

FOUNDED 1716
North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

John 1 : 14

*And the Word was made flesh,
and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory,
the glory as of the only begotten
of the Father full of grace and truth.*

North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

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

Sunday, February 1, 2026

9:30 a.m.

**4th Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Communion**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: 'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus by William J. Kirkpatrick

***OPENING HYMN:** “Come, Children, Join to Sing” V345

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: In the bleak midwinter, we wait:

People: for the One who warms us with stories of love and hope.

Leader: In the stillness of a snowfall, we wait:

People: for the One who clears a path so we may follow in faith.

Leader: In the shadows of life, we wait:

People: for the One who lights the way through the world. ##

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

Oh God, maker of all things new, You call us. Your servants, to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untraveled, through perils and joys still unknown. Give us faith, oh God, to do all we are called to with courage, with hearts full of hope, with You, bearing your peace, even though we do not know where we will land. Still, this is our assurance...that Your love holds us and Your hand leads us...always! Through Jesus Christ.** 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

God, we thank you for the inspiration of Jesus. Grant that we will love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves, even our enemy neighbors. And we ask you, God, in these days of emotional tension, when the problems of the world are gigantic in extent and chaotic in detail, to be with us in our going out and our coming in, in our rising up and in our lying down, in our moments of joy and in our moments of sorrow, until the day when there shall be no sunset and no dawn. Amen. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ***

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 GIFT OF MUSIC: “Lord, You Have Come to the Seashore
Words & Music: Cesáreo Gabaráin (1936-1991)
Sung by the Chancel Choir

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 49: 1-7 Page 668

The Servant’s Mission

49 Listen to me, O coastlands;

pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born;

while I was in my mother’s womb he named me.

² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;

in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow;

in his quiver he hid me away.

³ And he said to me, “You are my servant,

Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain;

I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the Lord

and my reward with my God.”

⁵ And now the Lord says,

who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,

and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength—

⁶ he says,

“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob

and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷ Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
“Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

HERE ENDS THE READING.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Hymn: “Jesus, Come to Our Hearts”

V324

THE SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 1: 29-42

Pg 1236

The Lamb of God

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

The First Disciples of Jesus

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹ He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

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

SERMON: “Who Do You Say That I Am?”

Rev. Cindy

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Choral Response

THE OFFERTORY

*Doxology

Old 100th

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One." (United Church of Christ version).

*Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we come today with joy for your baptism; we come with praise for your glory; we come with gratitude for your love. As we offer these gifts to you, send your Spirit upon us, that our hands and our hearts may do your work in the world. As we offer our lives to you, bless us with your strength, that we may join with you to work for the blessing of peace throughout the world. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

People: Dear God, over and over again, you have taught us how to walk in your light. But we have sought to hide under a bushel, hoping you won't notice how we avoid your radical call to share our food with the hungry and our lives with those in need. You ask us to join your great dance of light, but we are reluctant to associate with those we judge to be unworthy. God, open our eyes to the joy of your justice—a justice intended for all the world. Forgive our tendency to hide, our slowness to respond. Invite us once more, O God, into the warmth of your light that we might shine rightly with your love. Amen.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear these words of comfort and assurance from the prophet Isaiah: “The Lord will guide you continually and provide for you, even in parched places. The Lord will revive you.

People: We will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water that won't run dry.

***GREETING OF PEACE**

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

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share with each other signs of Christ's peace.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: May the Light of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: In this place and time, encounter the God of wonder.

People: We offer our hearts to the One we seek in every moment.

Leader: Sing glad songs to the God who is your salvation.

People: We will offer shouts of joy to our God!

Leader: Let us pray. Into the gloom of chaos, a Light burst forth, God of all time. This light shone on life in all its variety; it lit the way for the sea as it danced along the beaches of glory; it twinkled in the night, reflected in the eyes of your beloved children, created in your image. When we could have been playing leapfrog in the meadows of Eden, we chose to stalk through the shadows of sin and death.

The prophets came, inviting us to leave our hidden lives, so we could dwell in your heart, but we chose to cast our gaze at the temptations of the world. Finally, your sorrow multiplied beyond all measure, you sent Jesus to proclaim the good news. So, with those who lived in the former times, and with those who will dwell in the latter moments, we lift our glad songs of grace to you.

All: Holy, holy, holy are you, God who does not forsake us. All creation shouts with joy to you.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes bringing the kin'dom near.

Hosanna in the highest!

As we celebrate his life and death, as we sing of our joy multiplied by the wonder of your love, we speak of that mystery we call faith:

All: Christ died, crying out to his light of salvation;

Christ rose, breaking all the bonds of death;

Christ will come, making glorious the way to God.

Holy are you, God of all joy, and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord. When he could have withdrawn into your eternal glory, he came to us that we might be brought into your hopeful heart. When he could have ignored our foolish fighting, he came to tear down the barriers we have built, that we might be one with you. When he could have claimed all power, he emptied himself of your love and life, that might be filled with your peace forever.

On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread,
gave thanks, broke it, and said,

“Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying,

“This is the new covenant, remember me.”

We do remember. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his
teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit on all of us gathered here,
that we who walked in darkness might walk forth in the light of
Christ. Shine your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, so
that your glorious grace and love might flow through us as the very
presence of Christ. As we receive these gifts, may we shine forth as
your people, that the glory of Christ might be revealed for all to see.
Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN “The Church’s One Foundation”**

V333

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Praise The Lord

by Carol Kumler

*Those who are able, please stand.

Call to Worship reprinted by permission from Thom M. Shuman’s
“Playing Hopscotch in Heaven” Lectionary Liturgies for RCL A

** Reprinted by permission of the publisher from “Touch Holiness”, ed.
Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. Copyright © 2012 The Pilgrim
Press.

*** <https://prayerandpolitiks.org/articles-essays-sermons/prayers-of-martin-luther-king-jr/> Accessed on 1/13/2026.

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

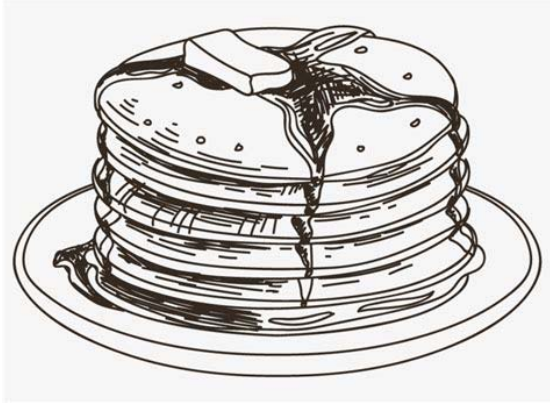
Deacon is Nancy Mahoney. **Greeter** is Beth Anderson. **Camera
Operator** is Sue Cifelli.

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

In Our Prayers This Week are: The Family of Craig Hobart Smith, The Family of Jaime Arsenault, The Family of Michael Heaney, The Rev. Deb Ruotolo, Lee Guckert and her Family, Linda Rankin, Linda Shannon, Marlene Bellonio, Meg Adams, Ann Schneider, and Charlotte Shea.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, February 8, 2025-After the service Pancake Breakfast



Menu includes, Pancakes, sausage,
Fruit toppings, choice of juices,
Coffee, tea or hot chocolate!

ALL ARE WELCOME!!
Free will offering accepted!

HELP NEEDED!!

MEN TO HELP COOK FOR PANCAKE BREAKFAST!!!!

Women's Fellowship, will shop, set up, and serve, and help with cleanup!

Please see, Dot Pierce, Nancy Mahoney, Carol Mitchell, Kathy Harple , Barbara Massey or any one in Women's Fellowship, to volunteer!!

Thank you in advance for your help, making this a successful event!!!

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper and Service: February 18th

The Supper menu will be a variety of homemade soups, bread, and beverage. If you can help with set up, cleanup, or by making soup, please call the church office (203-239-5691) and let Julie know. Thank you to all who have helped with this in previous years. The Ash Wednesday Service will follow the Supper. The Choir will offer special music to enhance this spiritual service. It is always a meaningful experience and helps us remember what Lent is about and look forward to the joy that comes after Lent at Easter. We hope you will join us in the Koinonia Room at 5:30 p.m. for the Soup Supper and in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. for the Ash Wednesday Service this year.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|---|--|
| Sunday | 2/1 | 9:30 a.m. 10:45 2:00 p.m. | WORSHIP: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany NHCC Annual Meeting Tibetan American (K,CR, RR) |
| Monday | 2/2 | 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 | Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) |
| Tuesday | 2/3 | 9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 12:00 p.m. 3:30 4:30 6:00 | Music Together (DBL) Al-Anon (K) Music Together (DBL) PLP (Library) United Girls' Choir (CH, K, Sanct) Music Together (DBL) BIBLE STUDY (Zoom) |
| Wednesday | 2/4 | 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. | FOOD PANTRY OPEN Lions Club (CH) |
| Thursday | 2/5 | 6:30 p.m. 7:00 | Mothers of Twins (CH) CHANCEL CHOIR |
| Friday | 2/6 | 9:30 a.m. 10:00 10:30 | Music Together (DBL) FOOD PANTRY OPEN Music Together (DBL) |
| Saturday | 2/7 | 7:30 a.m. 9:30 11:30 | MENS FELLOWSHIP Music Together (DBL) Music Together (DBL) |
| Sunday | 2/8 | 9:30 a.m. 10:45 2:00 p.m. | WORSHIP: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany PANCAKE BREAKFAST (CH) Tibetan American (K,CR, RR) |

*Small print indicates non-Church function

Bold print starts new day.

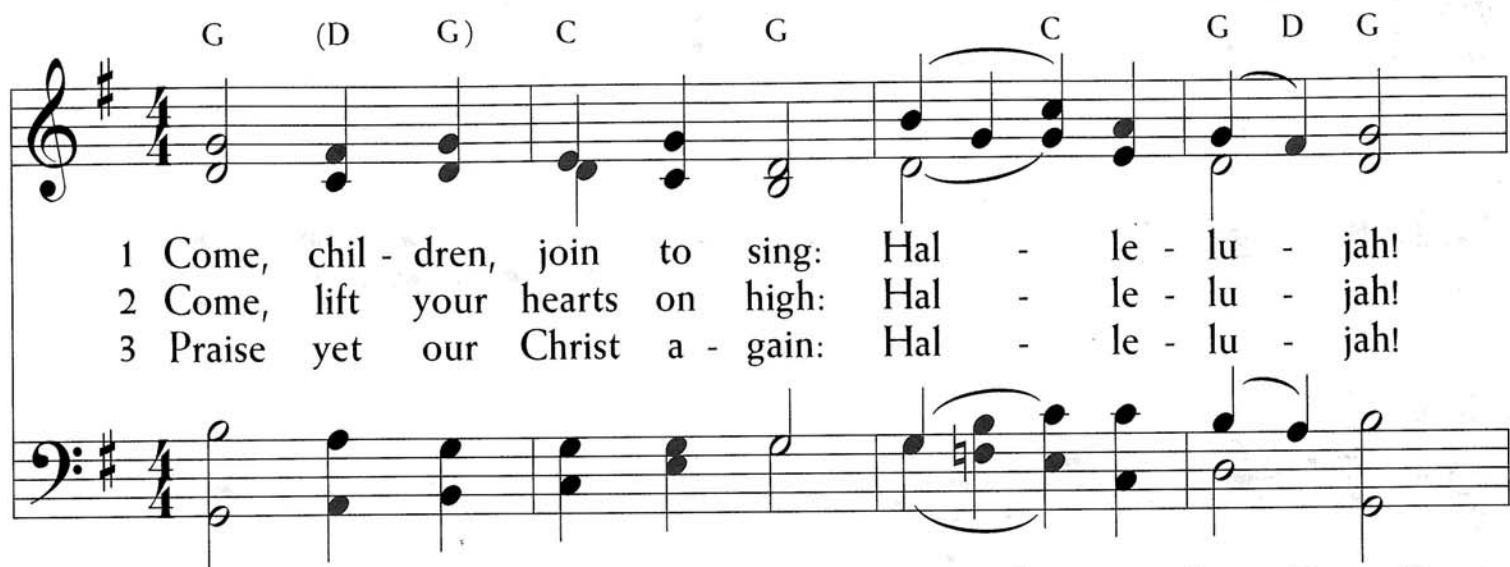
HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Diane Lacobelli 01/15, Joanne Nottingham 01/15, Michael Masnato 01/18, Joseph Mickolyzck 01/19, James Dockendorff 01/22, Matt Goldfuss 01/24, Lillian Flodquist 01/25, Sophie Grant 02/04, Walter Kaercher 02/06, Emma Alden 02/08.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Suzanne & Nigel Light 01/18.

*OPENING HYMN: "Come, Children, Join to Sing"

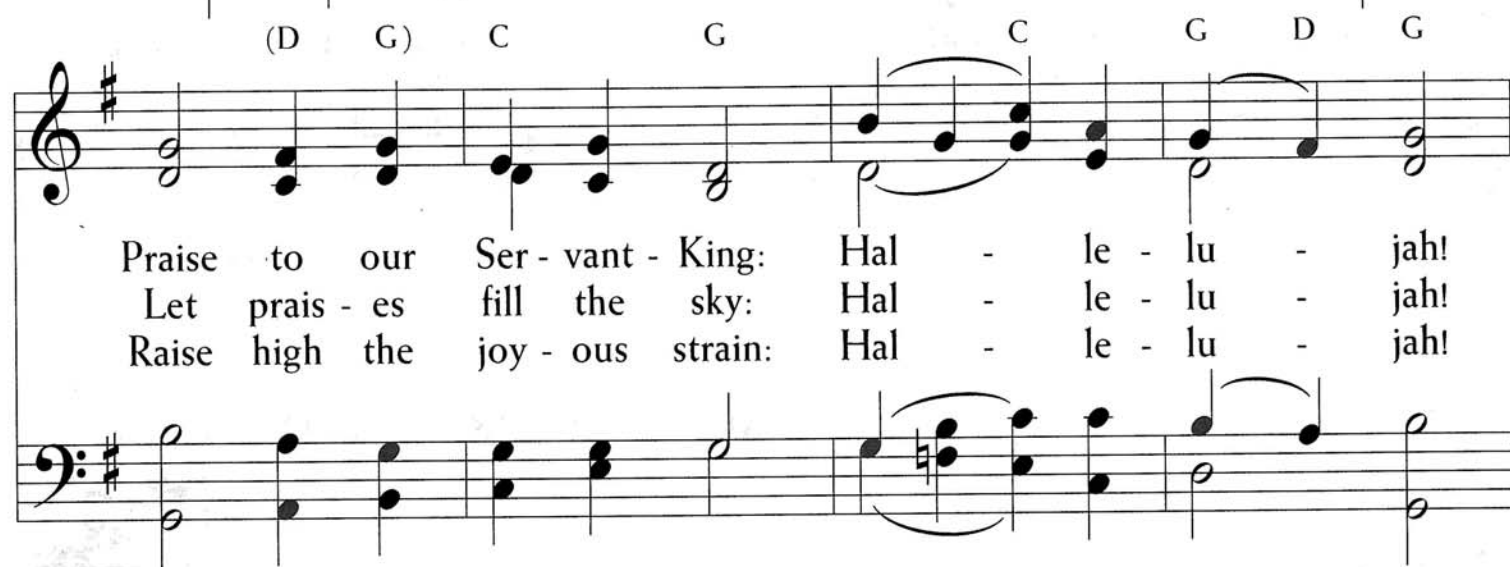
V345

G (D G) C G C G D G



1 Come, chil - dren, join to sing: Hal - le - lu - jah!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Hal - le - lu - jah!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Hal - le - lu - jah!

(D G) C G C G D G



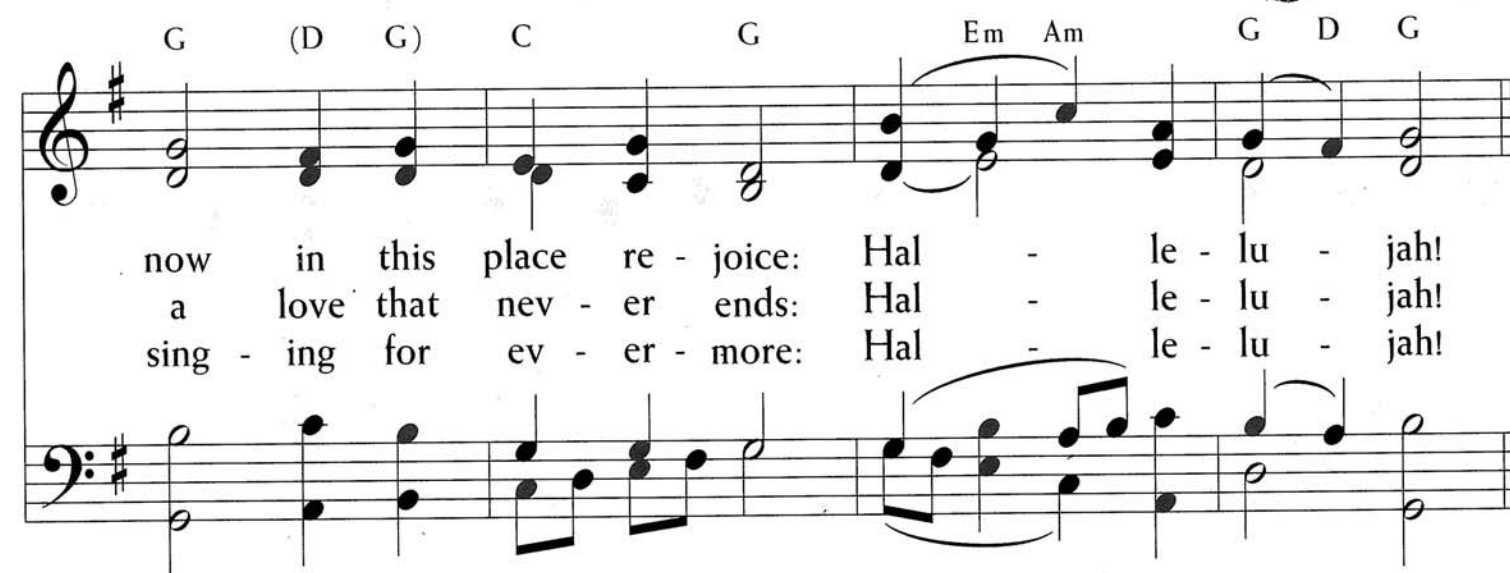
Praise to our Ser - vant - King: Hal - le - lu - jah!
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Hal - le - lu - jah!
 Raise high the joy - ous strain: Hal - le - lu - jah!

(D G) C (G) Dsus4 D G (D G) C D



Let all with heart and voice, saved by God's gra - cious choice,
 Christ calls his peo - ple friends, the help - less he de - fends,
 The whole cre - a - tion o'er let all God's love a - dore,

G (D G) C G Em Am G D G




now in this place re - joice: Hal - le - lu - jah!
 a love that nev - er ends: Hal - le - lu - jah!
 sing - ing for ev - er - more: Hal - le - lu - jah!

V324

B \flat Am7 Gm7 F
 come to re - fresh, come to re - new,
 come with your fire, come with your life,
 ♦ come to re - veal, light - en your Word,
 praise for his life, praise for his death,
 praise for the sun, praise for the wind,
 wash all our sins a - way.
 blow all our doubts a - way.
 ♦ drive all our gloom a - way.
 praise that he lives a - gain.
 praise for the fall - ing rain.

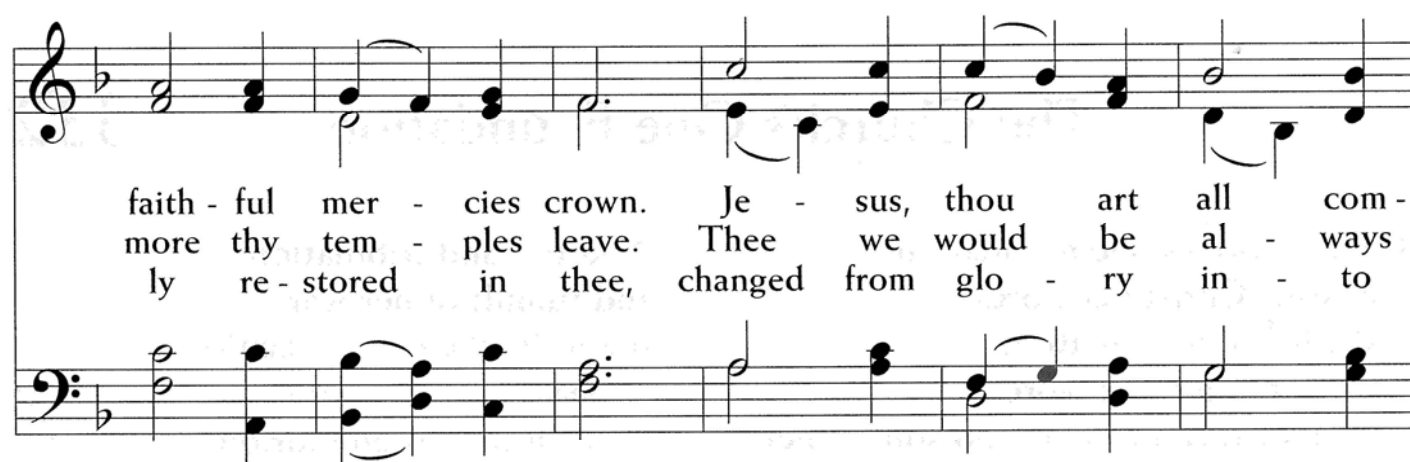
Church Staff: All the Members, Ministers to the World
The Reverend Cindy Stasko, Bridge Pastor
Karlee Etter, Ministry Coordinator for Children
Jeffrey Hutchins, Director of Music
Heather Meachen, Organist
Julie Schweickert, Office Manager
Dave Nelson, Sexton



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven to
 2 Come, al - might - ty to de - li - ver; let us all thy
 3 Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 grace re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com -
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways
 ly re - stored in thee, changed from glo - ry in - to



pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it
 bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and
 glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place, till we



us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 praise thee, with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

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.