

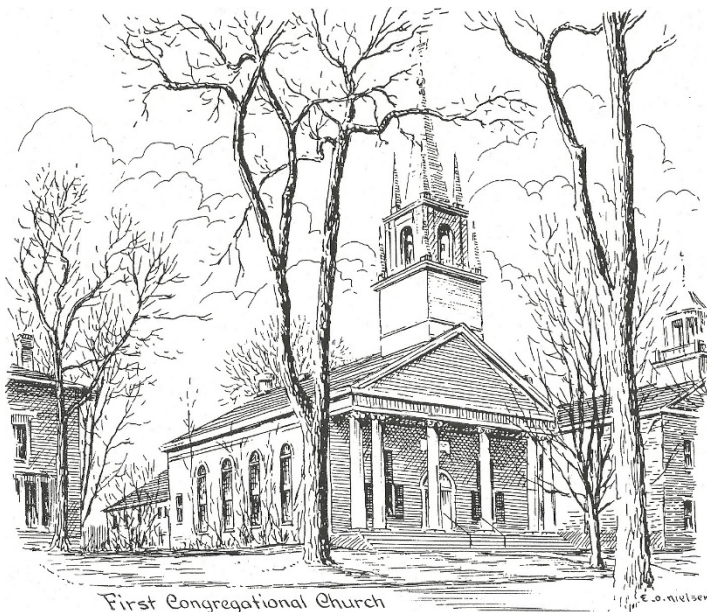
First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open and Affirming Church

PO Box 350, 28 High Street, Wiscasset, Maine 04578

207-882-7544, www.uccwiscasset.org



We welcome you to the First Congregational Church of Wiscasset.

VISION: We are on a journey to reflect God's love, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of all.

MISSION: Together we strive to praise God, grow in faith, cultivate love, spread joy, care for all people and God's creation, promote peace, and do justice.



September 22, 2024

September 22, 2024
HOMECOMING SUNDAY
“Our Church in Five Expressions, one Unity”
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00am

* Indicates to please stand with your heart or your posture.

We joyfully welcome **all** to our worship service including those who join us on Zoom! The First Congregational Church of Wiscasset is an Open and Affirming Church affiliated with the United Church of Christ denomination. We invite you to Coffee and Refreshments in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship!

For Your Contemplation:

“Know that the Lord is God, It is he that has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.” . . . Psalm 100:3

PRELUDE *Music for a Festival* Calvin Hampton

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS ABOUT TODAY’S WORSHIP Becky Lenz

CHORAL INTROIT *Make This Church a Welcome Place*

I. WORSHIP AND MUSIC

* INVITATION TO WORSHIP based on Hebrews 11

In faith, Abraham and Sarah set out for a new land.

In faith, we seek to follow God in our lives.

In faith, the church seeks to discern the future to which God calls us in our age.

In faith, we gather now to worship, seeking new life in Christ.

God of the present, past and future, guide us now to Your new age of promise.

* HYMN *O Be Joyful in Our God!* No. 5

Presenter(s): Martha Speed and Libby Mooney

II. FAITH DEVELOPMENT

* HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness

see insert

SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:13 – 15

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.”

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God

Presenter: Angie Eddy

CHORAL ANTHEM

Grace

Mark Hayes

III. CONGREGATIONAL CARE

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:23 – 25a

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God

Presenter: Rev. Myers

JOYS AND CONCERNS:

After each Joy or Concern please respond:

Pastor: “Lord” **Congregation: “Hear our Prayer”**

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Da Pacem, Domine Taizé
(Grant Us Your Peace, O Lord)

* HYMN

When We Are Living

No. 415

IV. PROPERTY AND FINANCE

SCRIPTURE

I Peter 4:10

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God

Presenter: Deb. Myers

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Built on the Rock

arr. Gordon Young

DOXOLOGY

No. 46

**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. Amen.**

V. OUTREACH AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 25:31 – 40

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God

Presenter(s): Linda Wallace and Nancy Roby

* HYMN

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

S – 8

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Cindy Clement

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTORY RESPONSE

***Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.***

POSTLUDE

Standing on the Promises

Roger Whitney, trombone

**You are invited to sit for the postlude.*

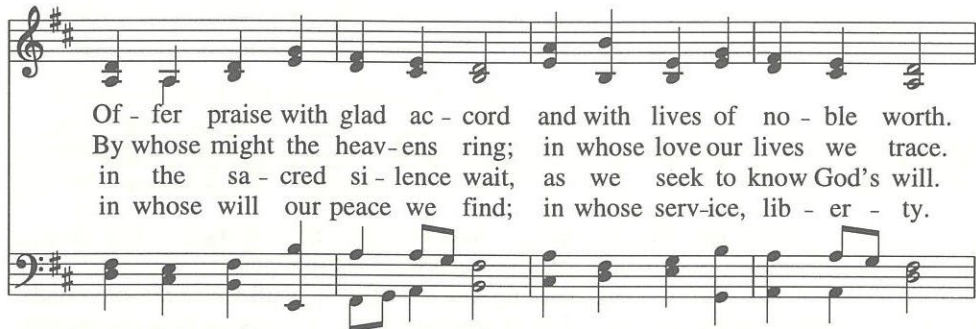
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O Be Joyful in Our God!

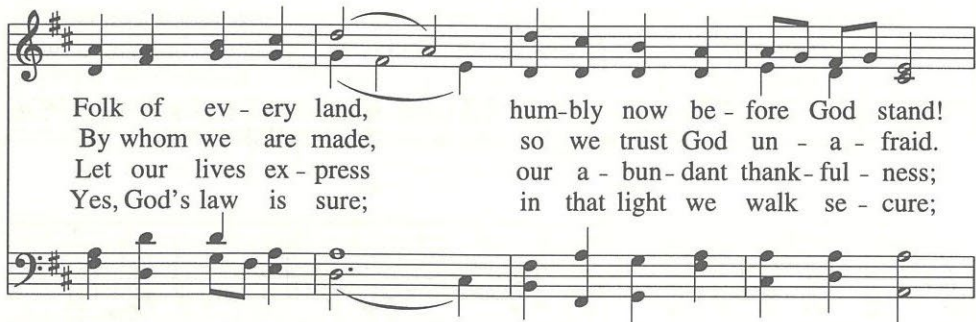
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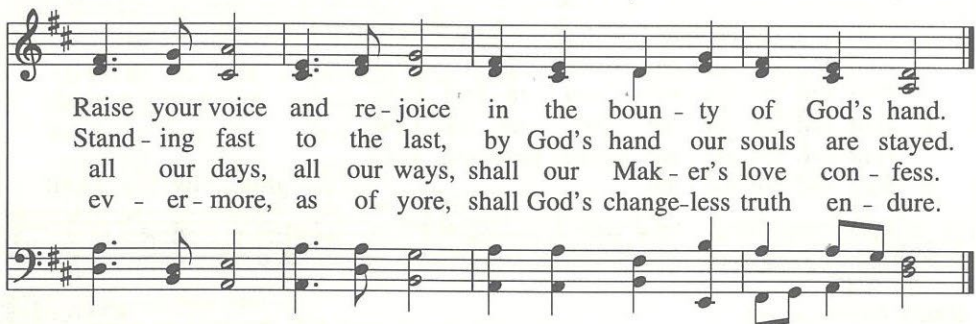
1. O be joy-ful in our God! Cel - e - brate o'er all the earth!
2. Now re-joice, your prais-es sing! See God's wis-dom, shin-ing grace!
3. En - ter now the ho - ly gate; let our bur-dened hearts be still;
4. For the God of all is kind, lov - ing us so con-stant - ly;



Of - fer praise with glad ac - cord and with lives of no - ble worth.
By whose might the heav-ens ring; in whose love our lives we trace.
in the sa - cred si - lence wait, as we seek to know God's will.
in whose will our peace we find; in whose serv-ice, lib - er - ty.



Folk of ev - ery land, hum-bly now be - fore God stand!
By whom we are made, so we trust God un - a - fraid.
Let our lives ex - press our a - bun-dant thank - ful - ness;
Yes, God's law is sure; in that light we walk se - cure;



Raise your voice and re-joice in the boun - ty of God's hand.
Stand - ing fast to the last, by God's hand our souls are stayed.
all our days, all our ways, shall our Mak - er's love con - fess.
ev - er - more, as of yore, shall God's change-less truth en - dure.

WORDS: Curtis Beach, alt. by permission
MUSIC: Traditional Hebrew melody

ROCK OF AGES
77.77.57.67

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

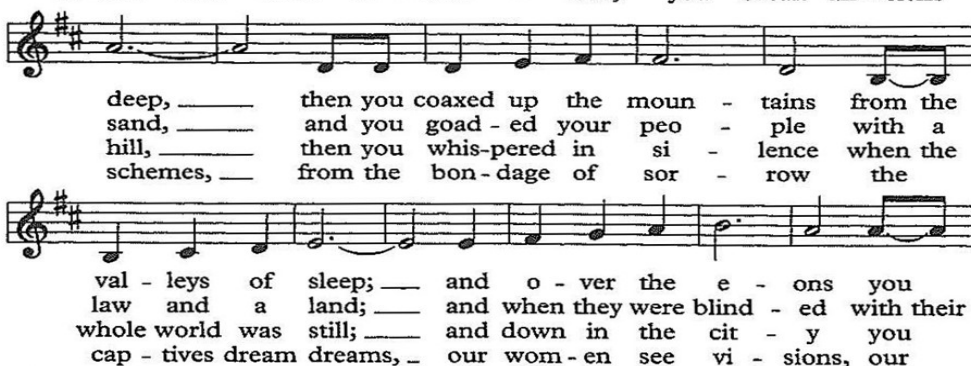
Refrain



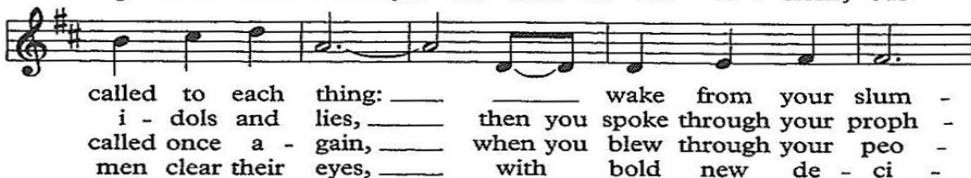
Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the
wil - der-ness call - ing and free; Spir -
it, Spir - it of rest - less-ness, stir me from plac - id-ness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.

Fine

1. You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the
2. You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the
3. You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a
4. You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient

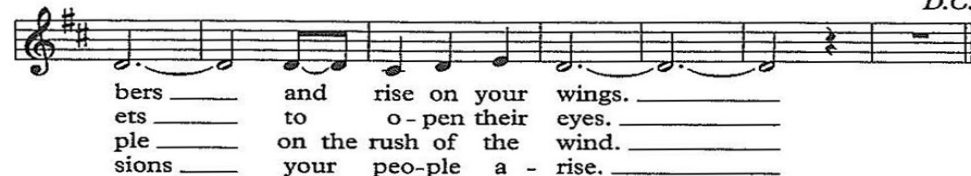


deep, then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
sand, and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
hill, then you whis - pered in si - lence when the
schemes, from the bon - dage of sor - row the
val - leys of sleep; and o - ver the e - ons you
law and a land; and when they were blind - ed with their
whole world was still; and down in the cit - y you
cap - tives dream dreams, our wom - en see vi - sions, our



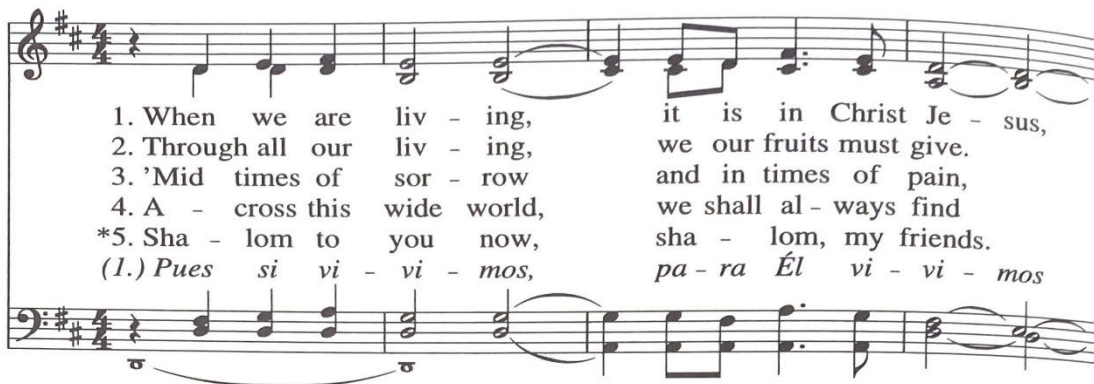
called to each thing: wake from your slum -
i - dols and lies, then you spoke through your proph -
called once a - gain, when you blew through your peo -
men clear their eyes, with bold new de - ci -

D.C.




bers and rise on your wings.
ets to o - pen their eyes.
ple on the rush of the wind.
sions your peo - ple a - rise.

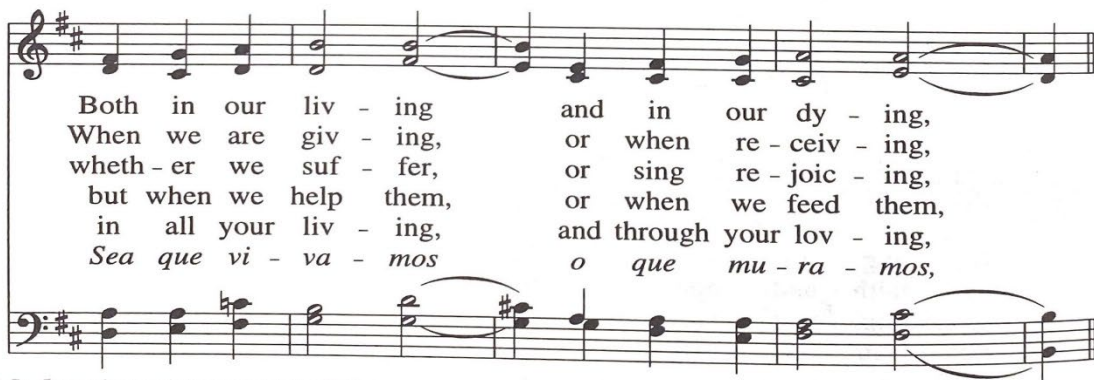
When We Are Living (Pues Si Vivimos)



1. When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2. Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3. 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4. A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find
 *5. Sha - lom to you now, sha - lom, my friends.
 (1.) *Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos*



and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,
 May God's full mer - cies bless you, my friends,
y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,
 in all your liv - ing, and through your lov - ing,
Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,

* St. 5 may be used alone as a benediction.

WORDS: St. 1, anonymous; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, 1983; sts. 2, 3, 4, Roberto Escamilla, 1983, SOMOS DEL SEÑOR
 tr. George Lockwood, 1987; st. 5, Elise S. Eslinger, 1980

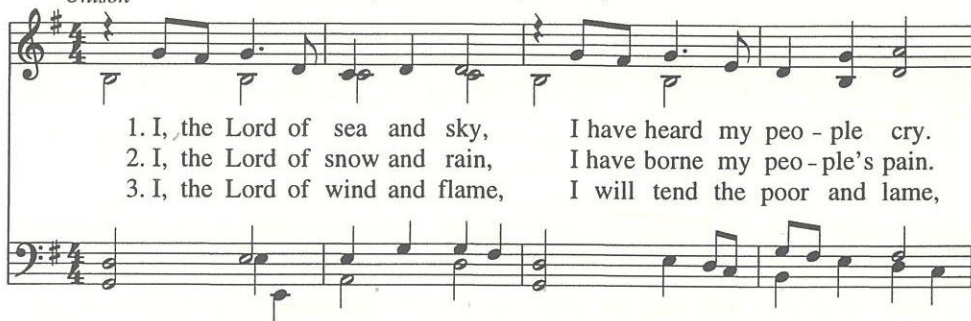
MUSIC: Traditional Spanish melody; harm. FCC, 1997

Methodist hymnal editor Carlton R. Young is responsible for bringing this hymn (st. 1-4), popular in Mexico, to American congregations. The words are inspired by Romans 14:7-8.

Tr. sts. 1-4 © 1989, words, st. 5 © 1983
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 admin. The Copyright Co.
 Harm. © 1998 FCC Houston TX

S-8

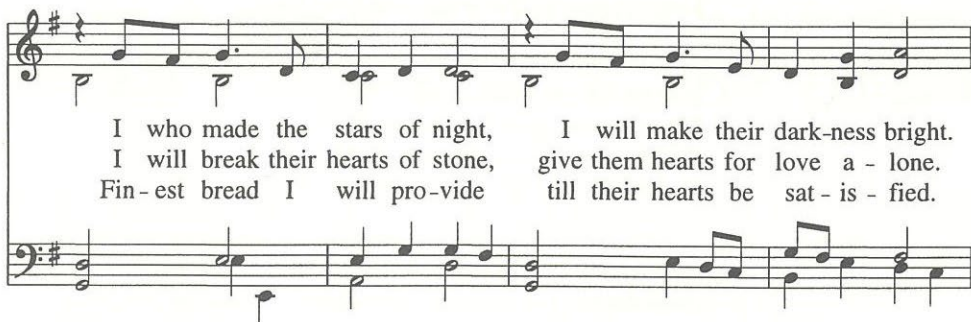
I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

*(Here I Am, Lord)**Unison*


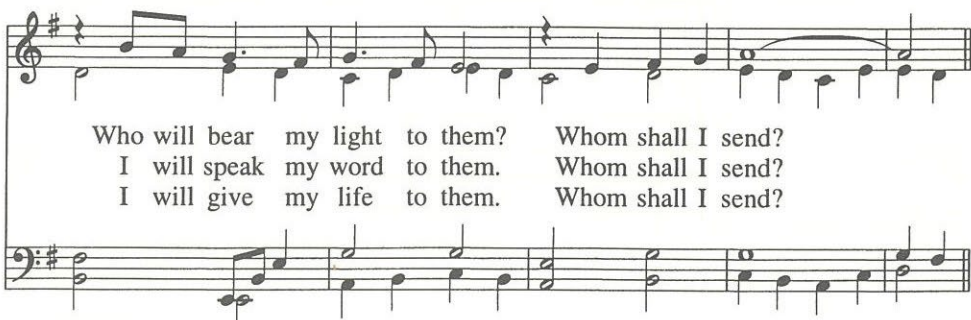
1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,



All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them, they turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.



I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin - est bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain (Harmony optional)



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

The first system of musical notation for the refrain. It consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you".



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, If you

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with lyrics: "call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, If you". The bass staff continues the harmonic accompaniment.

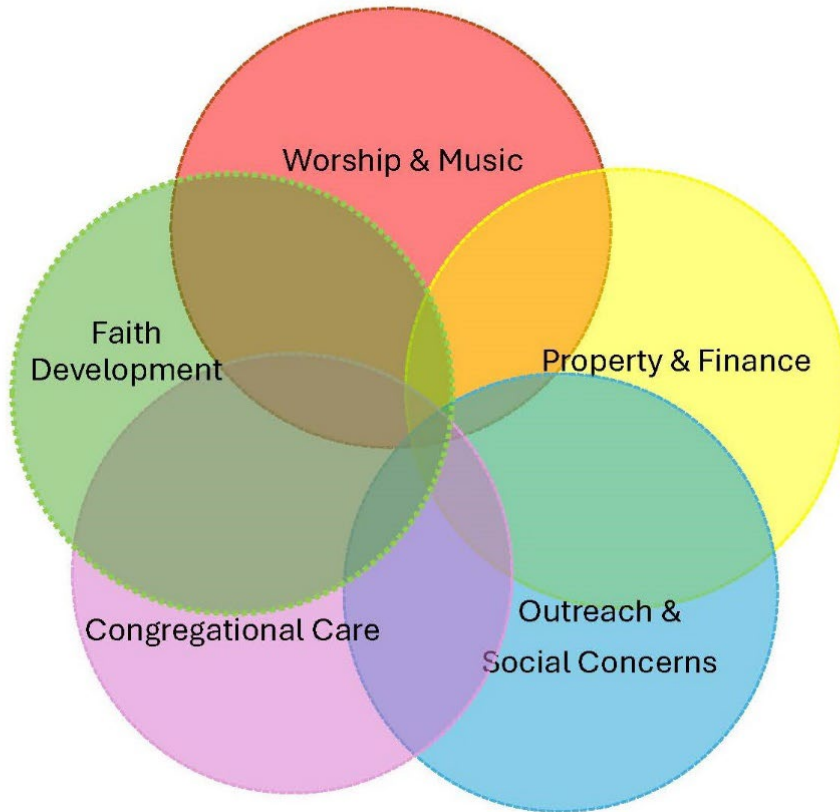


lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The third system of musical notation, concluding the refrain. The treble staff ends with a double bar line and lyrics: "lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart." The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

INITIAL IDEAS for 5 new TEAMS to replace current committee structure

YOUR FEEDBACK IS WANTED!



Looking forward to hearing your suggestions, questions and concerns at Lunch today!

Thank You,
Cindy Clement, Becky Lenz, Beth Maxwell, Libby Mooney, Dave Myers,
Martha Speed, and Linda Wallace.

Those serving you today:
Interim Minister: Rev. David Myers
Music Director/Organist: Joel Pierce
Ushers: Youth Group
Reader: Multiple Readers
Flowers: Nancy Roby

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Free Community Pancake Breakfast Sunday September 29 serving 8:30 – 9:30am.
Help needed for setup and cleanup.

“The Chosen” Beginning September 29 at 5:30pm. Watch Season 3 and Pot-Luck Supper in Fellowship Hall.

Please take note of the colored paper prayer slips in the pew rack. These are for you to write a word or phrase of prayer or concerns and place it on the offering plate. It will only be shared with the pastor.

Coming Up:

Sunday, September 22:	Homecoming Sunday Worship – 10:00am and Pot-Luck Luncheon in Fellowship Hall
Monday, September 23:	Mah Jongg, 6:00 – 8:30pm Governance Task Force Meeting
Tuesday, September 24:	Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm
Wednesday, September 25:	Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm Organ Society Meet, 9:30am
Thursday, September 26:	Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm
Sunday, September 29:	Community Pancake Breakfast, served 8:30 – 9:30am Sunday Worship – 10:00am Post Summerfest Meeting after worship Youth Group Meet, 4:00pm “The Chosen” 5:30pm, Watch Season 3 and Pot-Luck Supper

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