

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, October 22, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 24

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Noisy Offering and The Season of Generosity

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Petit Prelude*

Nicolas Gigault

***OPENING HYMN:** *Awake, Awake to Love and Work*

P 34

CHORAL INTROIT: *May Lamb and Lion Lie Down Together*

Lorraine Lee Hammond

May lamb and lion lie down together,

joy and wonder never cease. Hallelujah, hallelujah, grant us peace.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 119:97-105):

Leader: How we love God's law! We gather to meditate on it.

PEOPLE: We meditate on it day and night.

Leader: God's word offers us understanding and wisdom.

PEOPLE: God's word is sweet to taste: sweeter than honey!

Leader: We rejoice because God's word gives us a lamp to our journey,

ALL: and a light to our path. Let us worship God!**

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

Peace is not the product of terror or fear.

Peace is not the silence of cemeteries.

Peace is not the silence of violent repression.

Peace is the generous, tranquil contribution of all to the good of all.

Peace is dynamism. Peace is generosity. It is right and duty. Amen.

Archbishop Oscar Romero, trans. James Brockman V683

***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 INVOCATION:~*unison*

God of Light and Love, we thank you and praise you for your presence in our lives – in this time of worship and throughout the week. Remind us again, O God, that you call us to share your light with the world – never placing it under a bushel or a basket. Allow your light to shine through us that all might know your generosity and joy.** Amen.

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.

THE BAPTISM OF HARPER MICKOLYZCK

insert

*** HYMN:** *May God Who Creates You*

V 454

THE NOISY OFFERING

Karlee Etter

THE SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY

Karlee Etter

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Pg. 213

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac,

"Now, therefore, revere the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods, for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will

serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

* **HYMN:** *This Little Light of Mine* insert

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 25:1-13 Pg. 1174

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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

GIFT OF MUSIC: *What Does the Lord Require of You?*

Text & Music by Jim Strathdee

Tune: MOON

Sung by the Chancel Choir

What does the Lord require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

SERMON: “Faithful Choices, Faithful Practice”

Scott Morrow

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY

*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 – *unison*

With joy in our hearts and upon our lips, O God, we offer to you our very best: our joy, our faith, our treasure, and skills. We also offer to you our doubts, fears, and sorrows, knowing you transform each of our lives with your love. May these gifts we offer today be used to bring hope to others. We pray in the name of Jesus.** Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE ~*unison*

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

*CLOSING HYMN: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* insert

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: No. 1 *Plainte*

Leon Boellmann

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Deacon is Nancy Mahoney.

Please join us for Fellowship hour in Carroll Hall after church.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marcia Foulds, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Joyce Bellonio, Ellen Robert, Meg Adams, Paul Menillo, David Gould, and Sarah.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Cynthia Miller 10/22, Gracie Kirk 10/24,
Mathew DiVito 10/27, Betsey Reid 10/28.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Lynne & Rob Nielsen 10/22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

During Generosity Season we are asked to consider how we will share our time and talents. Columbus House has sent an email stating that they were thinking about reinstating Abraham's Tent. The email asked if our church would be able to host a week. John Tibor and Priscilla Bradford have been the contacts for this program. We realize that our situation has changed since the last program about 3 years ago when we were a host church. For one thing, our building is used during the week by many groups which pay to use the building. Finding people to stay overnight has become harder. In response to this email, we will respond that we cannot be a host church but can help provide meals at another site. We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate this effort. Please speak to John or Priscilla Bradford

A Big Thank You For Your Support Of Pink Sunday 2023!



THANK YOU to all who baked for Pink Sunday. THANK YOU to all who donated and enjoyed the pink treats. This year we raised \$235! This amount will be added to what was raised on Pink Sunday in 2022, and a



check from the Women's Fellowship for \$400 will be sent to After the Storm. THANK YOU!

Holiday Food Drive Donations will be matched by Rotary

Monetary donations made to the Food Drive from now until November 13th will be partially matched by the North Haven Rotary. For every \$1 given, the Rotary will donate \$0.25. If you plan on giving to the Food Drive, please make your donation go further and give before November 13th. Thank you for your support.

Interested in Chiming for Christmas? There will be a short chime orientation on Saturday October 28 at Noon in the sanctuary. We would like to include anyone who is interested in making this beautiful music! Please reach out to Jeff and let him know if you're coming! To see a Chime Choir playing "We Gather Together/Amazing Grace" Please see this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ChoirChimeExample>

Footsteps in the Sand

Could you use a spiritual boost? Footsteps in the Sand is a Christian Renewal Weekend crafted to do just that. These Weekends are designed to help you draw closer to Jesus and feel inspired and empowered to come back to our church with renewed energy and enthusiasm to serve our Lord. Women's Retreat: November 17th – 19th

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Sunday	10/22	9:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) OASIS: Brooksvale Park
Monday	10/23	9:30 a.m. 10:30 6:30 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) New Haven Club (CH)
Tuesday	10/24	9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 3:30 6:00	Al-Anon (CH) PLP (Parking Lot/Library) United Girls Choir (CH) Bible Study (Zoom)
Wednesday	10/25	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 5:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	WINDOW MAILING Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) COMMUNICATION Zoom OASIS: Worship Wednesday (Zoom)
Thursday	10/26	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	10/27	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	10/28	9:30 a.m. 10:30 12:00 p.m.	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) CHIME ORIENTATION (Sanct)
Sunday	10/29	9:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m. 4:00	WORSHIP (In-Person/Live Stream) Music Together:Halloween Hoot (CH) OASIS: Murder Mystery (SGC)

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

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
Heather Meachen, Organist
Julie Schweickert, Office Manager
Todd Swarney, Sexton



A New England Fair

Saturday, November 4th 9am – 2pm

North Haven Congregational Church
28 Church Street, North Haven, CT
(203) 239-5691



Handcrafted Items
Cookie Walk
Grandma's Attic Treasures
Christmas Room
Nearly New Room
Doll Clothes
Jewelry & Yarn Boutique
Gift Basket Raffle
Grandma's Kitchen - featuring
homemade delicacies



Come and spend the day with us!

*You may find just what you
need for the Holidays!*

Women's Fellowship New England Fair: November 4 It's almost that time again! We have been planning, having workshops, and creating items. There are lots of ways you can help—before, during, and after the Fair. Watch for emails, sign-up sheets, and information in the Sunday Bulletins. It takes many hands to make a successful Fair. All are encouraged to participate in some way. Join us on Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. You will find a wide variety of items available, including handcrafted items, baked delicacies, the Cookie Walk, treasures in Grandma's Attic, a Christmas Room, RADA Knives, and bargains in the Nearly New Room. Come do some early Christmas shopping. You may find just what you've been looking for! See you at the Fair.

**THE SACRAMENT
OF
CHRISTIAN BAPTISM**

October 22, 2023

Harper Ann Mickolyzck



**THE NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
United Church of Christ
28 Church Street
North Haven, Connecticut 06473**

+

The Reverend Scott G. Morrow, Minister

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism is a moment in the Christian community when we recognize the grace of God living in each newborn creation.

INTRODUCTION

Minister: People were bringing little children to Jesus that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them:

PEOPLE: “LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, DO NOT STOP THEM; FOR IT IS TO SUCH AS THESE THAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS. TRULY, I TELL YOU, WHOEVER DOES NOT RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD LIKE A LITTLE CHILD WILL NEVER ENTER IT.”

Minister: And Jesus took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

PEOPLE: JESUS SAID; “UNLESS WE ARE BORN ANEW, WE CANNOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD; UNLESS WE ARE BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT, WE CANNOT ENTER GOD'S NEW ORDER”.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

***QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION**

(The Congregation will please stand)

Deacon: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism.

Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Harper Ann Mickolyzck, about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

PEOPLE: WE PROMISE OUR LOVE, SUPPORT, AND CARE TO HARPER ANN MICKOLYZCK, AND TO JOSEPH AND CHRISTINA, AS THEY RAISE THEIR CHILD IN THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE CHURCH.

+

BAPTISM

NAMING OF THE CHILD AND THE BAPTISM

PRAYER OF PRAISE FOR THE BAPTIZED

BENEDICTION: (Unison) ... HARPER ANN MICKOLYZCK, MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU. MAY THE LORD'S FACE SHINE UPON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS UNTO YOU. MAY THE LORD'S COUNTENANCE BE LIFTED UP UPON YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE.

+

We celebrate the baptism of:

Harper Ann Mickolyzck

Born: November 8, 2022

Parents:

Joseph and Christina Mickolyzck

Sponsors:

Amanda Roberts and Domenic Giannotti

North Haven Congregational Church

presents

“Pierpont Concert Series”

MARK PLATT CHRISTIAN SINGER/SONGWRITER

Mark is an accomplished musician, singer/songwriter and playwright with a unique style appealing to all ages.

With over 100 songs and 5 CD's he has spent years on the road performing across the country; and now concentrates on local venues, special events and concerts.

He is Founder & Facilitator of *The Dragonfly Healing Ministries* and has served as Music Director numerous times for Tres Dias and is honored to perform his original Christian music in North Haven's holy sanctuary.

MarkPlatt.org

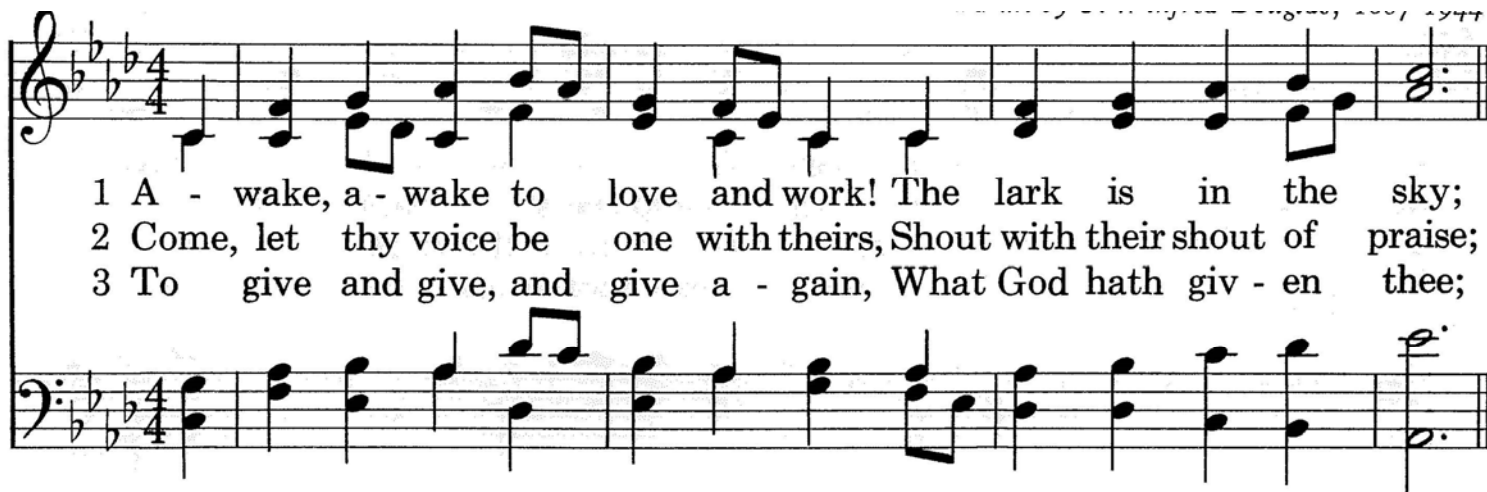
MarkPlatt.HearNow.com



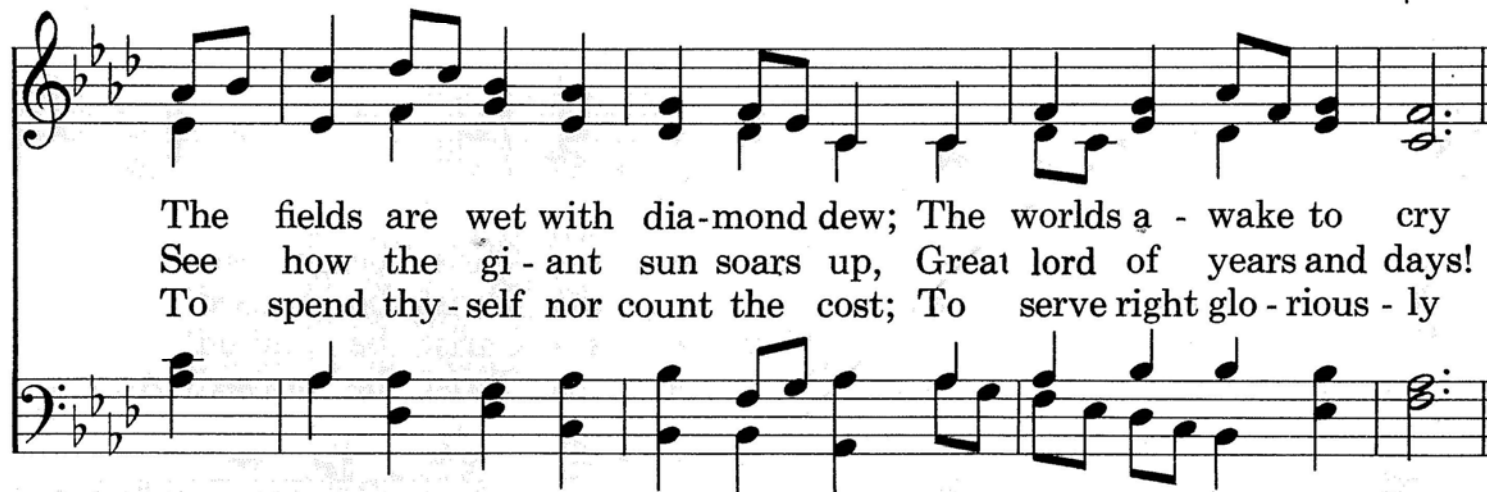
28 Church Street ~ North Haven
Doors Open: 6:30
Light Refreshments to follow
Tickets \$15 (\$10 with student ID)

November 11, 2023
7:00 – 8:00 PM

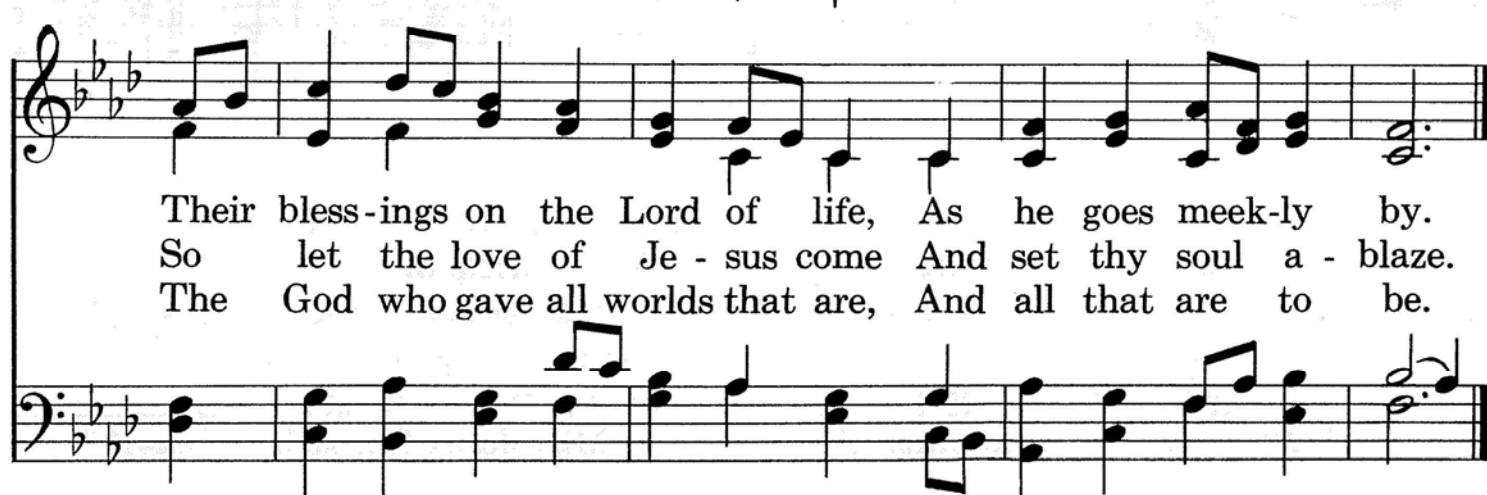
Please join us for a special concert on Saturday November 11, at 7:00pm. Performing in the sanctuary that night is Mark Platt, Christian singer/songwriter who is a proficient musician, acoustic guitar and harmonica player, with a unique style appealing to both young and old. We would love to bring in audience for this event. Tickets are \$15. Students, \$10, and under age 12, free. Please come and support the church as we rebuild the Pierpont Concert Series after a long hiatus. We will also need volunteers to help with the reception. Please call the office or contact members of the Music Mission to get your tickets!



1 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;
2 Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, Shout with their shout of praise;
3 To give and give, and give a - gain, What God hath giv - en thee;



The fields are wet with dia-mond dew; The worlds a - wake to cry
See how the gi - ant sun soars up, Great lord of years and days!
To spend thy - self nor count the cost; To serve right glo - rious - ly



Their bless - ings on the Lord of life, As he goes meek - ly by.
So let the love of Je - sus come And set thy soul a - blaze.
The God who gave all worlds that are, And all that are to be.

May God who cre - ates you give you light;

may God who sus - tains you make you wise;

may God who pro - tects you give you joy,

may God who sur - rounds you give you peace.

* HYMN: *This Little Light of Mine*

Insert

1. This lit - tle light of mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it
 2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, _____ I'm gon - na let it
 3. Je - sus gave it to me, _____ I'm gon - na let it

Oh _____

1. shine, _____ This lit - tle light of mine,
 2. shine, _____ Ev - 'ry - where I go,
 3. shine, _____ Je - sus gave it to me,

Oh _____

1. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ This lit - tle light of
 2. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Ev - 'ry - where I
 3. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Je - sus gave it to

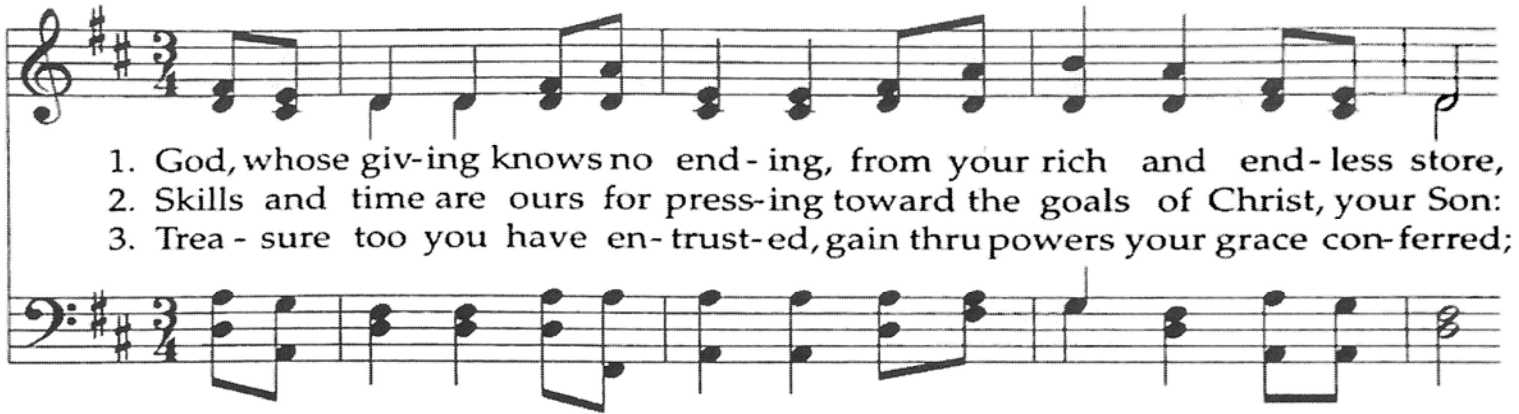
Oh _____

1. mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
 2. go, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
 3. me, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it

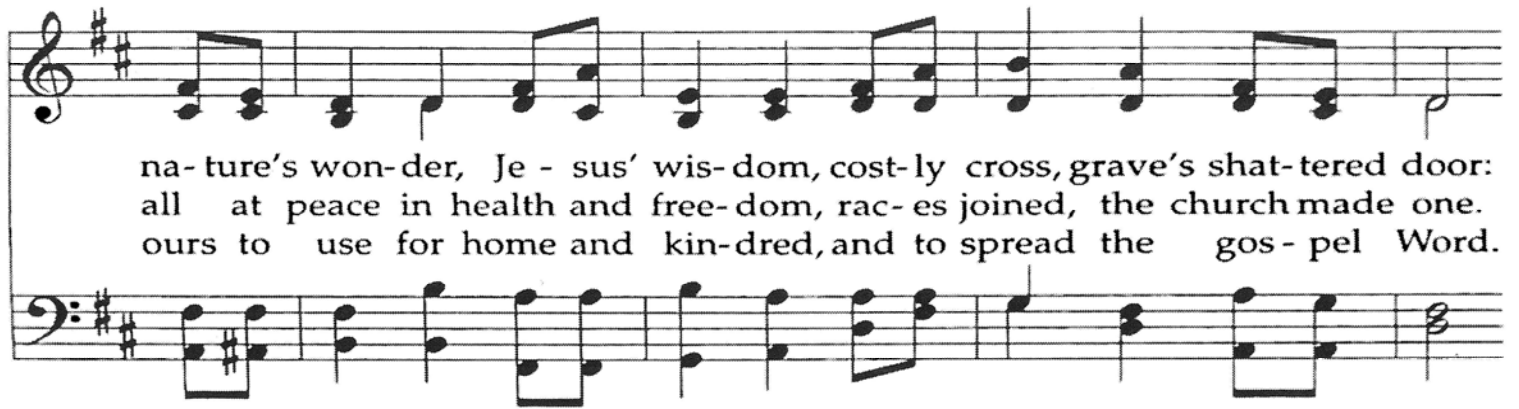
Oh _____

1. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
 2. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
 3. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____

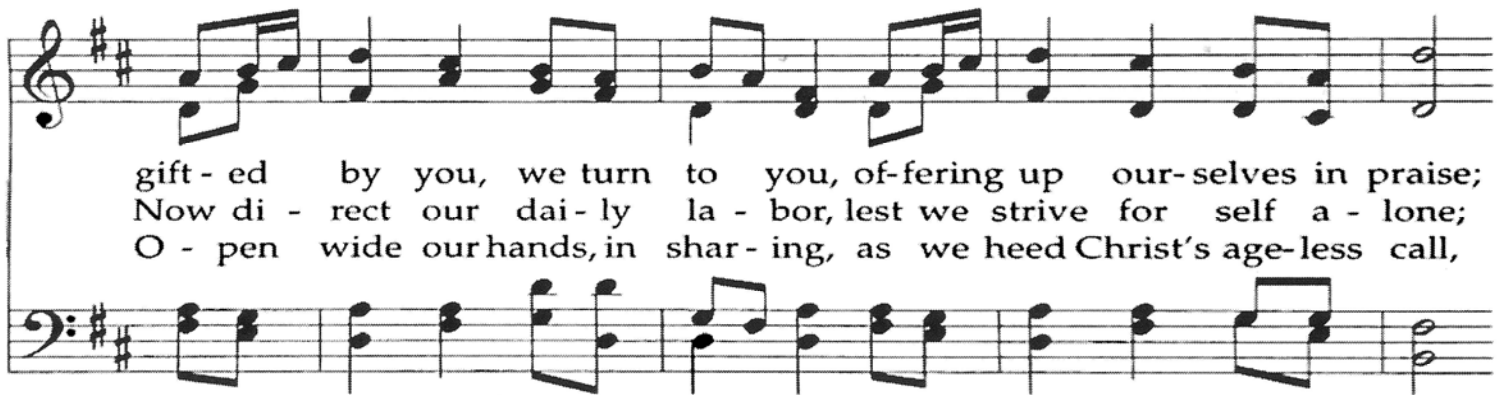
CLOSING HYMN: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending Insert



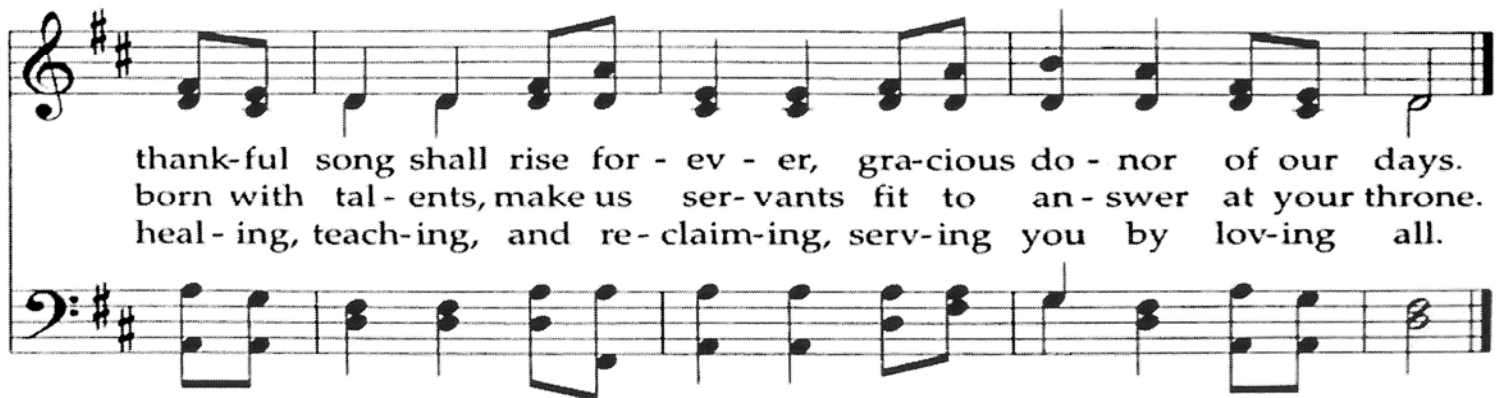
1. God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store,
2. Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
3. Trea-sure too you have en-trust-ed, gain thru powers your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door:
all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel Word.



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-fering up our-selves in praise;
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
O-pen wide our hands, in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.



A Theology of Sufficiency

by **Rev. John Dorhauer**

Rich Biblical traditions shaped Jesus' vision, including Micah 4: 3-4:

"God shall judge between many peoples and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any-more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

It is my personal belief that this concept, one that I call a theology of sufficiency, provides a strategic pathway to the just peace we seek. It is the unjust distribution of wealth that keeps the wheels of war turning.

Micah rightly discerns in the heart of God that the beating of swords in plowshares can only be possible when the conditions envisioned by God and described in that final verse come into play. When all on Earth have their own vine and their own fig, just enough to sustain themselves

and free from the wanton greed of others who covet their neighbors' goods.

At the heart of God's vision of all nations laying down their weapons and no longer learning the ways of war is the collective distribution of God's bounty to ensure that all are fed and sheltered. These are the underlying conditions that render the sword and the spear obsolete and that mandate their repurposing as implements of agriculture rather than of devastation.

I remember with great fondness and deep appreciation the first Sunday I walked into the church I served right out of seminary, Zion United Church of Christ in Mayview, Missouri. A town of 250 people ten miles from a gallon of gas and a loaf of bread, this farm rich community was deeply dedicated to the work of a just peace. On the wall inside the front door as you entered the sanctuary was a poster that hung for all the years I served there. It was a quote from UCC theologian and biblical scholar Luke T. Johnson and it read quite simply: "Whatever you possess that someone else needs already belongs to them."

Generosity, as a spiritual practice, provides a way for us to think together as a Church about a theology of sufficiency so that there can be enough resources for all. Together, we can relate to each other so that "all sit under their own vines and their own fig trees, and not one shall make them afraid."



Because of **You** our church changes lives.

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.