



*"Rejoice  
with me ...  
I have found  
my sheep that  
was lost."*

Luke 15:6, NRSV

**United Church of Christ  
Norwich, New York**



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
Norwich, New York 13815**



**An Open and Affirming Church**

**March 23, 2025**

**10:00 a.m**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

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**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**PRELUDE** *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

by William Bradbury  
arr. Sandra Eithun

Handbell Choir

Ringers: David Burch, Lilit Danielyan, Maxine Gage, Heavenly Mahaffey, Michael Moren, Amy Rogers, Destinie (DJ) Smith, Ericka Tyler, John Kolb, Pete Williams, Mary Williams-Director

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT: Responsive Meditation**

**LENTEN SONG RESPONSE** *Just As I Am* #207 (verse 1)

**UNISON PRAYER**

**Draw us together in your love, O God. May our restless hearts not resist you, but continue to search until they find their rest in you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* #252

**TIME OF SHARING**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Ericka Tyler

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\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

**Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*My Shepherd*

arr. Anna Laura Page  
and Jean Anne Shafferman

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

ONE: May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

*Please greet one another in a manner most comfortable to you*

## **SUNG RESPONSE**

*Blessed Be the Tie That Binds*

#393 (verse 1)

*Children in grades 3 - 8 are invited to go upstairs for Sunday school at this time.*

**SERMON** *Finding Lost Sheep*

Rev. James K. Boodley

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 15:1-10

Pew Bible NT p. 80

## **INTERLUDE**

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name* by Pamela M. Robertson

## **INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Generous God, you shared your son with us as your gift of life for the world. Receive what we offer, we pray, so that others might know your gift of life through the blessings you give us to use and share. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## **SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

March 23, 2025

## COMMISSION AND BLESSING

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

#565

### BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** *People Look East*

by Anna Laura Page



Link to Online Giving  
[www.uccnorwichny.org/give](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/give)

#### **PARTICIPANTS TODAY**

**Ministers:** All the People

**Pastor:** Rev. James K. Boodley

**Director of Music Ministries:** Mary Williams

**Organist:** David Burch

**Director of Children's and Youth Ministries:** Ericka Tyler

**Livestream Director:** Jennifer Mallozzi

**Livestream Staff:** Chris McSweeney, Jessica Strough, Liam Hunter.  
Breanna Rogers

**Sunday Sexton:** Mya Yantz

**Nursery:** Fiora Breese

**Liturgist:** Deb Phelps

**Usher:** Naomi Mahaffey

**Coffee Hour:** Naomi Mahaffey

#### **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

11 West Main St., Norwich NY 13815

607-334-3434 - [office@uccnorwichny.org](mailto:office@uccnorwichny.org) - [www.uccnorwichny.org](http://www.uccnorwichny.org)

#### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Closed 12 - 1 for lunch)

Friday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **WIFI IS AVAILABLE**

Network Name: UCC-Guest

Password: uccguest

**NURSERY** is available for children up to age 5, upstairs at the front of the church.

**APRIL NEWSLETTER** - The deadline to get articles and items to the church office for publication in the April Newsletter is Monday, March 24.

**DURING LENT WE ARE COLLECTING ITEMS FOR AUNT MARY'S HOUSE**, a Norwich organization that will be providing assistance to pregnant women and mothers in crises. See the flier in this bulletin for details. A barrel is in the Founders Room for your donations.

**DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 30** for high school seniors and college students for the 2025-26 school year. Applications are available online at [www.uccnorwichny.org](http://www.uccnorwichny.org). - follow the link on the homepage. Or contact the church office.

**POT LUCK LUNCH MARCH 30** - Rev. Ryan Henderson from the New York Conference UCC will be with us. Bring a dish to pass. Table service and beverages provided. A sign up sheet for the luncheon is in the office.

**BEGINNING APRIL 6**, we will be celebrating communion a bit differently. Bread and grape juice will be available, in addition to the communion kits we have been using. Those who wish, can come forward and dip a piece of bread into grape juice at the appropriate time. For those unable to come forward, communion elements will be brought to your seat.

**SIGN UP ON THE BULLETIN** board outside the church office if you are interested in volunteering in the community when opportunities arise.

**24 HOURS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD - Community Lenten Book Study.** Every Tuesday March 11 - April 8, at Christ Lutheran Church, 94 N. Broad St. (*Note new location.*) Books will be provided. Lite Lunch at 11:30 a.m., Study 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to attend every week - come when you can.

**WANT TO JOIN THE CHURCH?** The Church leadership is making an open invitation to a new member orientation process for anyone interested. This invitation is open to all ages who may want to officially become a member of the church or just renew their faith commitment. Details of exactly what this will entail is still in the works, but if there is any interest in becoming a new member or if you would like more information on what that may look like, speak to either Pastor J.K. or Pete Williams, Moderator.

## **CALENDAR**

*Chenango Muslim Community meets upstairs daily at 9:30 p.m. & Fridays at 1:30 p.m.*

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 23**

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave - Sunday School grades 3-8 after the Children's Moment
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Founders Room
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs
- 5:00 p.m. Free Community Meal at Broad St. United Methodist (meatloaf, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, roll/butter and candy)

### **MONDAY, MARCH 24**

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Rm., Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. Knitting, Mayflower Room
- 2:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Mayflower Room
- 5:00 p.m. Garden Club, Founders Room

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 25**

- 11:30 a.m. Lent Book Study, Christ Lutheran Church. See announcements for details.
- 1:00 p.m. Piecemakers Circle, Kitchen
- 4:00 p.m. M. Maholchic, Nave
- 5:15 p.m. Free Meal at St. Bart's Catholic Church (Doors open at 4:00 p.m.)

### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26**

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room, Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Choir, Nave

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 27**

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room, Kitchen
- 4:00 p.m. M. Maholchic, Nave

### **FRIDAY, MARCH 28**

- 12:30 p.m. (until 5:30 p.m.) Blood Drive at Broad St. UMC. Call 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment.

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 30**

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave - Rev. Ryan Henderson  
Offering for Our Church's Wider Mission  
Sunday School grades 3-8 after the Children's Moment
- 11:00 a.m. Pot Luck, Founders Room
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs

## **Luke 15:1-10**

**15** Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup> “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

# Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

252

Attrib. to Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779–1847)

John 10:1–29

From Hymns for the Young, 1836; alt.

St. 1 transl. to Hawaiian by Laiana (1807–1886)

1 Sav-ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need your ten - der care;  
 1 Ie - su no ke Ka - hu - hi - pa, Ka - hu - hi - pa ma'i-ka'i e,  
 2 We are yours, in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;  
 3 Let us al - ways seek your fa - vor; let us al - ways do your will;

in your pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your folds pre-pare.  
 Ei - a ma - kou ka 'o - ha - na ke ho'o-lo - he a ha - hai:  
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.  
 Je - sus Christ our on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are;  
 E a - lo - ha, e a - lo - ha, a - la - ka'i a ha - nai mai,  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray;  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still;

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are.  
 E a - lo - ha, e a - lo - ha, a - la - ka'i a ha - nai mai.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

The theme of Christ as shepherd is familiar and beloved to Christians. Emma Lyons Doyle, granddaughter of Laiana (translator Lorenzo Lyons), once said, "If you want to know the full beauty of this hymn, hear it sung in Hawaiian."

Tune: BRADBURY 8.7.8.7.D.  
 William B. Bradbury, 1859

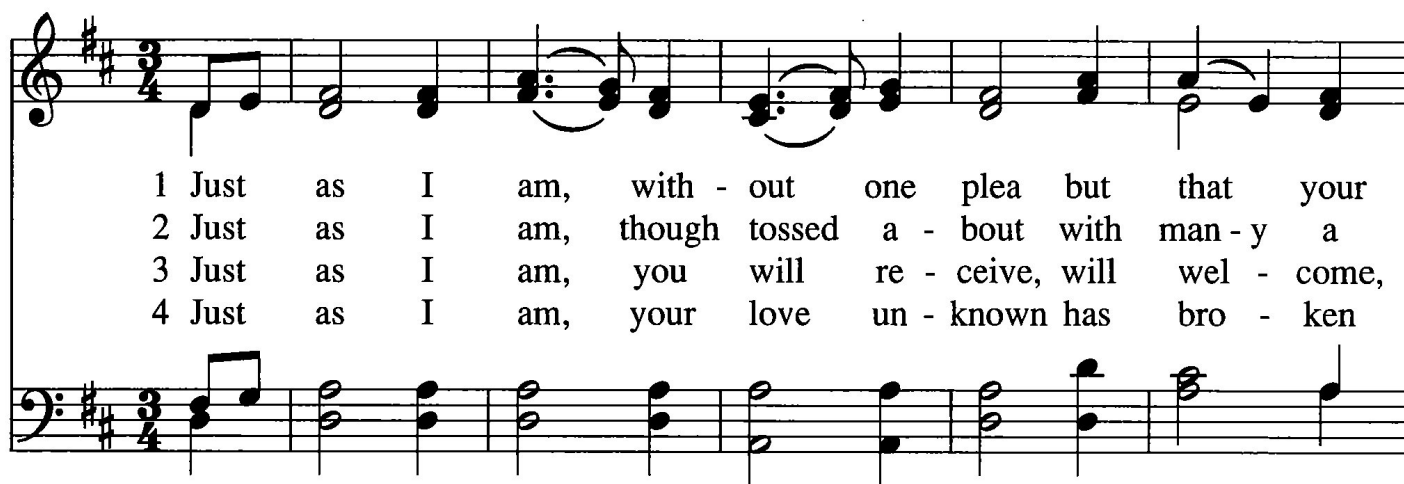


# Just as I Am

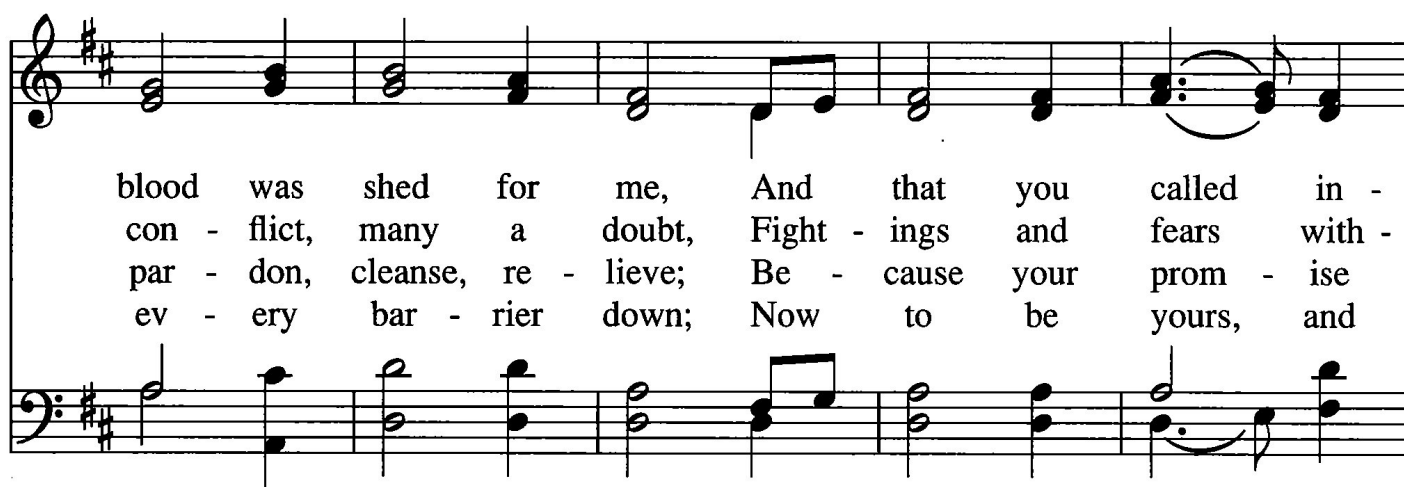
207

Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt.

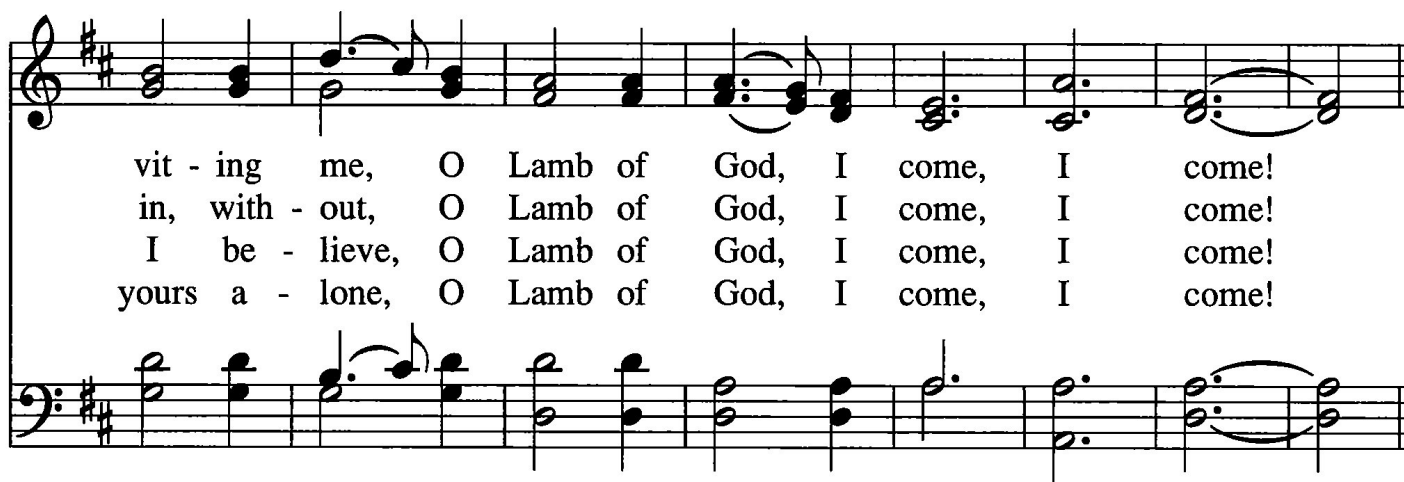
John 6:37; Eph. 2:14



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a  
3 Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,  
4 Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken



blood was shed for me, And that you called in -  
con - flict, many a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -  
par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise  
ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and



vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

*This text appeared in Charlotte Elliott's Invalid's Hymn Book, published in England in 1836. Disabled at age thirty, she continued a career of writing and editing. This hymn has been translated into many languages.*

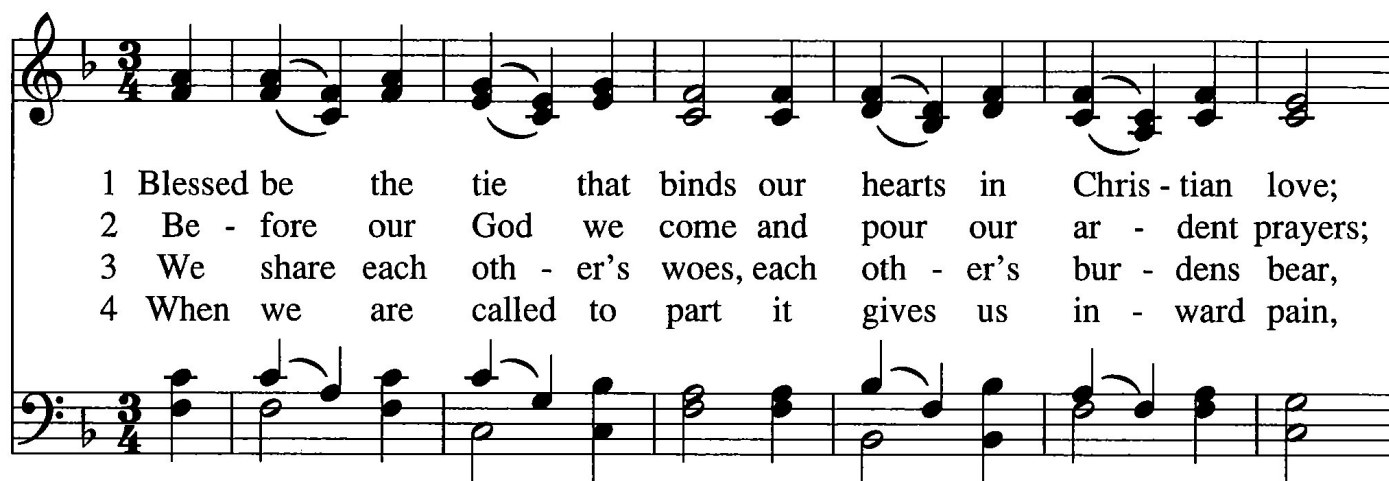
Tune: WOODWORTH L.M.  
William B. Bradbury, 1849

# Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

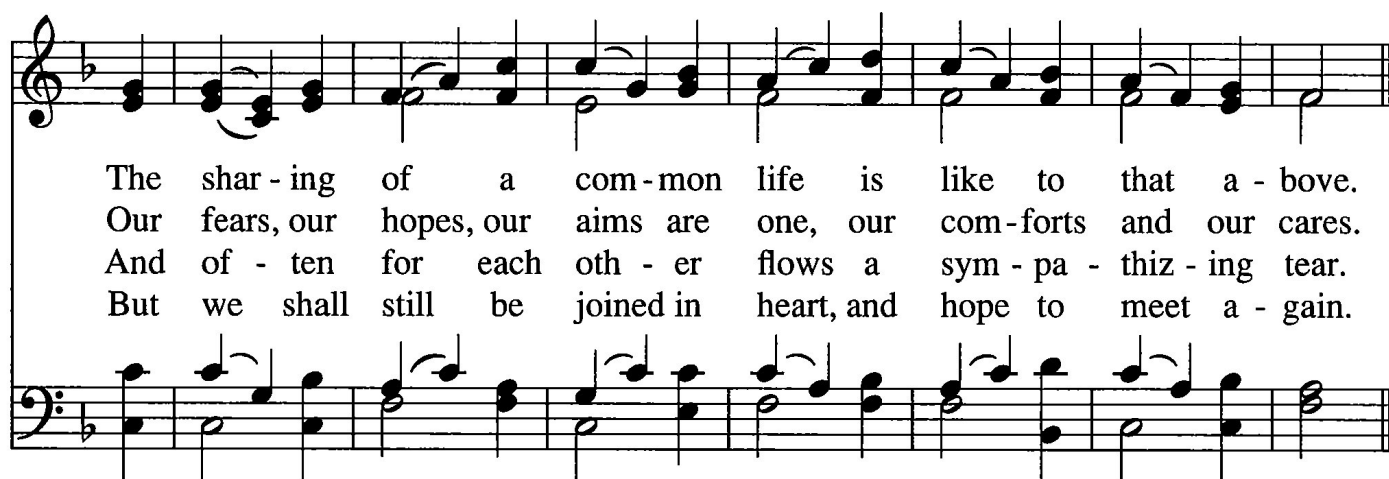
393

John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15



1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,  
4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,



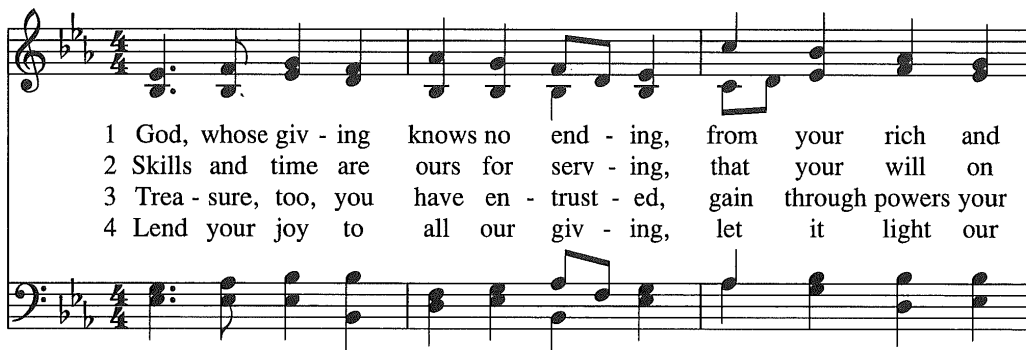
The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

*An English Baptist minister, John Fawcett published a number of poetic works. His entire ministry was spent at a church near Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, where he wrote most of his hymns to follow his sermons.*

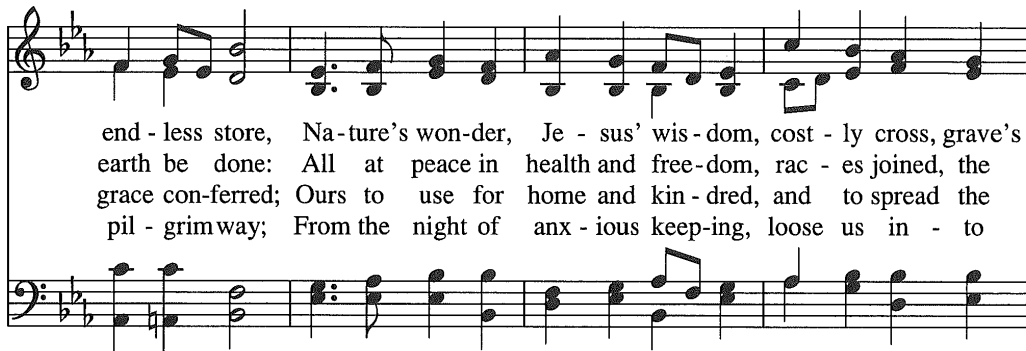
Tune: DENNIS S.M.  
Melody by Johann G. Nägeli (c. 1768-1836)  
Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

## God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Robert L. Edwards, 1961; alt.



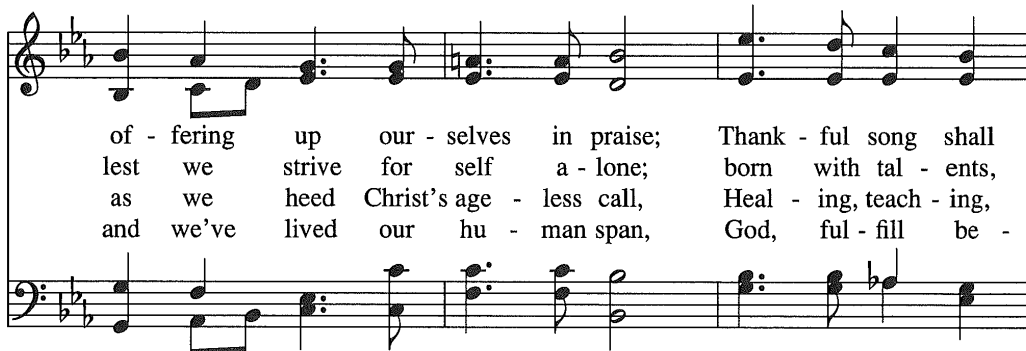
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
 2 Skills and time are ours for serv - ing, that your will on  
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your  
 4 Lend your joy to all our giv - ing, let it light our



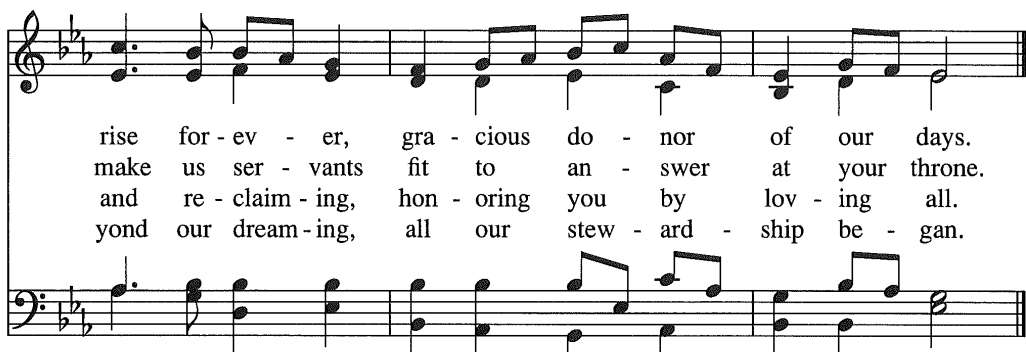
end - less store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's  
 earth be done: All at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the  
 grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the  
 pil - grim way; From the night of anx - ious keep - ing, loose us in - to



shat - tered door: Gift - ed by you, we turn to you  
 Church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor,  
 gos - pel Word. O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing  
 gen - erous day. Then when years on earth are o - ver,



of - fering up our - selves in praise; Thank - ful song shall  
 lest we strive for self a - lone; born with tal - ents,  
 as we heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing, teach - ing,  
 and we've lived our hu - man span, God, ful - fill be -



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 and re - claim - ing, hon - oring you by lov - ing all.  
 yond our dream - ing, all our stew - ard - ship be - gan.

Robert L. Edwards, an ordained United Church of Christ minister,  
 has served several churches in Connecticut. He wrote this text for a  
 competition of The Hymn Society, and it was subsequently  
 published in Ten New Stewardship Hymns in 1961.

Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797  
 Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL