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

All Saints Sunday
Communion
November 5, 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.

Prelude — **"Hymn of Promise"** — ***N. Sleeth (arr. J. Ferguson)***

***Gathering Words** — **Sherry Hatter-Miller**

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

When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,
God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust.
When we stand at the edge of the world's pain and need,
Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service.
When we stand at the edge of our hunger and thirst:
the Spirit invites us to sit at the Table of grace.

Opening Prayer — **Sherry Hatter-Miller**

God-ever-with-us:
draw us near to your heart, so that, cradled in compassion,
we might see the brokenness of all who are around us.

Teacher-beside-us:
draw us near to yourself, so that, by following you,
we may discover the deep joy of serving the broken of the world.

Spirit-within-us:

draw near to us with your peace, so that, our dryness drenched and lives made whole,
we may be the healers of a world shattered by despair.
In your name we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 476 "Crashing Waters at Creation" *Crashing Waters

Call to Confession Eric Miller

We know how easy it is to do exactly the opposite of what we learn from our Teacher, Jesus.
So, let us draw near to our God, for in confessing our failures,
we will discover the grace and mercy God has in store for us.
Join me as we pray, saying our unison prayer of confession…

Prayer of Confession Eric Miller

When we come to the edge of your holiness, Constant Love,
we know how we have not lived as your children.
We dam up for ourselves your rivers of love,
while the lives around us turn into deserts of loneliness.
All too quickly, we place our feet on the quicksand of fear,
not wanting to step across to your faith.
We unleash our angers and worries and devastate your children and our planet.

Forgive us, Merciful God.

Empower us to practice walking in your ways.
Inspire us by those from ages past who have served with faith, hope, and love,
so we learn to live as siblings of the One who is the Living Water,
source of life eternal, Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" *In Babilone*

Assurance of Forgiveness **Eric Miller**

This is the good news: God hears us. God forgives us.
God is with us as we journey into God's reign of abundance.

Let the redeemed of God say: this is indeed great news!
Accepting God's word of joy and grace,
we will live as God's children in all the days to come. Amen.

Musical Offering **"Canon of Peace"** ***J. Pachelbel (arr. P. Liebergen)***
Westminster Choir
Ken Shafer, piano; Susan Shaw, Flute

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 Readings **Psalm 107: 1-7a, 35-37** ***(NRSV translation)*** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**
Revelation 7:15-17 ***(NRSV translation)***

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.
2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble
3 and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
4 Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;
5 hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.
6 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and God delivered them from their distress;
7 God led them by a straight way.

35 God turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water.
36 And there God lets the hungry live, and they establish a town to live in;
37 they sow fields and plant vineyards and get a fruitful yield.

Revelation 7:15-17

15 For this reason they
[multitudes from every nation, from all tribes, and peoples, and languages]
are before the throne of God and worship God day and night within God's temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,
17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Sermon	**Make Us Whole**	**Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**
***Hymn No. 326**	**"For All the Saints"**	***Sine Nomine***
Celebrating The Lord's Supper	***(please see insert)***	**Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving Remembering the Saints

The God of all people be with you in these moments.
May God be with you as well.
May we unite our hearts in glorifying our God.
Our souls and voices come together in glad songs of joy.

God you have been with us throughout the ages.
You have borne witness to the ways in which the story of us – of all that has come into being – has been woven together piece by piece, life by life.

We recognize, today, that it is because of the saints who have gone before us, that we are.

We give you thanks for your faithful people
who have taught us your grace —
for those whose zeal inspires us, and for those whose quiet strength shines through, and for those who have worked faithfully day in and day out behind the scenes.

We are grateful for those among your creation,

who have made sure all are fed, and those who have encouraged us to rest,
and those who have supported our journey,
even when we weren't sure where we were going.

So we now speak their names with joy and gratitude, recognizing their labor, resources, and love to building this place and this community.

After each chime, let us say together:

Your presence remains, ingrained in this house of prayer,
and we are grateful.

We now remember the beloved from this family of faith who have fulfilled their baptismal promise and now enjoy the company of saints in God's eternal love.
In gratitude, we name the saints who have shaped our lives and being.
(*community names individuals*)

Your presence remains, ingrained in this house of prayer,
and we are grateful.

We give thanks for those who have struggled for justice, who have given so that others may live more freely – we would not be, if not for them.

We also remember those whose lives were taken by injustice – slavery, white supremacy, and colonial oppression – who had their labor and resources forcefully taken, who did not have the ability to choose how to spend their time or give their love.
(*community names individuals and peoples*)

Your presence remains, ingrained in this house of prayer,
and we are grateful.

Today we remember these ancestors who passed on our faith, who gave us art, gave us song, gave us poetry. We are because they were.

Like us, we know they were imperfect too. There is no life that is not messy and contradictory, often betraying the very justice and love we seek to embody. And yet, you, O God, promise that our labor to Love is never made in vain.

Here at this Table, on this day of remembrance,
we discover how much love you, O God, have for us
as we gather around the feast
where those who have gone before us have been fed.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
of the bread and the cup,
and all those here who yearn for your presence.
We eat this bread, hoping to taste God's gentleness,
and go into the world to care for those
whose hunger for justice seems to go unfilled for far too long.
As we share the cup of grace, may we see God's hope,
and be present to those
whose thirst for deeper connections is not quenched.

As we glimpse the great cloud of witnesses this day,
we pray too for a sure sense of your companionship on this way,
that we may be found faithful to the last, whatever you ask of us.
We ask 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

You are invited to come up and partake in the feast, and then light a candle (or more)
in remembrance our beloveds at the prayer station.

Prayer after Communion

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

Benediction Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy

Postlude "Soon and Very Soon" *A. Crouch (arr. J. Rainey)*

Susan Shaw, Flute

The service continues with fellowship.

*The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving was written by Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy.
All other prayers were adapted from Rev. Thom Shuman.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Susan Shaw, flute; Ken Shafer, piano; Westminster Choir
*Sunday Service Assistant: Sherry Hatter-Miller
*Sunday treats/flowers: Barbara Tartir

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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.

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.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, Nov. 5

- All Saints Sunday, Worship Service and Communion – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, Nov. 6

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Tuesday, Nov. 7

- Worship Committee Meeting – 11 am – The Lounge
- Vegan Dinner with COW students – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Wednesday, Nov. 8

- Journey Toward Advent Study, Pt. 3 – 7 pm – The Lounge
- Wooster Religious Studies Academy series – 7 pm – The Alley (Lower level of Lowry)

Thursday, Nov. 9

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, Nov. 12

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

Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
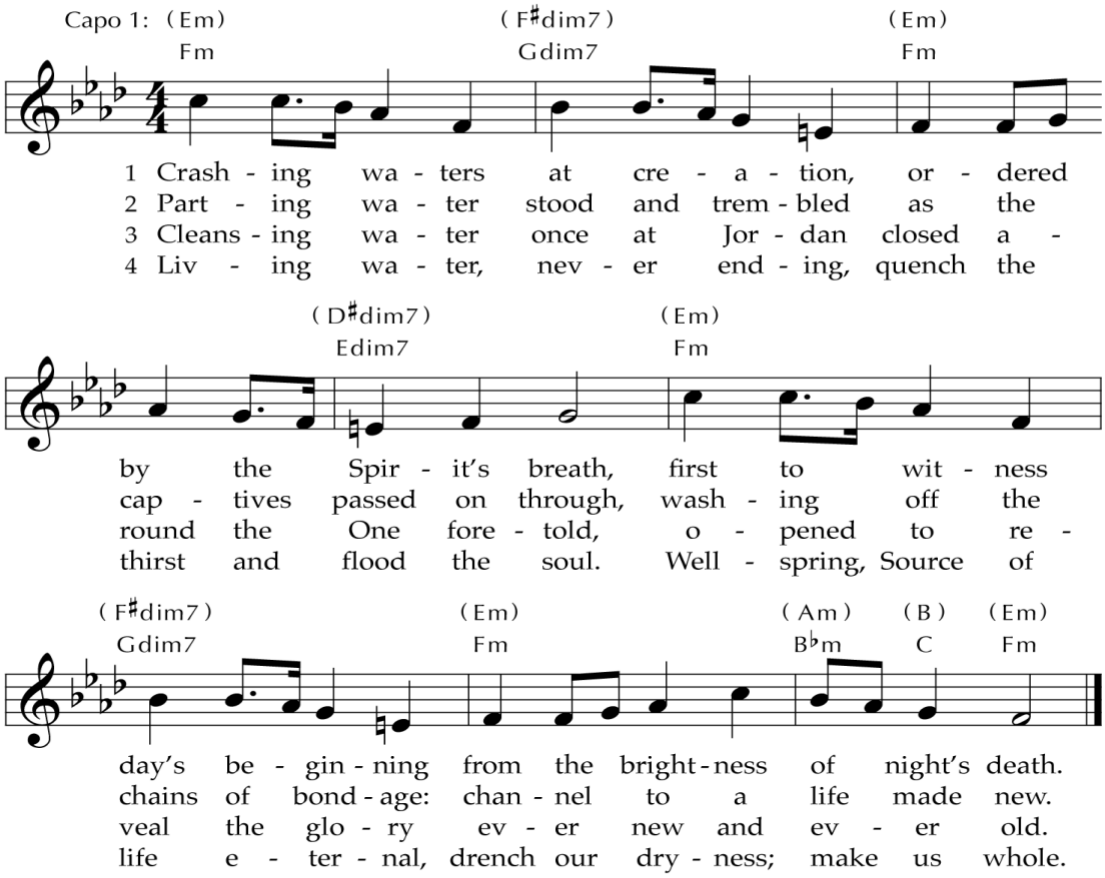
Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

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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.

BAPTISM

476 Crashing Waters at Creation
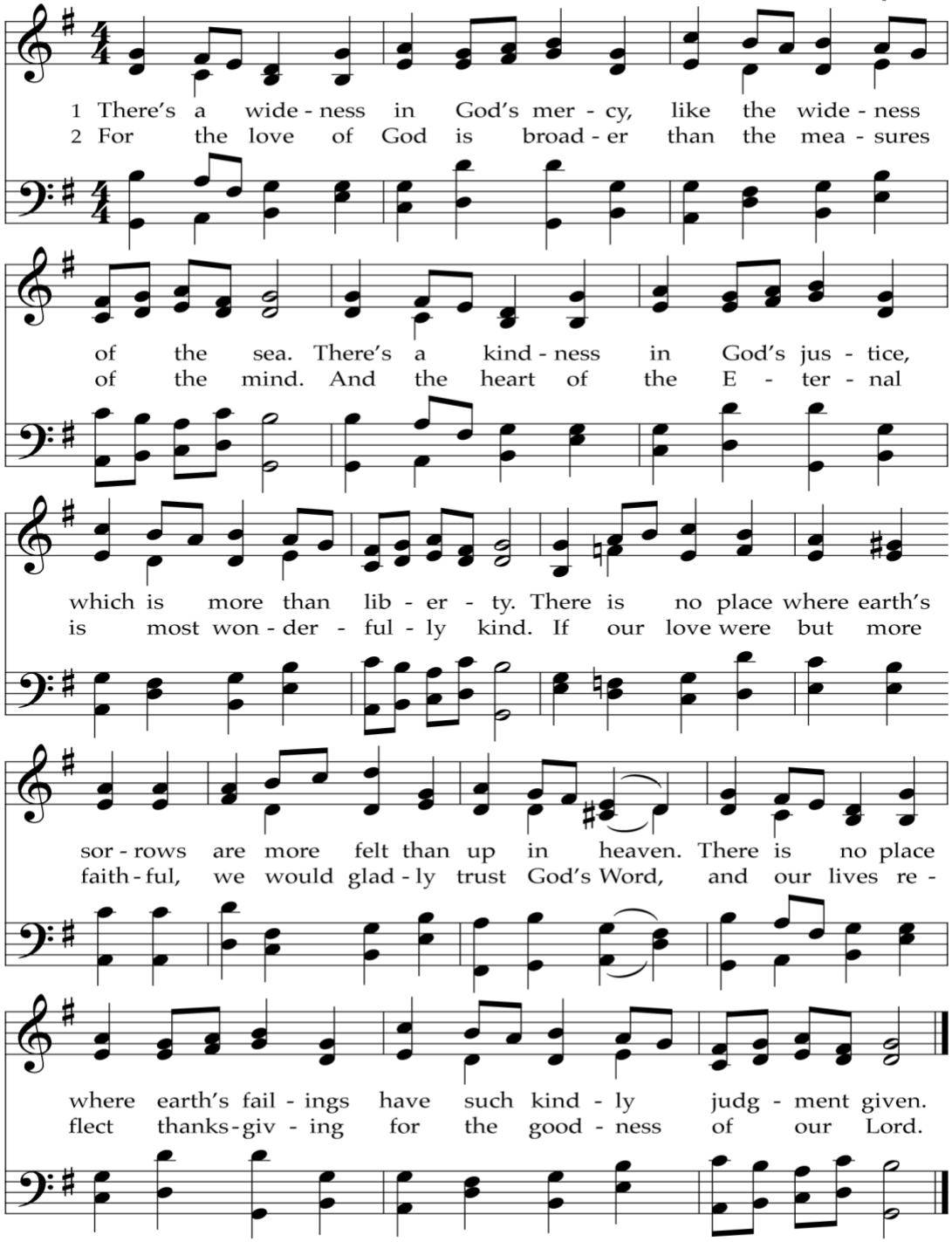


Like the Thanksgiving Over the Water in the rite of Baptism, this text by a United Church of Canada minister recalls significant events in salvation history involving water. The final stanza is a prayer to Christ, the Living Water (John 4:10, 14), to quench our spiritual thirst.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1987
MUSIC: William A. Cross, 1992
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.
Music © 1994 William A. Cross

CRASHING WATERS
8.7.8.7

FORGIVENESS

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
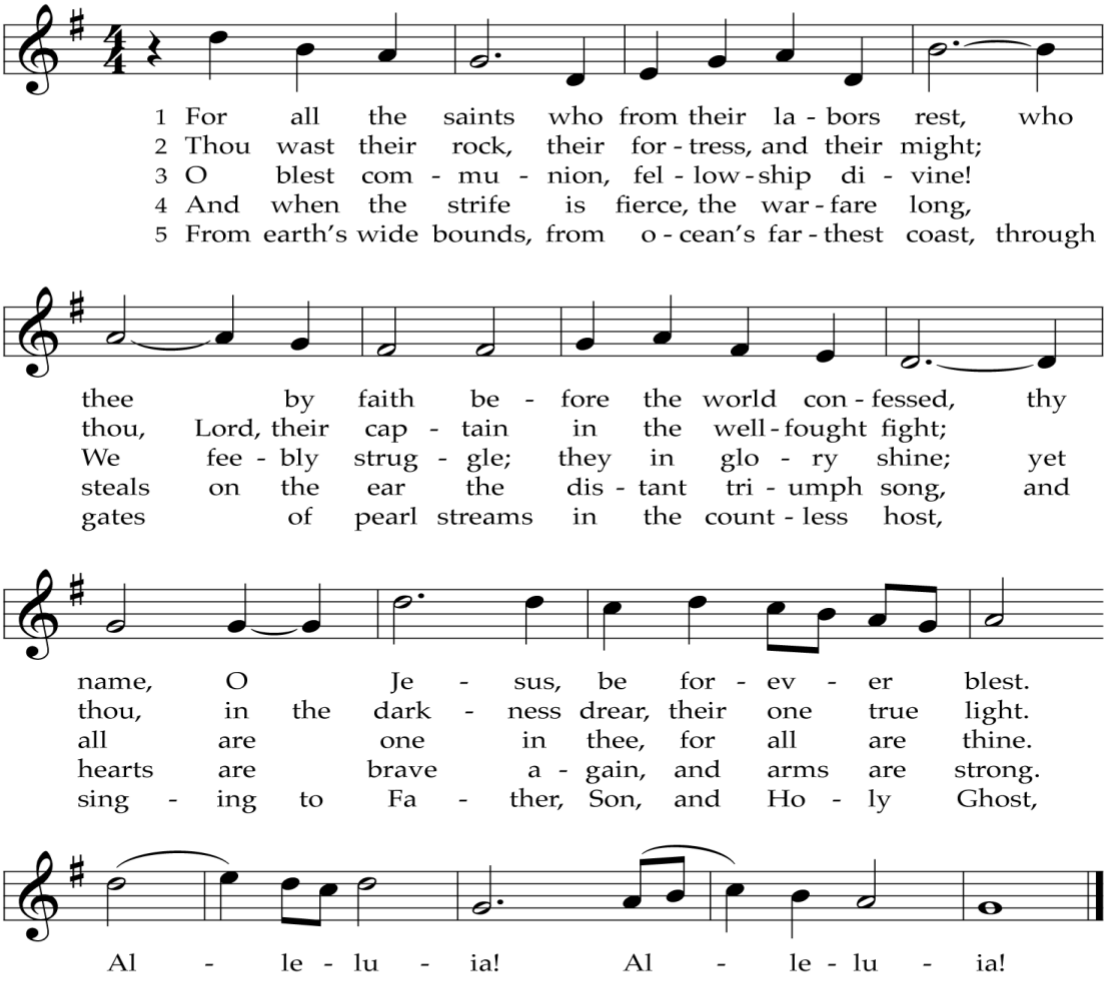


These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

TEXT: Frederick William Faber, 1854, alt.
MUSIC: Dutch melody; arr. Julius Röntgen, c. 1906

IN BABILONE
8.7.8.7.D

THE CHURCH

326 For All the Saints
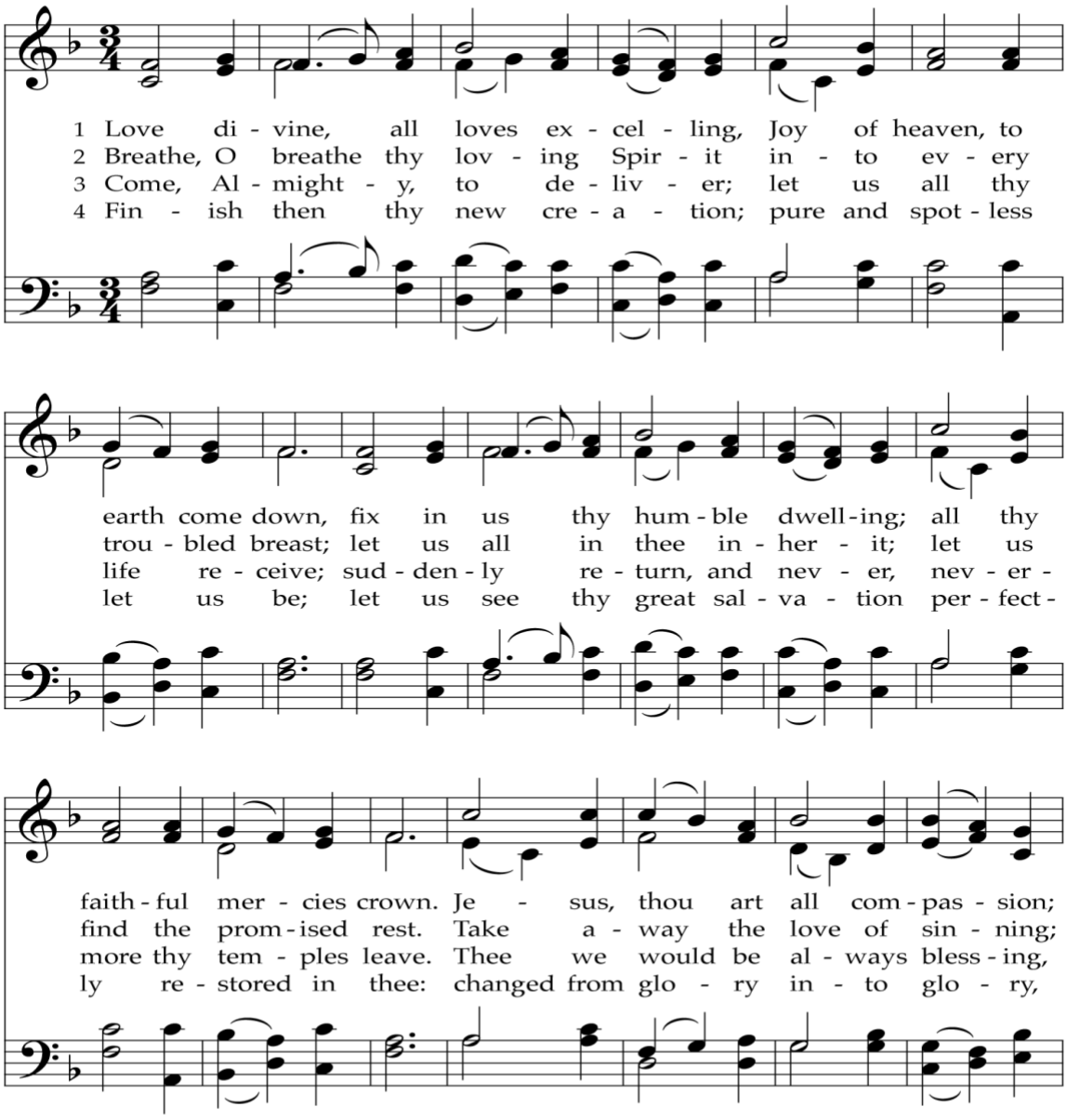


The broad and sweeping tune with which this hymn is so closely identified was created to be sung during a reverent but dramatic procession at the beginning of an All Saints' Day service, an enacted representation of the enduring "fellowship divine" celebrated by this text.

TEXT: William Walsham How, 1864
MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

SINE NOMINE
10.10.10 with alleluias

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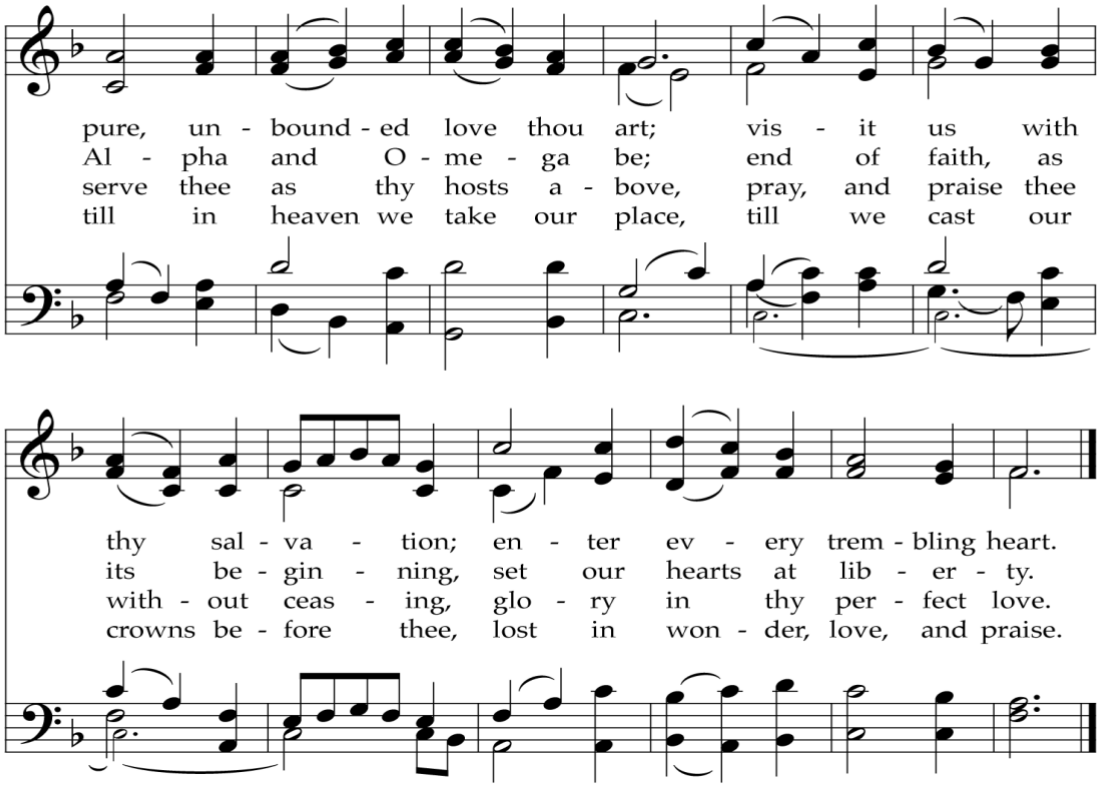
366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



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.