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

May 7, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday

Welcome and Announcements — **Rev. Dr. Enikő 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.

Prelude — **"Bourrée"** — ***G. P. Telemann***

Bob Iams, piano

***Gathering Words** — **Barbara Tartir**

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

Called to be God's people,
we come seeking grace and peace.
Put right with God, from beginning to end,
we have life, we have love, we have faith.
In our agreements and in our differences, in our faith and in our lives,
We are all God's people.

***Opening Prayer** — **Barbara Tartir**

Let us pray…

You share yourself with us, O God —
your love, your life, your vision.
You have committed yourself to your creation and to your people,
and called us to commit ourselves in return.

Set us free from our fear of the unknown ahead of us,
and empower us to respond to your faith in us
with faithfulness to your ways.

As you have changed the world with resurrection,
may we too be transformed into new life.
Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 619 "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" *Lauda Anima*

Call to Confession Barbara Tartir

Let us confess ourselves to the God who loves us and welcomes us exactly as we are.
Let us pray together the prayer of confession …

Prayer of Confession Barbara Tartir

Gracious and loving God, you claim us as your own.
You call us into community, and you bless us with different gifts,
different ways to see the world, to bring about your world of abundance for all.
We confess that sometimes we use our differences to cause division and disunity among your family.
We find mutuality difficult because we don't like to be vulnerable.
We forget to nurture our own spirits, let alone those of others, and let the Body grow weak.

Forgive us, O God.
Remind us that we are all one in Christ Jesus, and that we are all loved equally by you.
Empower us to follow the Living Christ in our words and actions, in all we do each day.
In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 300 "We *Are One in the Spirit"*
Scholtes/F.E.L.

(First verse)

Assurance of Forgiveness Barbara Tartir

This is the good news for us, my friends: God is faithful to us and forgives us.
God renews our faithfulness so we might live as people of love and hope.
We will sing our praises to the One who has made us whole.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Musical Offering **"Morning Song" from "Little Suite"** *C. Gurlitt*

Bob Iams, piano

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 **Romans 1:1-17 (Common English Bible)** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

1 From Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for God's good news. 2-3 God promised this good news about his Son ahead of time through his prophets in the holy scriptures. His Son was descended from David. 4 He was publicly identified as God's Son with power through his resurrection from the dead, which was based on the Spirit of holiness. This Son is Jesus Christ our Lord. 5 Through him we have received God's grace and our appointment to be apostles. This was to bring all Gentiles to faithful obedience for his name's sake. 6 You who are called by Jesus Christ are also included among these Gentiles.

7 To those in Rome who are dearly loved by God and called to be God's people.
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

8 First of all, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because the news about your faithfulness is being spread throughout the whole world. 9 I serve God in my spirit by preaching the good news about God's Son, and God is my witness that I continually mention you 10 in all my prayers. I'm always asking that somehow, by God's will, I might succeed in visiting you at last. 11 I really want to see you to pass along some spiritual gift to you so that you can be strengthened. 12 What I mean is that we can mutually encourage each other while I am with you. We can be encouraged by the faithfulness we find in each other, both your faithfulness and mine.

13 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that I planned to visit you many times, although I have been prevented from coming until now. I want to harvest some fruit among you, just as I have done among the other Gentiles. 14 I have a responsibility both to Greeks and to those who don't speak Greek, both to the wise and to the foolish.

15 That's why I'm ready to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome. 16 I'm not ashamed of the gospel: it is God's own power for salvation to all who have faith in God, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 God's righteousness is being revealed in the gospel, from faithfulness for faith, as it is written, *The righteous person will live by faith.*

Sermon Go Boldly Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy

Communion Hymn No. 515 "I Come with Joy" *Dove of Peace*

Communion Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

We praise you this day, O God, for the gift of your Church,
for your people in every time and place
whose faithfulness encourages and sustains,
whose commitment to your way has changed neighborhood and nation,
whose trust in you has brought us to faith too.
We give you thanks for those who have shared your good news,
taught by word and example,
prayed and listened and healed and encouraged,
witnessed to your presence and your power and your purpose.

We give thanks for Jesus Christ, in whom you have shown your love,
whenever and wherever we look.
In Jesus, you show us how to build community with those whom society considers worthless,
So that all may feast on your mercy and hope.
In Jesus, you have reached out to break the power death over our lives.
In Jesus, you show us the cost of following your ways, as he willingly gave his life,
So that all may know life in fullness.

Pour out your Spirit upon the gifts of the Table,
and on the people being woven into your community in this place.
As we eat of the bread, may we find that life of serving
the poor, the hungry, the lost, the hopeless.
As we drink from the cup, may we find the strength to lose our selves
in sharing your peace, in giving water to the thirsty, in becoming friends with the oppressed.

Through the ages you have been faithful, O God,
and we trust you are still moving in this place,
creating your beloved community
from the odd mix of saints you have called together for your glory.
Make us a reflection of your goodness,
a witness to your liberating grace,
an encouragement to your people,
an example for all to see your kin-dom come on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

Words of Institution
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

Closing Hymn No. 366** **"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"** ***Hyfrydol

***Benediction** **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

Postlude **"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing"** ***arr. J Holstein***

The service continues with fellowship.

* The Gathering Words were adapted from *Spill the Beans;* all other prayers were adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, written for BibleWorm Narrative Lectionary series.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Bob Iams, piano
*Sunday service flowers: Barbara Tartir
*Sunday service treats: Barbara Tartir



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.

GIVE NOW

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.

****

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 7

- Choir rehearsal – 9 am – The Meeting **Place**
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, May 8

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall
- Called Session meeting – 6.30 pm – The Lounge

Tuesday, May 9

- Worship Committee – 1 pm – The Lounge

Thursday, May 11

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am– The Meeting Place
- Building Committee – 10 am – The Lounge

Sunday, May 14

- Walking in Mindfulness/Oak Hill Park Pavilion – 7.30 am
- Choir Rehearsal – 9 am – The Meeting Place
- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place
- Chamber Music Concert: Paris Serenade – 7 pm - Mackey Hall
  (Susan Shaw, flute & Ken Shafer, piano)

Westminster Presbyterian Church

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

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.
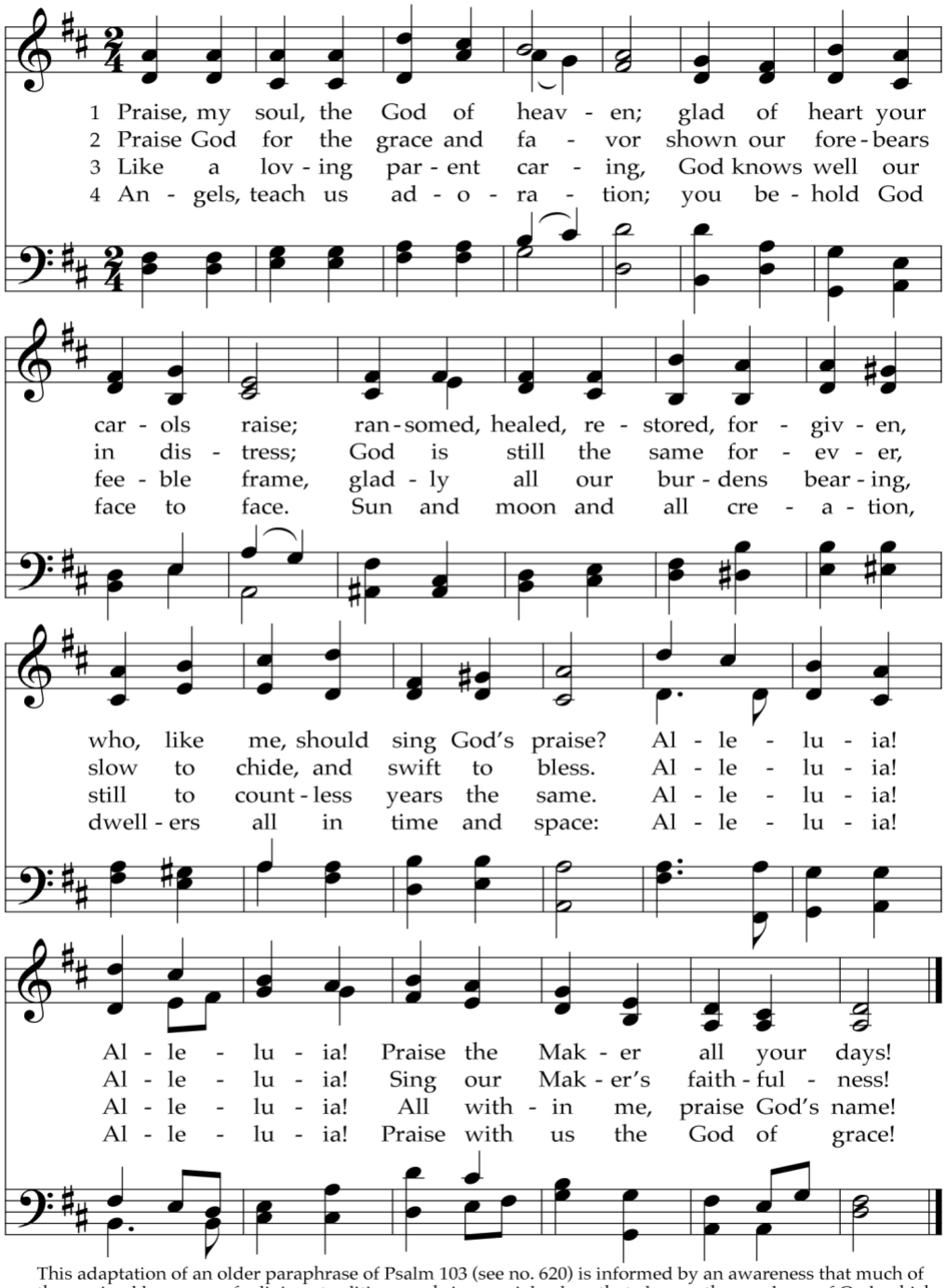
wpcwooster@gmail.com: 330.263.2398
facebook.com/wpcwooster | instagram.com/wpc_wooster/

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.


community
Westminster
Wooster
faith
Presbyterian
Worship
Hospitality
Church
Christianity
Choir
Christ
justice
College
inclusive
Inclusive
ministry
Dance
Social-Justice
church
seekers
local
members
compassion
life
campus
global
mission
place
give
sense
Membership
welcoming
acts
causes
ministries
value
website
strong
congregation
traditional
people
believers
commitment
regardless
believe
Potluck
celebrating
work
world
peace
explore
larger
participation
Vegan
acceptance
need
embrace
find
communities
orientation
identified
worship
Wayne
social
difference
God
make
gifts
Jesus
Congregational
background
economic
Immigration
Faith
Offering
Eco-Justice
expectation
endeavor
Informal
ability
race
typically
planet
advocacy
Pack
number
Justice
openness
encourage
seek
Peacemaking
Internationally
Rehearsal
Christian
utilizes
either
year
become
era
test
Get
expression
Zaid
promote
gender
Welcome
material
especially
covenant
Breakfast
condition
continues
education
religious
located
CAMO
proclaim
attendance
strives
God's
provides
drawn
creed
college
Red
elder
including
assert
provide
Offering
member
feel

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven 619

(Psalm 103)
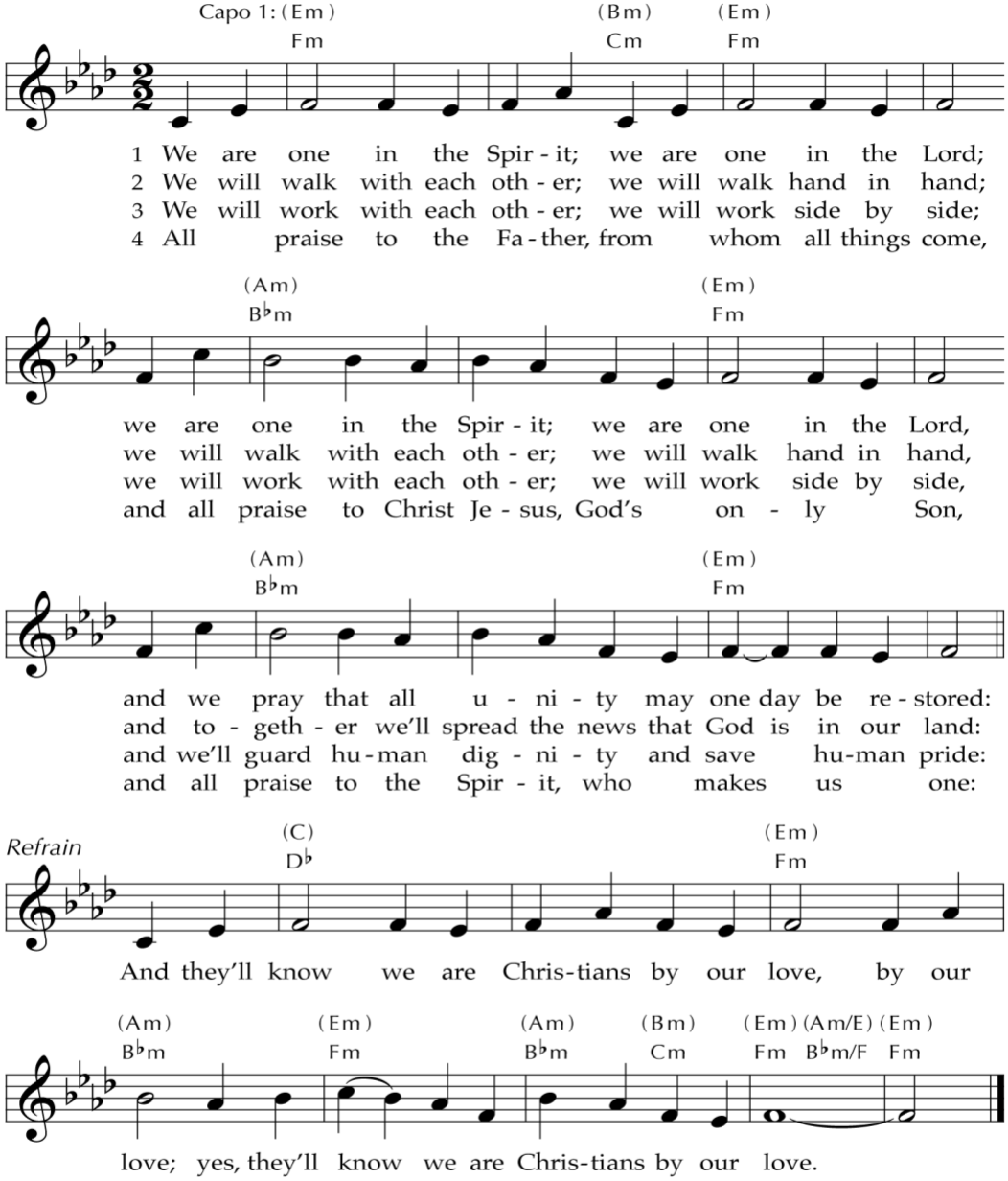


This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

TEXT: Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; adapt. Ecumenical Women's Center, 1974
MUSIC: John Goss, 1869
Text Adapt. © 1974 Ecumenical Women's Center

LAUDA ANIMA
8.7.8.7.8.7

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love
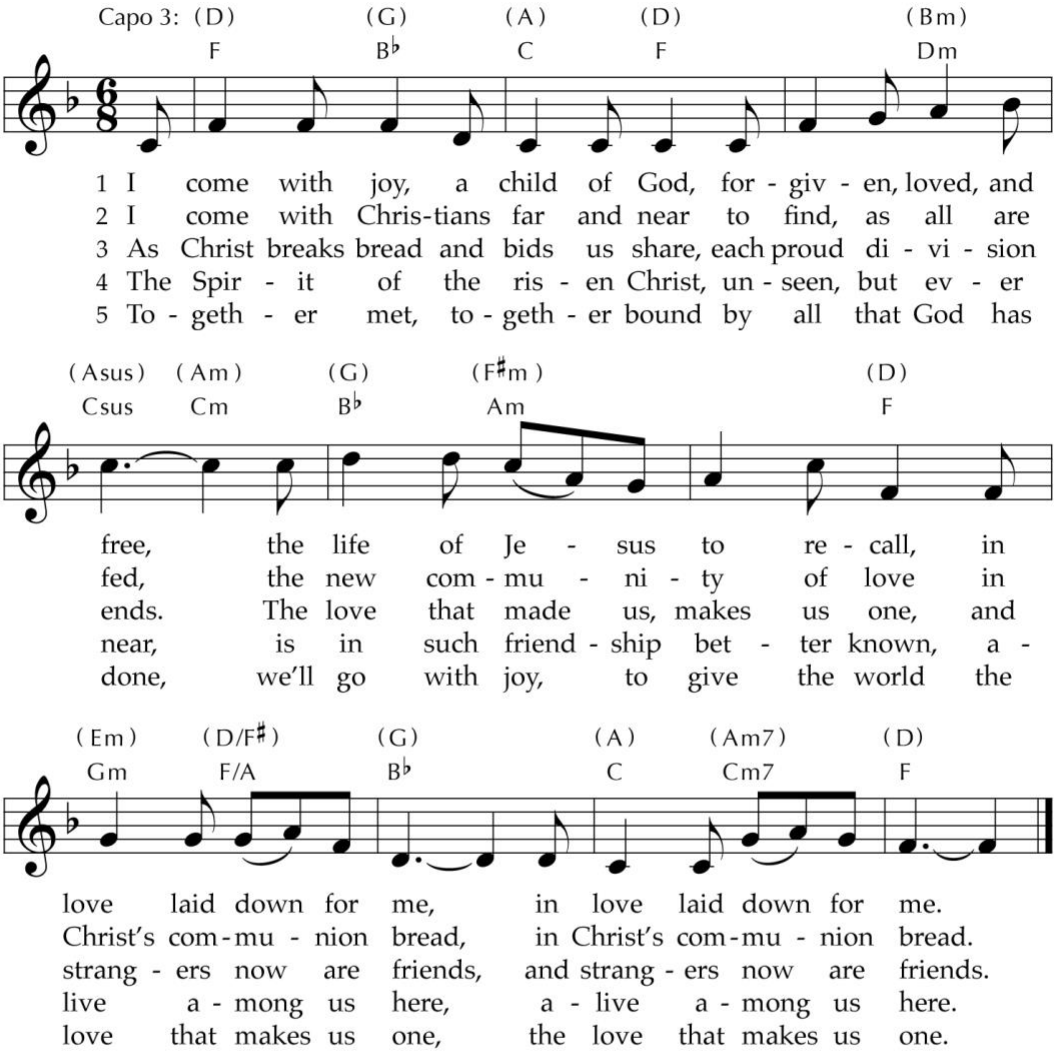


A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

TEXT and MUSIC: Peter Scholtes, 1966
Text and Music © 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp.

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
7.6.7.6.8.6 with refrain

I Come with Joy 515



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

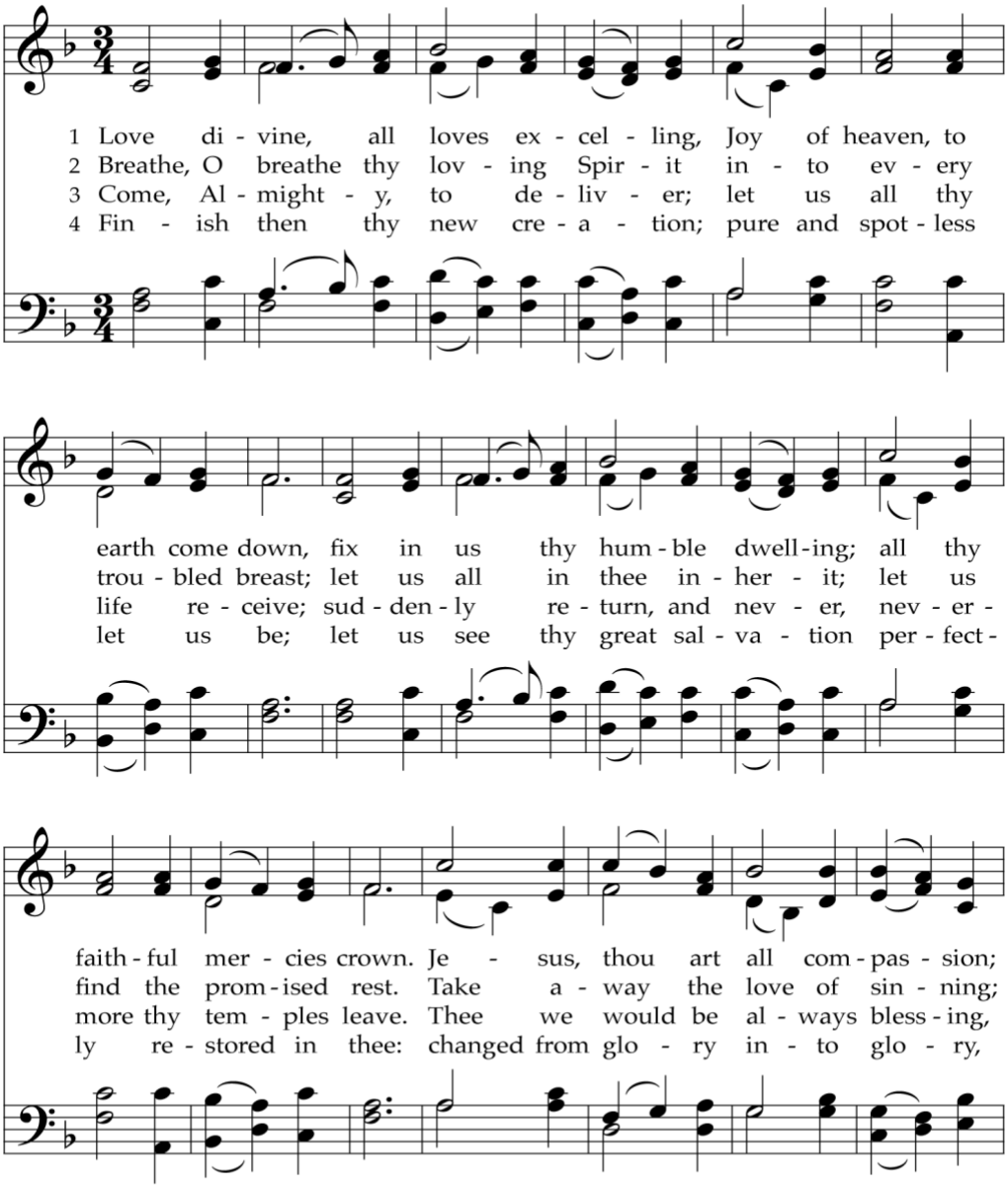
This text affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we." The unadorned language of this text is well matched to the simple shape note tune that sets it here.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1993
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977
Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company
Music Arr. © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

DOVE OF PEACE
8.6.8.6.6

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT
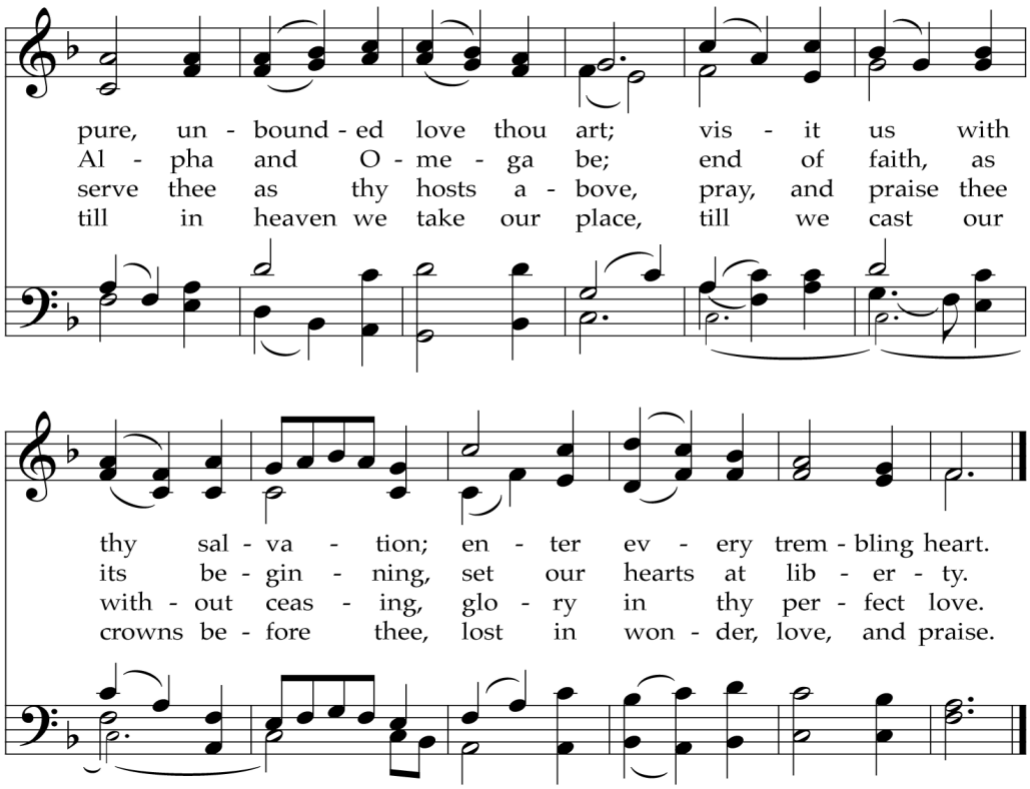
366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1747, alt.
MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831, alt.

HYFRYDOL
8.7.8.7.D


pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our
thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.