

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

PRESIDENTS' DAY



Therefore I exhort...that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made...for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life...for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.

— 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-3 —

Please join us today in praying for the leaders of our nation & the nations of the world. Happy Presidents' Day!

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, February 16, 2025

9:30 a.m.

**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Family Sunday**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Prelude in E Minor

Frederic Chopin

***OPENING HYMN:** “Come, We That Love”

V714

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: Let us praise God, who gives living water, through which the faithful flourish.

PEOPLE: Like trees planted by the water, God, are those who trust in you.

Leader: Like trees with deep roots are those who place their faith in you.

PEOPLE: Like green trees in winter are those who receive their life from you.

ALL: We praise you, God, for life that has no end, through Jesus, our risen Christ!**

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

Most Loving and Merciful God, in whose law we find our guidance, in whose love we find our healing and joy, and in whose will we find our peace, rule over our spirits in this hour that we will go from this worship with the freedom of those who trust you and need have no anxiety for themselves.## We pray in Jesus’ name. 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 ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~unison

O God, it is good to be here in your presence, among your people. Make us radiant with the light of your Christ. Help us to worship with reverence, and serve you with joy in the world. May our words, our songs, and our thoughts be pleasing to you, O God, for we pray in the name of Jesus our Sovereign.** 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 FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Jeremiah 17:5-10

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Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** “If You Will Trust in God to Guide You”

V286

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 6:17-26

Page 1209

He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Open the Eyes of My Heart / Amazing Grace*

Words & Music: Paul Baloche

Sung by The Chancel Choir

Traditional hymn tune

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see You.

I want to see You.

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.

Pour out Your power and love, as we sing holy, holy, holy.

SERMON: “Making Better Choices”

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

GREETING OF PEACE ~unison

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** “I Sing A Song of the Saints of God”

P481

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Ecossaise in Eb

Ludwig van Beethoven

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Xavier University; <https://www.xavier.edu/online-resources/prayer-index> retrieved 2/6/25

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Deacon is Nancy Mahoney. **Scripture Reader** is Sue Cifelli.

Greeter is Beth Anderson.

Today's flowers are given by Barbara Massey. February reminds me of love and friendship, of those cute little cards we would make for classroom buddies, friends and our families.

I treasure the love, joy, healing power and encouragement my friends bring to my life.

I am forever thankful that I do not have to go through life alone.

As Proverb 27:9 reflects "A sweet friendship refreshes the soul and awakens our hearts with joy, for good friends are like the anointing oil that yields the fragrant incense of God's presence."

Be a friend, make a new friend this week.

Amen

In Our Prayers This Week are: Family of Joyce Bellonio, Audrey Tilley, Family of John Rice (Laurel Gray Bessette's brother), Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Shirley Ryan, Meg Adams, Herb & Ann Schneider, Sarah, and Melissa.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Jim Bennett 02/16, Aidan Nottingham 02/17, William Mickolyzck 02/18, Victoria Hummel 02/19, Kristin Bengston 02/19, Kathleen Mickolyzck 02/21, Jesse Morrow 02/22, Amy Morrow 02/22, Eben Stewart 02/23.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buy your tickets today!

This coming Saturday, February 22, 2025, is the date for the Pierpont Concert featuring the North Haven High School Jazz and Choral Ensembles. This concert is always an enjoyable and well-attended evening of music. Tickets are available today at Fellowship Hour, from the church office, and at the door (doors open at 6:30PM).

\$15 General Admission, \$10 students, free for children under 12 years old. Reception in Carroll Hall following the concert.

This concert is a big fundraiser for both the church and the music department of our beloved North Haven High School.

Thanks so much for your support!

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*

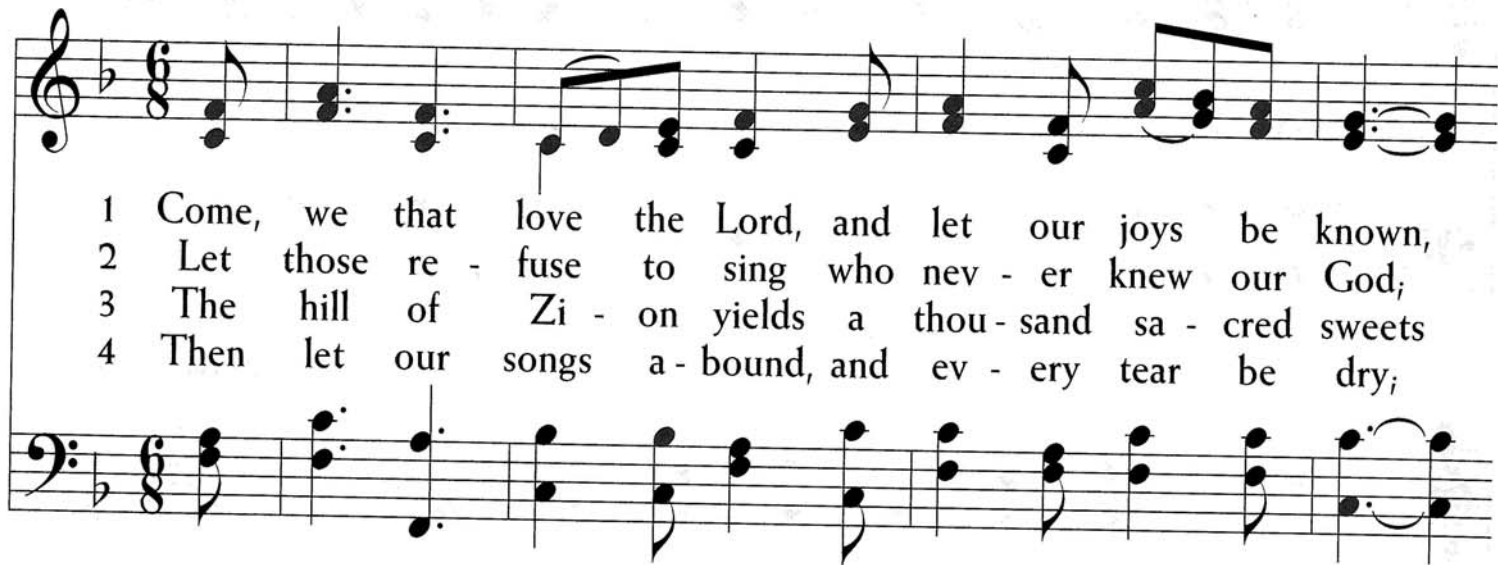
Sunday	2/16	9:30 a.m. 10:45	WORSHIP: Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany WORSHIP TEAM (K)
Monday	2/17	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 4:30 p.m. 6:00	OFFICE CLOSED (Presidents Day) AA (K) Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Ukulele (DBL) CT Record Club (K)
Tuesday	2/18	9:30 a.m. 9:30 10:30 12:00 p.m. 6:00	Al-Anon (K) 10-11:30 Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) PLP (CH) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom)
Wednesday	2/19	10:00 a.m. 10:30 1:00 p.m. 7:00	WINDOW DEADLINE FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) Danish Sisterhood (K) Al-Anon District Family (K)
Thursday	2/20	4:30 p.m. 7:00	Ukulele (DBL) CHANCEL CHOIR
Friday	2/21	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30	Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL)
Saturday	2/22	9:30 a.m. 10:30 11:30 3:00 p.m. 7:00	Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) Rhythm Kids (DBL) Tibetan American (K, CR) PIERPONT CONCERT: NHHS
Sunday	2/23	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

*Small print indicates non-Church function

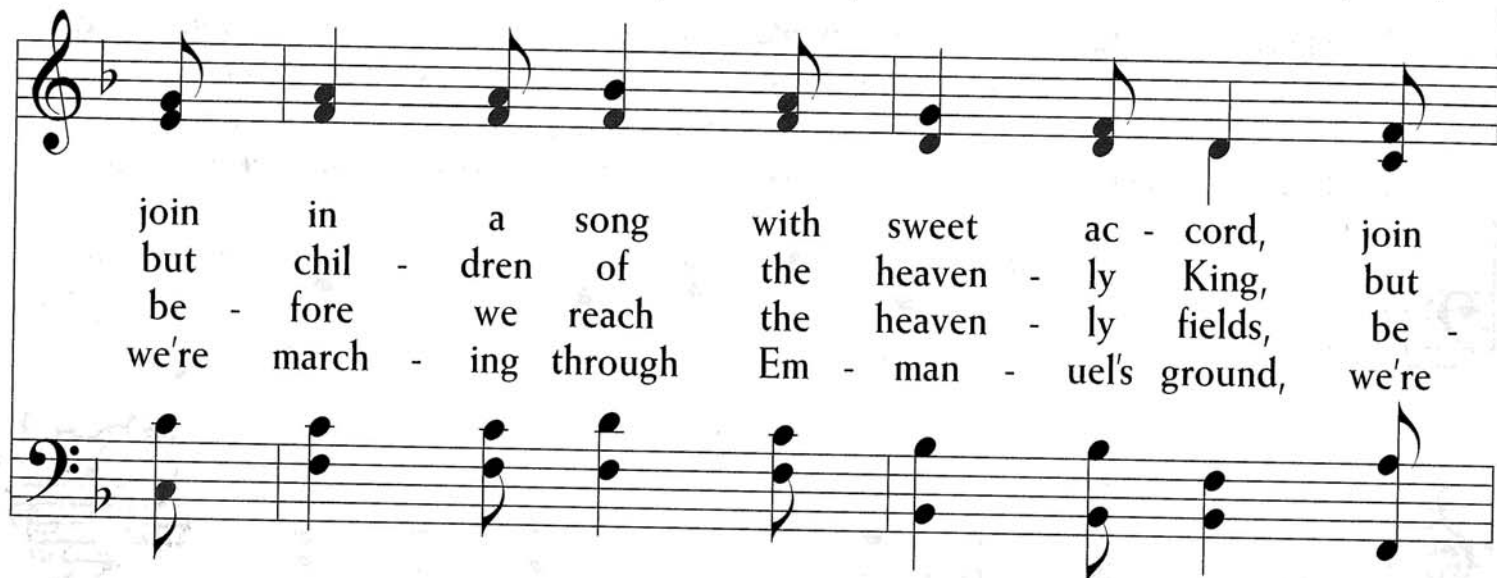
Bold print starts new day.

*OPENING HYMN: "Come, We That Love"

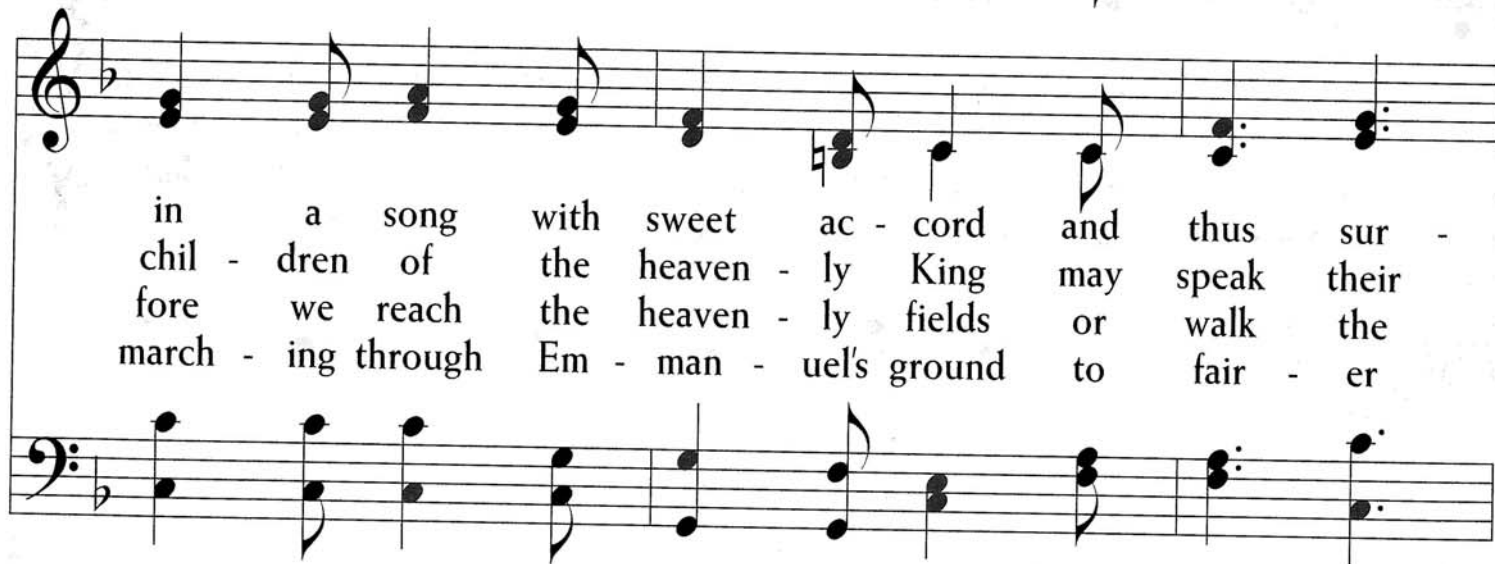
V714



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known,
2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets
4 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - ery tear be dry;

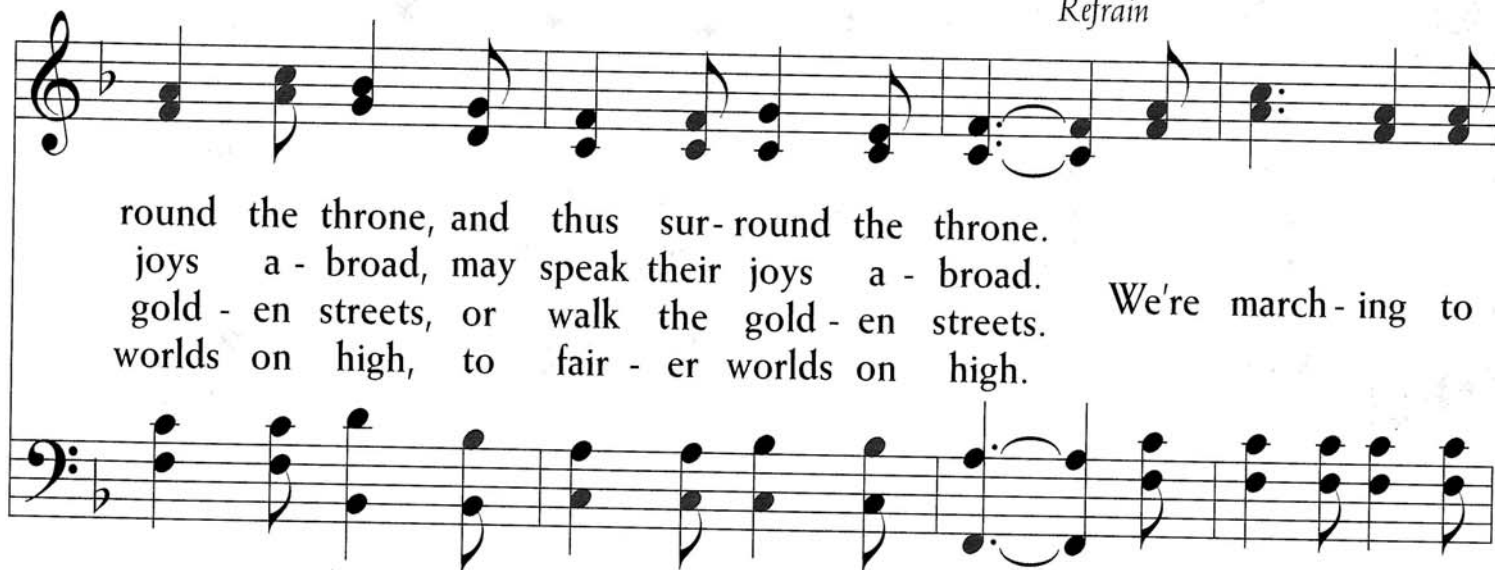


join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join
but chil - dren of the heaven - ly King, but
be - fore we reach the heaven - ly fields, be -
we're march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground, we're



in a song with sweet ac - cord and thus sur -
chil - dren of the heaven - ly King may speak their
fore we reach the heaven - ly fields or walk the
march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground to fair - er

Refrain



round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.
joys a - broad, may speak their joys a - broad. We're march - ing to
gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.
worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.



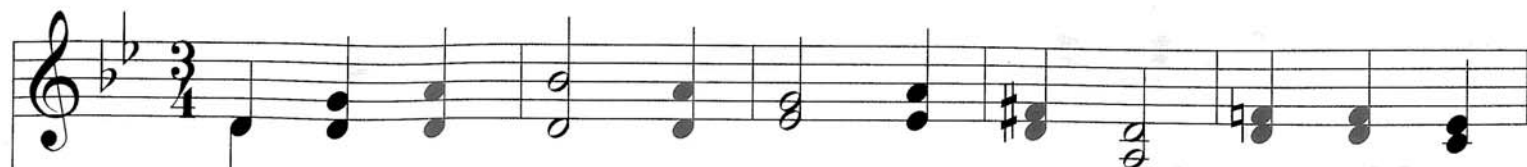
Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on; we're march - ing
up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first system contains the lyrics: "Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on; we're march - ing". The second system contains the lyrics: "up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God." The piano accompaniment features a steady, rhythmic pattern of chords, typical of a hymn accompaniment.

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
Dave Nelson, Sexton

* HYMN: "If You Will Trust in God to Guide You"

V286



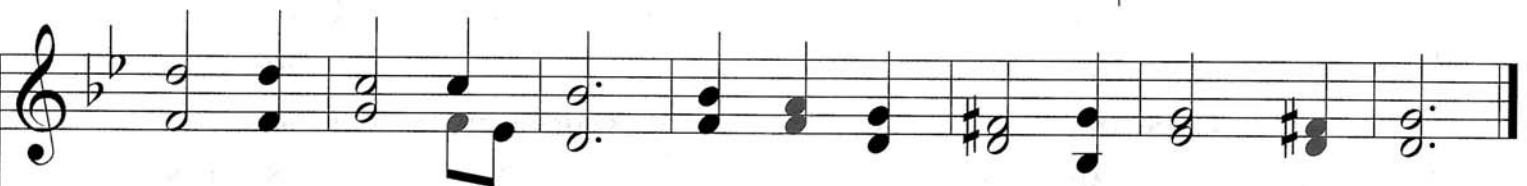
1 If you will trust in God to guide you, and hope in
 2 God will embrace your pain and weep-ing, your help-less
 3 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un-swerv-ing; so do your



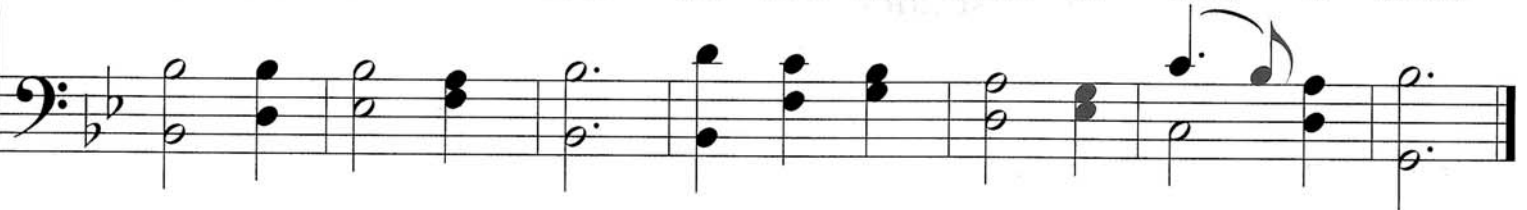
God through all your ways, God will give strength, what-ever be-
 an-ger and dis-tress. If you are in God's care and
 own part faith-ful-ly, and trust God's word; though un-de-



tide you, and bear you through the e-vil days. Who trusts in
 keep-ing, in sor-row will God love you less? For Christ, who
 serv-ing, you'll find God's prom-ise true to be. God nev-er

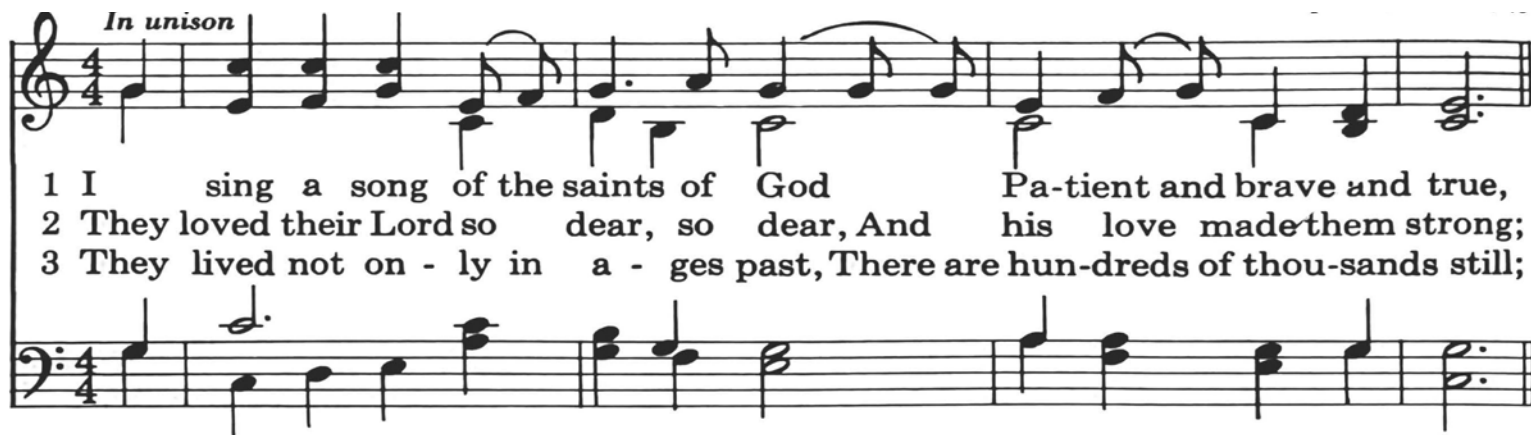


God's un-chang-ing love builds on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross, will bring you safe through ev-ery loss.
 will for-sake in need the soul that trusts in God in-deed.

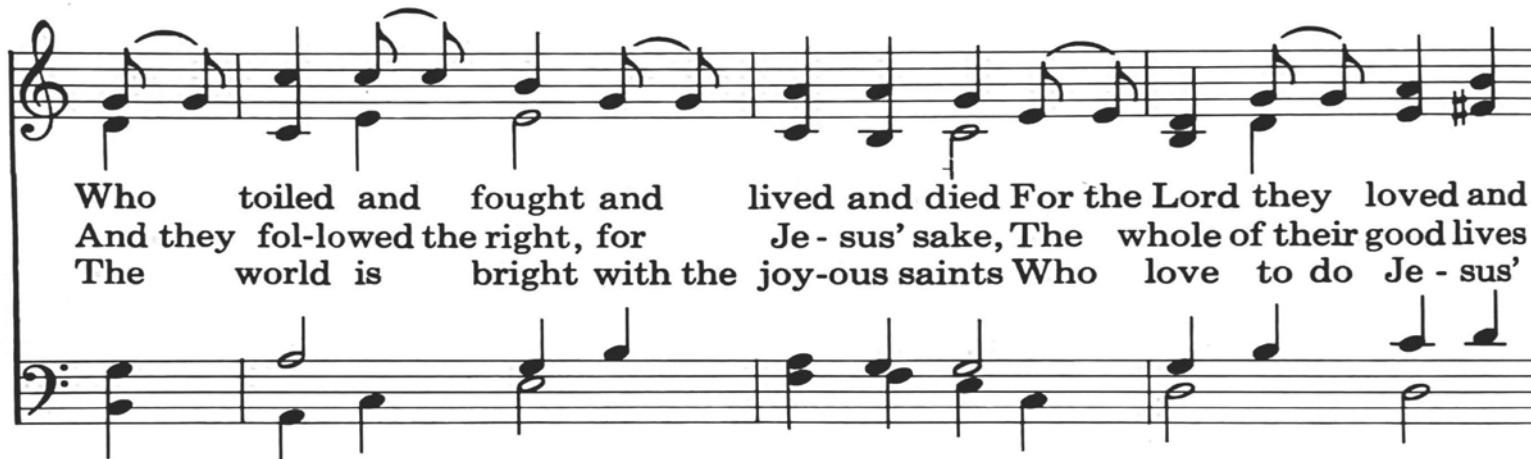


*CLOSING HYMN: "I Sing A Song of the Saints of God"

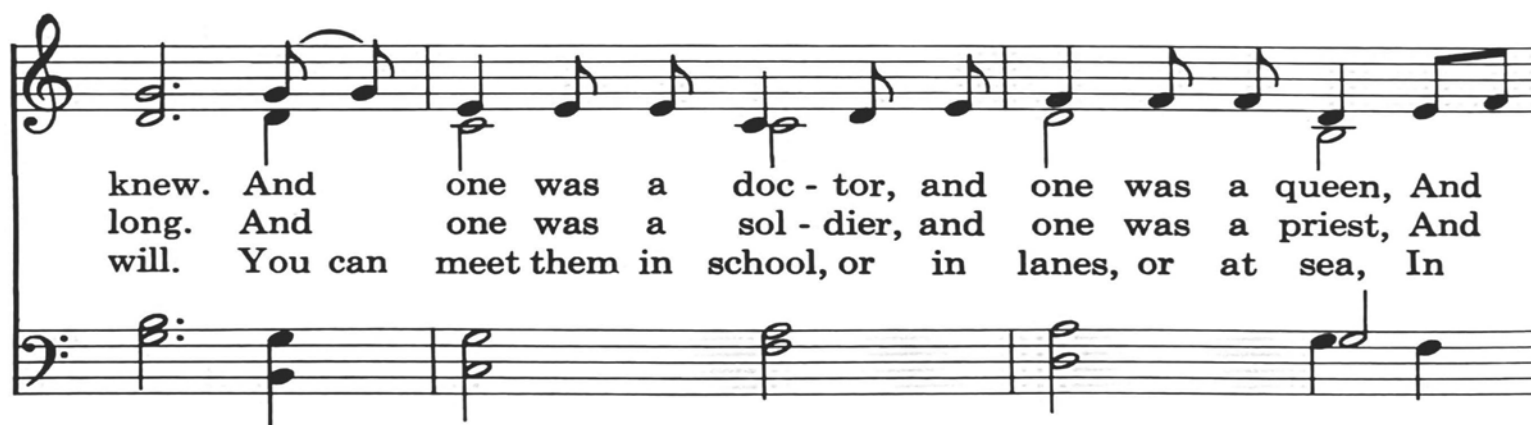
In unison



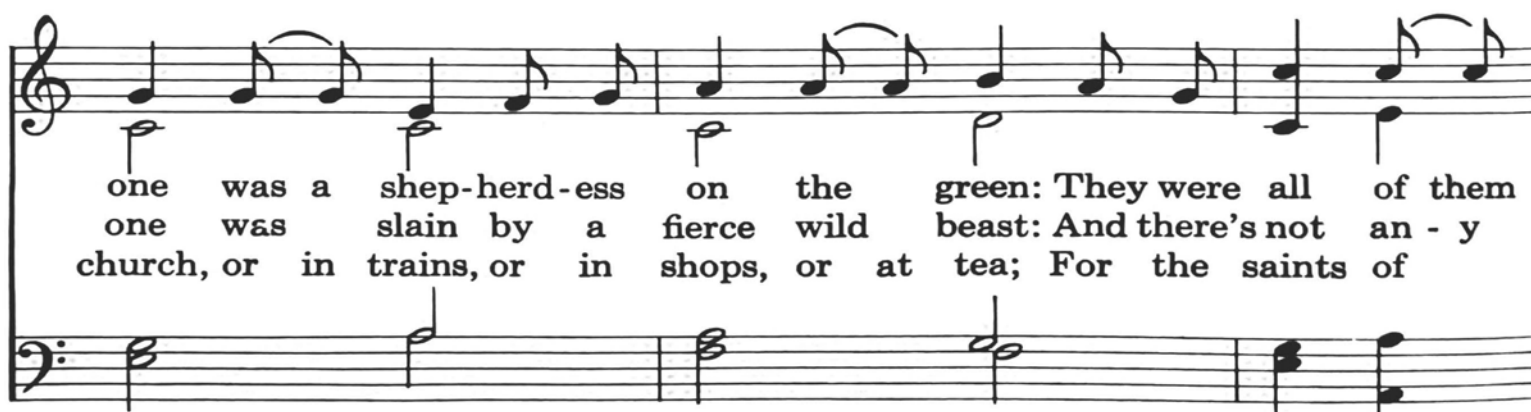
1 I sing a song of the saints of God Patient and brave and true,
2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, And his love made them strong;
3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, There are hun-dreds of thou-sands still;



Who toiled and fought and lived and died For the Lord they loved and
And they fol-lowed the right, for Je - sus' sake, The whole of their good lives
The world is bright with the joy-ous saints Who love to do Je - sus'



knew. And one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, And
long. And one was a sol - dier, and one was a priest, And
will. You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, In



one was a shep-herd-ess on the green: They were all of them
one was slain by a fierce wild beast: And there's not an - y
church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea; For the saints of



saints of God, and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.
rea - son, no, not the least, Why I shouldn't be one too.
God are just folk like me, And I mean to be one too.

NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL AND JAZZ ENSEMBLES



Coming up this Saturday, February 22 join us for a wonderful and lively concert presented by our community's best student talent. Get your tickets asap!

Saturday, February 22nd at 7:00pm

North Haven Congregational Church

***Meet and Greet Reception following concert.**

Tickets \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students, and children under 12 are free.

This is major fundraiser for both the church and the music department of North Haven High School. **We're counting on your support!**