



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

November 26, 2023

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION — “The church seeking renewal must look beyond simply improving its programs and building.... What’s renewed in congregational renewal is the people’s understanding of their relationship with God, their community and their sense of calling.” — Dan Smith, author of *Pathway to Renewal*

“Praying is no easy matter. It demands a relationship in which you allow someone other than yourself to enter into the very center of your person, to see there what you would rather leave in darkness, and to touch there what you would rather leave untouched.” — Henri J. M. Nouwen

“Whenever I groan within myself and think how hard it is to keep writing about love in these times of tension and strife which may at any moment become for us all a time of terror, I think to myself, ‘What else is the world interested in?’ What else do we all want, each one of us, except to love and be loved, in our families, in our work, in all our relationships. God is Love. Love casts out fear.” — Dorothy Day

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace...

* Call to Worship —

ONE: Like a shepherd searching for lost sheep, God calls us.

MANY: God reaches out to all.

ONE: We come in need of healing, seeking a blessing.

MANY: We come, above all else, to worship and to give thanks for the steadfast love of God is real.

Prayer of Invocation

* **HYMN** — *We Gather Together* 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 — Ephesians 1:15-23 [ILV]

[15] From the time I first heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love toward all the holy ones— this... this is the reason [16] I have never ceased to give thanks, never stopped thanking God for you, as I remember you in my prayers. [17] I pray that the glorious God of our Savior Jesus, the Christ, will give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation to bring you to a rich knowledge of the Creator.

[18] I pray that God will enlighten the eyes of your mind and the eyes of your heart and that you can see the hope which this call holds for you— the promised glories that the holy ones of God will inherit, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness, the infinitely great power that is exercised for those of us who believe. You can tell this from the strength of the power of God at work in Jesus, [20] the power used when God raised Christ from the dead to seat Christ in heaven at the right hand of God, [21] far above every ruler, every sovereign, every authority, every power, every dominion, and above every name that can be named— not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] God has put all things under the feet of Christ and has made Christ the head over all things and the head of the church, [23] which is the body of Christ— indeed, this is the fullness of the One who fills all creation.

* **HYMN** — *Blessed Be the Tie that Binds* INSERT

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS — Matthew 25:31-46 [ILV]

{Jesus said} “At the appointed time the Promised One will come in glory, escorted by all the angels of heaven and will sit on the throne of glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered there and the Promised One will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. [33] The sheep will be placed on the right hand and the goats on the left.”

[34] “Then the ruler will say to those on the right, ‘Come, you, blessed by my *Abba*, God! Inherit the dominion prepared for you from the creation of the world! [35] For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and

you welcomed me; [36] I was naked and you gave me clothing; I was ill and you took care of me; I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ [37] Then these, who think themselves just will ask, ‘When did we see you hungry and feed you? And when did we see you thirsty and give you drink? [38] And when did we see you as a stranger and invite you in? And when did we see you naked and give you clothing? [39] And when did we see you sick or imprisoned and visit you?’”

[40] “And the ruler answered, ‘The truth is, every time you did this for the least of these who are members of my family, my brothers and sisters, you did it for me.’”

[41] “Then the ruler will say to those on the left, ‘Out of my sight you accursed ones! Into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and the fallen angels! [42] I was hungry and you gave me no food; I was thirsty and you gave me no drink; [43] I was a stranger and you gave me no welcome; I was naked and you gave me no clothing; I was ill or imprisoned and you did not visit me.’”

[44] “They then in turn will ask, ‘When was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ [45] The answer will come, ‘The truth is, as often as you neglected to do this for one of the least of these, you neglected to do it for me.’ [46] And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the just will go off to eternal life.”

SPECIAL MUSIC — *Open Thou Mine Eyes* (arr. Benjamin Harlan)

SERMON — *Relationship*

Piano Meditation —

Prayers of the People -

SILENCE

* **HYMN** — *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* INSERT, v. 1, 2, 3

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE —

Come, Ye Faithful People Come INSERT, v. 4

Postlude

Harpswell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM

Harpswell Community Television – Channel 14

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



The flowers today are given by Herb & Susan Ferris
in loving memory of their parents.

Serving you this morning:	
Interim Minister	Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Reader	Meghan Wakefield
Ushers	Chris McIntire & Dana McIntire
Coffee Hour	Hospitality

Pastor's Office Hours

Office hours for the week of November 27th
 Monday, November 27th from 9:00 - 11:00.

The Bible Study passage for Monday November 27th at 11:00 a.m. is:
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9.

Please join us for a fun free movie event!

ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH PRESENTS:

**FREE AFTERNOON
 FAMILY MOVIE EVENT**

PLEASE BRING OWN LUNCH

CINEMA
 CINEMA

FREE ENTRY

MARY POPPINS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2, 2023 | 11:30AM

THE ORIGINAL
MARY POPPINS
 FREE ENTRY | FREE DRINKS PROVIDED

BRING YOUR FRIENDS, CHILDREN, OR GRANDCHILDREN AND JOIN US FOR A FUN MOVIE EVENT! PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH. DRINKS & SNACKS ARE PROVIDED. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING A DISH TO SHARE IF YOU WOULD LIKE.

ELIJAH KELLOGG CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 917 HARPSWELL NECK ROAD, HARPSWELL, ME 04079

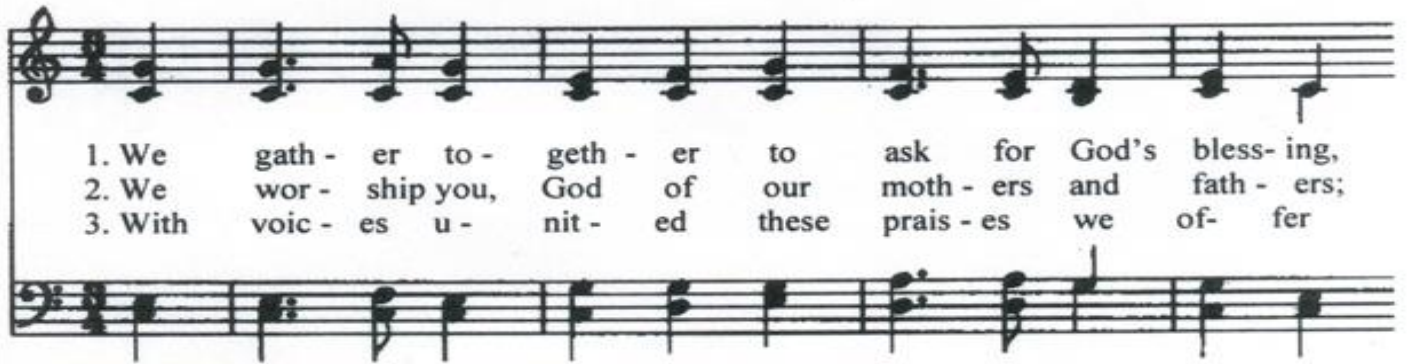
Drinks & snacks are provided.

Please bring your own lunch or bring a dish to share if you would like.

The event starts at 11:30am
 on December 2nd.
 The movie will begin at 12PM.

The Christian Education Board

We Gather Together



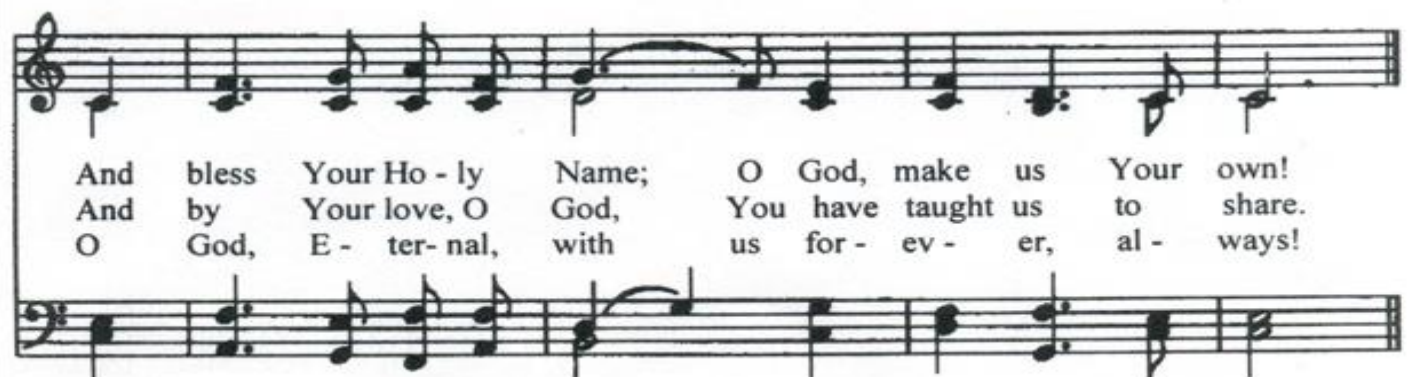
1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask for God's bless - ing,
2. We wor - ship you, God of our moth - ers and fath - ers;
3. With voic - es u - nit - ed these prais - es we of - fer



Who hast - ens and chas - tens one will to make known.
Through life's storm and temp - est Your guid - ance is there.
And glad - ly this song of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We come now be - fore You; we kneel and a - dore You,
Though per - ils o're take us You ne - ver will for - sake us
Your wis - dom as - tounds us; Your lov - ing grace sur - rounds us,



And bless Your Ho - ly Name; O God, make us Your own!
And by Your love, O God, You have taught us to share.
O God, E - ter - nal, with us for - ev - er, al - ways!

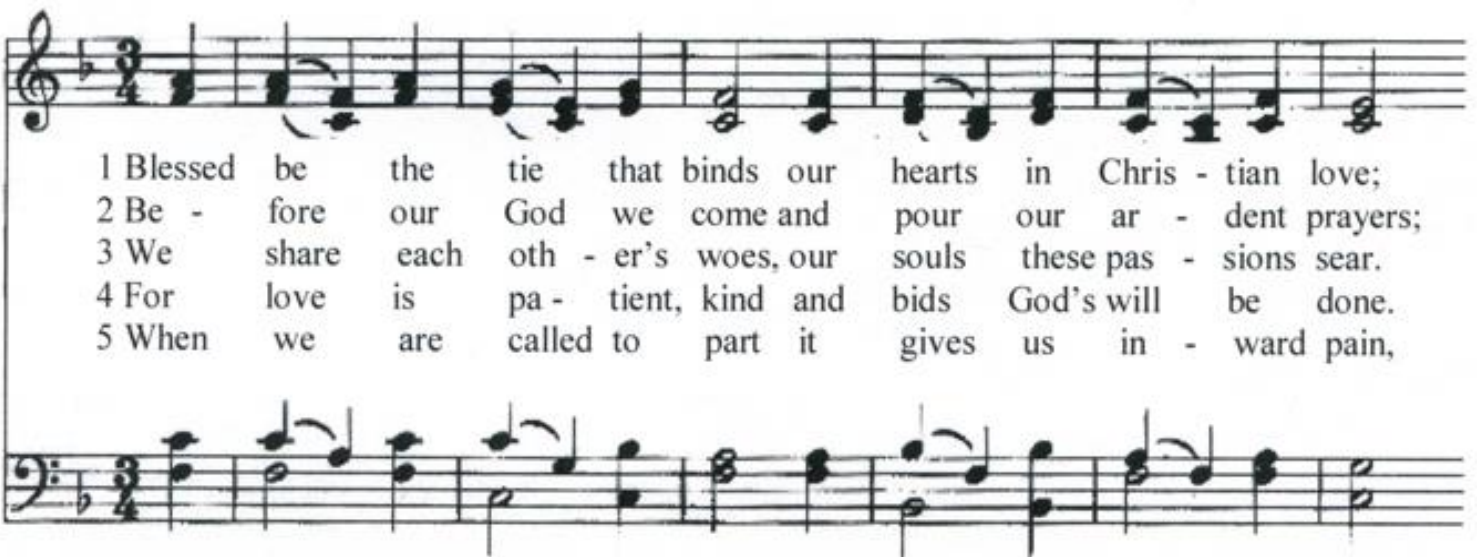
Women's Fellowship December 5, 2023

The next meeting of the Women's Fellowship will be on December 5, 2023 at 11:00 in Fellowship Hall. This is our annual Christmas party and meeting. All women are invited to attend. Please bring an appetizer to share and a gift for the grab bag. The theme for the grab bag gift is a cookbook you no longer use or want. Just wrap it up and someone else will find new joy or ideas for cooking! Dessert and drinks will be provided.

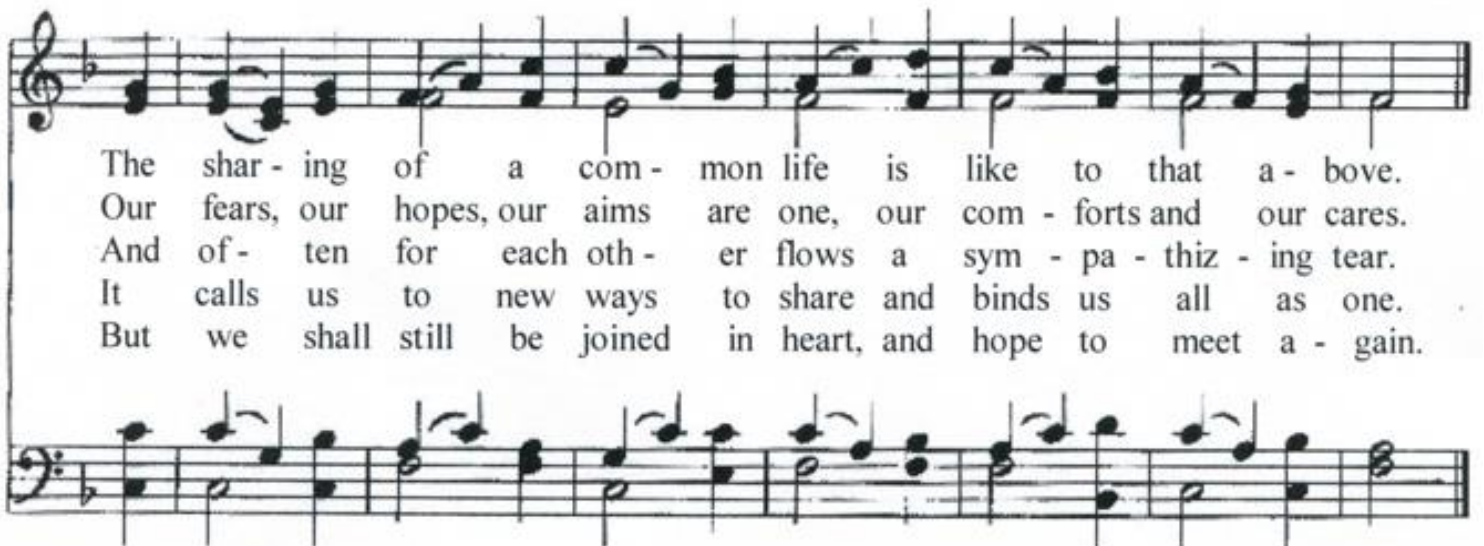
Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15; 1 Cor. 1:



1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share each oth - er's woes, our souls these pas - sions sear.
4 For love is pa - tient, kind and bids God's will be done.
5 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,



The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
It calls us to new ways to share and binds us all as one.
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

An English Baptist minister, John Fawcett published a number of poetic works. His entire ministry was spent at a church near Ilkeden Bridge, Yorkshire, where he wrote most of his hymns to follow his sermons.

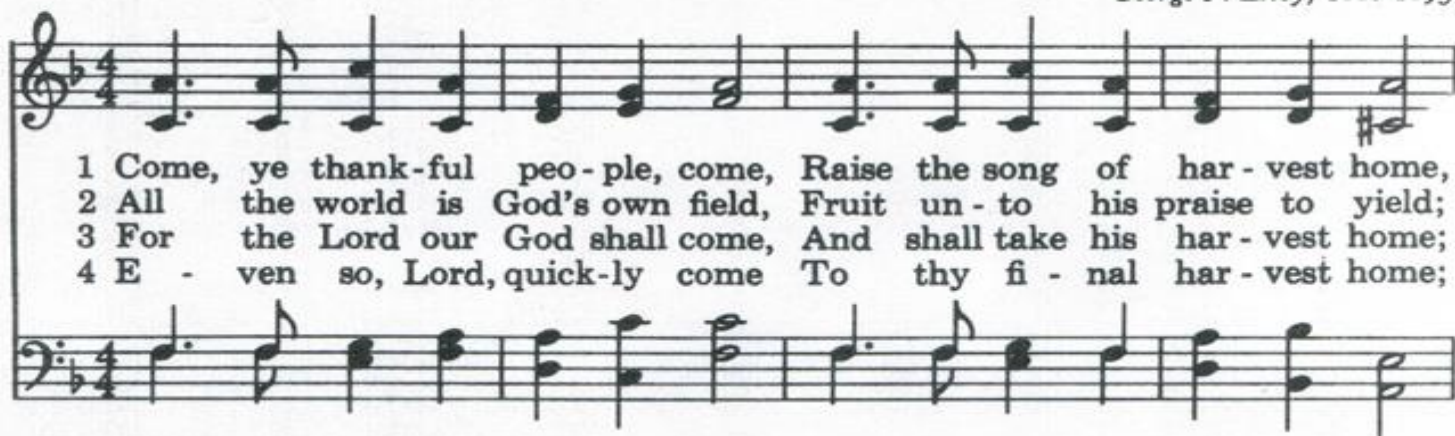
Tune: DENNIS S.M.
Melody by Johann G. Nügel (c. 1768-1836)
Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

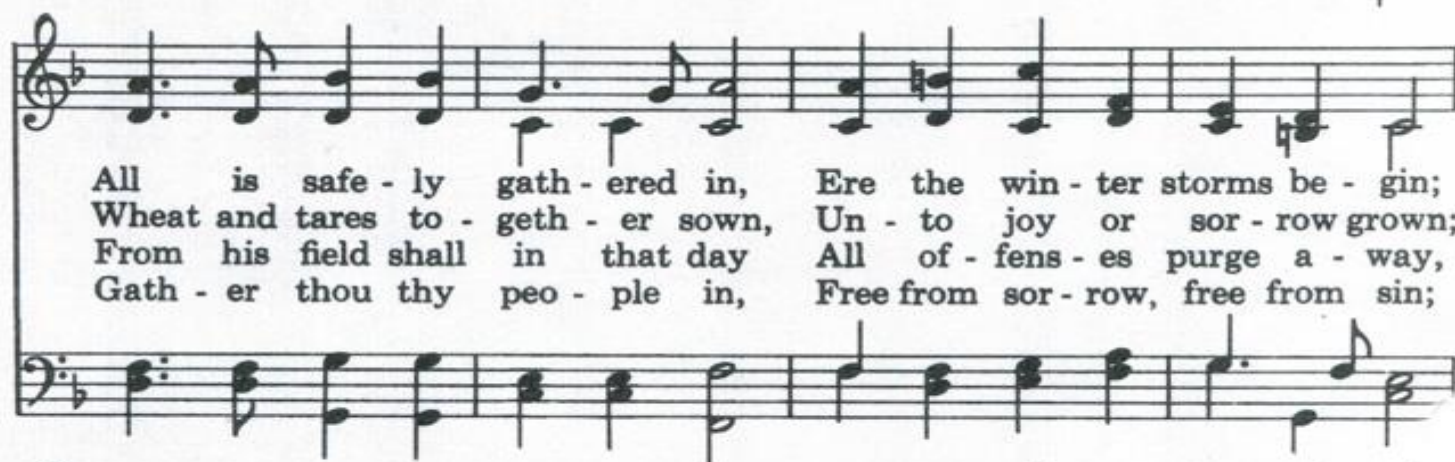
Henry Alford, 1810-1871

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR 7.7.7.7.D.

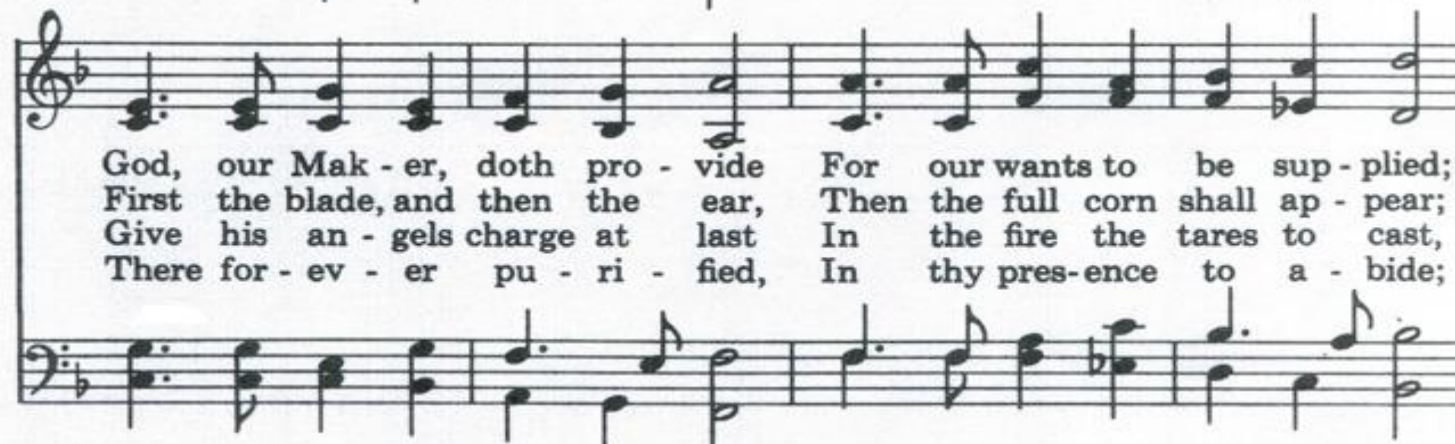
George J. Elvey, 1816-1893



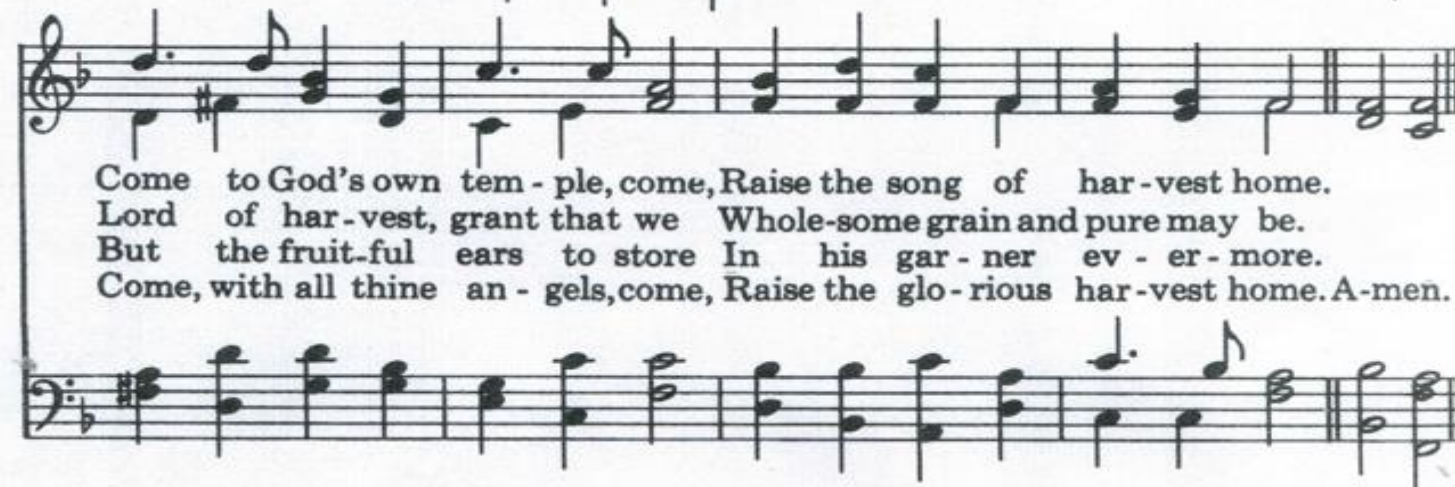
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, Raise the song of har-vest home,
2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take his har-vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick-ly come To thy fi - nal har-vest home;



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, Ere the win - ter storms be - gin;
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown;
From his field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,
Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, Free from sor - row, free from sin;



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied;
First the blade, and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear;
Give his an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
There for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, In thy pres - ence to a - bide;



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, Raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har-vest, grant that we Whole-some grain and pure may be.
But the fruit-ful ears to store In his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har-vest home. A - men.

Prayer Requests for November 26, 2023

At home...

Bill Menz
Connie Henry

Pat Moody

Mark Wilson

In nursing homes...

Sam Wright
David Ferris

In assisted living...

Gary Anderson
Ernestine Machesney

Tom Jones
Joan Phillips

Away...

Richard Haley

C V Noyes

George Patterson

Sick, in the hospital or rehabilitation...

Recovering from illness or surgery...

Clara Braley

Nancy Simboli

George Perkins

Grieving...

Family of Ellie Patterson
The families of the Lewiston shootings

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

Wanted ** Advertising Person

After a couple of years of doing the advertising for church events, activities and suppers, I am ready to pass the baton to someone else. I have completed the ad for our upcoming Christmas Services with the Anchor, and will be ready to work with someone to start off the New Year! Please contact me if you are interested, and I have good notes to pass along to our new person.

Thank you,
Carrie Bubier

Moment for Missions

Angel Tree - Our Angels are on the tree and all gifts must be returned by December 3rd. **Please remember that they are to be unwrapped and your Angel tag needs to be included within your bag of gifts.** If you have any questions on procedures, please contact Carrie Bubier.

Missions Donations for the month of November - Your Board of Missions was able to disburse funds totaling \$1400 for the month of November, due to the generous pre-payment of Mission pledges.

Monies went to:

MCHPP (The Food Bank)	\$400
The Salvation Army (For gift cards and unfilled requests)	\$400
The Gathering Place (Serving many homeless needs)	\$300
Church World Service (1st time we've supplemented additional blankets)	\$300

Food Bank (MCCHP)

The food bank has notified us of the following needs to restock their shelves:

- Canned Stew or Canned Pastas, ie., Chef Boyardee, Spaghettios, etc.
- Hearty Canned Soups (like Progresso)
- Spaghetti or Pasta Sauces
- Toilet Tissue

(Might we suggest some additional foodstuffs in line with the Thanksgiving holiday? Cranberry juice boxes, cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, canned green beans or peas.) Instant puddings or Jello could be festive.

Thank you,
Your busy Missions Board

Poinsettia Order

2023



Our Church will be decorated with a grand array of poinsettias for Christmas.

If you wish to donate a plant to decorate the church, please complete this form and either place it in the Flower Committee mailbox or give it to a Flower Committee member.

The cost of each poinsettia plant will be \$13.00. Checks should be made payable to: Elijah Kellogg Church, and should be received by noon, Wednesday, December 13th.

Please note, no orders will be accepted after this date.

You can pick up your poinsettia in the sanctuary after the Christmas services.

If you are not able to do so, please have someone pick it up for you.

I would like to have _____ plant(s) to beautify the sanctuary.

Poinsettia color choice: Red _____

White _____

Pink _____

Wreath Donation \$ _____

Please list in the bulletin as follows:

In Loving memory of:

In Honor of:

Given by: _____ Phone# _____

Email: _____

As in the past, you may choose to contribute to the cost of the wreaths hanging on the church doors. Fill out the above and send along with your donation of \$10.00.

For information, please contact a Flower Committee member: Susan Anderson, Linda Clement, Elizabeth Dyer, Becky Gallery, or Judith Stanton

Thank you!