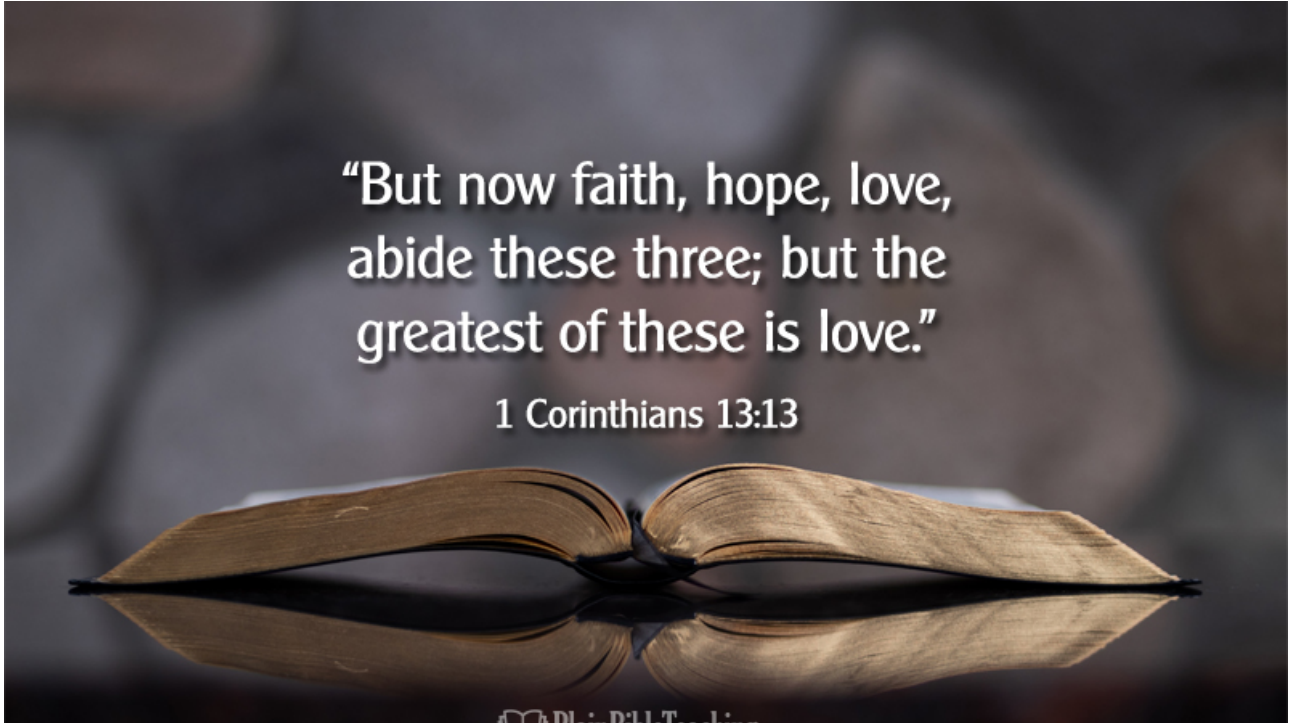


4th Sunday After Epiphany
February 2, 2025

“But now faith, hope, love,
abide these three; but the
greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

Gathering

Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Opening Song "God We Gather As Your People" vs. 1-3

God, We Gather As Your People



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.

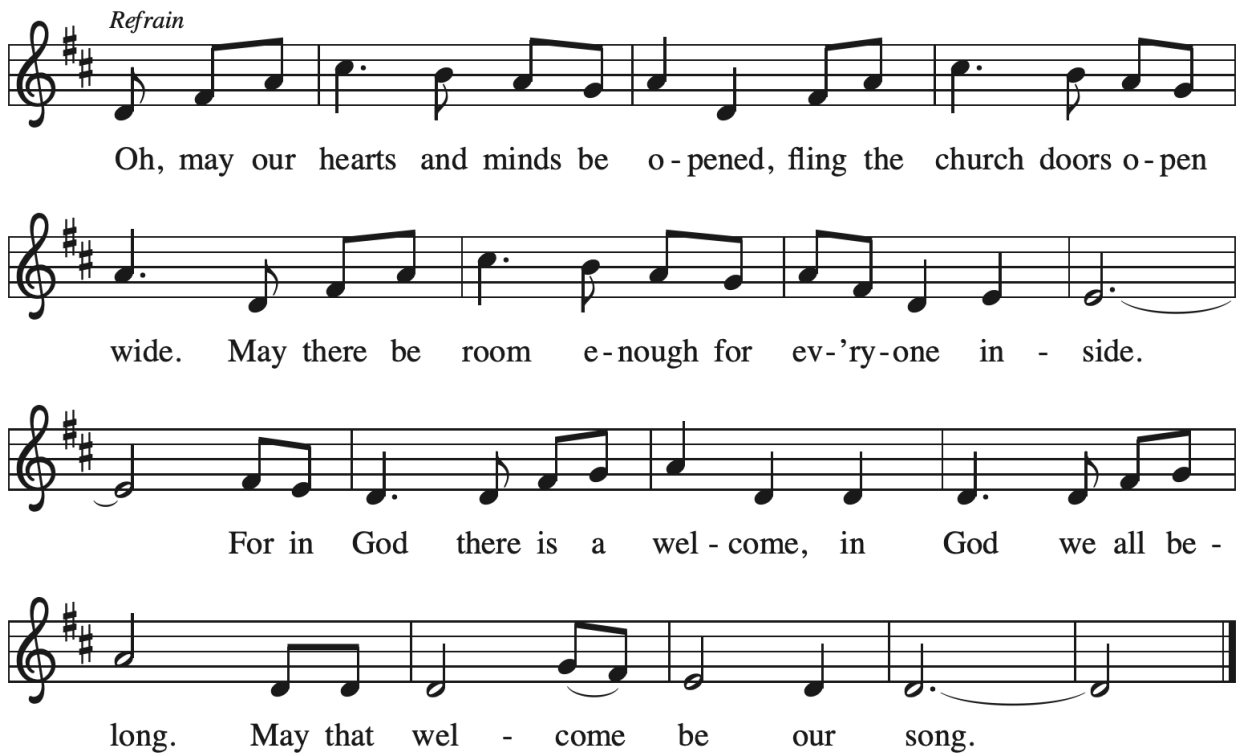


Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

Refrain



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o-pened, fling the church doors o-pen
 wide. May there be room e-nough for ev-'ry-one in - side.
 For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -
 long. May that wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961

Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG, David Lohman

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1038

God, We Gather as Your People

For All the Children

Capo 2: F/G
G/A

1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
 2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be -
 3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
 4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
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 love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
 join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

Refrain

F
G

C/E
D/F#

F
G

Oh, may our hearts and minds be o-pened, fling the church doors o-pen

C/E
D/F#

Dm
Em

C/E
D/F#

Gsus
Asus

wide. May there be room e-nough for ev-'ry-one in - side.

E7/G#
F#7/A#

Am
Bm

C/G
D/A

F
G

For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -

C/E
D/F#

Dm
Em

Gsus
Asus

G7
A7

C
D

F/C
G/D

C
D

long. May that wel - come be our song.

Welcome * Welcome Pads * Post it Notes *

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.

Greeting

L: *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.*

C: And also with you.

Gathering/Land Acknowledgement/Call to Worship

L: All of creation is filled with the touch of God's creative hand. This country is made up of a rich and diverse history of people who have contributed their hopes, dreams and culture to shape who we are. We recognize that some were brought here forcibly. Some arrived in search of a better life. Others still had been living here for generations.

A: We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional homelands of the Wahpekute peoples.

L: The land we stand upon is holy ground.

A: We gather to honor the Creator, and all of creation – human, animal, plant, water, wind, earth and sky. All of it belongs to God.

Communal Lament

L: In response to the ways that people have been excluded because of whom they love or how they identify or express themselves, let us confess and call out to the God who knows the depths of our sorrow and shares the grief in our hearts.

A: Come near to us. Show us the way.

L: Let us pray: O God, we lament when racism, classism, sexism, ableism, transphobia, homophobia, ableism or anything else prevents us from welcoming any of your children to this community. Thank you for your presence among us. Give us wisdom and creativity to build a resilient and just community.

A: Come near to us. Show us the way.

L: O God, we have witnessed the harm and suffering of many peoples especially those whose race, ethnicity, or immigration status cause us to prevent your beloved children from full belonging.

A: Come near to us. Show us the way.

L: Help us to remember that you see us: our troubles and grief, the broken relationships that undermine community, our weakness and lack of courage in confronting evil. You hold our pain and do not abandon us. Lead us to life in you.

A: Come near to us. Show us the way.

L: God, rise up and comfort us so we no longer have to be afraid. Lead us to trust in the hope and promise of a resilient community, with justice for the excluded and oppressed.

A: Amen!

Prayer of the Day

L: Holy God,

A: your Word teaches, calls, and shapes us, that we might become the wisdom of God and the body of Christ in the world. Turn us toward what is good, holy and just, that all people may be seen, known, and loved by you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Greet Someone New

Music to bring us back together "God We Gather..." Vs. 4 and Refrain

Children's Message

THE STORY

(Reader): *Our story and God's story continues today with two readings. You are invited to follow along in your Bibles for our first reading from Psalm 71, verses 1-6.*

(Reader): *¹In you, O Lord, have I | taken refuge;
let me never be | put to shame.*

*²In your righteousness, deliver me and | set me free;
incline your ear to | me and save me.*

*³Be my strong rock, a castle to | keep me safe;
you are my crag | and my stronghold.*

*⁴Deliver me, my God, from the hand | of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and | the oppressor. R*

*⁵For you are my hope, | O Lord God,
my confidence since | I was young.*

*⁶I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my
mother's womb you have | been my strength;
my praise shall be al- | ways of you.*

(Reader): *You are invited to stand in body or in spirit as we sing before our second reading.*

God Welcomes All

The musical score is written for a two-part setting, likely for soprano and alto voices. It is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics. The first line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;'. The second line corresponds to 'God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.'. The score uses a treble clef for the upper part and a bass clef for the lower part. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: AMEN THEMBA, South African traditional; transc. and arr. John L. Bell.

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(Reader): *Today our second reading comes from 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13.*

(Reader): *If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

(Side 1): Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

(Side 2): It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

(ALL): Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

(Reader): *Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.*

(Side 1): When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.

(Side 2): For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

(ALL): And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

(Reader): *Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.*

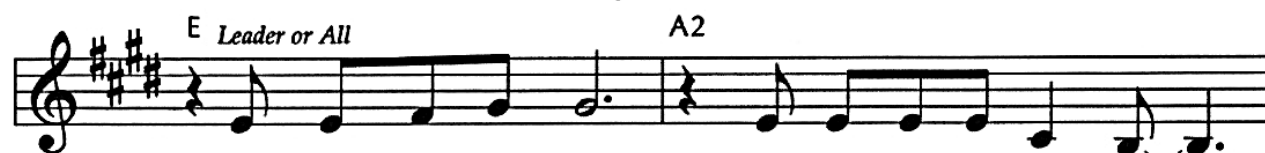
(ALL): Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Aubrey Thonvold

SONG OF THE DAY - "For Everyone Born" Verses 1-4.

769

For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wo - man and man, a place at the ta - ble —
 3 For gay, bi, and straight, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For bod - ies di - verse, a place at the ta - ble,
 6 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 7 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 and all those bet - ween, be - yond, and be - sides;
 in - vi - ted to wed, to bap - tize and preach,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 all man - ner of speech and move - ment and minds;
 a chance to re - pent, re - form and re - build,
 to live with - out fear, and simp - ly to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 ex - pan - ding our world, dis - man - tl - ing pow - er,
 a rain - bow of race and gen - der and co - lor
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrink - led,
 en - a - bled to lead and teach us new lan - guage,
 pro - tect - ing the wronged, with - out shame or press - ure,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

This is an unofficial revision of Shirley Erena Murray's original lyrics,
 revised by Avery Arden (they/them).

To see what's been altered, visit:

<https://binarybreakingworship.com/for-everyone-born-revised>



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head.
 each val - ued for what their voice can pro - vide.
 for queer, trans, and ace, God's jus - tice in reach.
 for bod - ies di - verse, a church re - de - signed.
 for young and for old, the right to be - long.
 for just and un - just, God's vi - sion ful - filled.
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free.

Refrain



and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus-tice and joy!

Affirmation of Faith

L: God desires full life for all, and we affirm that all people are created in God's image. I invite you to profess your faith, renouncing the forces of evil and the power of sin.

L: Do you renounce systems of oppression that harm God's children?

A: We renounce them.

L: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

A: We renounce them.

L: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you away from God and neighbor?

A: We renounce them.

L: Do you believe in God the Creator?

A: We believe in you, O God, who spoke all life into being, author of heaven and earth, architect of time, quilter of the cosmos. You shape our bodies from the dust of the ground, and by your breath we are given life.

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

A: We believe in you, O God, who became incarnate in Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh, truly divine and truly human. You lived among us to reveal your justice, died among us to break the bonds of sin and death, and were raised among us to bring abundant life.

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

A: We believe in you, O God, who transforms us by the Holy Spirit, draws us into community, moves us to action, and inspires us to hope against hope. You breathe new life into a fallen world and equip us to proclaim the good news of resurrecting love. All thanks and praise to you, O God, our beginning and our end. Amen.

Prayers for the World

Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Each petition will close with the words: God, who is mercy:

*Congregational response: **Hear our Prayer***

THE OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for simply giving or give online or drop a check off at the church office. The watering can during February is for "Erin's Kids" Any children willing to help are Invited to meet Pastor Hans in the back to bring forth the Communion elements.

Offering Song - "For Everyone Born" Verses 5-7

The Feast

(Pastor Hans): Setting the Table

the children lead us as we say together:

**Gracious God, we thank you for the food before us;
the family beside us; the love between us;
and your presence among us.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me." Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray;

The Lord's Prayer

(Leader): *Our Creator, our Mother,*

(ALL): 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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth.

So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing.

The gifts of God are...

(ALL): Free

Free indeed. And all are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Communion Songs: "The Gift of Love" and "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"


The Gift Of Love

Words and Music by
Hal H. Hopson

♩ = 53


VERSE

N.C. F Fmaj⁷ B^bmaj⁷/F Gm/F F/A B^b F




1. Though I may speak _____ with brav - est fire, _____
 2. Though I may give _____ all I pos - sess, _____
 3. Come, Spir - it, come, _____ our hearts con - trol, _____

5 Am Dm Dm/C Gm⁷/B^b Gm/B^b F C C/B^b Am Gm⁷




— and have the gift _____ to all in - spire, _____ and have not
 — and striv - ing so _____ my love pro - fess, _____ but not be
 — our spir - its long _____ to be made _____ whole. _____ Let in - ward

10 F F^{sus}/G F/A Gm⁷ F/A B^b F



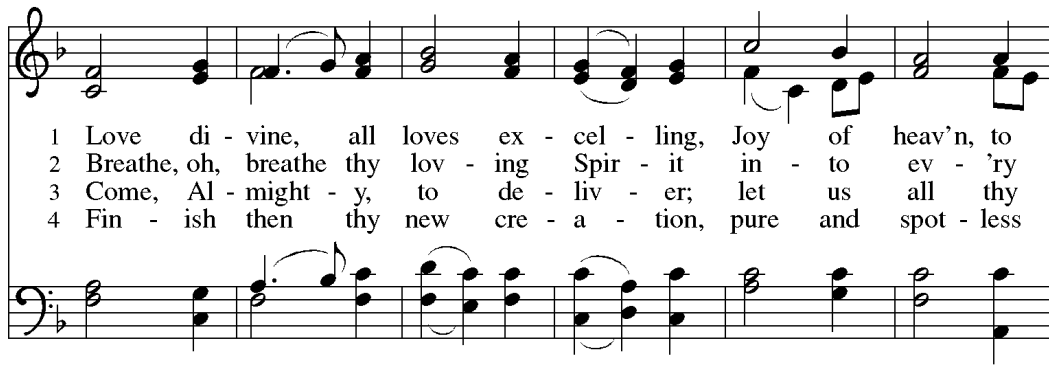
love, _____ my words are _____ vain, _____
 giv'n _____ by love with _____ in, _____
 love _____ guide ev - 'ry _____ deed; _____

13 Gm F/A B^b C^{sus} C B^b² B^b F



— as sound - ing brass, _____ and hope - less _____ gain.
 — the prof - it soon _____ turns strange - ly _____ thin.
 — By this we wor - ship, and are _____ freed.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



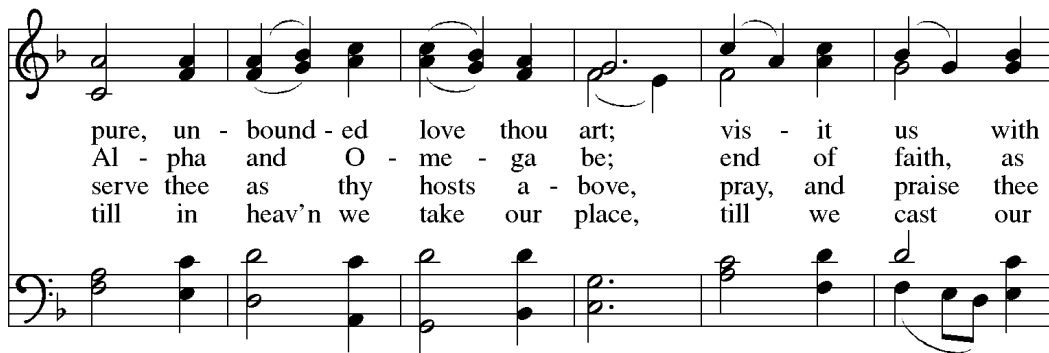
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life 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 - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Blessing after Communion

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Communion Prayer

God of grace and mercy, in this holy meal you have fed us with wisdom, forgiveness, and grace, and we are full. By your Spirit send us out to become what we have received—new life in Christ—for the world. **Amen.**

The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings

MILESTONES! Sing "Love Lifted Me" Chorus

It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life.

Love Lifted Me

Words by
James Rowe

Music by
Howard E. Smith

VERSE

A \flat

E \flat 7



1. I was sink - ing deep in sin, far from the peace - ful shore, ver - y deep - ly
2. All my heart to Him I give, ev - er to Him I'll cling, in His bless - ed
3. Souls in dan - ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com - plete - ly saves; He will lift you

6

A \flat



stained with - in, sink - ing to rise no more; But the Mas - ter of the sea
pres - ence live, ev - er His prais - es sing; Love so might - y and so true
by His love out of the an - gry waves; He's the Mas - ter of the sea,

11

D \flat

A \flat A \flat maj7/C A \flat /E \flat E \flat 7



heard my de - spir - ing cry, from the wa - ters lift - ed me now safe am
mer - its my soul's best songs; Faith - ful lov - ing serv - ice, too, to Him be -
bil - lows His will o - bey; He your Sav - ior wants to be, be saved to -

CHORUS

16

A \flat

A \flat E \flat 7

A \flat

D \flat

B \flat m

D \flat



I. Love lift - ed me! Love lift - ed me! ____ When noth - ing
-longs.
-day.

22

A \flat

A \flat /C

1.

B \flat 7

E \flat

E \flat 7

2.

A \flat /E \flat

E \flat 7

A \flat



else could help, Love lift - ed me! ____ Love lift - ed me!

*Then could you put the First part of the blessing
(quote by Teresa of Avila) on the screen?*

Blessing

L: Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing make you afraid. All things are passing. God alone never changes. Patience gains all things. If you

have God you will want for nothing. God alone suffices. [Teresa of Avila] † May the blessing of God, Holy One and Holy Three, be with us today and every day, building us into a resilient community that practices justice and radical inclusion.

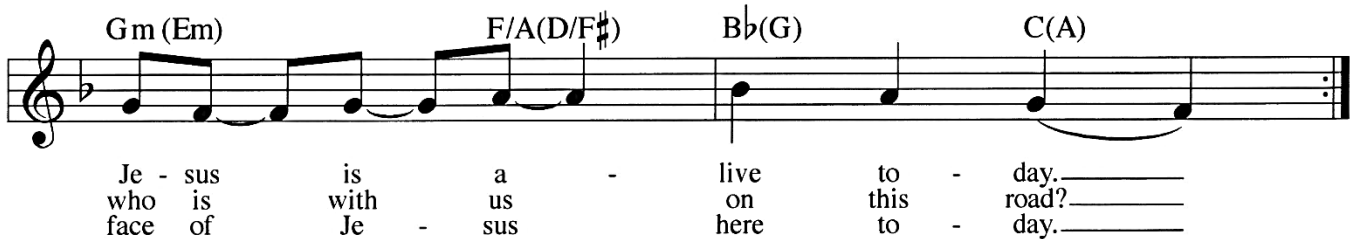
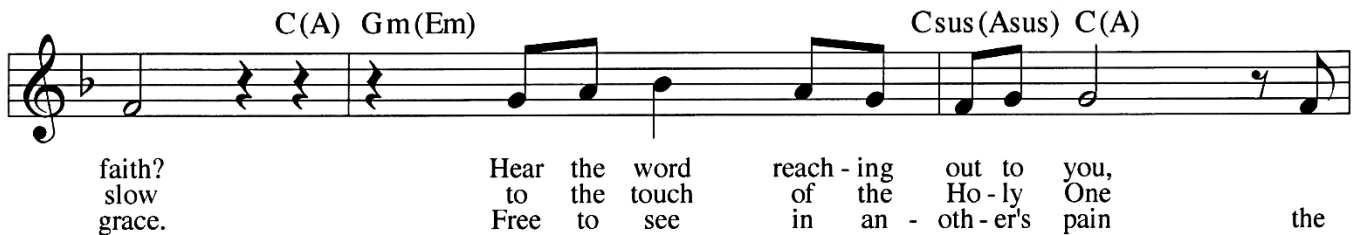
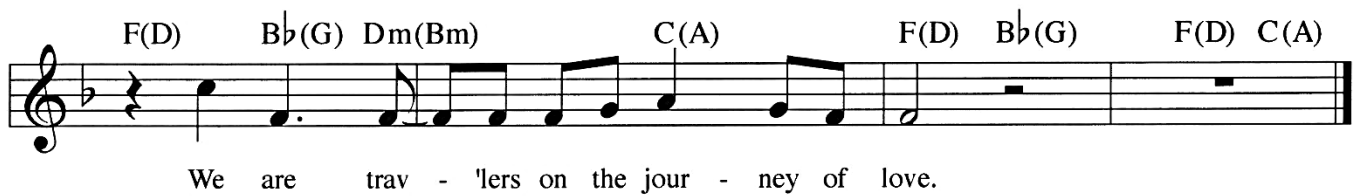
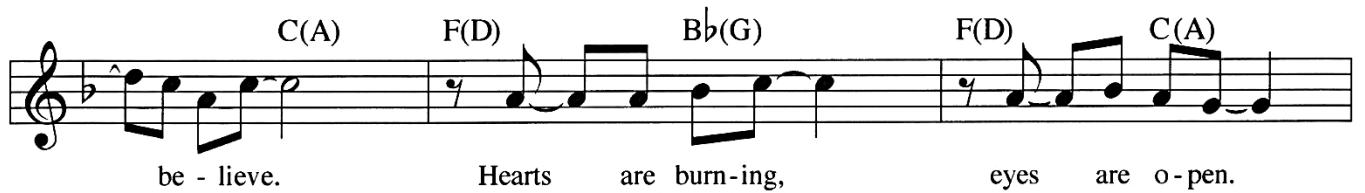
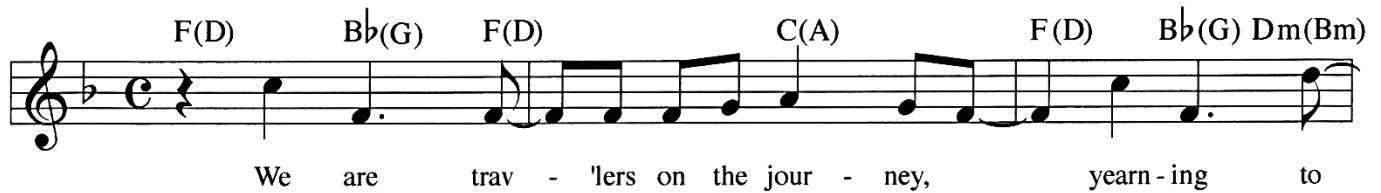
A: Amen.

Sending Song: "Travelers on the Journey"

(Invite children of all ages to come forward and play percussion during the Sending Song)

TRAVELERS ON THE JOURNEY

Larry Olson
Hans Peterson



Sending L: Go in peace to practice resilient justice.
Thanks be to God

Music to Send You Out

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