



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

12/17/2023

Third Sunday of Advent

The Sunday in Advent on Which We Commemorate Love

Music Sunday

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION — “All music is folk music. I ain’t never heard no horse sing a song.” — Louis “Satchmo” Armstrong

“Words make you think a thought. Music makes you feel a feeling. But a song makes you feel a thought.” — Harold Arlen, composer of *Over the Rainbow*

“Music... can name the un-namable and communicate the unknowable.” — Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990), composer, conductor.

“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.” — Martin Luther

Welcome and Announcements

ADDRESSING MISSION — Mary Malia from the College Guild

Passing of the Peace...

* Call to Worship —

CANTICLE

O God of Love, show us Your way,
Let love be now our guide, we pray.
Let joy and hope and peace abide,
O God of love be at our side.

ONE: Through the prophets, God promised a Messiah. We are in awe of the birth of Jesus, the incarnation, the Word of God made flesh, God’s message of the in-breaking of the fulness of the will of God into our world. Jesus came to us as a weak and vulnerable baby, the one called Emmanuel. The name Emmanuel means “God is with us.” And surely, the love of God visits us in the presence of Jesus, the Messiah.

ALL: The first Advent candle reminded us to have hope for a better world. The second reminded us that God’s dreams for peace can become real in our world. The third candle reminds us when we show forth the love of God to each person we meet the possibilities of hope and peace become tangible, real.

Prayer of Invocation

* HYMN — *Sing All Creation* 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

Prayers of the People - PETITIONS AND SILENCES

* HYMN — *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* INSERT

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE SCROLL OF THE TWELVE — Micah 5:2-5a [ILV]

[2] “As for you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,”
says *Yahweh*, God,
“small as you are among
the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for Me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.”

ANTHEM — *We Are Waiting*
Words by Sally K. Albrecht and Charles Wesley
Music by Jay Althouse

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

The assigned lectionary readings for Advent are both wonderful and challenging. This is a section of one of those assigned readings from the Scroll of the Prophet Isaiah.

A READING FROM THE SCROLL OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH —
Isaiah 61: 8-9

[50] Your mercy reaches from age to age
for those who are in awe of You
from generation to generation.
[51] You have shown strength with Your arm;
You have scattered the proud
in the thoughts of their hearts,
in their conceit.
[52] You have brought down
the powerful,
deposed the mighty
from their thrones,
and raised the lowly to high places;
[53] You have filled the hungry
with good things,
while You have sent
the rich away empty.
[54] You have helped,
have come to the aid
of Your servant, Israel,
mindful of Your mercy—
[55] Your mercy— which is the promise
You made to our ancestors,
to Sarah and to Abraham—
and to their descendants forever.”

* **HYMN** — *Out of God's Great Love Begotten* INSERT

SPECIAL MUSIC — *An Die Musik (To Music)* By Franz Schubert
Duet - Kate Gray, violin - Elizabeth Cromwell, piano

Note: if the lyric to this music was sung today, these would be the words:

Beloved art, in how many a bleak hour,
when I am enmeshed in life's tumultuous round,
have you kindled my heart to the warmth of love,
and borne me away to a better world!

Often a sigh, escaping from your harp,
a sweet, celestial chord
has revealed to me a heaven of happier times.
Beloved art, for this I thank you!

* **HYMN** — *When in Our Music God Is Glorified* INSERT, v. 1, 2, 3

A READING FROM THE TALMUD AND A BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE —

When in Our Music God Is Glorified INSERT, v. 4

Postlude

Harpswell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM

Harpswell Community Television – Channel 14

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

Serving you this morning:	
Interim Minister	Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Ushers	Carol Coultas & Ken Chutchian
Advent Liturgy Readers	Joe Goldman & Claudia Hagg
Coffee Hour	Jane Faulkner & Becky Marcos

Pastor's Office Hours

Office hours for the week of December 18th

Monday, December 18th from 9:00 - 11:00.

The Bible Study passage for Monday December 18th at 11:00 a.m. is:

Luke 1:26-38, 47-55



Christmas Service Schedule

Sunday, December 24th

10:AM – Regular Weekly Service

7:PM – Christmas Eve Service

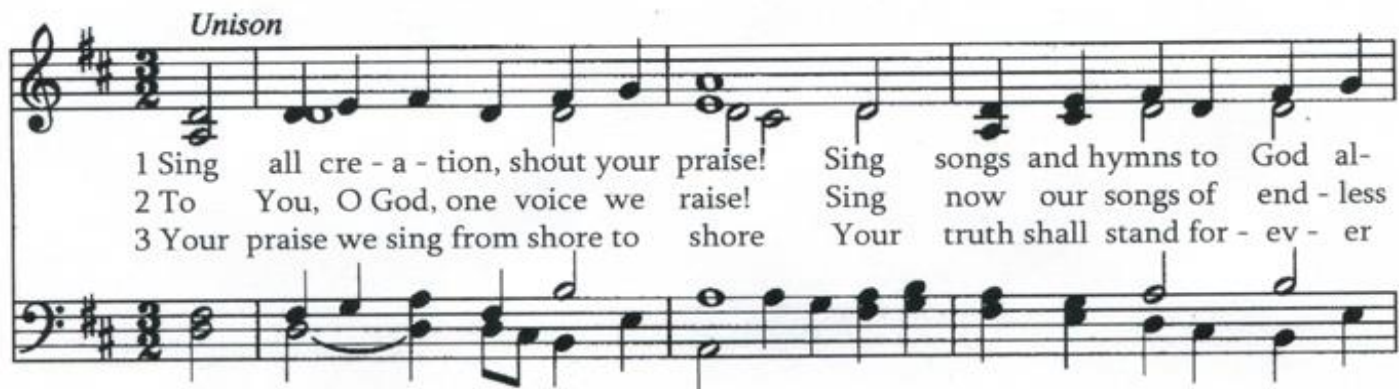
11:PM – Christmas Eve Service



Sing All Creation

© J. F. Connolly 2010

Unison



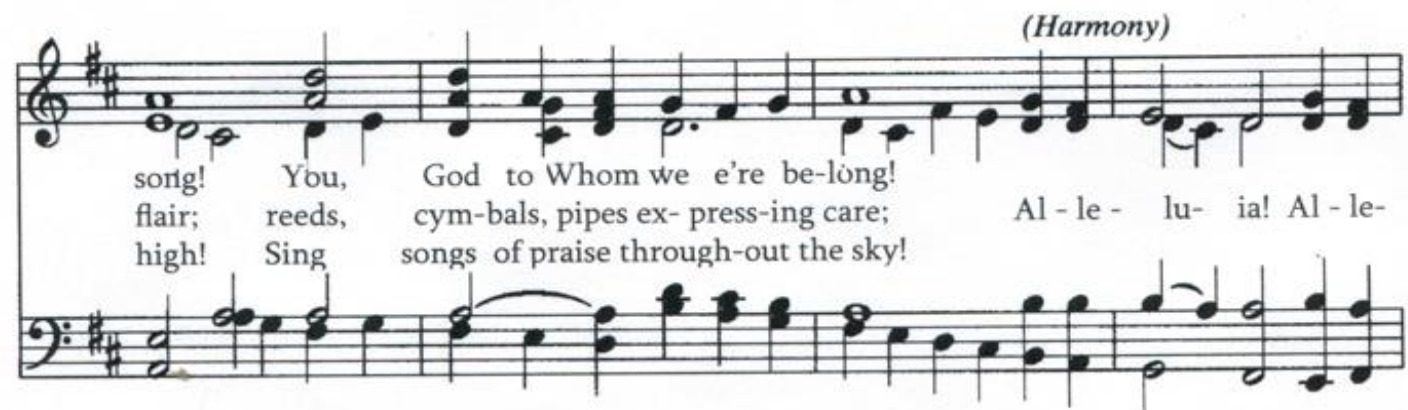
1 Sing all cre - a - tion, shout your praise! Sing songs and hymns to God al-
2 To You, O God, one voice we raise! Sing now our songs of end - less
3 Your praise we sing from shore to shore Your truth shall stand for - ev - er

(Harmony) *(Unison)*



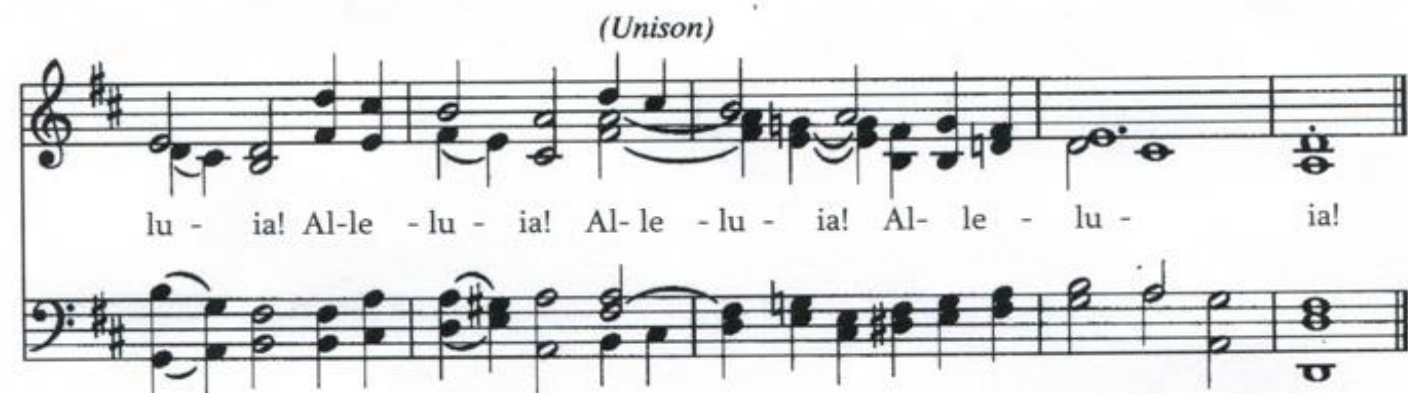
ways! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You Who em - pow - er us with
praise! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing horns and strings, you trum - pets
more! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing Ang - els — notes both low and

(Harmony)



song! You, God to Whom we e're be-long! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
flair; reeds, cym-bals, pipes ex - press - ing care;
high! Sing songs of praise through-out the sky!

(Unison)



lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



The flowers on the communion table are from the Gallery family
to celebrate the season.

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Attr. to George Croyly, 1780-1860

MORECAMBE 10.10:10.10.
Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; Wean it from earth, through
2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies, No sud - den rend - ing
3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King? All, all thine own: soul,
4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh; Teach me the strug - gles
5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love, One ho - ly pas - sion

all its puls - es move; Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
of the veil of clay, No an - gel vis - it - ant, no o - pening skies,
heart, and strength, and mind; I see thy cross - there teach my heart to cling;
of the soul to bear: To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
fill - ing all my frame; The bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove.

And make me love thee as I ought to love.
But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
My heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame. A - men.

O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

Washington Gladden, 1836-1918

MARYTON L.M.
H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee In low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear,
3 Teach me thy pa - tience; still with thee In clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray Far down the

paths of serv - ice free; Tell me thy se - cret, help me
win - ning word of love; Teach me the way - ward feet to
dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith sweet and
fu - ture's broad - ening way, In peace that on - ly thou canst

bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.
stay, And guide them in the home - ward way.
strong, In trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
give, With thee, O Mas - ter, let me live. A - men.

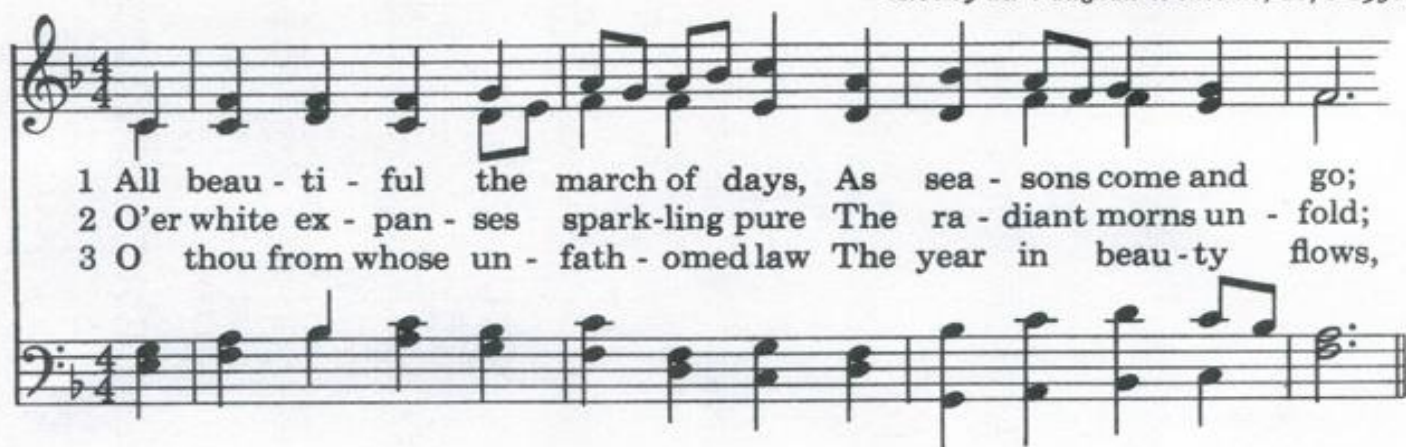
All Beautiful the March of Days

Frances W. Wile, 1878-1939

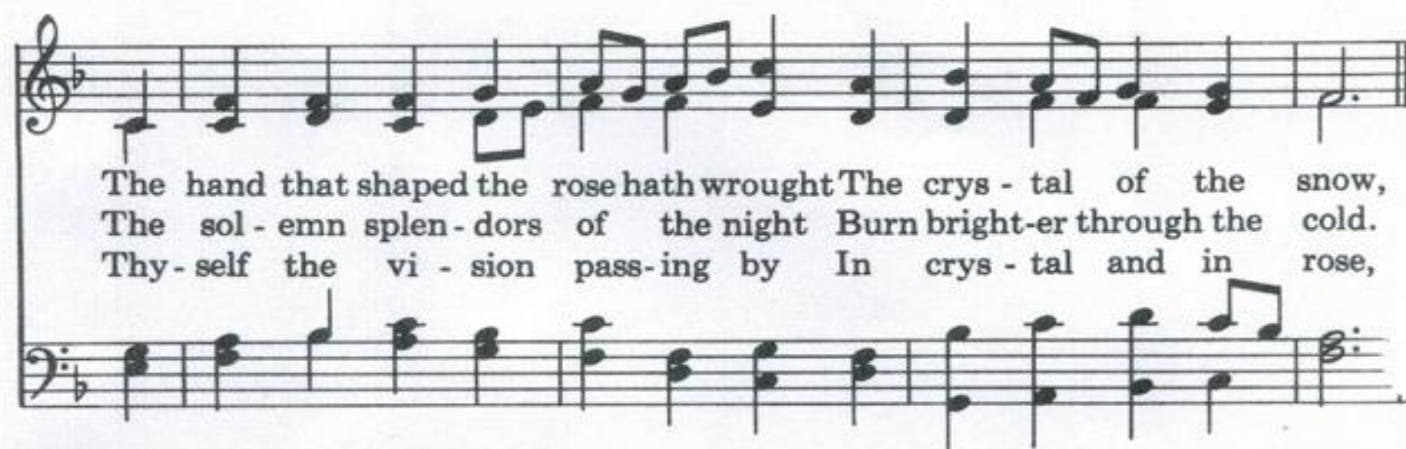
FOREST GREEN C.M.D.

Traditional English Melody

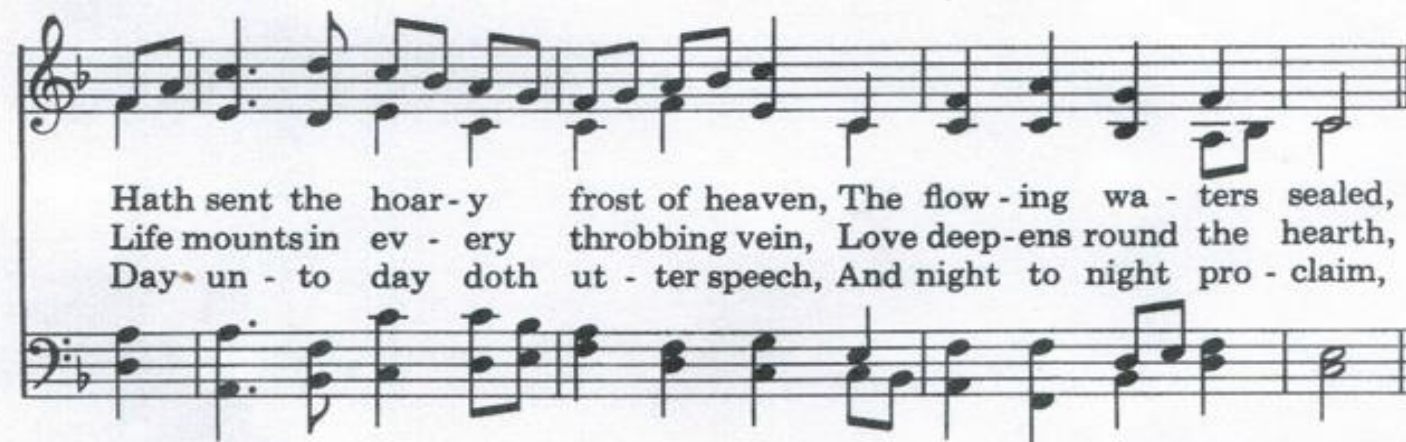
Arr. by R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958



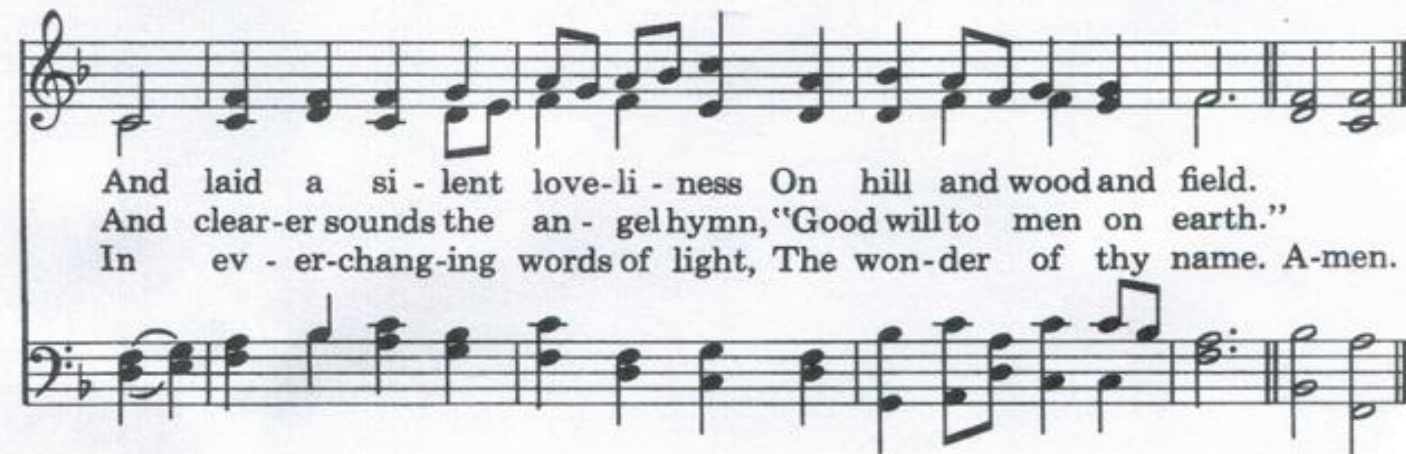
1 All beau - ti - ful the march of days, As sea - sons come and go;
2 O'er white ex - pan - ses spark-ling pure The ra - diant morns un - fold;
3 O thou from whose un - fath - omed law The year in beau - ty flows,



The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought The crys - tal of the snow,
The sol - emn splen - dors of the night Burn bright - er through the cold.
Thy - self the vi - sion pass - ing by In crys - tal and in rose,

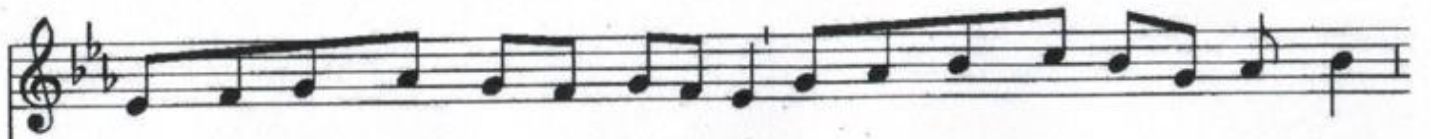


Hath sent the hoar - y frost of heaven, The flow - ing wa - ters sealed,
Life mounts in ev - ery throbbing vein, Love deep - ens round the hearth,
Day un - to day doth ut - ter speech, And night to night pro - claim,



And laid a si - lent love - li - ness On hill and wood and field.
And clear - er sounds the an - gel hymn, "Good will to men on earth."
In ev - er - chang - ing words of light, The won - der of thy name. A - men.

Out of God's Great Love Begotten



1 Out of God's great love be-got - ten When the worlds were yet to be
2 By Whose Word was all cre-a - ted, By Whose Word were all things done;
3 At the dawn-ing of cre-a - tion There the Word was blessed with grace
4 We be-hold the One whom pro - phets Have fore-told for a - ges, long--
5 Depths and heights break forth in sing-ing, Ang-els, saints make mel -o -dy,



God the Al-pha and O - meg - a, God through-out e - ter - ni - ty,
Land and air and deep-est o - cean; God who is both three and one;
Now in eath-ly flesh re-ceiv - ing -- Tak -ing on a mort-al face;
Wit-nessed to through-out the Scrip-ture, There de-scribed in an-cient song
And the hills their prais-es ring - ing, Make new psalms in ec - sta - sy;





Source of all that is and has been,
God Whose spir - it shines much bright - er
So the light of God is with us,
Now the Prom - ised One ap - pears!
Let no heart re - frain from prais - ing,



God of all things yet to be, For - ev - er and for - ev - er.
Than the light from stars and sun, For - ev - er and for - ev - er.
Comes to save the hu - man race, For - ev - er and for - ev - er.
Let all earth its praise pro - long, For - ev - er and for - ev - er.
Cel - e - brate in har - mo - ny, For - ev - er and for - ev - er.



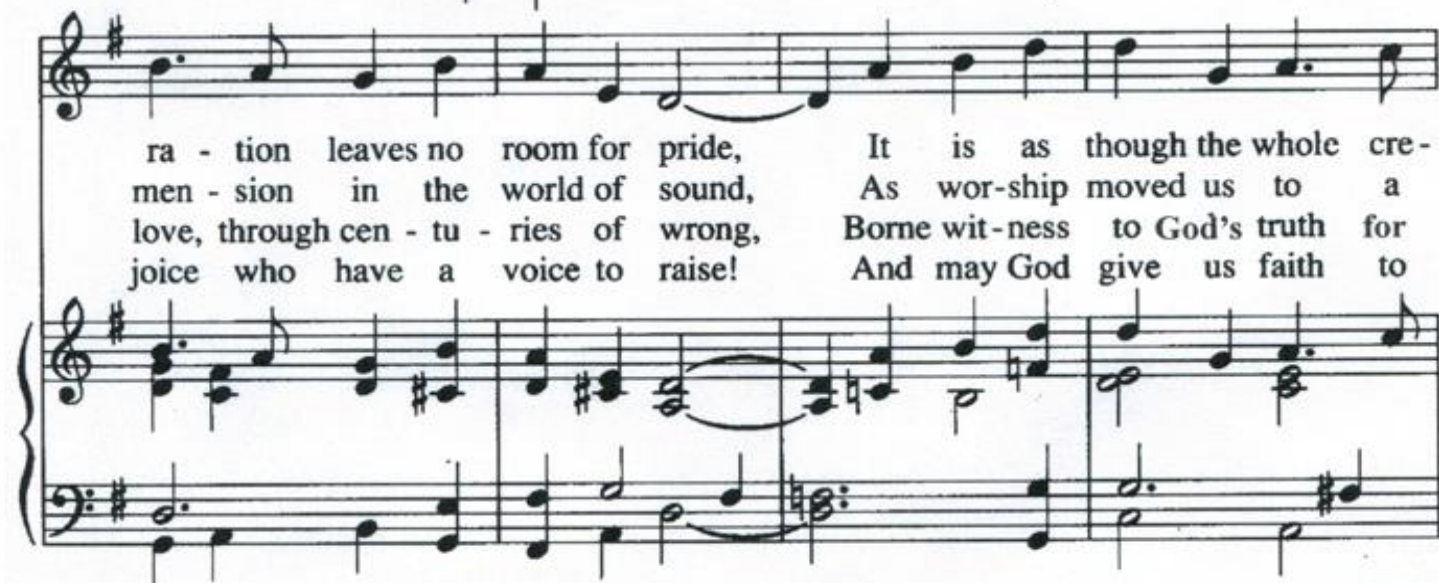
When in Our Music God Is Glorified

2 Chron. 5:11-14

Fred Pratt Green, 1972



1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied, and ad - o -
2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found a new di -
3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song, in faith and
4 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise! Let all re -



ra - tion leaves no room for pride, It is as though the whole cre -
men - sion in the world of sound, As wor - ship moved us to a
love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong, Borne wit - ness to God's truth for
joice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to



1-3 4
a - tion cried: Al - le - lu - ia!
more pro - found Al - le - lu - ia!
which we long. Al - le - lu - ia!
sing al - ways: Al - le - lu - ia!



1-3 4

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION ABOUT MUSIC

“Music... will help dissolve your perplexities and purify your character and sensibilities, and in time of care and sorrow, will keep a fountain of joy alive in you.” — Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace... to make music in the heart.” — Howard Thurman, American author, civil rights leader, and theologian (1899-1981)

“Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent.”
— Victor Hugo

“Every once in a while we have feelings so deep and so special that we have no words for them. Music names them for us, only in notes instead of in words. It’s all in the way music moves— we must never forget that music is movement, always going somewhere, shifting and changing, and flowing, from one note to another; and that movement can tell us more about the way we feel than a million words can.” — Leonard Bernstein, *Young People’s Concerts*— January 18th, 1958.

“Music is the most physically inspiring of all the arts” — Frank Zappa

“Music is God’s gift to man, the only art of Heaven given to earth, — the only art of earth we take to Heaven.” — Walter Savage Landor (1775 – 1864)

“If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away.” — Henry David Thoreau

“Alas for those who never sing, but die with all their music in them.” — Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

“Music is only love looking for words.” — Lawrence Durrell

“Music is the sole art which evokes nostalgia for the future.” — Ned Rorem

“Musicians don’t retire; they stop when there’s no more music in them.” — Louis Armstrong

“Jazz is the only music in which the same note can be played night after night but differently each time.” — Ornette Coleman

“To study music, we must learn the rules. To create music, we must forget them.” — Nadia Boulanger, teacher of music composition

“Good music is very close to primitive language.” — Denis Diderot, philosopher (1713-1784)

“Music, of all the arts, stands in a special region, unlit by any star but its own, and utterly without meaning... except its own.” — Leonard Bernstein

“So long as the human spirit thrives on this planet, music in some living form will accompany and sustain it and give it expressive meaning.” — Aaron Copland

“It is as impossible to translate poetry as it is to translate music.” — Voltaire, writer (1694-1778)

“We hide ourselves in our music to reveal ourselves.” — Rock Musician Jim Morrison.

“...talking about music is like dancing about architecture.” — Frank Zappa.

“There is something about music that keeps its distance even at the moment that it engulfs us. It is at the same time outside and away from us and inside and part of us. In one sense it dwarfs us, and in another we master it. We are led on and on, and yet in some strange way we never lose control.” — Aaron Copland, composer.

“A song without music is a lot like H² without the O.” — Ira Gershwin.

“The first condition for making music is not to make a noise.” — José Bergamín (1895–1983), Spanish writer.

“Utopians, puritans and totalitarians have always sought to regulate music, if not forbid it outright.” — Richard Taruskin, NY TIMES, 12/9/2001.

“Music hath charms to soothe a savage breast, / To soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.” — William Congreve, dramatist (1670-1729)

“Take a music bath once or twice a week for a few seasons, and you will find that it is to the soul what the water bath is to the body.” — Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., US Supreme Court Justice (1841-1935)

“Music is an important way for us to express praise and worship to God. It was instituted by God before the creation of the earth and is referred to some 839 times in the Bible. The Psalms, for instance, continually exhort us to ‘praise the Lord in song.’ Ask the Lord to give you a new song (noël) with which to honor God”. — from *Christ in the Carols* by Christopher and Melodie Lane

“The Church knew what the psalmist knew: music praises God. Music is well or better able to praise him than the building of the church and all its decoration; it is the Church’s greatest ornament.” — Igor Stravinsky, composer.

“Life is notes right underneath our fingers. All you’ve got to do is take the time to play the right notes.” — Ray Charles, musician

“When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace... to make music in the heart.” — Howard Thurman, American author, civil rights leader, and theologian (1899-1981)

“Prayer does not use up artificial energy, doesn’t burn up any fossil fuel, doesn’t pollute. Neither does song, neither does love, neither does the dance.” — Margaret Mead, in Jane Howard’s book, *Margaret Mead* (1984)

“Could there be anything more blessed than to imitate on earth the ring-dance of the angels and at dawn to raise our voices in prayer and by hymns and songs to glorify the rising Creator?” — St. Basil, Bishop of Caesarea (4th Century of the Common Era)

“One ought, every day at least, to hear a little song, read a good poem, see a fine picture, and if it were possible, to speak a few reasonable words.” — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

“A book is a story for the mind. A song is a story for the soul.” — Eric Pio, poet

“Those who wish to sing always find a song.” — Swedish proverb

“Old songs are more than tunes. They are little houses in which our hearts once lived.” — Ben Hecht, playwright

“No one imagines that symphony is supposed to improve as it goes along, or that the whole object of playing is to reach the finale. The point of music is discovered in every moment of playing and listening to it. It is the same, I feel, with the greater part of our lives, and if we are unduly absorbed in improving them we may forget altogether to live them.” — Alan Watts (1915-1973)

“Every man’s work, whether it be literature, or music or pictures or architecture or anything else, is always a portrait of himself.” — Samuel Butler (1612-1680)

“Music is capable of going directly to the source of the mystery. It doesn’t have to explain it. It can simply celebrate it” — Marsha Norman

“There is nothing more notable in Socrates than that he found time, when he was an old man, to learn music and dancing, and thought it time well spent.” — Michel de Montaigne

“A musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write, if he is to be ultimately at peace with himself.” — Abraham Maslow

“Music comes first from my heart, and then goes upstairs to my head where I check it out.” — Roberta Flack

“Nothing recalls the past like music.” — Madame de Stael, Corinne (1807)

“If you do not love what you do and do what you love, you have chosen mayhem over music.” — Wayne Dyer

“Mockingbirds don’t do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don’t eat up people’s gardens, don’t nest in corncribs, they don’t do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That’s why it’s a sin to kill a mockingbird.” — Harper Lee

“This World is not Conclusion. / A Sequel stands beyond— / Invisible, as Music— / But positive, as Sound.” — Emily Dickinson (1862)

Prayer Requests for December 17, 2023

At home...

Bill Menz

Mark Wilson

Connie Henry

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...

Dana Porter Carson

George Perkins

Grieving...

Family of Ellie Patterson

Thanksgivings...

The Pastoral Search Committee

Special concerns...

The School House 1913 fire victims Joseph Arena & Caroline Daniel

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

Santa Fund Drop-Off Location



Our church is now a drop-off location for gifts to be donated to the Harpswell Santa Fund. Gifts for all ages are needed. You will find the donation box in the hall near the church office.

The box will be here until Friday, December 22nd.

Board of Finance

We're making progress!



Dear friends, The Board of Finance is happy to report that we are more than halfway to our 2024 pledge goal. As of today, we have received **\$110,313** in pledges for 2024, a wonderful testament to the collective commitment of our members and friends to the work of the Elijah Kellogg Church. But we are still short of our goal of **\$150,000**. So please, if you haven't had a chance to fill out your pledge card yet, take the time to do so now. It will help the board immeasurably to have a strong sense of where we are financially as we enter the New Year. Fingers crossed, we will be in a position to welcome a new settled minister next year and we hope to make him or her comfortable with a fair compensation package. Your generosity will help make that a reality.

If you have questions about our budget process, or you have questions about the pledge process, please ask any member of the Board of Finance (quick review: Carol Coultas, Amber Skinner, Carmen Fortin, Win Gillis, Rob Porter, Rick Daniel, Sue Gagne and Nancy Simboli.) We are happy to help.

Mold Clean-up Update

Mold Bros. have completed their portion of the mold work in the basement. **But please keep in mind, the basement is off limits for the time being, until further notice.**

Thank you,
Dave Fitzgerald

A report from your Board of Missions

Your Board of Missions met December 8th and made the following distributions:

\$300 The Heifer Project
\$400 The Tedford Housing Building Program
\$500 Town of Harpswell Fuel Assistance
\$1200

A very \$uccessful way of closing out our financial year and it's all with gratitude to the members who have recognized Missions in their giving.

Thank You!



**Food Bank items requested for the month
of December are:**

- *Peanut Butter
- *Soups
- *Canned or boxed fruits
- *Unscented bars of soap (like Ivory or Dove)

**Thank you,
Your Board of Missions**