

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, August 10, 2025

9:30 a.m.

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 14
Summer Church School**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Pièce pour Orgue*

Cesar Franck

***OPENING HYMN: “How Firm a Foundation ”**

V660

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: We are people who have been called to follow where God leads us.

PEOPLE: By faith we can obey, even when asked to walk into an unknow future.

Leader: We are people who have been challenged to tell God’s story to others.

PEOPLE: By faith we have the ability to share the good news.

Leader: We are God’s children who are invited to feast at the Table of grace.

ALL: By faith we will embrace our siblings in Christ.**

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

Blessed are you, O God of the Universe, for you have bound us together in a common life on this fragile planet. We confess and offer before you our misperceptions, our hatred, our bigotry, and our deceit. Grant us understanding that is grounded in love, and reconciliation that grows out of humility. Open our hearts to the possibility and newness of your Covenant Word. In the name of the One God who is Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, world without end.## Amen. Martin Bell

***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

Holy One, set your kingdom before us anew. Be with us as we bring our songs and prayers, our hopes and hesitations, our faith and our doubts before you. Reveal the path you blaze before us so that we may follow you faithfully without distraction or detour. May your Spirit enliven, challenge, and guide us in all things and for all days. 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: Psalm 33:12-22 Page 500

¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

¹³ The Lord looks down from heaven;
he sees all humankind.

¹⁴ From where he sits enthroned he watches
all the inhabitants of the earth—

¹⁵ he who fashions the hearts of them all
and observes all their deeds.

¹⁶ A king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

¹⁷ The war horse is a vain hope for victory,
and by its great might it cannot save.

¹⁸ Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,

¹⁹ to deliver their soul from death
and to keep them alive in famine.

²⁰ Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and shield.

²¹ Our heart is glad in him
because we trust in his holy name.

²² Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

* **HYMN:** “Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult” Verses 1, 2, & 3 V562

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Page 1366

11 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction^[b] of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

The Faith of Abraham

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah’s involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

* **HYMN:** “Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult” Verses (4&5) V562

SERMON: “Heaven’s Stadium”

Rev. Cindy

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY: *Simple Gifts*

Russell Schulz-Widmar

*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

Life-giving God, by faith we obey your call to set before you the promise and inheritance of who we are and what we have, which you have first given to us in love. May our humble offering be pleasing in your sight and multiply, as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore, for the greater good of all creation. Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE *~unison*

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

***CLOSING HYMN:** “Be Thou My Vision”

V642

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: *Agincourt Hymn*

John Dunstable Pilgrim #151

*Those who are able, please stand.

** Thom M. Shuman, Bearers of Grace and Justice

Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE
#A-719615. All rights reserved.

Deacon is Sandy Carter. **Scripture Reader** is Victor Maldonado.

Greeter is Beth Anderson.

Flowers are provided by Beth Anderson, Celebrating all those who work so hard to make our church a vibrant and caring community of faith.

Please join us for Fellowship Hour in Carroll Hall immediately following service.

In Our Prayers This Week are: Lee Guckert and her Family, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, Herb & Ann Schneider, Charlotte Shea, and the Family of Curtis Andrews, Sr..

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Covenant to Care

This year we are supplying the backpacks! During Fellowship Hour please choose a child's name and a backpack. We have lists of suggested supplies. Please return the filled backpacks with the child's name on it by August 24th. Thank you for your support!

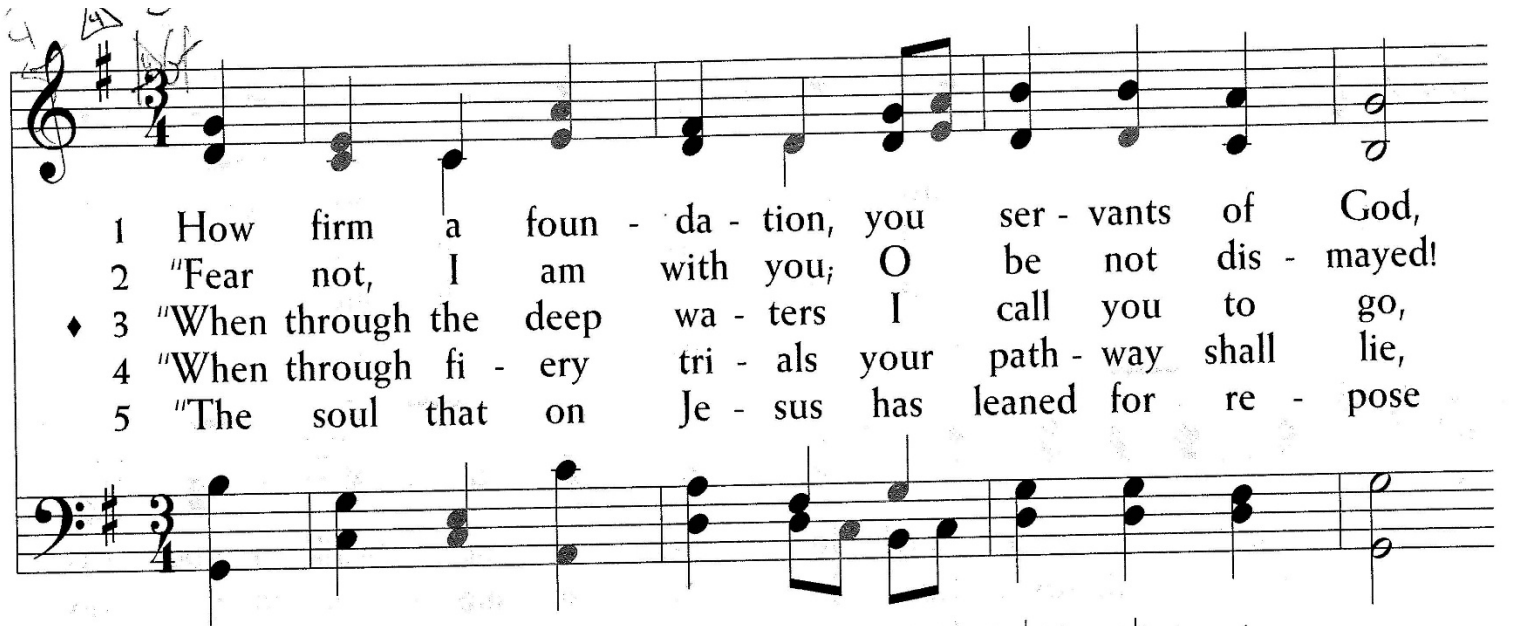
HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Heather Meachen 08/10, Tim Peiffer 08/10, Michele Lynch 08/10, Daniel Kirk 08/11, Gressa Quinn 08/11, Priscilla Bradford 08/12, Robert Scheidecker 08/12, Emma Nottingham 08/12, Jeanne Mecca 08/13, Michael Goldfuss 08/13, Mary Ellen Adams 08/15, Eleanor Harple 08/17, Craig Smith 08/17.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

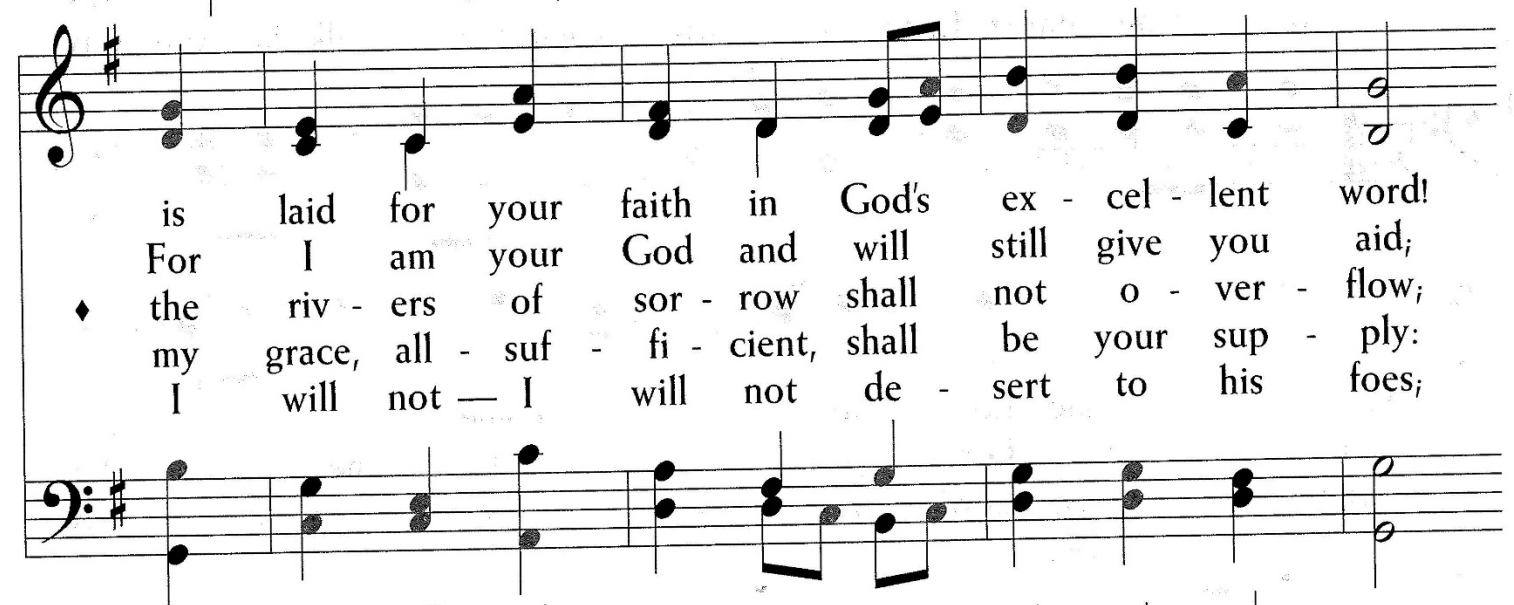
Sunday	8/10	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Monday	8/11	1:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Tuesday	8/12	9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00 p.m. 12:00 5:15 7:00	Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Library) BUILDING & GROUNDS (H) Communications MT (Zoom) Music Under the Stars (Green)
Wednesday	8/13	10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN MLB (L)
Thursday	8/14		
Friday	8/15	10:00 a.m.	FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Saturday	8/16	7:30 a.m. 9:30 11:30	MENS FELLOWSHIP Music Together (DBL) Rhythm Kids (DBL)
Sunday	8/17	9:30 a.m.	WORSHIP: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Small print indicates non-Church function
Bold print starts new day.

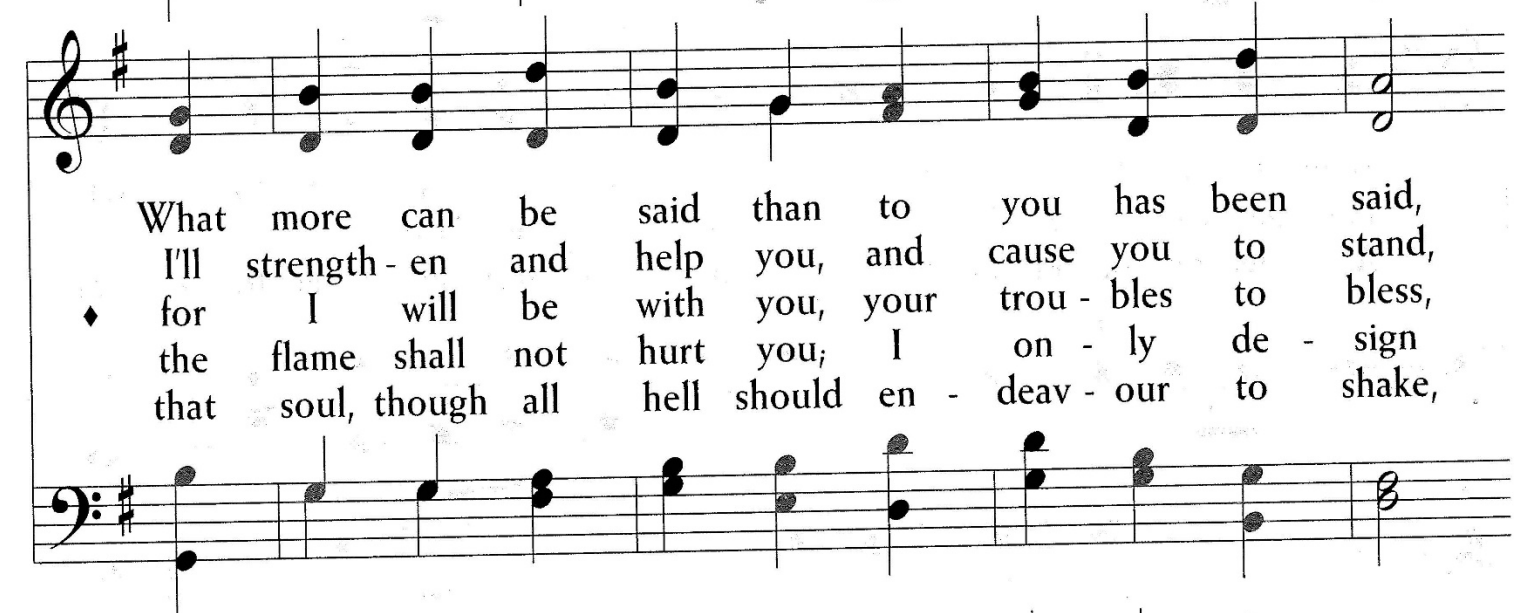
*OPENING HYMN: "How Firm a Foundation" V660



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you ser - vants of God,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you; O be not dis - mayed!
 ♦ 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose



is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 ♦ the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply:
 I will not — I will not de - sert to his foes;

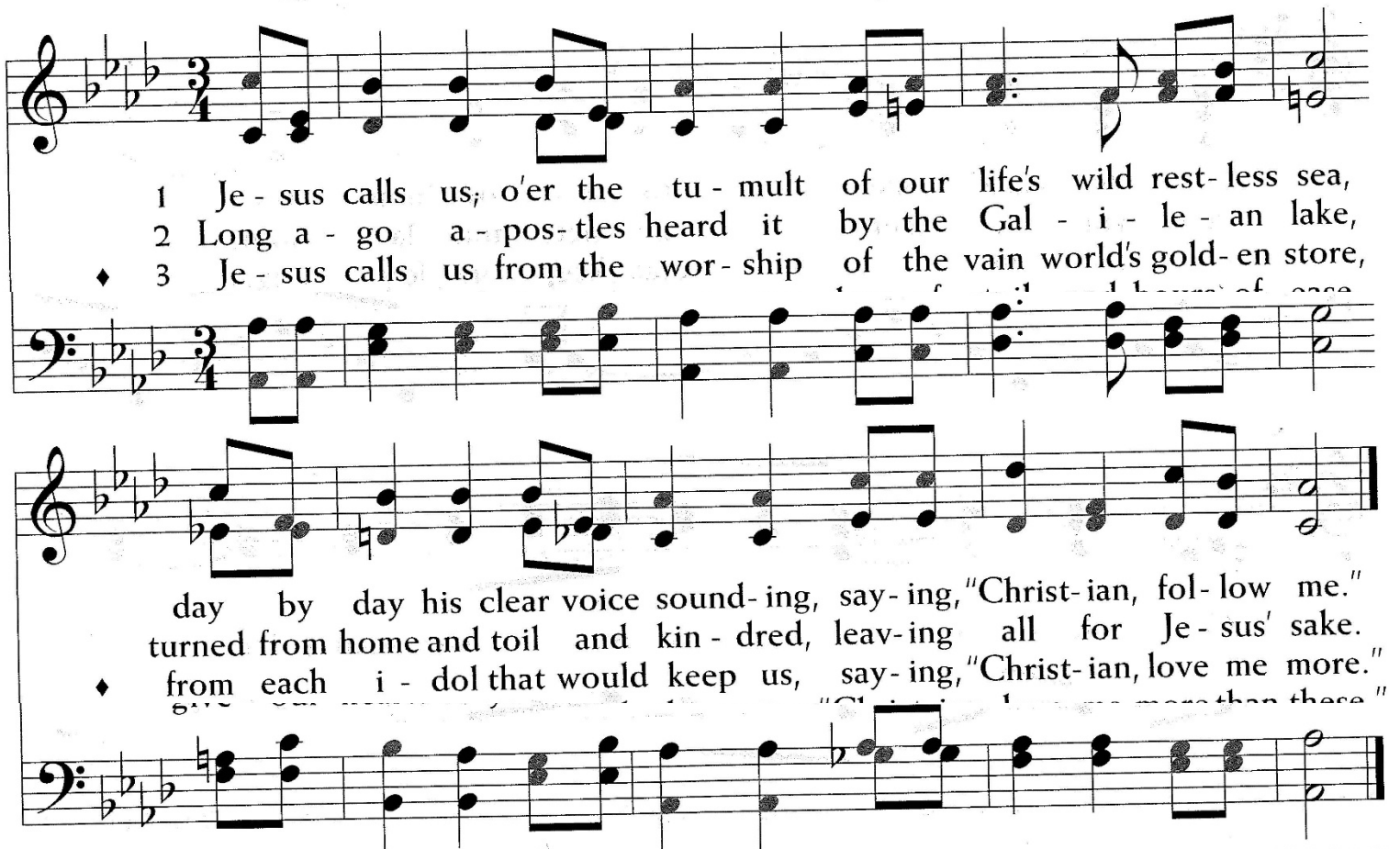


What more can be said than to you has been said,
 ♦ I'll strength - en and help you, and cause you to stand,
 for I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - our to shake,



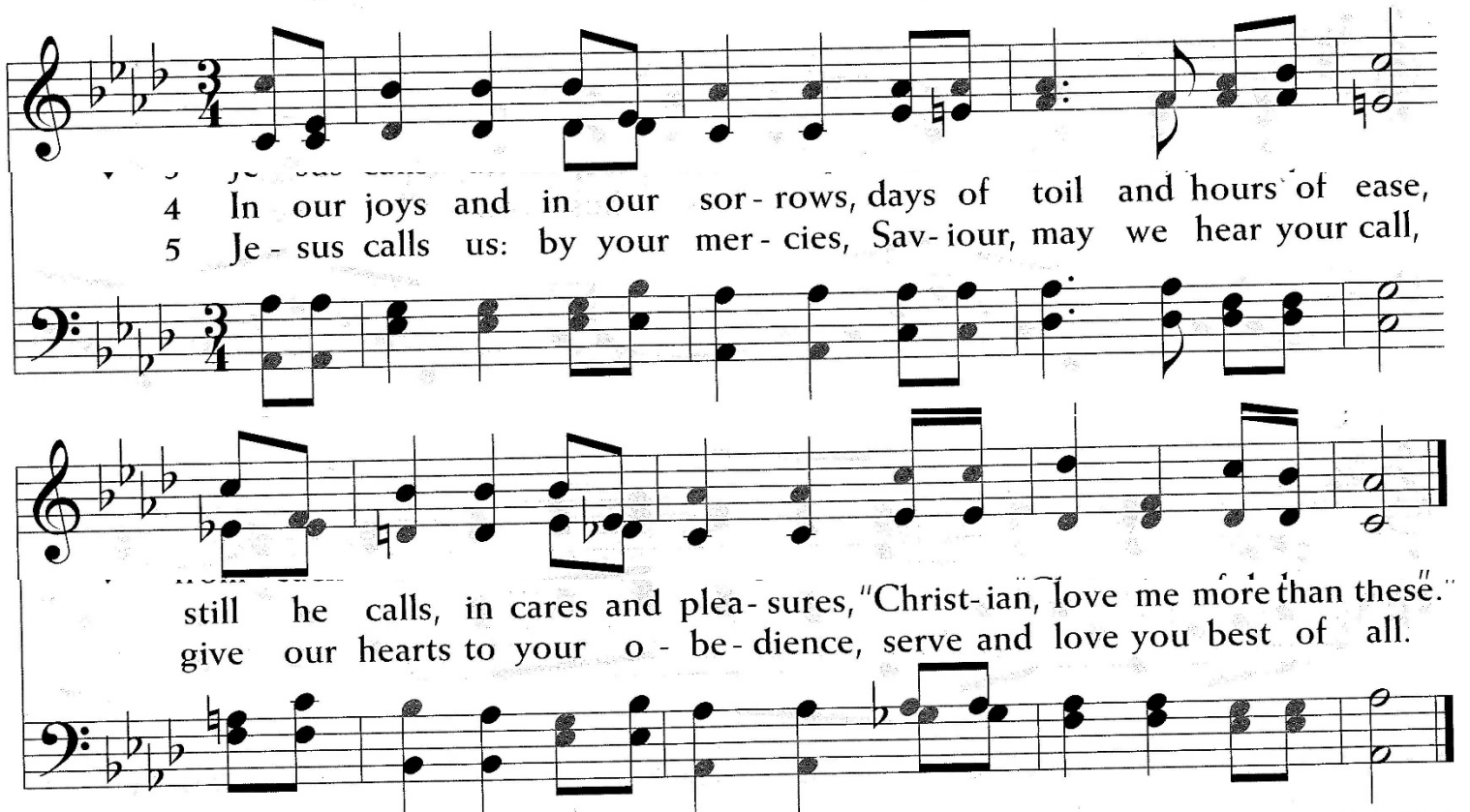
to you who for re - fuge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous om - ni - po - tent hand.
 ♦ and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 your dross to con - sume, and your gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er — no, nev - er — no, nev - er for - sake!"

* HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult" Verses 1, 2, & 3 V562



1 Je - sus calls us, o'er the tu - mult of our life's wild rest-less sea,
 2 Long a - go a - pos-tles heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,
 ♦ 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor-ship of the vain world's gold-en store,
 day by day his clear voice sound-ing, say-ing, "Christ-ian, fol-low me."
 turned from home and toil and kin - dred, leav-ing all for Je - sus' sake.
 ♦ from each i - dol that would keep us, say-ing, "Christ-ian, love me more."
 give our hearts to your o - be - di - ence, serve and love you best of all.

* HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult" Verses (4&5) V562



4 In our joys and in our sor-rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
 5 Je - sus calls us: by your mer- cies, Sav-iour, may we hear your call,
 still he calls, in cares and plea-sures, "Christ-ian, love me more than these."
 give our hearts to your o - be - di - ence, serve and love you best of all.

*CLOSING HYMN: "Be Thou My Vision"

V642

Unison



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O joy of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, my calm in all strife;
 ♦ 3 Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for the fight;
 4 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise,
 5 Great God of heav - en, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me save that thou art,
 I ev - er with thee, and thou in my life;
 ♦ be thou my dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light,
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's sun!

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou lov - ing par - ent, thy child may I be,
 ♦ thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 ♦ raise thou me heaven - ward, O power of my power.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vis - ion, O rul - er of all.

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.

Church Staff: All the Members, Ministers to the World

The Reverend Cindy Stasko, Bridge Pastor

Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children

Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music

Heather Meachen, Organist

Julie Schweickert, Office Manager

Dave Nelson, Sexton