

## Kent United Church of Christ

*AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING, ACCESSIBLE TO ALL, and W.I.S.E. CONGREGATION*

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY**

**September 8, 2024**

**10am**

PRELUDE

*Prelude on "We Gather Together"*

arr. Matthew McConnell

GREETING

Rev. Amy Gopp, senior minister

CHORAL INTROIT

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Annabelle Case

Calling all children of the Living God: the gospel is good news for every age and every stage.

**Let us worship together, the young and the old.**

The good news is proclaimed in God's words, and also with crayons, silly songs, snacks, and naps.

**Let us worship together, every generation.**

We come together with different abilities and disabilities, learning in a rainbow of ways and styles.

**Let us worship together, with our family of faith.**

All are welcome in the arms of Christ who proclaimed, "Let the children come!"

**Let us worship together, united in our eternal hope.**

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Emily

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

\*BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER AND BLESSING

Marilyn Freeman & Pastor Emily

**Loving God, we come before you with prayers on our hearts. We offer to you our very lives that we may live according to your will.**

Congregation sings: "Take My Life, God, Let it Be" Hymn #448 verse 1

+++

Congregation sings: "Take My Life" verse 2

+++

Congregation sings: "Take My Life" verse 3

+++

Congregation sings: "Take My Life" verse 4

+++

**We pray for all those who learn—children, youth, young adults and adults.**

+++

\*HYMN OF FAITH (Insert)

*God of All Learning*

BUNESSAN

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

Mark 7:24-37

Here ends the reading from God's word.

**Thanks be to God, who is still speaking.**

SERMON

*Ephphatha!*

Pastor Emily

ANTHEM

*Amazing Grace*  
Chancel Choir

arr. Rollo Dilworth

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Amy

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN OF  
COMMITMENT #287

*Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God*  
Verses 1, 2, & 5

MURRAY

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Donna Hess, outreach ministry chair

DEDICATION OF SCHOOL KITS

Pastor Amy

We gather today in a spirit of service to dedicate and consecrate these Church World Service Kits to the ministry of God's kin-dom.

**We gather today as the people of God striving to manifest our faith  
in ways that will provide hope and healing to a broken world.**

As God proclaimed through the prophet Isaiah, "I am about to do something new. See I have already begun."

**God has begun this work through us,  
empowering us and inspiring us to do the good work of God's kingdom.**

We dedicate these kits to you, O God, that they may bring something new to all those in need.  
May they bring...

**Comfort to children displaced by famine,  
Hope to communities devastated by storms,  
Restoration to nations ravaged by war.**

May they bring...

**Healing to the hurting**

**Rest to the weary**

**Solace to the discouraged.**

May these kits be a beacon of light to those consumed by the darkness.

**For they have been filled with hope and packed with love.**

Holy God, as you have called us to be your servants, we have responded by assembling these kits. Bless them that they may do the work you intended. Use them that they may offer the newness you desire. Abide in them that those who receive them will know of your renewing and restoring love. Amen.

INVITATION TO GIVE AND RECEIVE

Marilyn Freeman

\*DOXOLOGY

**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.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Amy

\*CLOSING HYMN (Insert)

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

OPEN MY EYES

\*BENEDICTION

Pastor Emily

\*POSTLUDE

*Fanfare and Trumpet Tune on "Nettleton"*

arr. David Lasky

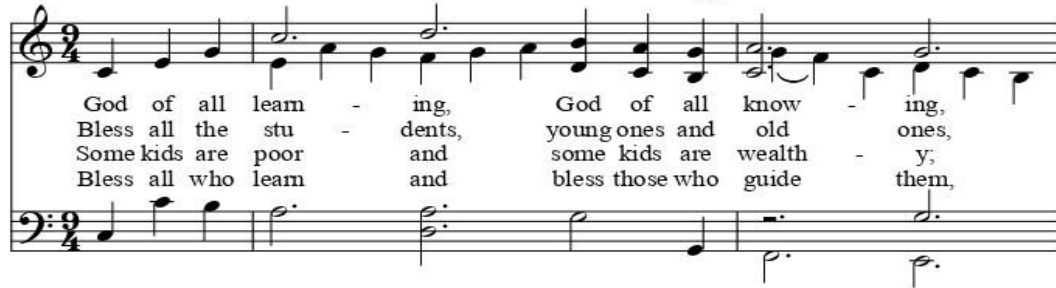
*The postlude signifies the end of worship. Please refrain from applause and feel free to depart.*

***Our service has ended. Now our service begins.  
You are the Body of Christ, and the whole world awaits you.***

*The flowers today are an offering from Jim and Terri Silver in honor of family and loved ones.*



## God of all learning



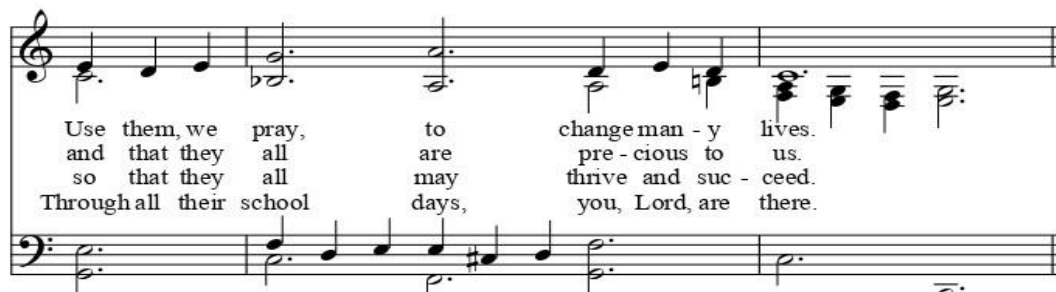
God of all learn - ing, God of all know - ing,  
 Bless all the stu - dents, young ones and old ones,  
 Some kids are poor and some kids are wealth - y,  
 Bless all who learn and bless those who guide them,



we bring these back - packs filled with sup - plies.  
 walk - ing or rid - ing, trav - eling by bus.  
 may we give all the tools that they need.  
 bless those who teach and coun - sel and care.



Bless all these tools of learn - ing and grow - ing.  
 May they re - mem - ber that you go with them,  
 May we make sure they're safe, loved and health - y.  
 May they re - mem - ber you walk be - side them.



Use them, we pray, to change man - y lives.  
 and that they all are pre - cious to us.  
 so that they all may thrive and suc - ceed.  
 Through all their school days, you, Lord, are there.

WORDS: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2015

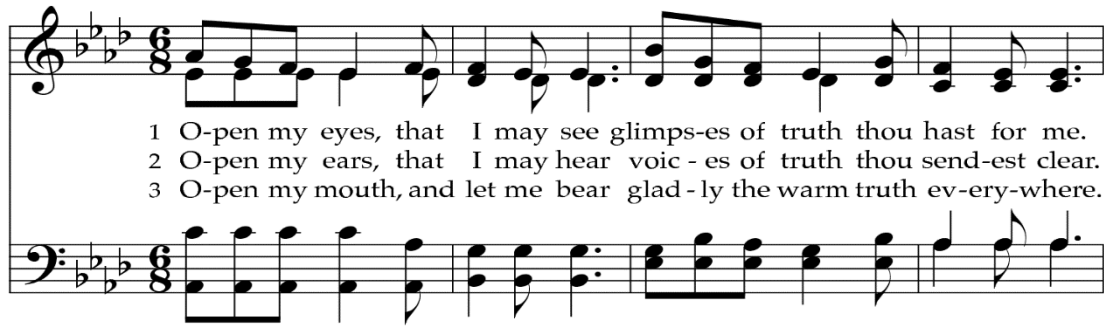
MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody; harm. by Dean McIntyre, 2013

BUNESSAN

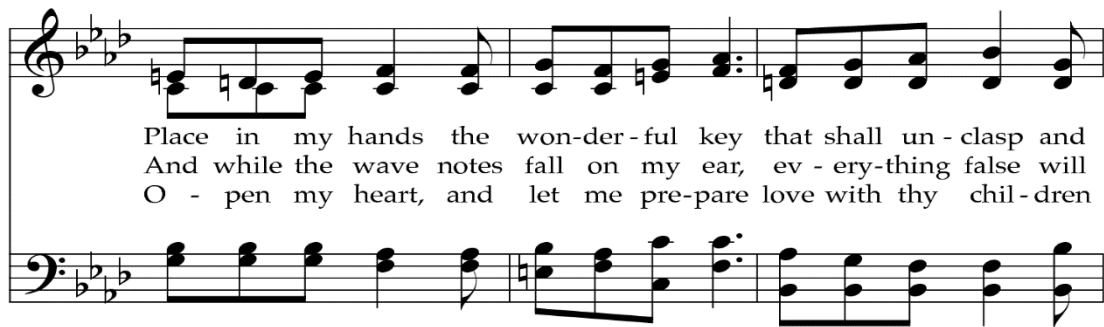
55.54 D

Words copyright © 2015 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Arrangement copyright © 2013  
 The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church, PO Box 340003,  
 Nashville TN 37203. Website [www.gbod.org/worship](http://www.gbod.org/worship). This music may be reproduced  
 and used in worship with the inclusion of the complete copyright citation on each copy.  
 It may not be used for profit, sold, altered, republished, or placed on a website.

# Open My Eyes, That I May See 451



1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.  
 2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.  
 3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un - clasp and  
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will  
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
 dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
 thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O - pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!  
 will to see. O - pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!  
 will to see. O - pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.