



Elijah Kellogg Church, Congregational

917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell ME 04079 • 207-833-6026 • www.elijahkelloggchurch.org

Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly, Interim Pastor

ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH WORSHIP

October 8, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Columbus Day Also Known as Indigenous Peoples' Day,

A Holiday Weekend on the Secular Calendar.

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION — “The virtues of patience and hope enable us to take the risk of planning that does not make effectiveness our primary goal, but faithfulness to God’s dominion as our primary goal.” — Stanley Hauerwas

“Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility.” — Saint Augustine

“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.” — Martin Luther King, Jr.

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace...

* Call to Worship —

ONE: God Who frees us invites us to worship.

MANY: The firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

ONE: God is present with us, eager to speak to us. We are ready to listen to the Word of God.

MANY: May our awe before God endure. May our thoughts and our words be acceptable to God.

Prayer of Invocation

* HYMN — *Let Me Enter God’s Own Dwelling* INSERT

A Time for All Ages —

Lord’s Prayer (debts and debtors)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

***OFFERING RESPONSE (DOXOLOGY)**

Old One-hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE EPISTLES — Philippians 3:4b-14 [ILV]

[4b] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, to place their trust in external evidence, I have more! [5] I was circumcised on the eighth day, being a member of the people of Israel and the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrew origins; as to the law, the legal observances, I was a Pharisee [6] and so zealous I persecuted the church. I was above reproach when it came to justice based on the Law— blameless.

[7] Yet whatever I used to consider gain, I have come to regard as loss because of the Christ. [8] More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ, Jesus, my Savior, for Whose sake I have forfeited all things. I regard everything else as rubbish, so that Christ may be my wealth— [9] indeed, that I may be found in Christ, not having any justice of my own based on observance of the Law. The justice I possess is that which comes through the faith of Christ. It has its origin in God and is based on faith. [10] All I want is to know Christ and the power of the resurrection of Christ and how to share in the suffering of Christ, by being formed into the pattern of the death of Christ— [11] perhaps even to arrive at the resurrection from the dead.

[12] Not that I have already reached this yet or have already finished my course; but I press on to make it my own, because I have been claimed by Christ, Jesus. [13] Beloved— sisters and brothers— I do not consider that I have made it my own, or think of myself as having reached the finish line. But this one thing I do— forgetting what lies behind I strain forward to what lies ahead. [14] I press on toward the goal. My entire attention is focused on the finish line as I run toward the prize— the high calling of God in Christ, Jesus.

*** HYMN — *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* INSERT**

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS —Matthew 21:33-46 [ILV]

[33] {Jesus said to the chief priests, the elders of the people, the religious authorities who had gathered:} “Listen to [this] parable. There was a property owner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then the owner leased it to tenants and went on a journey to another country. [34] When the harvest time arrived, the owner sent aids to the tenants to divide the shares of the grapes. [35] But the tenants responded by seizing them. They beat one, killed another and stoned a third. [36] Again the landowner sent even more aids, more than the first time. But they

were treated in the same way. [37] Finally the owner sent a family heir to them, thinking, ‘They will respect my child.’ [38] But when the vine growers saw the owner’s child, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir who stands in the way of our having everything; come, let us kill this one too and get the inheritance.’ [39] With that, they seized the heir, placed this loved one of the owner outside of the vineyard and committed murder.”

[40] “Now,” asked Jesus, “when the owner of the vineyard comes, what do you suppose will be done to those tenants?”

[41] Those who heard the parable said, “The owner will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give the proprietor the grapes at the time the harvest comes.”

[42] Jesus said to them, “Have you ever read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone;
this was our God’s doing,
and we find it amazing to behold’?

[43] Therefore I tell you, the dominion of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will bear its fruits.

[44] Those who fall on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

[45] When the chief priests, the elders of the people, the religious authorities heard these parables, they realized Jesus was speaking about them. [46] They wanted to arrest the Rabbi, but they feared the crowds who regarded Jesus as a prophet.

This is the Gospel of Jesus, Who is the Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC — *"Help Us to be Like Them"* (arr. Don Besig)

SERMON — *I Did Everything Right*

Piano Meditation —

Prayers of the People -

SILENCE

* **HYMN** — *We Love Your Realm, O God* INSERT, v. 1, 2, 3, 4

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE —*We Love Your Realm, O God* INSERT, v. 5

Postlude

Harpwell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM

Harpwell Community Television – Channel 14

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7960701>

Serving you this morning:	
Interim Minister	Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Reader	Ruth Smith
Ushers	Carol Coultas & Ken Chutchian
Coffee Hour	Trustees

Office Hours for the week of October 8th

Pastor Joe's office hours:

Pastor Joe's office hours for the week of 10/9 is Monday, 10/9 from 9am – 11am

The Bible Study passage for Monday 10/9 at 11:00 a.m. is Psalm 19.

**** Notice - Office Closed ****

The office will be closed next Thursday, October 12th.

If you have something you would like included in the weekly News & Notes or in the bulletin, please have it to Stephanie no later than Tuesday, October 10th.

Thank you!

Come to our Craft Group

Women's Fellowship will hold its next craft group at Ruth Smith's home on Tuesday, October 10th from 9:00 to 12:00.

We will have crafts that can be done, or you can bring your own and join the group.


Call Ruth if you need directions or have questions.
833-6246 or jandrsmith@myfairpoint.net.

Thank you all.

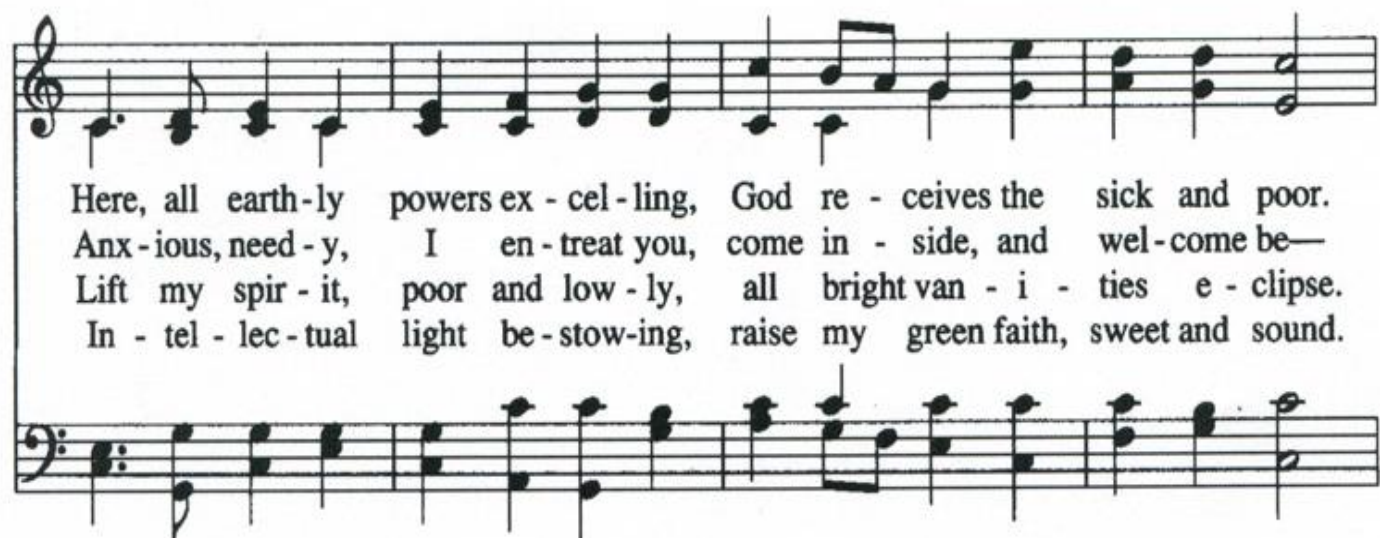
Let Me Enter God's Own Dwelling

Benjamin Schmolck, 1732

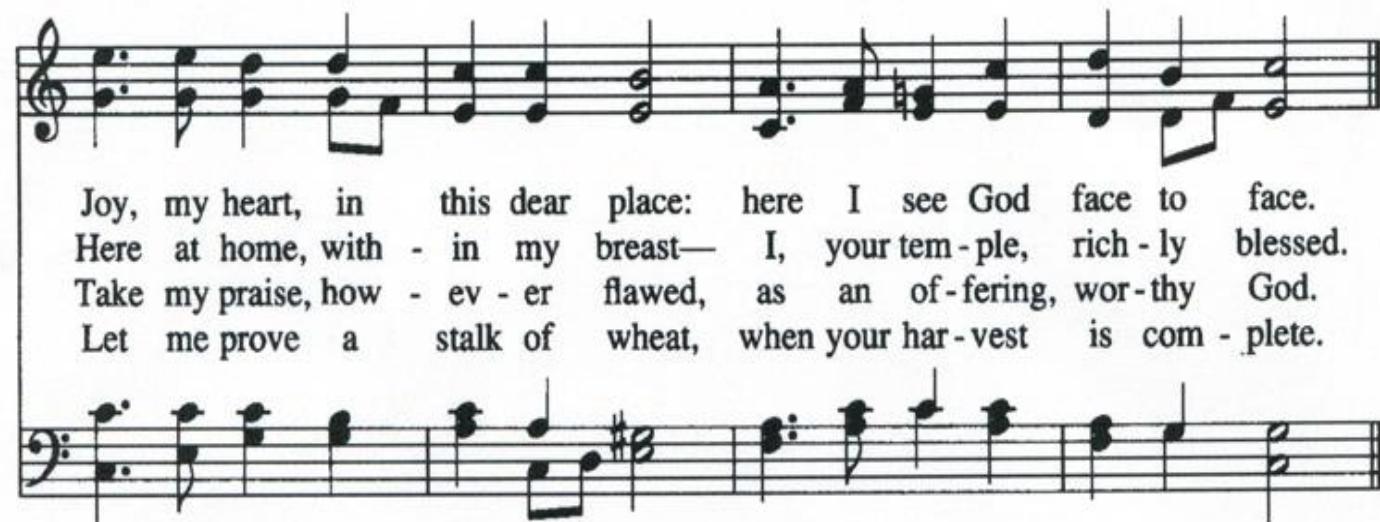
Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993



1 Let me en - ter God's own dwell - ing, o - pen wide the love - ly door!
2 I have come to church to meet you: con - de - scend to come to me!
3 Make my mind and bod - y ho - ly, sanc - ti - fy my ears and lips.
4 In this hour of Gos - pel sow - ing, let my earth be fruit - ful ground.



Here, all earth - ly powers ex - cel - ling, God re - ceives the sick and poor.
Anx - ious, need - y, I en - treat you, come in - side, and wel - come be—
Lift my spir - it, poor and low - ly, all bright van - i - ties e - clipse.
In - tel - lec - tual light be - stow - ing, raise my green faith, sweet and sound.

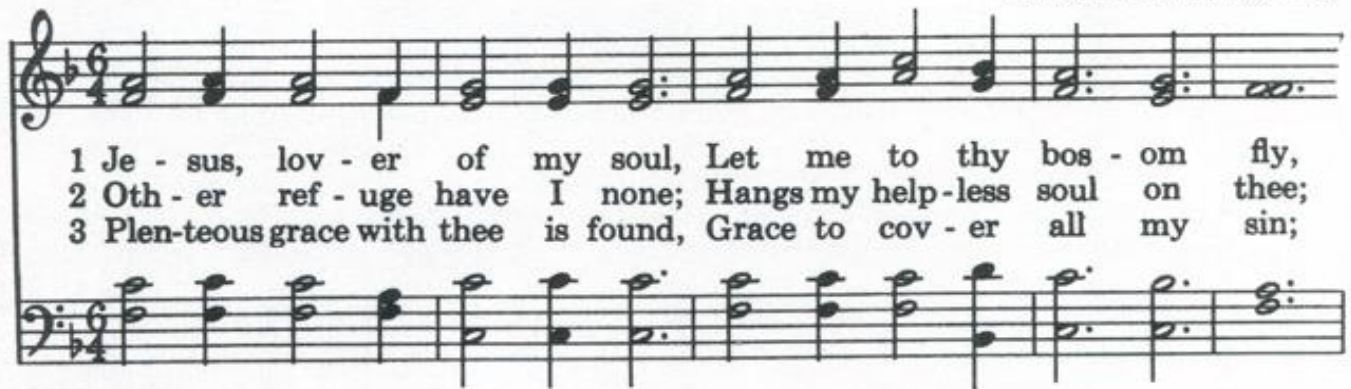


Joy, my heart, in this dear place: here I see God face to face.
Here at home, with - in my breast— I, your tem - ple, rich - ly blessed.
Take my praise, how - ev - er flawed, as an of - fering, wor - thy God.
Let me prove a stalk of wheat, when your har - vest is com - plete.

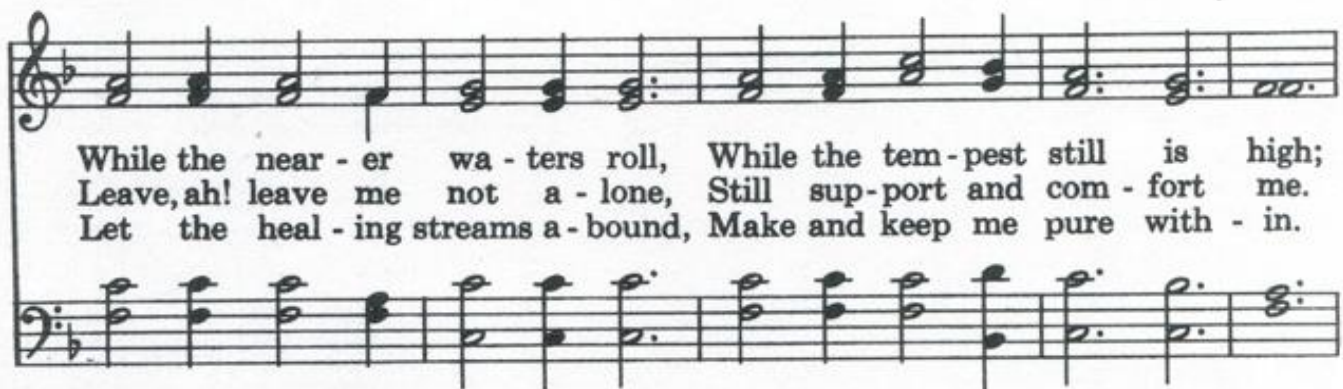
Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

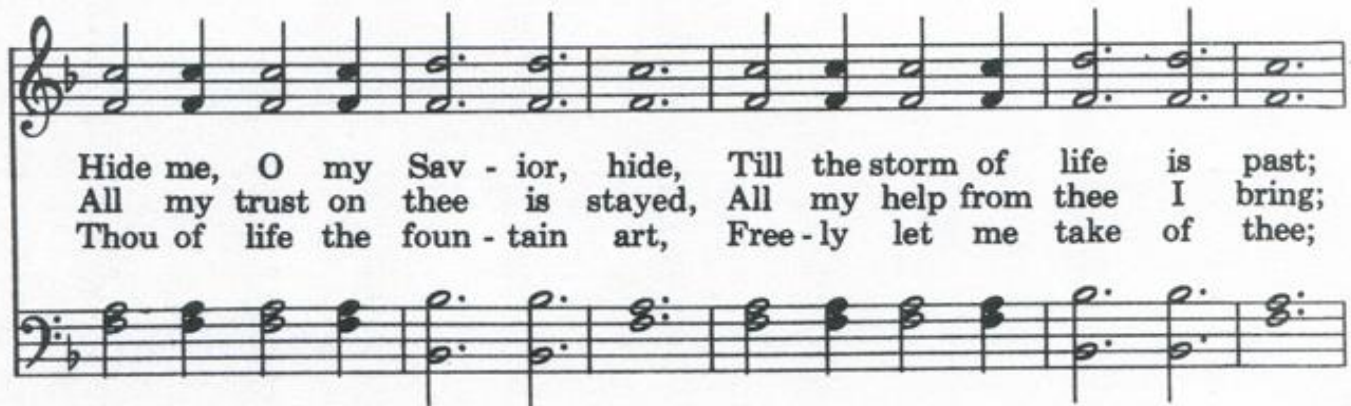
MARTYN .7.7.7.D.
Simeon B. Marsh, 1798-1875



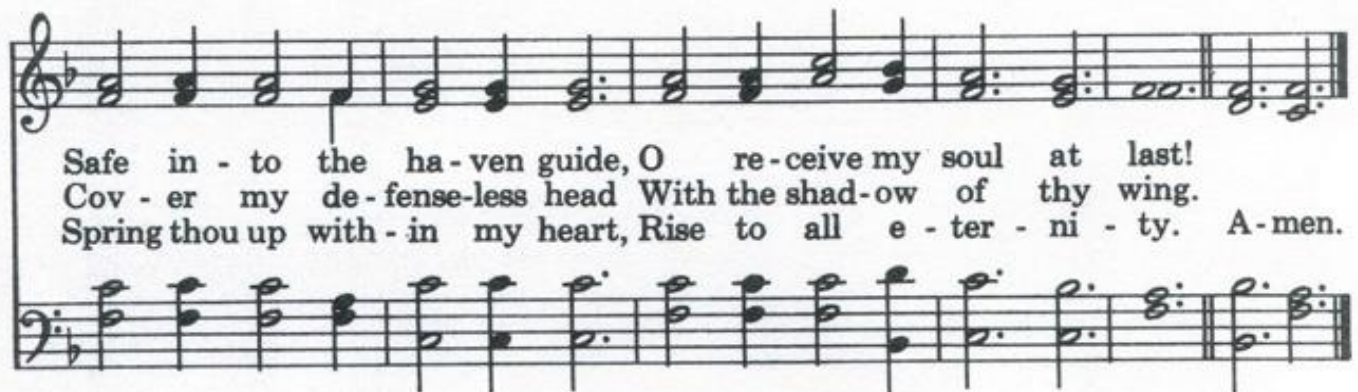
1 Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, Let me to thy bos - om fly,
2 Oth - er ref - uge have I none; Hangs my help - less soul on thee;
3 Plen - teous grace with thee is found, Grace to cov - er all my sin;



While the near - er wa - ters roll, While the tem - pest still is high;
Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, Still sup - port and com - fort me.
Let the heal - ing streams a - bound, Make and keep me pure with - in.



Hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, Till the storm of life is past;
All my trust on thee is stayed, All my help from thee I bring;
Thou of life the foun - tain art, Free - ly let me take of thee;

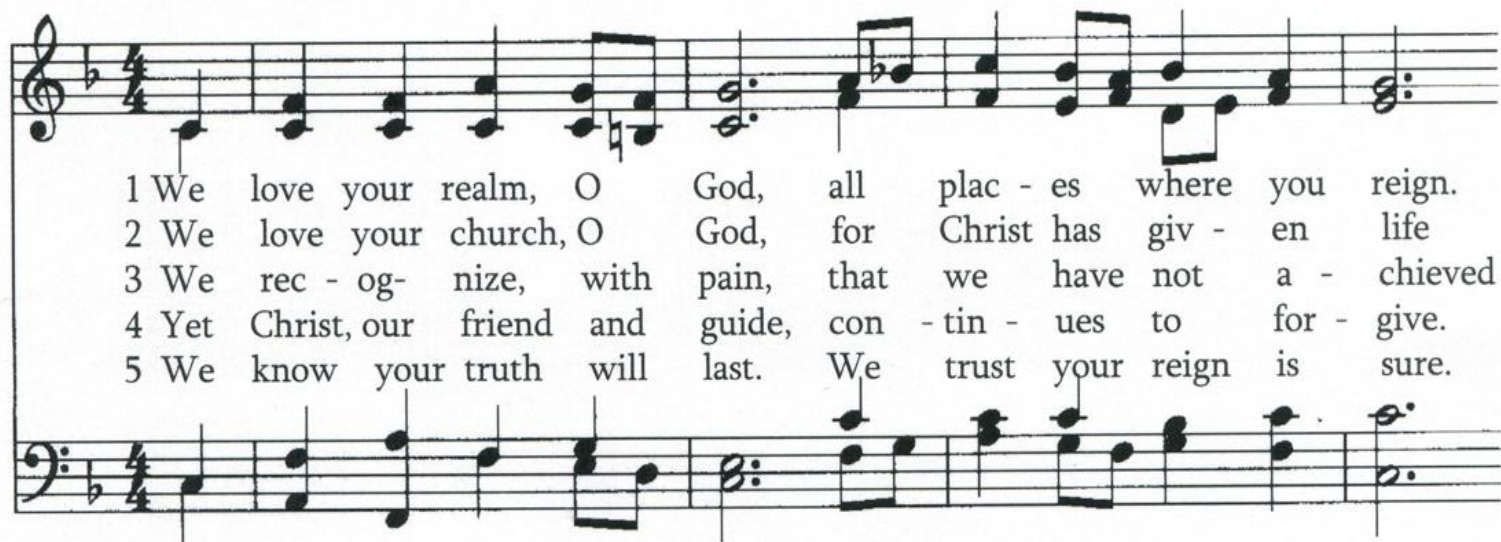


Safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!
Cov - er my de - fense - less head With the shad - ow of thy wing.
Spring thou up with - in my heart, Rise to all e - ter - ni - ty. A - men.

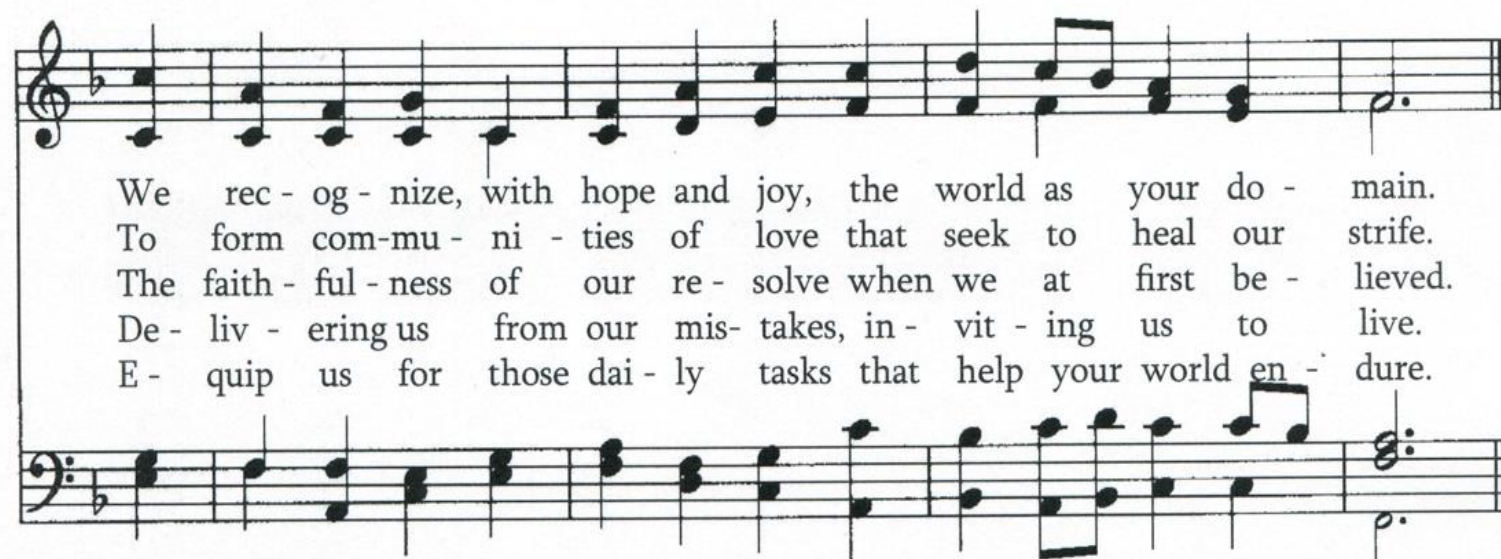
We Love Your Realm, O God

Timothy Dwight, 1801

Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992



1 We love your realm, O God, all places where you reign.
2 We love your church, O God, for Christ has given life
3 We recognize, with pain, that we have not achieved
4 Yet Christ, our friend and guide, continues to forgive.
5 We know your truth will last. We trust your reign is sure.



We recognize, with hope and joy, the world as your domain.
To form communities of love that seek to heal our strife.
The faithfulness of our resolve when we at first believed.
Delivering us from our mistakes, inviting us to live.
Equip us for those daily tasks that help your world endure.

Please join us for coffee hour following today's service in Fellowship Hall.



The Flowers today are given by Dave Luce,
In loving memory of Sue Luce and Evan Luce.

Prayer Requests for October 8, 2023

At home...

Mark Wilson

Connie Henry

In nursing homes...

Sam Wright
David Ferris

In assisted living...

Trina
Tom Jones

Joan Phillips
Ernestine Machesney
Jane Collins

Away...

C V Noyes

Ellie and George Patterson

Sick, in the hospital or rehabilitation...

Shawn Stanford

Recovering from illness or surgery...

George Perkins

Grieving...

Family of Devon Arnett
Family of Jane Collins

Thanksgivings...

The Pastoral Search Committee

Special concerns...

For the people in the paths of storms and fires

Emergency responders / Health care workers / Essential workers...

Praise God for our partnership with WHPW and Channel 14!

Please keep those named above in your prayers. If you have any questions, or would like others to be prayed for, please contact Susan Ferris, Chairperson of our Prayer Circle.
Susan can be reached at 666-3247 or sueherb@myfairpoint.net.

Thank You

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

The Congregational Council has started to develop a five-year strategic plan that will provide a framework for the Church's mission and activities moving forward.

In an effort to be as inclusive as possible in the process and to give everyone in the Church an opportunity to participate and offer suggestions and ideas of how they would like to see the Church function over the next five years, the Council is encouraging everyone to think about their ideas for our priorities and how we allocate our resources so that the Church remains vibrant and relevant for it's members and the community - what is our role in the community, with each other, and with God?

We encourage you to think about these things and talk with members of the Congregational Council at the coffee hour on October 8th following the worship service.

If you are unable to attend in-person, feel free to contact any member of the Congregational Council directly.

Thank you for your time and consideration as we make the effort to define a path forward that advances our Church's mission and enhances its relevance for each of us, our community and our World.

Your Congregational Council,

Ashley Braley	Nancy Hurst
Carrie Bubier	Gail Johnson
Linda Clement	Ned Pierce
Joe Connolly	Nancy Simboli
Carol Coultas	Eric Wohltjen
Kay Greenwood	

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

In keeping with our 4-part program of supplying needed items for the current Tedford Shelters, October will be the month we have selected to contribute: **TOILETRIES AND PERSONAL ITEMS.** Among the list are:

Razors and Shaving Cream	Mouthwash
Shampoos	Toothbrushes
Body Washes and Soaps	Kleenex and Toilet Tissue
Deodorants	

(Items should be Full Size, not the sample or travel size)

This should be a fun and quick request to fill, although the housewares was so very rewarding to see EKC's creativity and generosity in action.

Thank you,
Your Board of Missions

CALLING ALL BAKERS, PRESERVERS AND CANDY-MAKERS!

Our annual Christmas by the Sea Fair is swiftly approaching (November 4). Your help is needed to stock our Country Goods section. Have you been canning your garden's bounty? Making jams and jellies? We are looking for preserves and more. Baked goods of all kinds: breads, muffins, cakes, pies, cookies and brownies. Fudge! Toffee! A basket will be outside the church office to collect the labeled jars of preserves and jellies. Baked goods will be accepted in the days just before the big event.

Contact Becky Gallery (833-6159) or Krista Hinman (860-670-3467) for more information.

Thank you for helping support our fair!

On-Line Auction & Holiday Fair

In preparation for the on-line auction part of the 2023 EKC Holiday Fair, we are soliciting donations that can be posted on the auction website for bidding. The auction will open on October 20th at 5PM and bidding will close on November 1 at 8PM.

If you'd like to make a donation,
please contact one of us.

Thank you!

Patty Carrier, Pat Myer, Rob Porter,
and Allen Tucker
(the on-line auction committee)

Christmas by the Sea
Holiday Fair
at Elijah Kellogg Church
Saturday, November 4
9 am - 2 pm
Handmade Crafts
Treasures
Country Store & Baked Goods
Luncheon 11 am - 1 pm
Lobster Rolls, Fish Chowder, Egg
Salad Sandwiches & Pie!
Credit Cards Accepted!
Online Auction
October 20 - November 1
The link for the auction is:
auctria.events/2023EKCHolidayFair
Location: 917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell FMI: 833-6026

ATTENTION - Mold Remediation Update

In less than 2 short weeks Mold Remediation in the basement will commence. October 16th is the date for Mold Bros., the company chosen, to start the cleaning process in the entire basement.

In the limited time we have left, please focus on the areas where certain boards and committees may still have WANTED items to be stored in plastic containers. Empty containers can be found in the barn.

This last concerted effort to organize all wanted items that may STILL be left is only beneficial financially for the church. Any items left unaccounted for and not in plastic containers will be considered unwanted. A few exceptions will be considered.

Some of us have worked VERY HARD on clearing out unwanted items this past year, which have been discarded, or moved to the barn, or somewhere else.

Thank you for your understanding,
Dave Fitzgerald