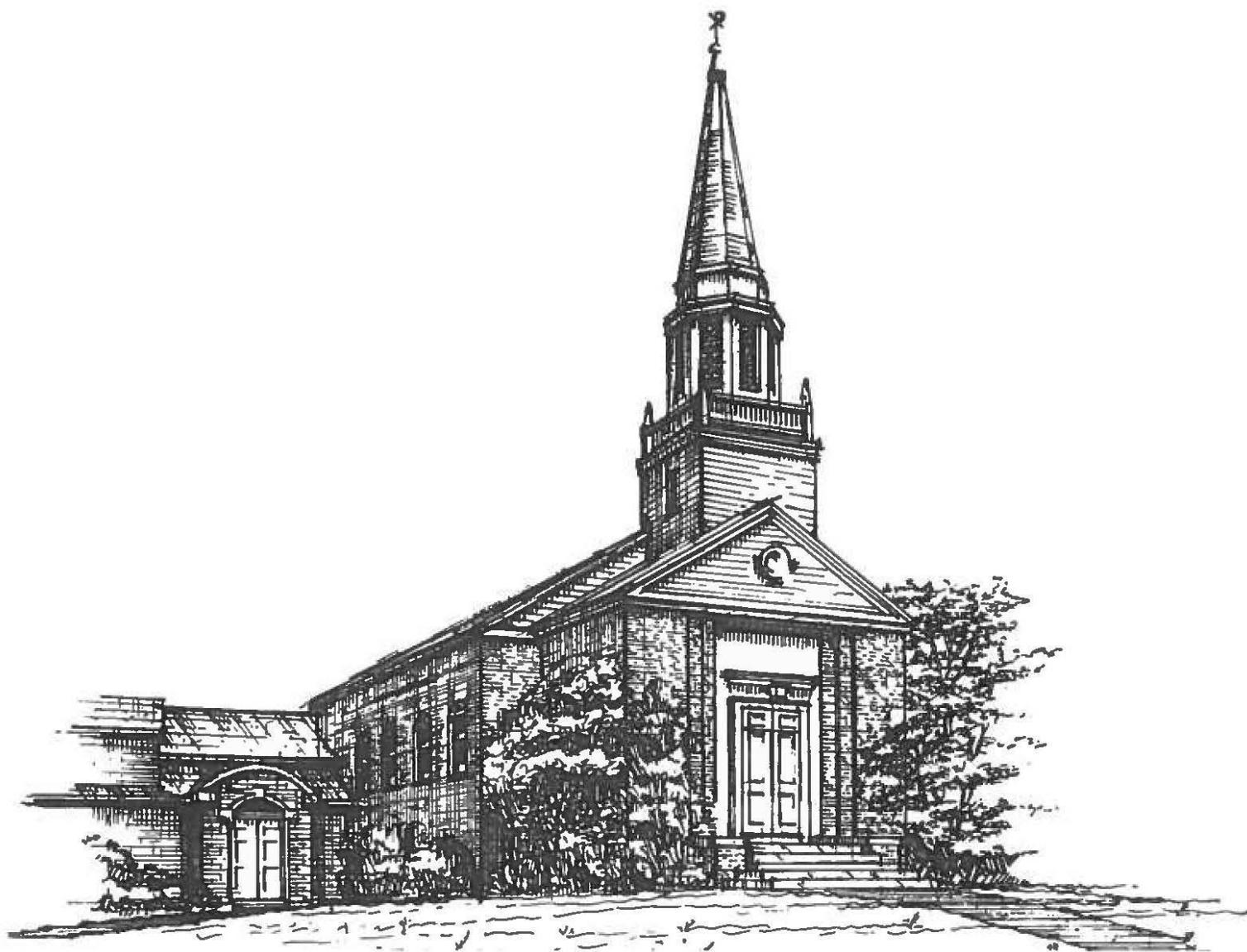


FOUNDED 1716

*North Haven*  
*Congregational Church*  
United Church of Christ



*North Haven Congregational Church*

North Haven, Connecticut  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sunday, February 26, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.**

**First Sunday in Lent  
Ash Sunday**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** *A Lenten Meditation*

Lee Rogers

**\*OPENING HYMN:** "O Worship the King"

**V235**

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Friends in Christ, Lent is a time to prepare and to renew our life. We mark this holy season

**PEOPLE:** by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel

Leader: We are invited, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent

**PEOPLE:** by self examination and penitence,

by prayer and fasting,

by works of love,

and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.

**ALL:** Let us worship God.\*\*

**\*LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE ~unison**

During this time of Lent, O God,

You call us to loose the bonds of injustice,

To let the oppressed go free, to break every yoke.

Lead us in this work of Peace,

For the time is now...

And we are here, O God!### Amen.

**\*THE GLORIA PATRI**

**P513**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be,

World without end. Amen. Amen.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~unison**

Merciful God, what a gentle and healing balm it is to come to you with our secret thoughts, our sad discouragements, and our noblest dreams, and find you here to listen, to forgive, and to renew us! We confess our reluctance to understand your will and our hesitancy to act upon it. We are quick to blame others and slow to accept responsibility for ourselves. We wish for signs of your power even while we take for granted the beauty and love with which you have surrounded us. We

desire some guarantee of your favor and, at the same time, shudder to think about the suffering of the cross and what it portends for us and for our world. Submerge us in your Spirit and grant us faith to perceive good arising from evil and to sense your immediate presence within the solitude of endless space.\*\* Amen.

~ *silence* ~

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*trespasses*)

Choral Amen

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **NOISY OFFERING**

### **PSALM 32**

**V759**

### **THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Page 2

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

**HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Matthew 4:1-11 Page 1149

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'  
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.' "

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

HERE ENDS THE READING. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**GIFT OF MUSIC:** *Create In Me a Clean Heart* Words from Psalm 51  
adapted by Keith Green

Sung by the Chancel Choir Music by Keith Green

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord,  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation  
and renew a right spirit within me.

**SERMON:** "How Did We Get Here?"

Scott Morrow

**PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Choral Response

**THE OFFERTORY:** *Lonesome Valley*

American spiritual

\*Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication

**GREETING OF PEACE** ~*unison*

*May the peace of God in Jesus Christ be with you always!*

\***CLOSING HYMN:** “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” P153

\***THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE:** *Lamb of God without Blemish* BWV 1095 J. S. Bach

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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**Deacon** is Jim Bennett. **Coffee Hour** is hosted by John and Sue Tibor,  
come down after service and enjoy fellowship hour!

**Today's flowers** are given by Carla Hill, Happy 60th Birthday to my  
brother, Brian, in Heaven. It has been two years since you passed over.  
You, mom, dad, Uncle Charles, and Aunt Marcia watch over us from  
above every day. We love and miss you so much.

**Church Staff:** All the Members, Ministers to the World

The Reverend Scott G. Morrow, Senior Pastor

Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children

Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music

Julie Schweickert, Office Manager

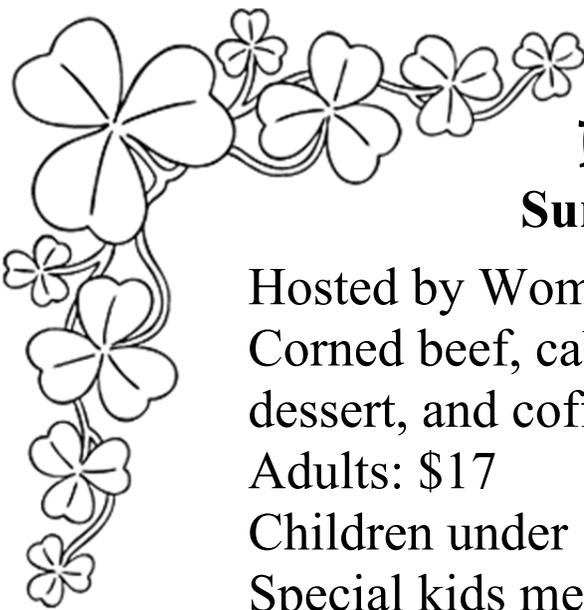
Todd Swarney, Sexton

**In Our Prayers This Week are:** In Our Prayers This Week are: Merrilee & George Gladkosky, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, & Ellen Robert.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Florence Klemenz 02/24, Doris Vigliotto 02/27, Mark Butterworth 02/28, Julie Schweickert 03/02, Stephen Baraquin 03/03, Aaron Baraquin 03/03, Sophia Keeler, 03/03, Amelia Murphy 03/05, Jaclyn Murphy 03/05.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Fran & Cheryl Dutko 3/3.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## **St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser Meal**

**Sunday, March 12th, at 3 p.m.**

Hosted by Women's & Men's Fellowship

Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread, dessert, and coffee and tea

Adults: \$17

Children under 12: \$7

Special kids menu: chicken nuggets and mac & cheese

**Reservations & payments MUST be made before March 5th!**

Reservations and payments may be made during coffee hour.

Reservations may also be made by calling the church office at 203-239-5691. Payments may be made on the church website, by mail, or in person. Take out will be available; must be under reservation and prepaid! Available for pick up after 4 p.m.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle after dinner.

Come join us for this long overdue gathering.

Wear your green!

## **MISSION**

Our church's mission is to bind ourselves with Jesus Christ in:

- Worship together;
- Nurture of Christian discipleship; and
- Compassionate service to our community and beyond.

## **VISION**

We are a hub for the larger community as a church of action:

- Conducting regular, robust worship in a responsible and relevant way in an ever changing and challenging world;
- Welcoming all people from different and diverse backgrounds to become a community of disciples together; and
- Involved in purposeful action and activities through the structure of self-directed Mission Teams.

## **VALUES**

We:

- Pray together, encourage each other, and trust one another;
- Take personal responsibility for fellowship and our community; and
- Celebrate with honored traditions.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2/26</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 4:00 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP(In-Person &amp; Live Stream)</b> OASIS- Storytelling (SGC)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>2/27</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:30	<b>Music Together (Dbl)</b> Music Together (Dbl)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2/28</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 9:30 10:30 12:30 p.m. 1:00 3:30 6:00 7:15	<b>Al-Anon (K)</b> Music Together (Dbl) Music Together (Dbl) PLP (L) Danish Sisterhood (K) United Girls Choir (CH,DBL, Sanct.) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) PASTORAL RELATIONS (Zoom)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3/1</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 10:30 6:00 p.m	<b>Music Together (Dbl)</b> FOOD PANTRY Music Together (Dbl) Girl Scout Troop 60071 (K)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3/2</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b> 6:30 7:00	<b>STAFF MEETING (L)</b> Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR
<b>Friday</b>	<b>3/3</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:00 10:30	<b>Music Together (Dbl)</b> FOOD PANTRY Music Together (Dbl)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3/4</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 10:30	<b>Music Together (Dbl)</b> Music Together (Dbl)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3/5</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> 4:00 p.m.	<b>WORSHIP(In-Person &amp; Live Stream)</b> OASIS- Accessibility Justice Day (SGC)

\*Small print indicates non-Church function

**Bold print starts new day.**

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove,  
 2 O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,  
 ♦ 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,  
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?  
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love,  
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,  
 ♦ Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;  
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,  
 ♦ has stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,  
 your mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dour, and gird - ed with praise.  
 and broad is God's path on the wings of the storm.  
 ♦ and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

## Refrain

Memmington ms., 17th century  
Harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward 1904

Be glad in God you right - eous. Re-joice, O saints, re - joice.

Blessed are those whose offences are forgiven,  
whose sin has been put away.

Blessed are those to whom God imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit. R

When I kept silence, my body wasted away,  
while I groaned all the day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my strength dried up as in a summer drought.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
my guilt I did not hide.

I said: "I will confess my sins to God";  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you in time of trouble;  
when great floodwater rises,  
it shall not come near them.

You are a hiding place for me,  
you will preserve me from trouble;  
you will surround me with shouts of deliverance. R

I will teach you,  
and guide you in the way you should go.

I will keep you under my eye and instruct you.

Be not like a horse or mule, without understanding,  
whose course must be checked with bit and bridle.

Many pains are in store for the wicked,  
but whoever trusts in God,  
is surrounded by steadfast love. R

1 God made from one blood all the fam - ilies of earth,  
 2 We turn to you, God, with our thanks and our tears  
 3 Through fam - ilies we've tast - ed the val - ue of trust  
 4 Help fam - ilies in all of their var - i - ous forms

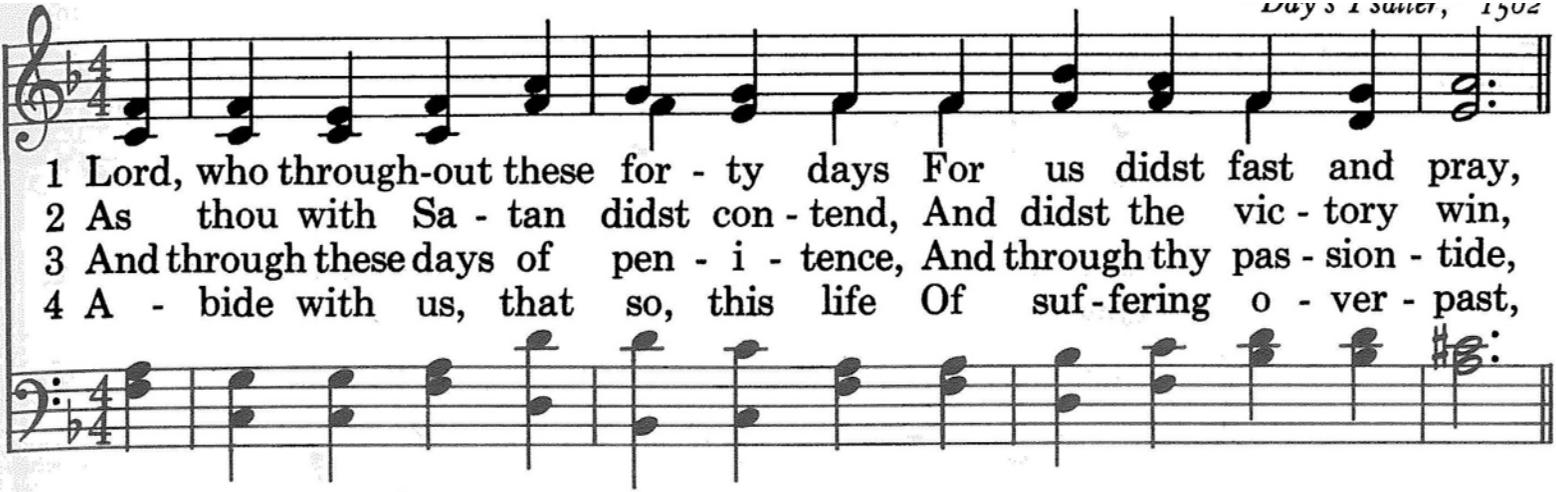
the cir - cles of nur - ture that raise us from birth,  
 for all of the fam - ilies we've known through the years,  
 and felt what it means to be lov - ing and just,  
 to face with in - teg - ri - ty strug - gles and storms;

com - pan - ions who join us to walk through each stage  
 the in - ti - mate net - works on whom we de - pend  
 yet fam - ilies have al - so be - trayed their best goals,  
 grant peace in our homes that will nur - ture the bud

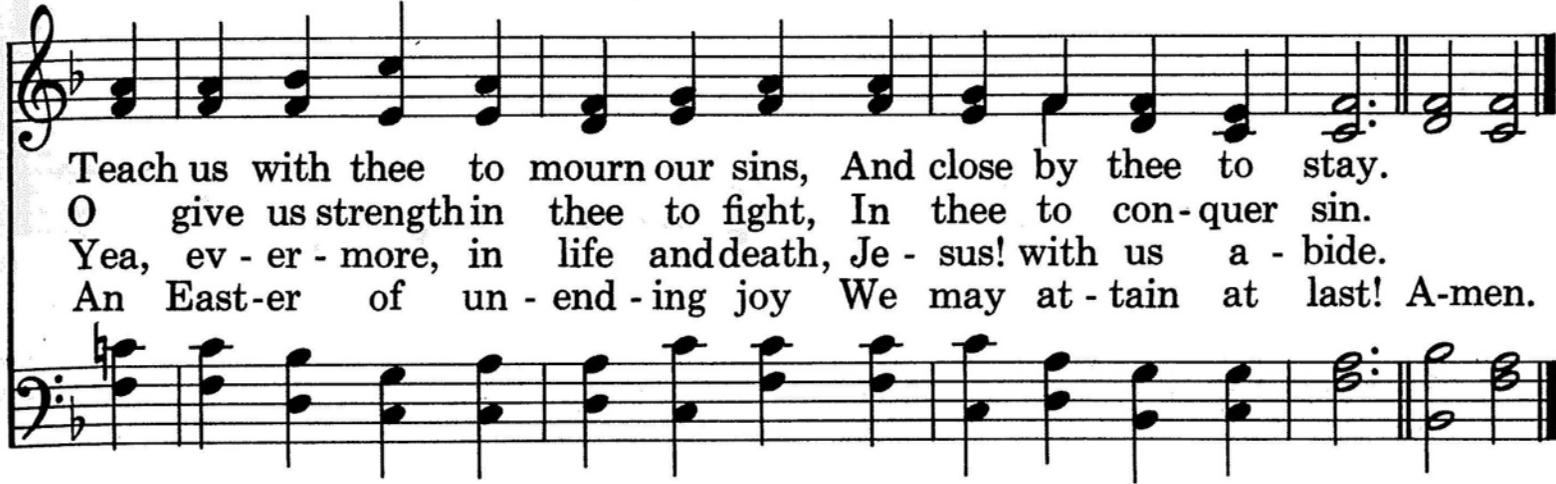
of child - hood and youth and a - dult - hood and age.  
 of par - ents and part - ners and chil - dren and friends.  
 mis - treat - ing their mem - bers and bruis - ing their souls.  
 of peace for the fam - ilies you made from one blood.

\*CLOSING HYMN: "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" P153

Лугъ ѡ ѡмнѣ, 1502



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days For us didst fast and pray,  
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, And didst the vic - tory win,  
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, And through thy pas - sion - tide,  
4 A - bide with us, that so, this life Of suf - fer - ing o - ver - past,



Teach us with thee to mourn our sins, And close by thee to stay.  
O give us strength in thee to fight, In thee to con - quer sin.  
Yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.  
An East - er of un - end - ing joy We may at - tain at last! A - men.