

**David's United Church of Christ**  
**August 27, 2023**  
**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Online Worship Bulletin**

Prelude – “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” John Hughes, arr. Gilbert M. Martin  
*Tim Williams & Lyn Morton*

Welcome & Announcements – *Rev. Dr. Brian Q. Newcomb*

Hymn – “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” vs. 1-3 & 6 (see lyrics below)

Call to Worship – *Pastor Emily Phillips*

One: What does this worship service need?

**Many: Quiet where faith can grow, song that blossoms hope, scripture that remembers love, honest words to untangle a small length of knotty existence, gifts offering service of the heart.**

One: Who shall come to the worship service?

**Many: All who need a break from the madding world and are lonely for the touch of God's love and grace in their lives, and the community of Christ followers.<sup>1</sup>**

Invocation

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Children's Moment – *Ted Eltzroth*

Mission Moment –

Invitation for Support – [www.davidsucc.org](http://www.davidsucc.org)

Offering our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory Music – “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Trad. American melody,  
arr. Dale Wood

Doxology      **Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**  
                    **Praise Christ all creatures here below.**  
                    **Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter.**  
                    **One God Triune whom we adore. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn – “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” (see lyrics below)

Canticle – Habakkuk 1: 1-5 (adapted from The Message)

One: The problem as God gave Habakkuk to see it:

**Many: God, how long do I have to cry out for help before you listen?**

One: How many times do I have to yell, "Help! Murder! Police!" before you come to the rescue?

**Many: Why do you force us to look at evil, stare trouble in the face day after day? Anarchy and violence break out, division everywhere we look, quarrels and fights all over the place.**

One: The rule of law, and order fall to pieces. Justice looks like a joke.

**Many: The wicked have the righteous hamstrung and stand justice on its head.**

One: God says, "Look!" "Look around at the godless nations. Look long and hard. Brace yourselves for a shock.

**Many: Something is about to take place that you're going to find hard to believe.**

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession – **Merciful God, whose care never ceases, we come to you as we are. We are tired from trying to do more than we can manage. We are anxious about the problems of our world that go unresolved, and are worried about events far beyond our control. We do not easily let go. For mistakes we cannot redeem, for tasks left undone, for uncertain goals, we need your forgiveness and ask for your understanding. For recovery of strength and passion, we pray for your Spirit. For fullness of life, generous hearts, and contented souls, we pray to be followers of Christ Jesus. In your mercy, restore and lead us. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Prayers of God's People, Silent Prayers, & Our Lord's Prayer

Special Music – "Not Too Far From Here" Ty Lacy & Steve Silter  
sung by *Kristen Allen-Vogel*

Scripture Lessons – Hebrew – Psalm 40: 1-5  
Job: 24:

Sermon – "The Mystery of Evil and Human Suffering"

Hymn – "Many Gifts, One Spirit" (see lyrics below)

Benediction

Postlude – "The Church's One Foundation" Samuel S. Wesley, arr. John Innes

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<sup>1</sup>Reprinted by permission of the publishers from *Touch Holiness*, ed. Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. © 2012 by The Pilgrim Press.

1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of thy throne, still may we dwell se - cure;  
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,  
 4. A thou - sand a - ges, in thy sight, are like an eve - ning gone;  
 5. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, bears all who breathe a - way;  
 6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come;

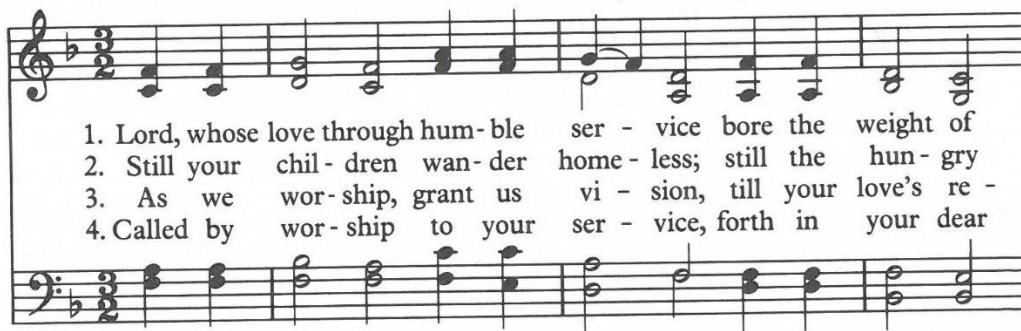
our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home!  
 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 from ev - er - last - ing, thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 short as the watch that ends the night, be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
 they fly for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the open - ing day.  
 be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 90)

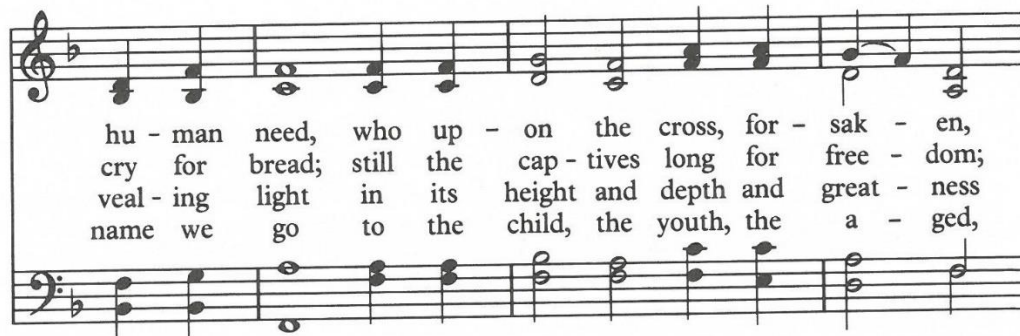
MUSIC: Attr. to William Croft, 1708; harm. by W. H. Monk, 1861

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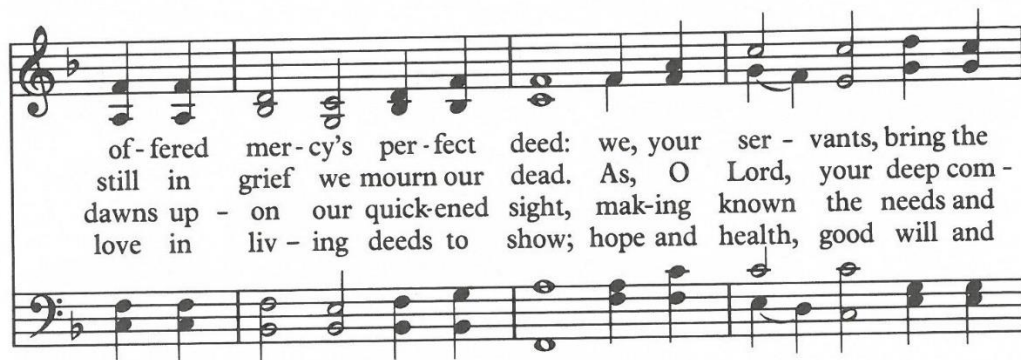
# 581 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service



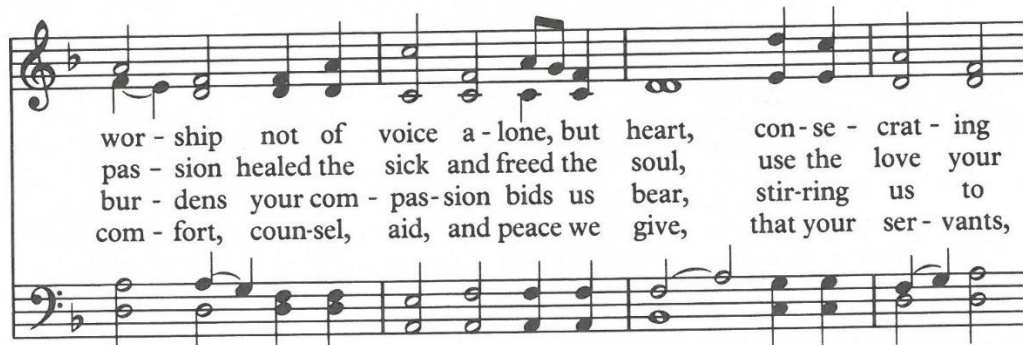
1. Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of  
 2. Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry  
 3. As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-  
 4. Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear



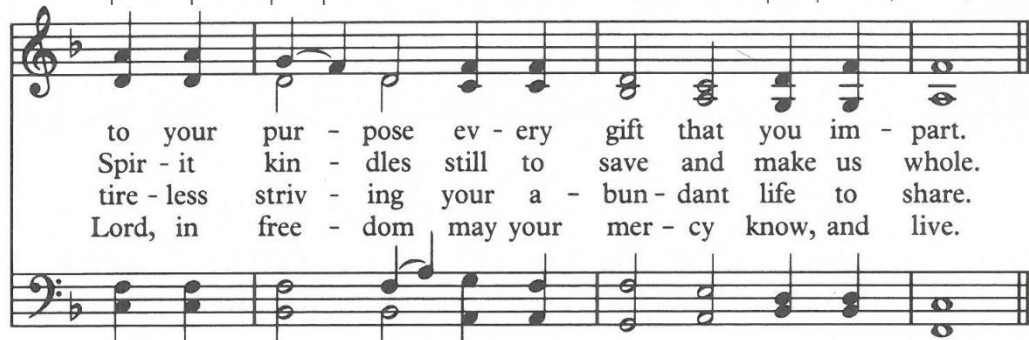
hu-man need, who up-on the cross, for-sak-en,  
 cry for bread; still the cap-tives long for free-dom;  
 veal-ing light in its height and depth and great-ness  
 name we go to the child, the youth, the a-ged,



of-fered mer-cy's per-fect deed: we, your ser-vants, bring the  
 still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep com-  
 dawns up-on our quick-ened sight, mak-ing known the needs and  
 love in liv-ing deeds to show; hope and health, good will and



wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart, con-se-crating  
 pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your  
 bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear, stir-ring us to  
 com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give, that your ser-vants,



to your pur-pose ev-ery gift that you im-part.  
 Spir-it kin-dles still to save and make us whole.  
 tire-less striv-ing your a-bun-dant life to share.  
 Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know, and live.



## Many Gifts, One Spirit

C G C F G C

1. God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space,  
 2. God of man - y col - ors, God of man - y signs,  
 3. Fresh-ness of the morn - ing, new-ness of each night,

E Am D7 G

when we fear the fu - ture, give to us your grace.  
 you have made us dif - ferent, bless-ing man - y kinds.  
 you are still cre - at - ing end-less love and light.

G7 C F C G7 C G7 C

In the midst of chang-ing ways give us still the grace to praise.  
 As the old ways dis-ap-pear, let your love cast out our fear.  
 This we see, as shad-ows part, man-y gifts from one great heart.