

Mt. Zion United Church of Christ

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jeff Kardisco, Associate Pastor

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Secretary

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

**Sibling Rivalry: Isaac & Ishmael
Sacrament of Holy Communion**

This morning, as we worship our God, we also celebrate the Lord's Supper. Here at Mt. Zion UCC, all are invited to the table of grace.

If you are a guest, thank you for worshipping with us today. We invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.

We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! For your comfort, we also have a children's corner in the back of the sanctuary where your child can relax and play and you can still participate in the worship experience. We also have nursery care downstairs during our 10:30 AM worship service. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

We pray God's blessing upon you. For today's service, we will be using the black hymnal.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Images of Hope

by Combs

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: We are a community of faith that has been created by the love of God.

People: We are the people who have been set free by the world of forgiveness in Jesus Christ, and are therefore a people called to reach out to the sojourners in our midst and in other lands, people whose lives cry out for the warm embrace of fellowship.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

One: We have come not to exalt our own goodness, but to praise the holiness of God.

People: We have come not to boast of what we have done, but to proclaim the redeeming work of Jesus Christ by extending the hand of community to all people from all places. With all of our being we will praise God and tell of God's goodness in our acts of kindness and love toward the "least" among us in our time.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 388** (black hymnal)

Help Us Accept Each Other

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

One: Gracious God, you reached into Abraham and Sarah's lives and asked them to dream the impossible dream – that you would transform what appears to have been a barren and lifeless situation into one overflowing with promise and hope – and, through faith in you, they believed your promises.

People: Forgive us, O God, if we never get beyond thinking of your call on our lives as an impossible dream or even as an unwelcome interruption.

One: Faithful God, the apostle Paul emphasizes Abraham's complete trust and faith in your promises, and how he grew ever stronger in faith, fully convinced of your ability to fulfill what had been promised.

People: Forgive us, O God, when we find it hard even to hear your promises above commercial assurances of transformation – promises tempting us to trust the newest and trendiest product to realize our dreams.

One: Merciful God, Jesus revealed the great depth of your love in his determination to defeat evil even when this means giving up his own life.

People: Forgive us, O God, when we allow the power of evil to flourish because we fear that taking up one's cross would be just too costly an exercise.

One: Gracious and loving God, forgive our lack of trust in you;

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us.

One: Help us when we hesitate,

People: and strengthen us when we are weak. Breathe your Spirit afresh into our hearts and minds – our lives – so that we have the courage to follow Jesus wherever he might lead us. Amen.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE NO. 423 (black hymnal, refrain)

Great Is Your Faithfulness

ALL SING: Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed your hand had provided, great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!

(10:30 AM) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 25: 8-10

MESSAGE

HYMN NO. 332 (black hymnal)

As We Gather at Your Table

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SPECIAL MUSIC (sung by David Firestone)

Because He Lives (Amen) by Maher

OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Caressing Calmness

by Combs

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 2185 (FWS, see below)

For One Great Peace

♩ = 150

Piano

1. This thread I weave, this step I dance, this
 2. This pot I shape, this fire I light, this
 3. This check I write, this march I join, this

4

stone I carve, this ball I bounce, this nail I drive, this
 fence I leap, this bone I knit, this seed I nurse, this
 faith I state, this truth I sign, this is small part, in

7

pearl I str-i-ng, this flag I wave, this note I sing,
 rift I m-e-nd, this child I raise, this earth I tend,
 one small pl-a-ce, of one heart's beat for one great Peace.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION⁴

INVITATION

One: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

People: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

One: This table is open to all who wish to know Christ more closely on their journey. Come to this table no matter who you are, or where you have come from, and be fed at God's table. God be with you all.

People: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts;

People: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God!

People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise!

COMMUNION PRAYER

One: Though creation sometimes weeps,

People: we wait lovingly for you, O God.

One: For you created the heavens, earth, and all that is in them: you cast sunbeams, open flowers, and feed insects. You are beyond the galaxies, under the oceans, and inside each grain of wheat. You could sustain all of your creation,

People: ...but you will not, without us.

One: Thank you for the wonders of creation and for your great trust in us.

One: Though humanity sometimes weeps,

People: we wait lovingly for you, O God.

One: For You smiled on an outcasted Hagar, blessing her descendants, You guided the doubtful Israelites, leading them to freedom, You spoke through the Judges and the Prophets, providing words of wisdom, You lived among us as a teacher, healer, and friend, giving us a sacred path to follow. You could have made us self-sustaining,

People: ...but you did not, your love sustains us.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

One: Thank you for the worldwide fellowship of disciples, who faithfully attempt to share your love with all of creation. In Jesus, love incarnate, you provide us all we need for each day: his words comfort the weary; his actions challenge the contented; his touch heals the sick; his presence feeds the deepest hunger in our souls. In Jesus and in this feast you provide for us the

sustenance we need to respond to the cries of creation. We thank you for all of these gifts, O God, as we gather at this table.

REMEMBERING THE STORY

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE JUICE

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS (all cups contain grape juice)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALL: Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has laid on our hearts. We are now commissioned to: feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, and to love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN NO. 495 (black hymnal)

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

***BENEDICTION**

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

2226

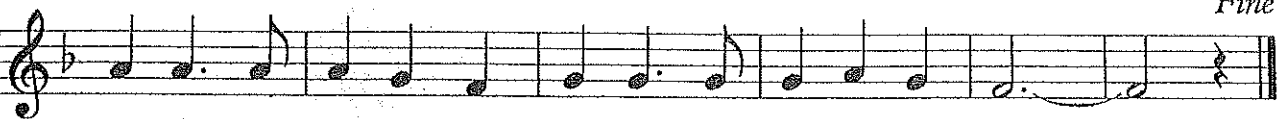
Bind Us Together



Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that



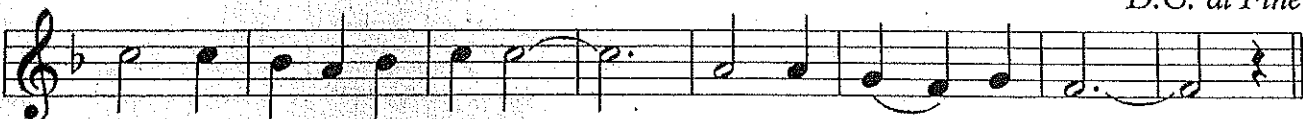
can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,



bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er in love. _____



There is on - ly one God, _____ there is on - ly one King; _____



There is on - ly one bod - y, _____ that is why we sing. _____

*POSTLUDE

Gentle Journey

by Combs

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

The bulletins are presented in honor of the birthdays of my sister Sherri, my niece, Hannah, and my brother, Steve, by Jodi Graham.

Thank you to Dave Firestone for providing special music at both services today. We offer a hearing assistance system called *Listen Technologies*. If you would like to use a receiver, please check with the volunteers at the sound booth at the rear of the sanctuary.

8 AM Worship Tech: Jim Shiffer

8 AM Welcome Team & Communion Servers: Tama Allison, Jerry & Becky Hester, & Jodi Graham

8 AM Sound Tech: Mary Jane Snyder

8 AM Video Tech: Jack Herlocker

8 AM Hall Monitor: Pam Minnich

10:30 AM Worship Tech: Alan Neff

10:30 AM Welcome Team: George, Lisa, & Mason DeMers, Robin Schriver, & Anne Henry

10:30 AM Sound Tech: Ron Miles

10:30 AM Video Tech: Elaine Bevivino

10:30 AM Camera Tech: John Schriver

10:30 AM Hall Monitor: George DeMers

10:30 AM Nursery: Katelyn & Corey McCarthy

WOW Kids: Coordinated by Kathy Sweeney

¹The call to worship is from *The Uprooted Ones: Remembering Refugees (Uniting Church in Australia)*, originally published in *Welcoming the Stranger* – posted on the Minnesota Council of Churches website <http://www.mnchurches.org/refugeeservices/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Refugee-Sunday-Service-Planning-Materials.pdf>. Accessed on the *Re:Worship* website with permission to use in worship at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/07/call-to-worship-called-to-reach-out.html>. Accessed August 6th, 2019.

²The prayer of confession was originally written by Moira Laidlaw and originally posted at *Liturgies Online* <http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/>. Accessed on the *Re:Worship* website with permission to use in worship at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/confession-assurance-lent-2-b.html>. Accessed August 6th, 2019.

³*For One Great Peace*. By Shirley Erena Murray. © 1992, Hope Publishing Company. Reproduced with permission under One License # A-725030.

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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

CORE PLANNING SESSIONS 2019-2020

SPIRITUAL FORMATION PLANNING SESSION

Sun., August 11th at 9 AM

Council Liaison: Jason Shiffer

Spiritual formation is a critical part of developing one's faith at ALL ages. Join us in the discussion! Help us shape how we learn and grow together during this program year! Interested in developing adult education opportunities? Looking to discover how we can further engage our children in formation? This session will address those ideas and questions.

WORSHIP CORE PLANNING SESSION

Sun. August 11th at 11:30 AM

Council Liaison: Bonnie Murphy

This group will set the worship calendar for 2019-2020, including Messy Church dates, discuss worship themes, continue the discussion around technology in worship, and explore ways to welcome families and children to worship.

YOUTH CORE PLANNING SESSION

Sun. Aug. 11th at 6:00 PM

Council Liaison: Megan Merritt

This planning session will look at the ways that we can continue to both deepen and expand our youth ministry at Mt. Zion, including developing a ministry to young adults (ages 18-25). Developing youth Sunday and outreach is part of the agenda for this session. Youth AND adults are encouraged to attend!

COMMUNITY LIFE PLANNING SESSION

Sun. August 18th at 9 AM

Council Liaison: Lana Fritz

This planning session sets the fellowship calendar for 2020 and establishes the budget for these events. Activities include the Octoberfest, Lenten Dinners, Potluck Dinners, the all church picnic, plus our fellowship groups. If you have an interest in any of these events, please plan to attend.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

OUTREACH PLANNING SESSION

Sun. August 25th at 9 AM

Council Liaison: Carrah Wagaman

This area of ministry encompasses our: Caring Ministry of Care Calls and providing meals; Welcome Teams for funerals and events other than worship; outreach activities such as a our care disciples team, and our Mt. Zion Website and pictorial directory. We will also explore advertising as well as welcoming new members. If you are interested in any of these activities or participate in them, join us for this annual review of events and to consider new activities to reach out to our community.

MISSION CORE PLANNING SESSION

Sun. August 25th at 11:30 AM

Council Liaison: Joe Vacante

This planning session establishes the monthly mission recipients for the coming year, selects recipients of donations such as school supplies, health kits, disaster relief buckets, and sets dates for Mr. Sandy's Helping Hands and dates to prepare meals at Ronald McDonald House. At this session, the Mission Core Team for 2020, that has oversight of the endowment fund distributions for mission, will be selected.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.



“Go Green” Sunday

August 18, 2019

2 pm to 4 pm

Shiloh UCC - 2251 Willow Rd.

Bring your family and friends, and come out and join us for a great time at this FREE eco-friendly, family event sponsored by the York Association Community Outreach Committee.

- Free Shredder Truck
- Free Hot Dogs & Beverages
- Meatless Monday Vegetarian Soup & Chili Cook Off
- Collect plastic bags to recycle
- Climate Change Photo Booth
- Ice Cream Truck
- See and learn about an Electric Car
- Interactive Activities for All Ages!

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Help Us Accept Each Other

388

Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.

John 15:12; 17:20-23; Eph. 4:1-6, 11-16

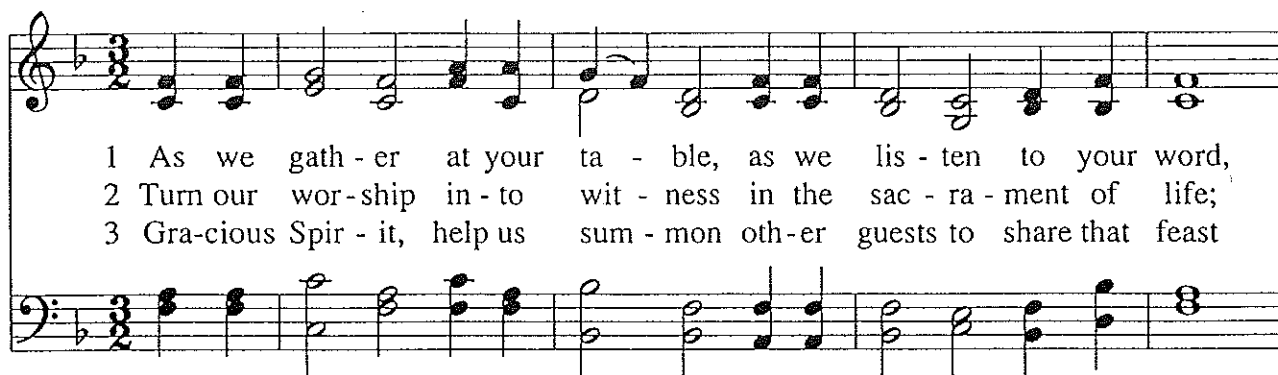
- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,
each per-son to em-brace.
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,
and bring us to be-lieve
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,
as in our dai-ly life
we strug-gle to be hu-man
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for peo-ple,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may be-come.
- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,
so that we may be moved
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions
to do the truth in love;
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,
un-til we know by heart
the ta-ble of for-give-ness
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters
with all who are in need,
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,
for righ-teous-ness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,
new hands for hold-ing on;
re-new us with your Spir-it;
God! Free us, make us one!

Dutch theologian Fred Kaan was ordained in the United Reformed Church in England and Wales and has served as an international church administrator. Author of more than 200 hymns, Kaan frequently has addressed contemporary issues in his texts.

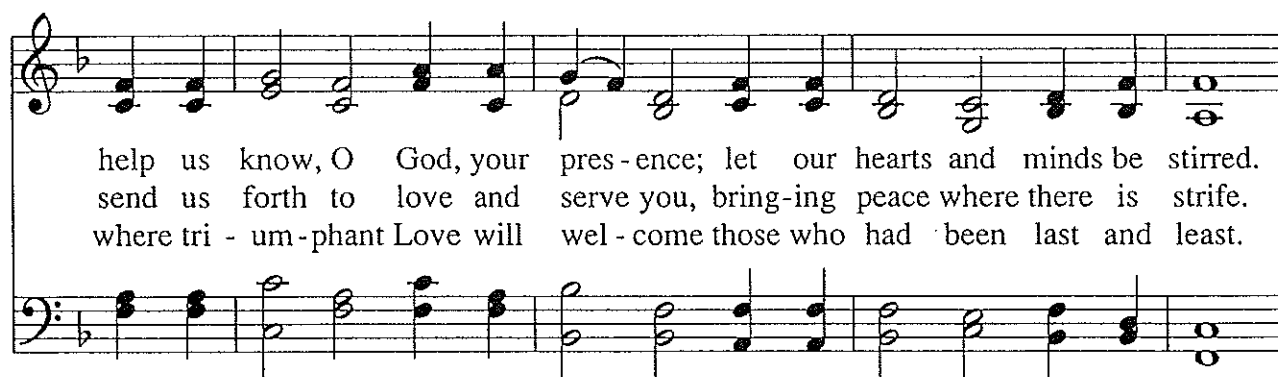
Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

Matt. 22:1-10; Luke 14:16-24

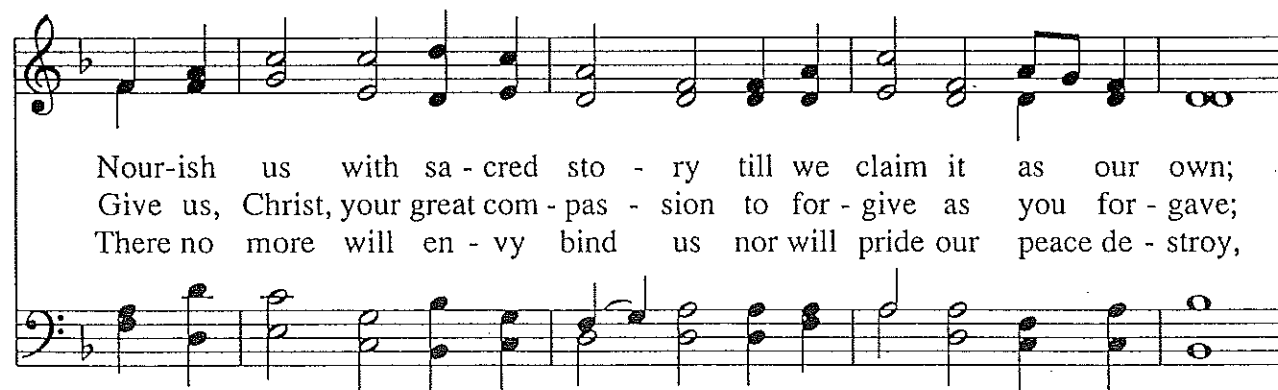
Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989



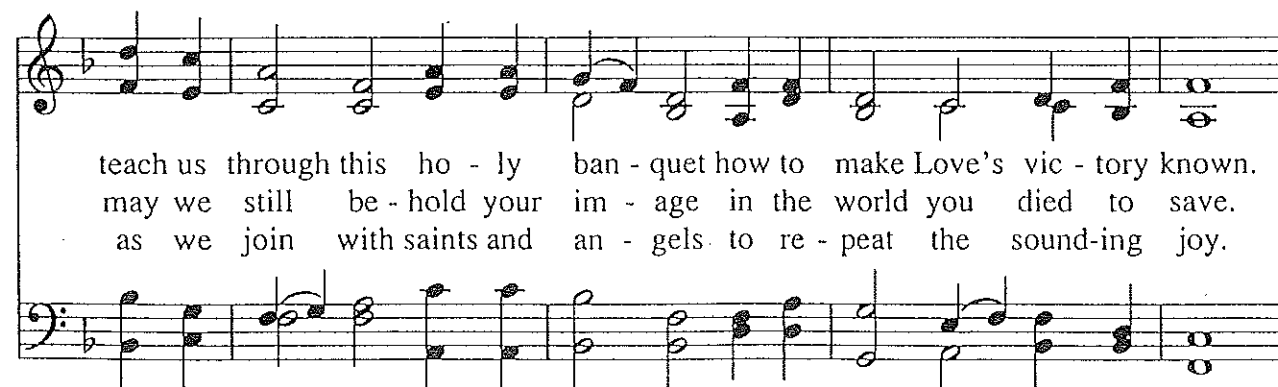
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
 There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

In this hymn, commissioned by an Episcopal parish in Virginia for the celebration of its tricentennial, Carl P. Daw, Jr., utilized a familiar phrase from Isaac Watts' "Joy to the World," which was the motto for the celebration: "Repeat the sounding joy."

Tune: BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.
 The Sacred Harp, 1844
 Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1992

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

495

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
2 Christ's ex - am - ple, Christ's in - spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
Let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
Help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
That sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con - quers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor-er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



E - qual part - ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
Blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un - fold.
Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
Mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.



One of Jane Parker Huber's most widely sung texts, this hymn was originally written for a women's breakfast at the 1981 Presbyterian General Assembly meeting to celebrate the partnership of women and men in service of the church.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
John Zundel, 1855
For another key, see 43, 368