Westminster
Presbyterian Church
353 E. Pine St., Wooster, OH. 44691
330-263-2398 / wpcwooster@gmail.com

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 10, 2023

Welcome and Announcements — **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Let us open our hearts and minds to the rhythm of the gathering music as it centers us in God's presence for worship.

Minute for Mission for the Peace and Global Witness Offering — **Shelley Peterson**

Prelude — "Hyfrydol" — ***Rowland Prichard***
Flute Trio: Kathy Helmuth, Ellen MacMaster, Susan Shaw

***Gathering Words** — **Joel Chupp**

*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

Breathe…
In and out, each breath both ordinary and a miracle.
In and out, each breath in sync with the artist whose breath was our first.
Close enough to look into each other's eyes,
seeing this new world for the first time.
Breathing together with God,
we come alive.

Opening Prayer — **Joel Chupp**

In the beginning, Your hand worked the soil,
forming and planting and teaching us how to care for your garden.
In the beginning, Your compassion created community.
In the beginning, You offered all that is good and invited us to trust.
Make today a new beginning, Lord God.
Work the soil of our hearts by hand,
form and plant and teach,
create us into your compassionate community,
and give us courage to accept your invitation to goodness.
Amen.

*Opening Hymn No. 24 "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" *Holy Manna*

Call to Confession Joel Chupp

Will this season be a time of new life, new ways for us –
or will we continue to live the same old way?
Let us confess to our God our failures, as well as our hopes,
as we begin this new season of life.

Prayer of Confession Joel Chupp

Not in the abstract, but in the particular,
You create, O God.
You see what is needed, and you bring it into being,
weaving together earth and water, garden and steward, companions and partners,
a careful balance of color and sound and silence and texture,
your living vision.

We confess that we have cared little for your balance,
and under our weight the tapestry has torn.
We do not steward, we exploit.
We do not partner, we dominate.
We do not work together, we stand alone and above.

Forgive us for forgetting our interdependence
with the soil and the companions you gave us.

Not in the abstract, but in the particular,
in this place, in this land, with this water,
breathing this air, in these bodies,
forgive us and set us once again
in our rightful place in your beautiful world.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 701 "Lord, Prepare Me" *(sung multiple times)* *Sanctuary*

Assurance of Forgiveness **Joel Chupp**

Beloveds, wherever we go,
under whatever conditions we find ourselves,
the Spirit of the Living God goes with us.
We trust the good news: God is present with us, forgiving and transforming us,
calling us back into relationship with God and all creation.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Musical Offering **"Twilight"** ***Herman Beeftink***

Flute Trio: Kathy Helmuth, Ellen MacMaster, Susan Shaw

We offer our gifts of money, talents, time, and energy—the gifts of our lives in gratitude for God's relentless love and grace for all. These gifts represent our commitment to heed God's call and join God in God's mission
of healing and transforming our world.

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading **Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25 (Common English Bible)** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

On the day the Lord God made earth and sky—[5] before any wild plants appeared on the earth, and
before any field crops grew, because the Lord God hadn't yet sent rain on the earth and there was still
no human being to farm the fertile land, [6] though a stream rose from the earth and watered all of the
fertile land—[7] the Lord God formed the human from the topsoil of the fertile land and blew life's
breath into their nostrils. The human came to life. [8] The Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east
and put there the human God had formed. [9] In the fertile land, the Lord God grew every beautiful tree
with edible fruit, and also God grew the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil.

[15] The Lord God took the human and settled them in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of
it. [16] The Lord God commanded the human, "Eat your fill from all of the garden's trees; [17] but don't eat
from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it, you will die!"
[18] Then the Lord God said, "It's not good that the human is alone. I will make them a helper that is
perfect for them." [19] So the Lord God formed from the fertile land all the wild animals and all the birds
in the sky and brought them to the human to see what they would name them. The human gave each

living being its name. 20 The human named all the livestock, all the birds in the sky, and all the wild animals. But a helper perfect for them was nowhere to be found.

21 So the Lord God put the human into a deep and heavy sleep and took one of their ribs and closed up the flesh over it. 22 With the rib taken from the human, the Lord God fashioned a woman and brought her to the human being. 23 The human said, "This one finally is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh. She will be called a woman because from a man she was taken."
24 This is the reason that a man leaves his father and mother and embraces his wife, and they become one flesh.

25 The two of them were naked, the man and his wife, but they weren't embarrassed.

Sermon **Created for Relationship** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

***Hymn No. 286** **"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"**
Trentham

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Joel Chupp**

Prayer of the people **Joel Chupp**

Through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kin-dom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn No. 767** **"Together We Serve"** *San Anselmo*

Benediction **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Postlude **"Pachelbel's Canon of Peace"** ***arr. P. Liebergen***

The service continues with fellowship.

* The prayers were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, who creates liturgy for the *Bibleworm Narrative Lectionary Collaborative.*
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Flutes – Kathy Helmuth, Ellen MacMaster, Susan Shaw

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To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you are moved to support our ministry, we invite you to place your gifts in the plate.



You may also give online through our website by clicking on the "GIVE NOW" button at the bottom of the home page. Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, Sept. 10

- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
  Packing of school bookbags; ice cream and brownies served
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, Sept. 11

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Tuesday, Sept. 12

- League of Women Voters event in Mackey Hall, 7-8.30 pm
  Civil Discourse Series on Immigration, featuring Wooster High School Lincoln Douglas Debate team: "Justice Requires Open Borders for Human Immigration."

Thursday, Sept. 14

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place
- WPC Book Group – 7 pm – Zoom

Sunday, Sept. 17

- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place



Westminster Presbyterian Church
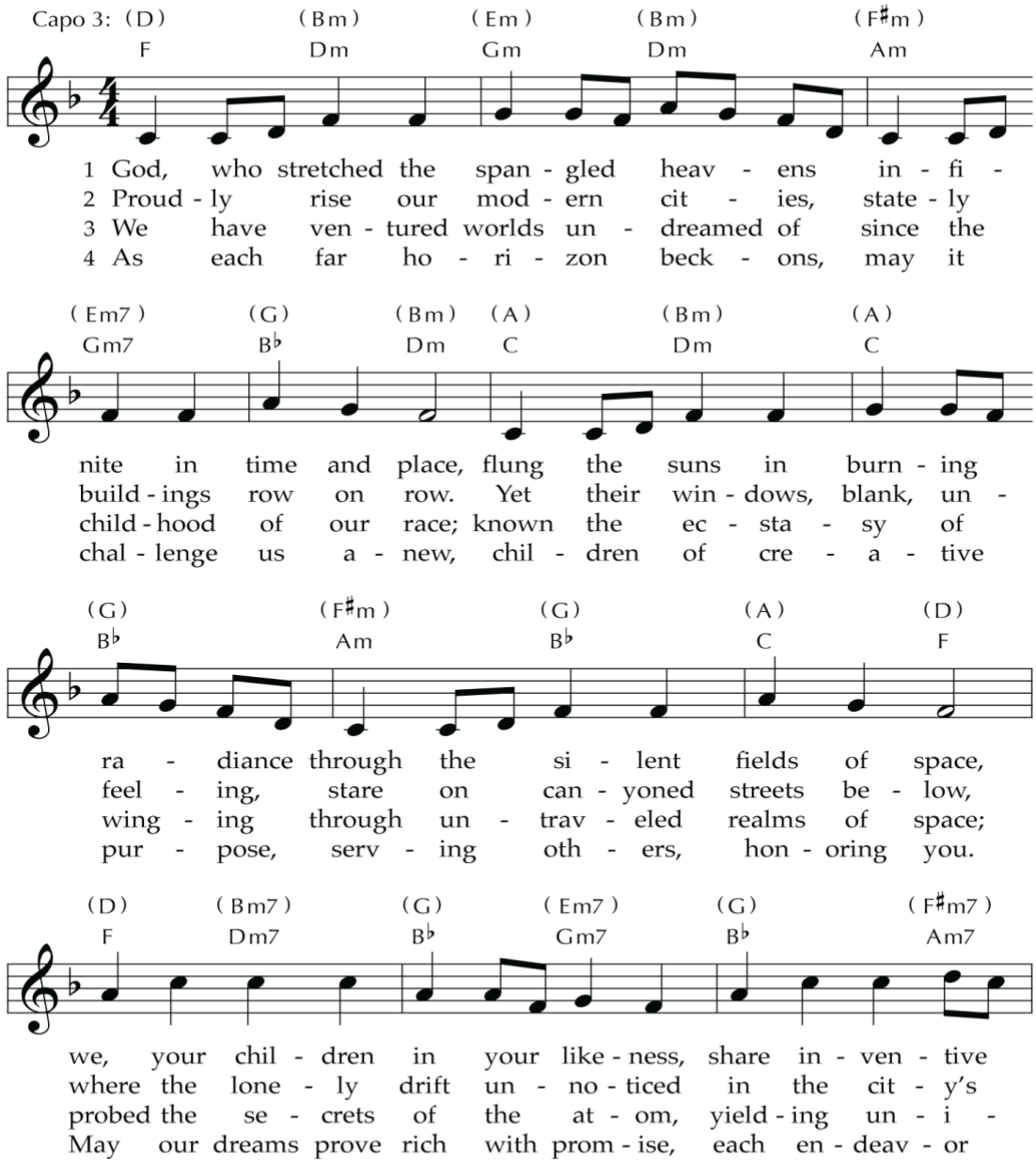
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

wpcwooster@gmail.com: 330.263.2398
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Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

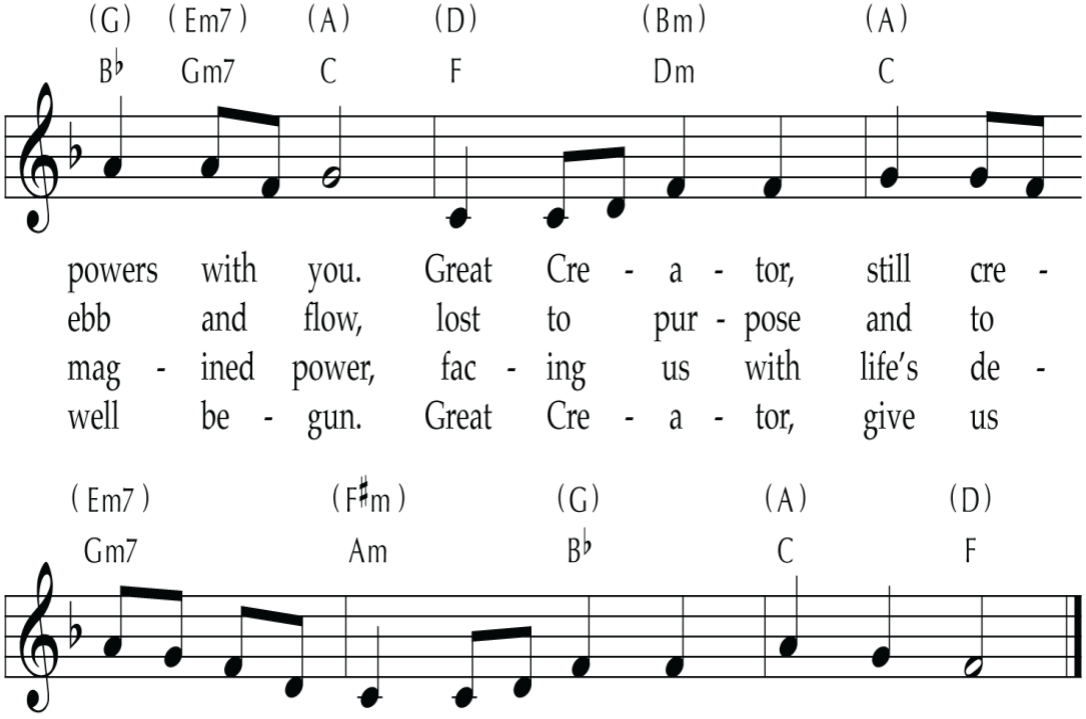
24 God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



The crux of this text comes in the second stanza: if we dare to claim God-given abilities, we need also to show God-like compassion for the human needs that confront us daily. The earthy shape note tune provides a further reminder that we must not lose our heads in the clouds.

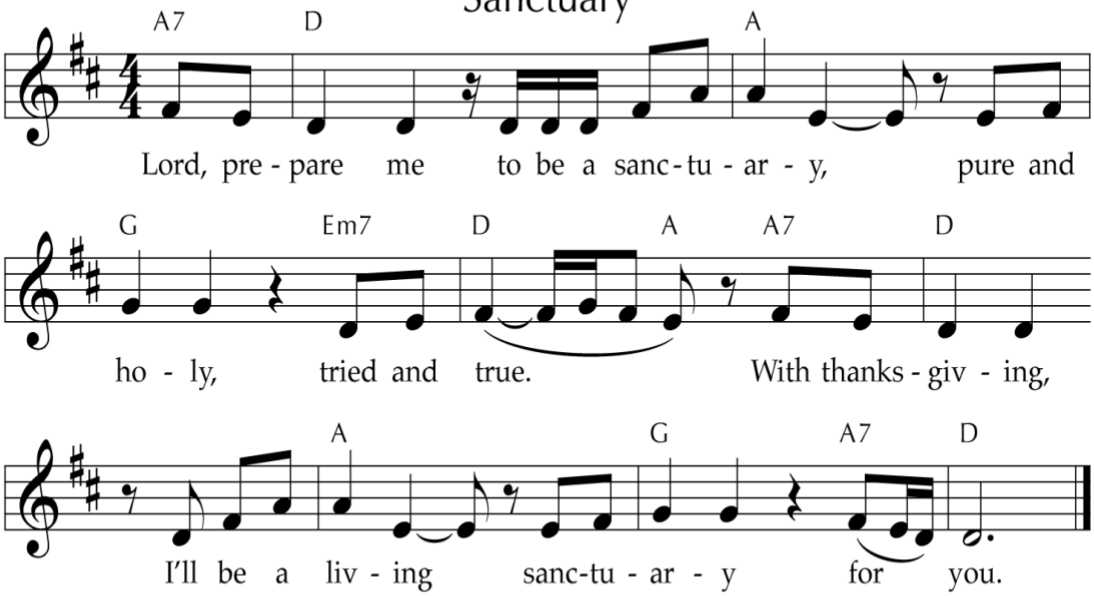
TEXT: Catherine Cameron, 1967, alt.
MUSIC: Attr. William Moore, 1825; harm. Charles Anders, 1969
Text © 1967 Hope Publishing Company
Music Harm. © 1969 Contemporary Music I: Hymns *(admin. Augsburg Fortress)*

HOLY MANNA
8.7.8.7.D
(alternate harmonization, 396)


(G) (Em7) (A) (D) (Bm) (A)
B♭ Gm7 C F Dm C
powers with you. Great Cre - a - tor, still cre -
ebb and flow, lost to pur - pose and to
mag - ined power, fac - ing us with life's de -
well be - gun. Great Cre - a - tor, give us
(Em7) (F♯m) (G) (A) (D)
Gm7 Am B♭ C F
at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
mean - ing, scarce - ly car - ing where they go.
struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Lord, Prepare Me 701

Sanctuary

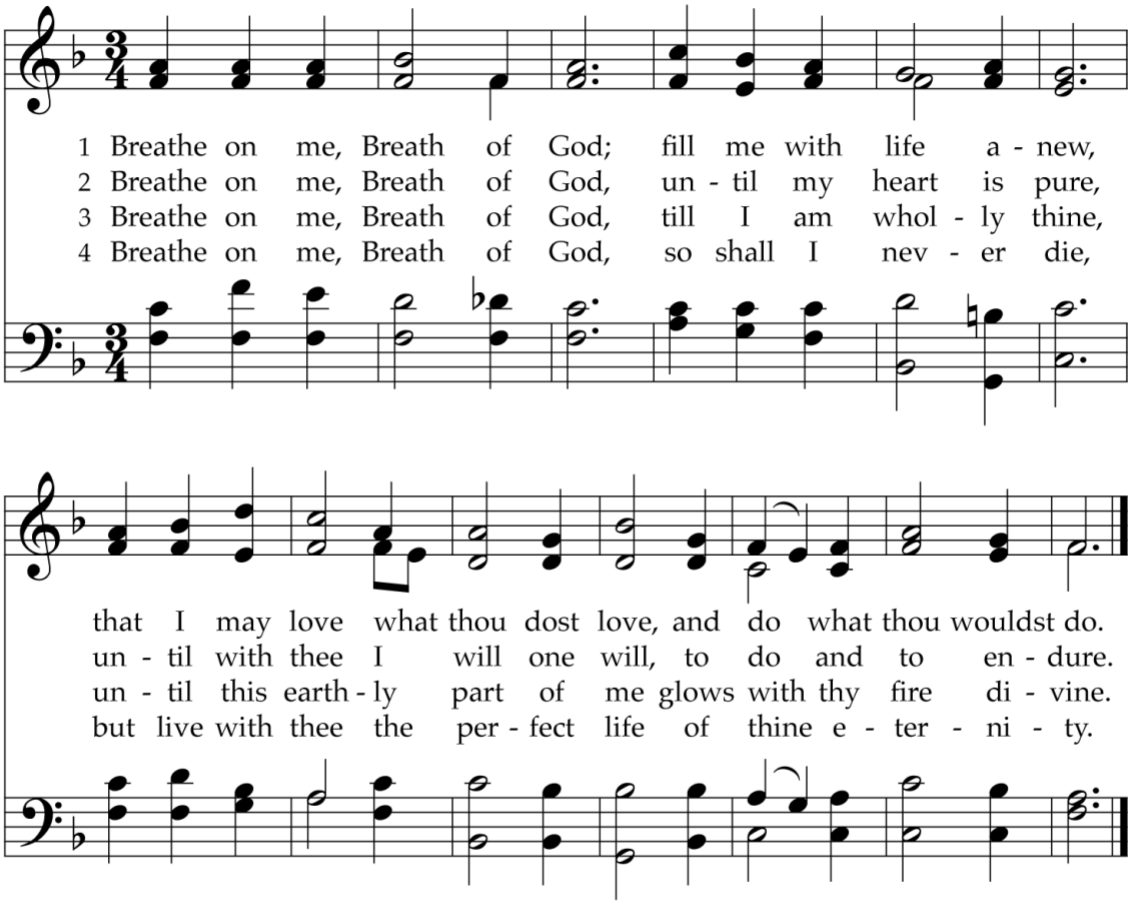


The lines given here convey the central message of the longer song for which they form the refrain. The principal Scripture reference is 1 Corinthians 3:16–17, Paul's reminder to the Christians at Corinth that "[they] are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in [them]."

TEXT: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982
MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982; arr. Nylea L. Butler-Moore
Text and Music © 1982 Full Armor Music Publishing Co.
Music Arr. © 2013 Full Armor Music Publishing Co. (admin. in the U.S.A. Peermusic III, Ltd./Hal Leonard Corp.)

SANCTUARY
Irregular

Breathe on Me, Breath of God 286

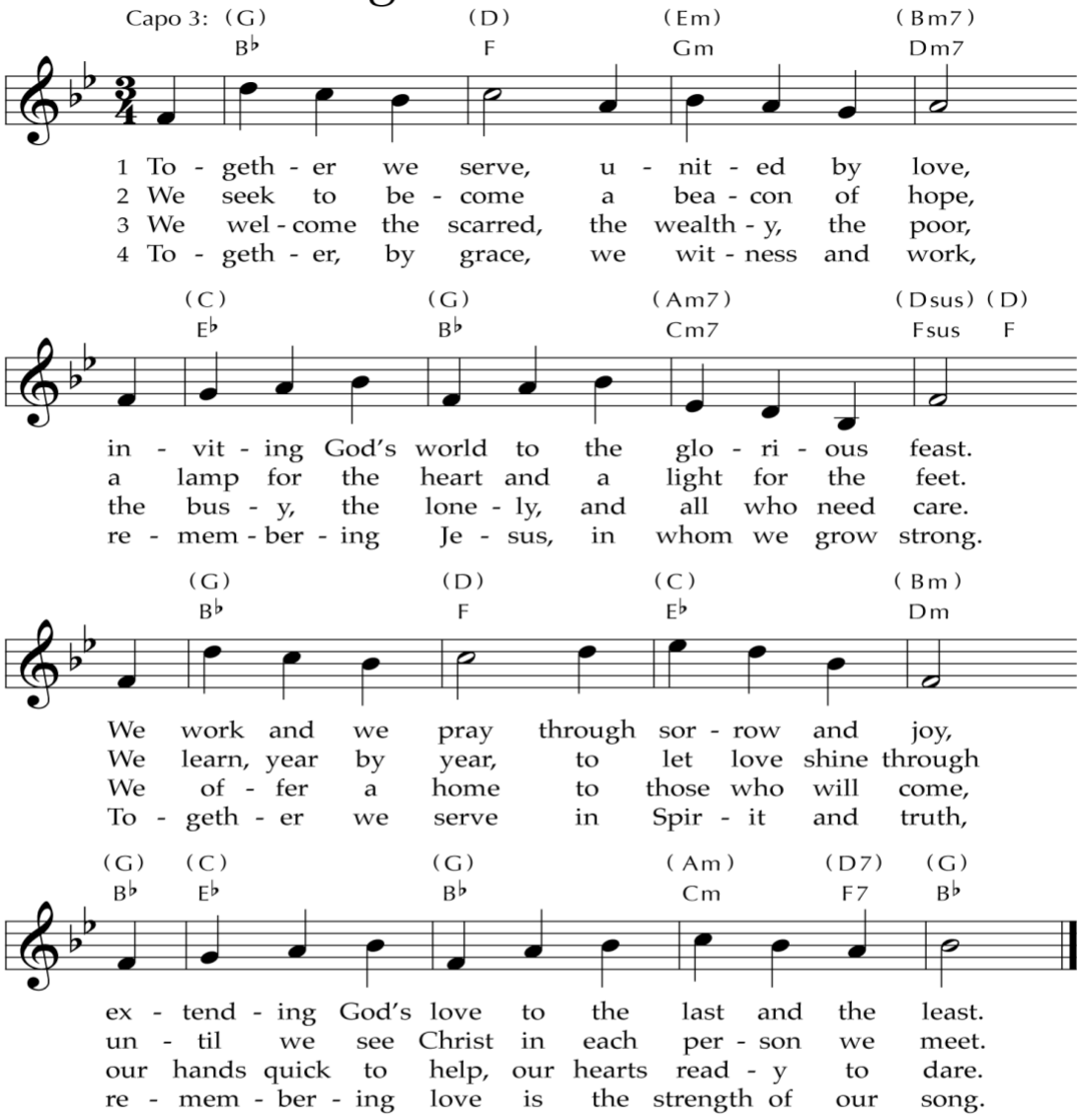


In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

TEXT: Edwin Hatch, 1878
MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

TRENTHAM
SM

Together We Serve 767



The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11–16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.

TEXT and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon, 1996
Text and Music © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

SAN ANSELMO
5.5.11.D