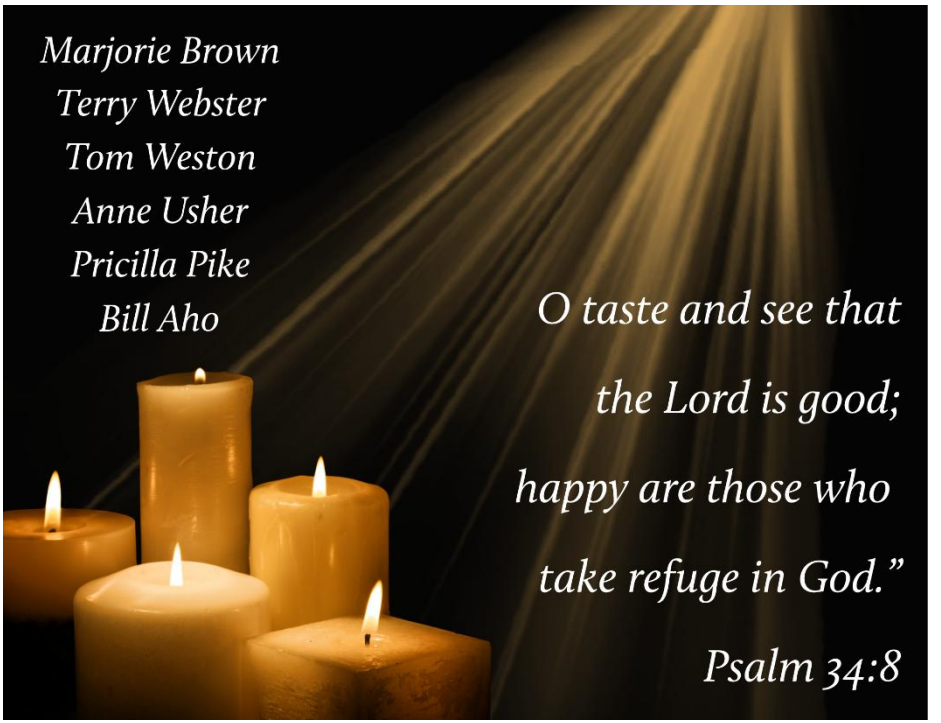
STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ (UCC)



Open and Affirming † Intergenerational † A Just Peace Church

"We share in God's love by growing in faith, courageously seeking justice, and generously caring for all people." *~ Our Mission at SCC*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Please stand as you are able ''.*

*Please remember to **silence cell phones** and other devices and be mindful of those who wish to use the prelude as a time of prayer, meditation, and preparation for worship.*

***Accessibility:** See an usher for **large-print** bulletins and **wheelchair** or **accessible seating**. Devices necessary to access worship fully are welcome.*

***The restroom in this building** is at the front of the church behind the doors to the right of the Chancel. A **PRAYGROUND** is also located in the northeast corner of the building and available for children and families.*

Our services are recorded on Zoom and live streamed on YouTube.

GATHERING

Whatever your faith tradition, doubts or questions about God; whatever your color skin, gender identity or expression, wherever you find yourself on life's journey, you are welcome here. You matter to God, and you matter to us. Welcome!

Prelude – "Aria" by Paul Manz *Dr. Patricia Snyder*

Bringing in the Light

Welcome *Rev Diane Peterson Seaborn*

Call to Worship *(responsive)* *Ray Joesten*

One: Happy are we when our treasures cannot be quantified.
Many: **Happy are we when our knowledge is tempered by mystery.**
One: Happy are we when our pain is held in the balm of love.
Many: **Happy are we when our delight comes from beyond ourselves. We delight in praising our God with gratitude for God's overflowing blessings.**

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: Friends, we invite you to rise in body or in spirit and offer one another a sign of God's peace. May the peace of Christ be with you.
Many: **And also with you!**

Hymn** – "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" *Glory to God [purple] p.* ***804 *this bulletin p.* **8**

Call to Confession *Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn*

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Holy One, we long to be numbered among your saints, but we feel more sinner than saint. We are anxious when you call us to trust, we are stingy when you call us to be generous, we stand back when you call us to lean in. In a hurting world, we feel weighed down by sorrow, confusion, anger, and fear. How will we serve you well, God?
(time of silent confession)

Words of Assurance

One: Beloved, God uses every sinner and every saint--and Lord knows we are a blend of both! We inhabit shadow and light, scarcity and generosity, fear and trust, anxiety and love. God blesses us and sends us to be a blessing in the world. God finds us, calls us, sends us, and travels alongside us.

Many: **Thanks be to God, who blesses us along the path toward transformation. Amen.**

Children's Moment

Our Family Room is not staffed; however, it is open and available to interested children and their grownups as desired/needed. Children of all ages are, naturally, always welcome to remain in worship.

Remembrance of Saints

Bill Aho Marjorie Brown Pricilla Pike Anne Usher Terry Webster Tom Weston

WORD

God Speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

SOLO – "Pie Jesu" from *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré — *Maggie Murray, soprano*

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Merciful Jesus, Lord, grant them rest.
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.
Merciful Jesus, Lord, grant them eternal rest.

Prayer of Illumination — *Ray Joesten*

First Scripture Reading -

Matthew 5:1-12 — *this bulletin p.* ***11***

Refrain — "Open My Heart" by Ana Hernández

The congregation sings: **Open my heart. Open my heart.**

Sermon – "Blessed" — *Rev. Diane Peterson Seaborn*

Hymn** – "I sing a Song of the Saints of God" *Glory to God [purple] p.* ***730 — *this bulletin p.* **9**

RESPONSE

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel in prayer and offering

Stewardship Witness *Desiree Duda*

A Time of Offering

As the offering is collected, prayers of either joy or concern may be written on the purple prayer request cards found in the pew rack and placed in the offering plates as they are passed. Offerings may also be made electronically through our online 'Give Now' option. Scan the QR code for easy access.

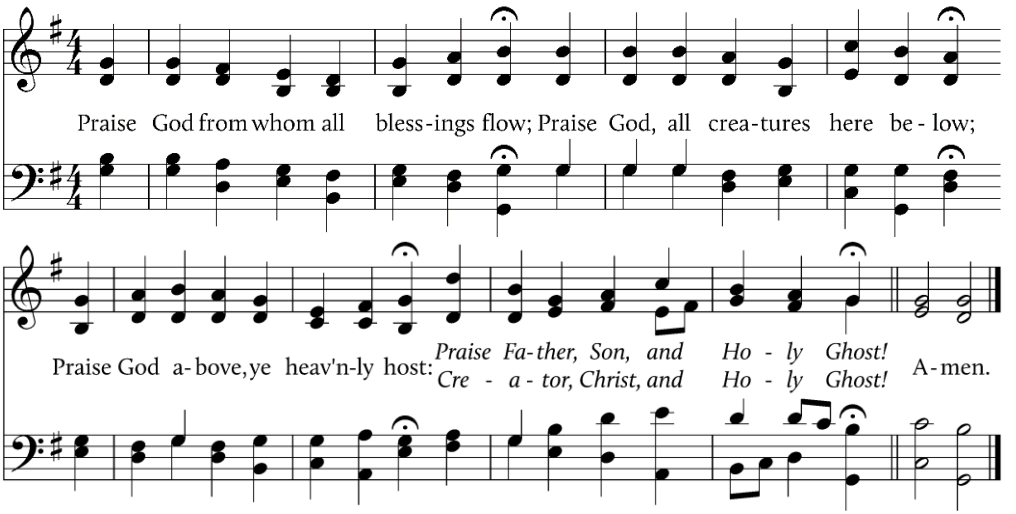
Call to Offering

OFFERTORY – "Let This Mind Be in You" by Lee Hoiby *Adult Choir*

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.
But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant,
and was made in the likeness of men:
and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself,
and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
Wherefor God also hath highly exalted him,
And given him a name which is above ev'ry name:
That at the name of Jesus, ev'ry knee should bow,
Of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;
And that ev'ry tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
To the glory of God the Father.

Phillipians 2:5

*** *PRESENTING OUR GIFTS: The Doxology*** OLD HUNDREDTH



***Prayer of Dedication** *(unison)*

Holy One, we offer these gifts in service of your peace. May your Spirit continue to work through saints of the present and future, revealing your ways of love, truth, and justice. In Jesus' name, amen.

Prayers of the People, ending with **The Lord's Prayer**

Many: **Creator/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 glory forever. Amen.**

SENDING

God Blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

News from our Life Together

Hymn** – "For All the Saints" *Glory to God [purple] p.* ***326 *this bulletin p.* **10**

***Benediction**

Postlude – "Toccata in D minor, BWV 565" by J. S. Bach *Dr. Patricia Snyder*

Be Our Guest for Potluck Fellowship!

Come on over to the Parish House Lounge and share a beverage, a bite to eat, and a chat! The Parish House is in the buildings to the west of the Meeting House. Follow the others on over, or ask an usher to guide you… We look forward to seeing you! Remember to wear your Name Tag!

Worship

Every Sunday, 10:00 am, in the Meeting House and on Zoom & YouTube. Expressive, participatory liturgy; thoughtful preaching; and a soul-stirring blend of new and traditional music are some of the elements you can expect to encounter each Sunday.

Thank You for Assisting in today's service …

Liturgist: Ray Joesten; ***Greeter***: Malta Bailey; ***Ushers:*** Rosemary Marcellino, Dana Gregus; ***Welcome Table:*** Heather Elliott-Famularo; ***Fellowship Host:*** Diana Alvarado; ***Tech Team:*** Andy McCabe, Erin Scholes, Jan & Don Castle, Susan Irvine.

Sunday Morning Server Reminder for Next Week: ***Please watch for emails early next week!***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday November 1, 2026

8:45-9:45 am	Student Breakfast
9:00-10:00 am	Adult Choir
10:00-11:00 am	Worship
11:00-12 pm	Fellowship
11:00-11:30 am	Library Open
11:30-12:30 pm	Food Pantry Open
2:30-5 pm	Consonare

Comings and Goings

The offices will be closed on November 11 for Veterans Day.

News and Notes



THERE OUR HEARTS WILL BE
COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS
"Where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also..."
Matthew 6:21

By now, most folks have received the stewardship materials from the church. As each individual, couple and/or family discerns a pledge for 2027, a good starting point is to prayerfully consider God's many blessings in one's life and in our collective life as a congregation.

During Sunday worship, paper hearts will be made available to one and all. We invite you to share a written blessing from God that is on your heart. You may place written blessings in the offering plate, or in a basket at the end of the worship service. You might even name the blessing during Prayers of the People. Your stewardship team is gathering up these blessings to be displayed in the Meeting House. We look forward to witnessing the growing blessings over the next three Sundays. God's blessings are abundant, and such blessings are the treasured center of our life together in this community of faith.

How would you describe a blessing from God that shows up in your life? How might you respond through your giving? We ask that you prayerfully discern how to align giving in response to God's many blessings.

Blessings to you,

Elaine, Lisa, Jamie, and Pastor Diane

All are cordially invited to the next SCC Social, which will take place at **6:30 pm in the lounge on Saturday, November 7**. This will be a game night dessert party. Everyone is invited to bring a game to play and a dessert to share. There is a sign up sheet in the lounge.

Save the Date! What: Vision Team Special Fellowship hour. **When:** November 8, after church. **Where:** Auditorium

Your Vision Team has prayed and pondered, researched and interviewed, and gathered your ideas and inspiration over the past 2 years. All of that led to collaboration with Action Teams to turn your ideas into a focused vision. Now the Vision Team is sharing the final products — a vision narrative along with a detailed implementation plan — with the Governing Board and the Congregation. Watch for the written plans to be sent out by email in early November. We invite all to join us for this special fellowship after church on 11/8 to ask questions and learn how you can get involved

to help this vision come to life at SCC. Can't wait to see you there!

WAIM Flea Market: Saturday, November 14th 8-noon. 866 Main Street Willimantic, 5th Floor. Featuring vintage items, antiques, desks, cabinets, lamps, costume jewelry, collectibles, holiday items and more. Cash, check, or charge.

WAIM Walk for Warmth:



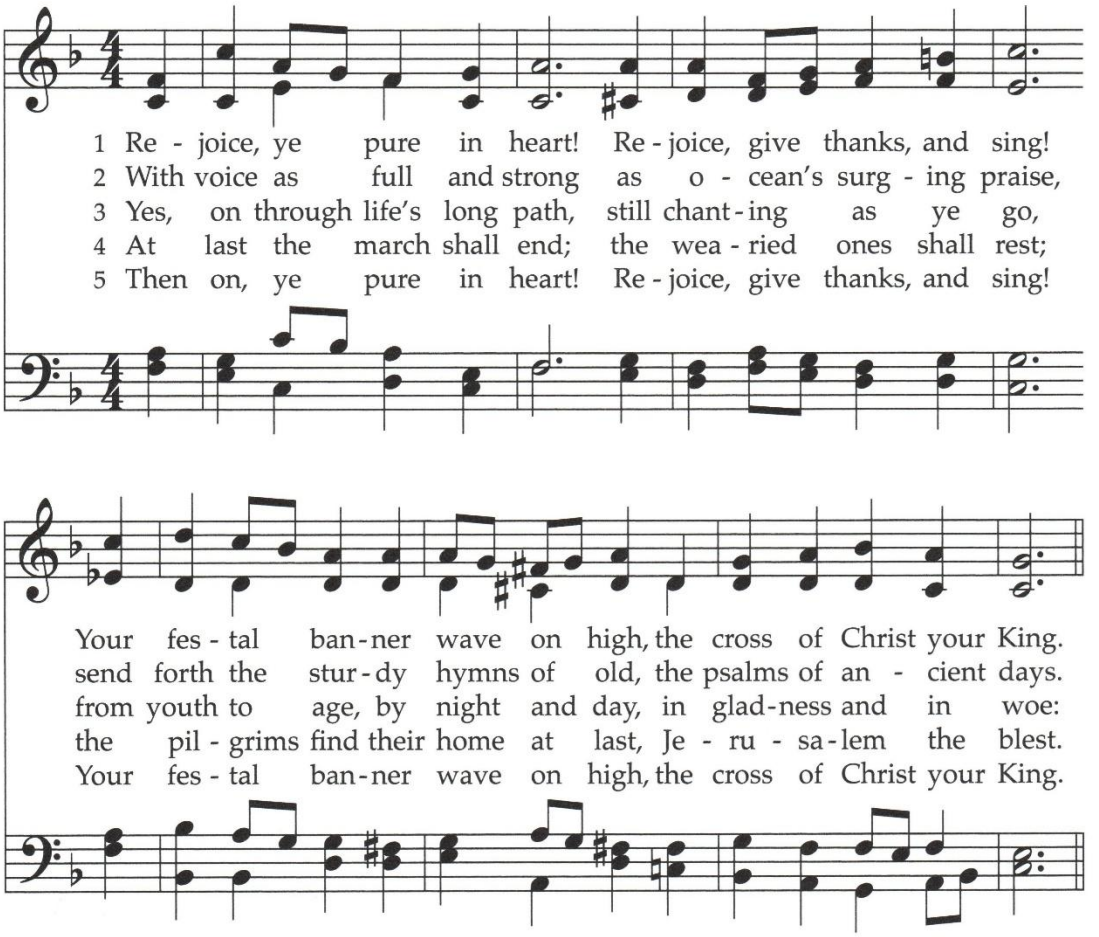
Thanksgiving Food Distribution at SCC Food Pantry: Wednesday November 18th and Thursday, November 19th. We expect to serve 100 families. We need: stuffing mix, gravy or gravy mix, cranberry sauce, canned yams, pumpkin pie mix and pie shells and the fixings for that Turkey Day favorite, green bean casserole: canned green beans, cream of mushroom soup, and French fried onions. Thank you for making it a happy Thanksgiving for our guests.

Hymnals for our Online Congregation: As we transition to the new Glory to God hymnals, we want our online members to know that we have extra undedicated copies of Glory to God, New Century and Pilgrim hymnals. If you are worshipping online with us on a regular basis and would like to have a copy of any or all of these for use at home, please call the church office (860-429-9382). We will do our best to get them to you. Abundance is a blessing! Trisha
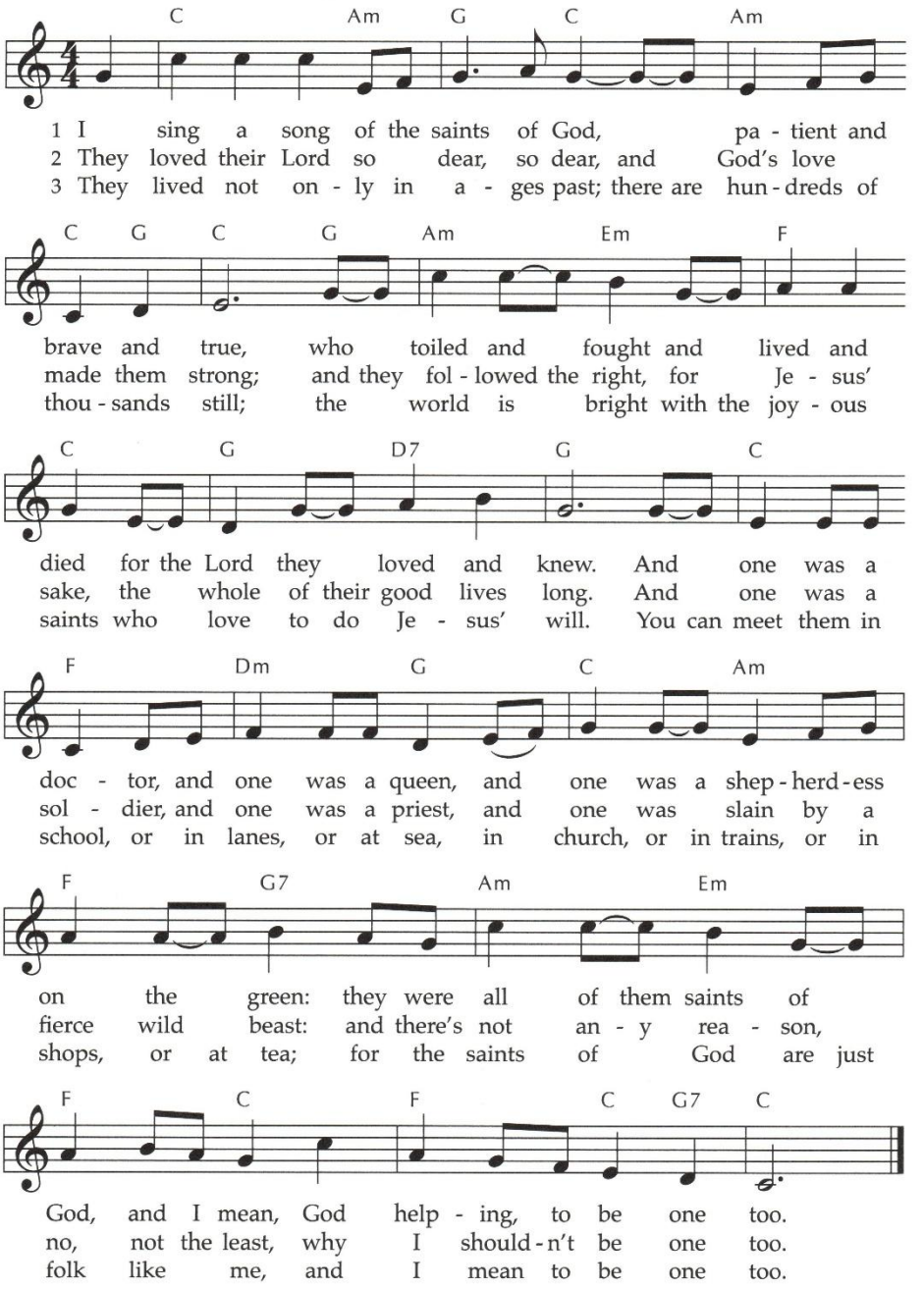
Unmask the Mystery: Help us complete vital health kits, We need your help to unmask the mystery and get these essential supplies to families in need. Inside each bag, you will find a checklist of the missing items needed to make the kit whole. Your generosity is much appreciated. The first 12 bags will have a Halloween "treat" in them to enjoy while shopping for the rest of the items! CWS Sewing



804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!
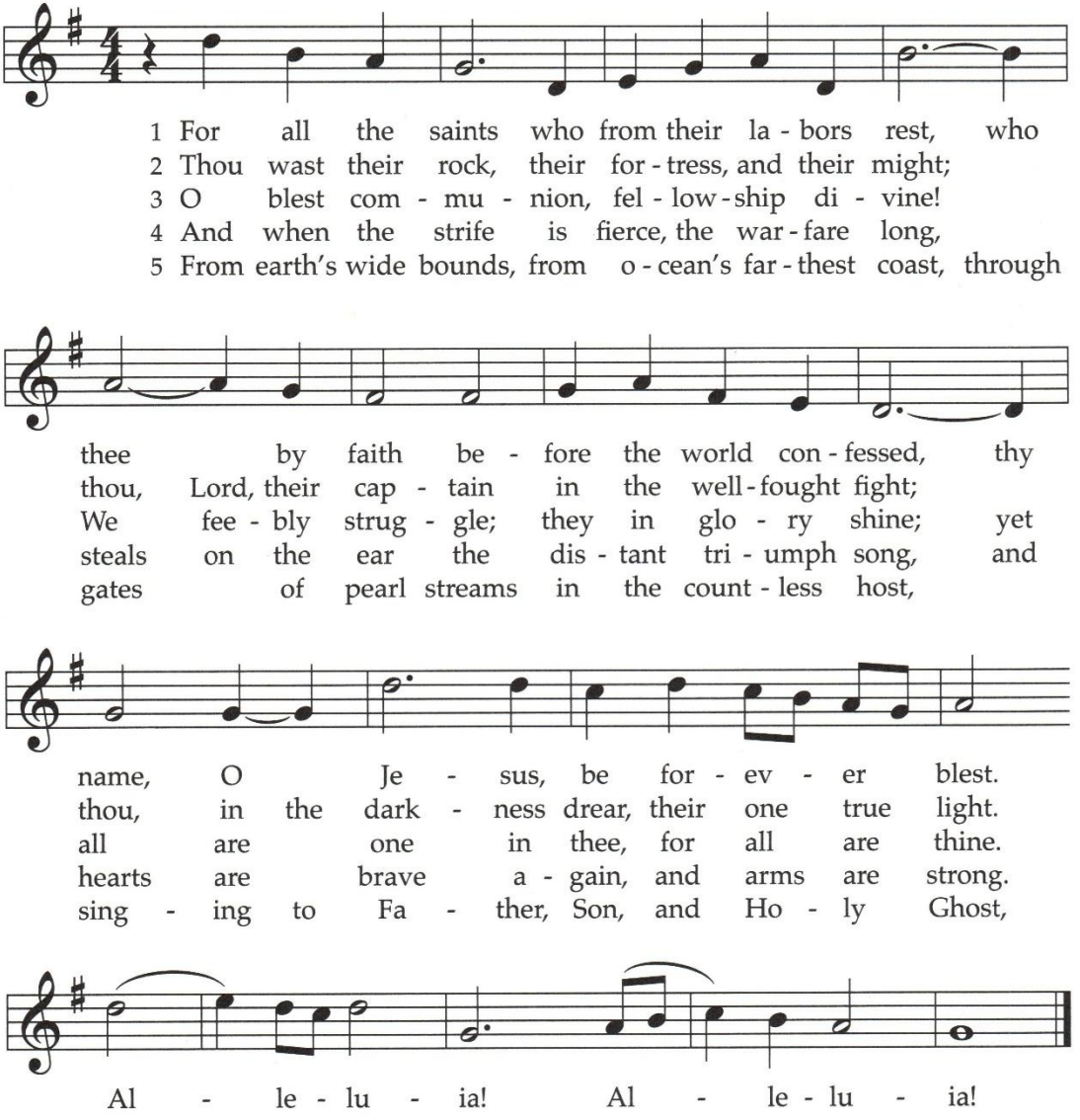


I Sing a Song of the Saints of God 730



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

326 For All the Saints



First Scripture Reading - Matthew 5:1-12 *pew Bibles p.* **785-6**

The Beatitudes
5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples
came to him. [2] And he began to speak and taught them, saying:
[3] "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
[4] "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
[5] "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
[6] "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
[7] "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
[8] "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
[9] "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
[10] "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.
[11] "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against
you falsely on my account. [12] Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the
same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Notes and Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements:

- Scripture readings: The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches in the U.S.A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
- Call to Worship: adapted from prayer by Katherine Hawker, http://liturgyoutside.net/beatitudes.pdf
- Refrain – "Open My Heart" Text: Chinese mantra. Music: Ana Hernández. ©2013 Ana Hernández.
- Presenting Our Gifts: Doxology: Text by Thomas Ken, 1674, alt. Music attrib. Louis Bourgeois; from Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551.

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WE WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE LAND ON WHICH WE GATHER IS THE TERRITORY OF THE MOHEGAN, MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT, EASTERN PEQUOT, SCHAGHTICOKE, GOLDEN HILL PAUGUSSETT, NIPMUC, AND LENAPE PEOPLES, WHO HAVE STEWARDED THIS LAND THROUGHOUT THE GENERATIONS. WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE IN PROTECTING THIS LAND, AND ASPIRE TO UPHOLD OUR RESPONSIBILITIES ACCORDING TO THEIR EXAMPLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION: https://nacp.uconn.edu/land-acknowledgement/



STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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