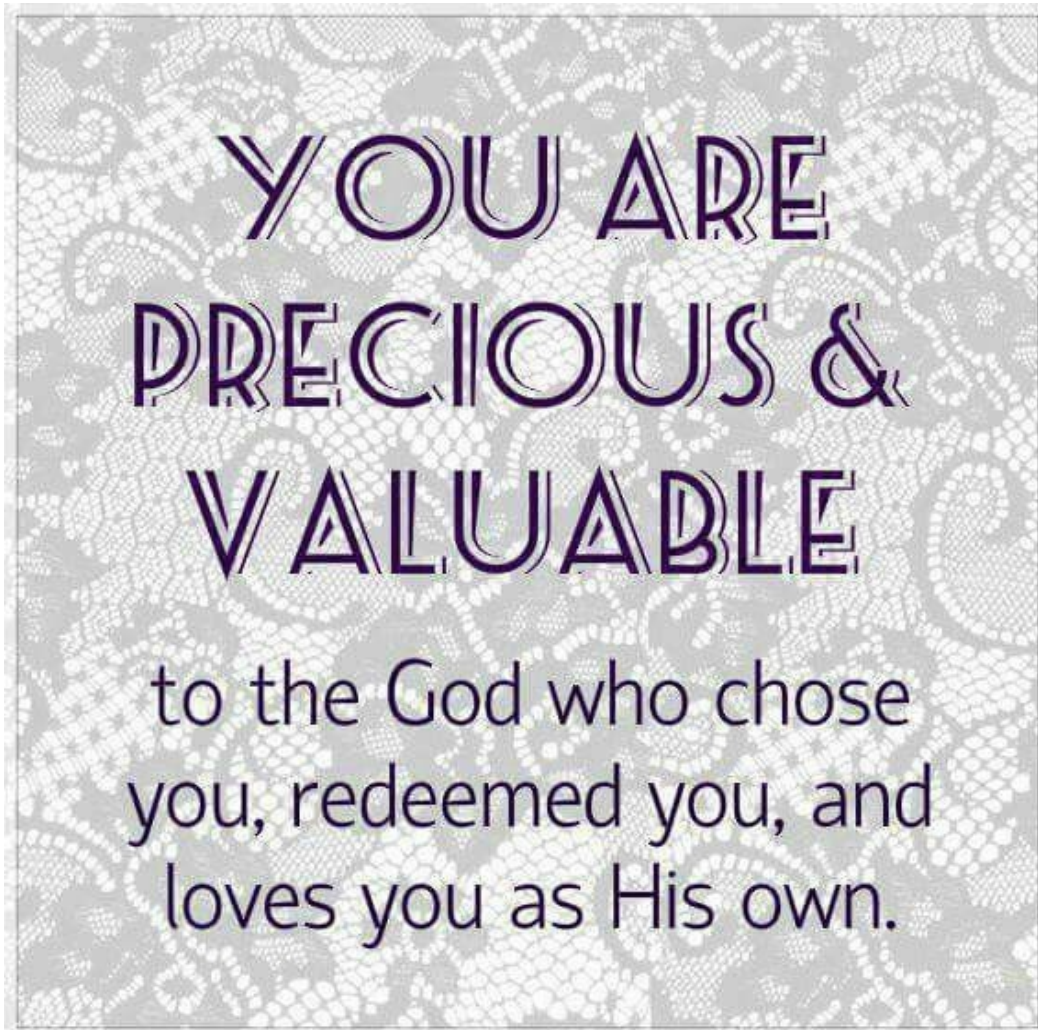


The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our
10:15am Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*

+ † +

Sunday, July 14, 2024
8th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*



Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table.*)

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have a supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor. Please see Nursery Coordinators, Laurie Ostimchuk, Beth Miller & Geri Gammel if you are in need of the nursery.

Junior Worship

On the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator. The third toilet stall in each of our four restrooms has a high toilet and handrails.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

Water fountains are located on both the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group, for those in grades 5-12 (or ages 12-20 years old), meets on the 2nd and Last Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00pm. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Young Children & Family Ministries

This ministry's focus is on children younger than youth group and their families, and most of the monthly activities are welcoming of children of all ages. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider United Church of Christ of Robesonia. For more information about our church, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our church.

More Information....

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: *= if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♪# = Blue Hymnal Page}*

Virtual Worship Service



www.sprucc.org

Online: **Live Stream** at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on **Our YouTube Channel**
Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
Phone Stream at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org



Free WiFi

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

*{If you have not already done so,
please sign and pass the pew welcome pad
to the person next to you.}*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP ² (Unison)

Our God, ruler of all worlds, whose glory surrounds our unseeing eyes, our muffled hearing and our dulled emotions, come to awaken us to the mystery of your will. Speak to us a word of truth that reveals our deceit and leads us away from falsehood. Touch us with healing grace that allows us to admit our woundedness and accept the comfort you offer. Let your Spirit move among us so we may recognize your presence in one another and in our own lives. May our response to you be faithful and our praise genuine. Amen.

PIANO PRELUDE

"This Is My Father's World"

Franklin L. Sheppard

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

*♩ Red #324
Public Domain*

*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen**

*CALL TO WORSHIP ²

Leader: Blessed be to God the Father of our Savior Jesus Christ!
Thank God for every spiritual blessing.

People: **May the glory of God be known in this place!
May God's peace dwell in this and every land!**

Leader: God speaks peace to those who are faithful.
Lift up your heads and your hearts to God.

People: **We have come to hear the word of truth.
We turn to God, eager to receive salvation.**

We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*CALL TO CONFESSION ² (Leader)

God has chosen us to be holy and blameless in love before our Creator. In our hearts, we know we do not measure up to that high calling. We have built many barriers in our lives against true communion with God and honest community with one another. In our prayer of confession, we seek help to remove those barriers.

*CONFESSION OF SIN ² (Unison)

God of all hope and blessing, hear us as we turn to you with all our hearts. We have not been faithful to your word of love. We have hurt others and held grudges. We have been jealous and deceitful and ungrateful. We have turned from your Word and resisted the Holy Spirit. We have wanted our inheritance from you without the responsibilities that go with it. O God, we plead for your forgiveness and healing that we might respond with joy to the spiritual blessings you offer. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ² (Leader)

God's grace is freely given to us in Jesus Christ, through whom we are redeemed and forgiven. Let us set our hope on Christ, living each day for the praise of God's glory, ever seeking the truth that frees us to live fully and triumphantly. Join the dance of gratitude and joy, sharing with others the love God has poured into our lives. **Amen.**

{please be seated}

We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God." Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.

PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Lesson from the Prophet Amos: [Amos 7:7-15](#)

New Testament Letter from Paul to the Church in Ephesus: [Ephesians 1:3-14](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Gospel (Good News) Lesson: [Mark 6:14-29](#)

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"Onward Christian Soldiers"

♩ Red #292
Public Domain

MINI-MESSAGE

*{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship,
or on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month, elementary age children may go downstairs at this time
for the additional option of "Junior Worship"}*

CHILDREN'S SONG

"The B-I-B-L-E"

author and composer unknown

**The B-I-B-L-E, Yes, that's the book for me;
I stand alone on the Word of God: The B-I-B-L-E!**

SERMON

We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have learned more
about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by
re-affirming our faith in God,
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and giving of
ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

{Those who are able, please rise}

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)** *adapted from the Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is - both seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. Amen.**

{Please be seated}

In Memory of

Richard F. DiSirolo

September 1, 1964 -- June 28, 2024

Disciple of Christ
and

Member of the Family of the
United Church of Christ of Robesonia

*{We share in this memorial rite today to offer prayers
and show our love, support, and care
for this member of our family of UCC of Robesonia}.*

GREETING

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

SENTENCES (Leader)

God is near to all who call, who call from their hearts. The desires of those who fear God are fulfilled, their cries are heard; they are saved.

When we were baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into Christ's death. By our baptism, then, we were buried with Christ and shared Christ's death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from death by the glorious power of God, so too we might live a new life. For if we have been united with Christ in a death like Christ's, we shall certainly be united with Christ in a resurrection like Christ's.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING *(Leader)*

O God, our strength and our redeemer, giver of life and conqueror of death, we praise you with humble hearts....

....Keep us all in communion with your faithful people in every time and place, that at last we may rejoice together in the heavenly family where Jesus Christ reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever. **Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Leader: Let us offer our silent prayers....

{Silent Prayers}

SENTENCES *(Leader)*

We would not have you be ignorant brothers and sisters, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(Unison)*

**O God, whose days are without end
and whose mercies cannot be counted,
awaken us to the shortness and uncertainty of human life.
By your Holy Spirit,
lead us in faithfulness all our days.
When we have served you in our generation,
may we be gathered with those who have gone before,
having the testimony of a good conscience,
in the communion of your holy church,
in the confidence of a certain faith,
in the comfort of a saving hope,
in favor with you, our God,
and at perfect peace with the world;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer we pray. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *(Unison)*

**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.**

BLESSING

Leader: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of Christ Jesus our risen Savior. And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, be among you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

*The above is reprinted with permission from the Order for Thanksgiving for One Who Has Died and the Order for Committal from the United Church of Christ Book of Worship (1986)
United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership*

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE

"Hear our Prayer, O Lord"

♪ *Red #501*
George Whelpton

**Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}

OFFERTORY INVITATION ^②

Leader: The earth belongs to God

People: and all that is in it.

Leader: The world is God's creation

People: and so are we.

Leader: All that we have is from the gifts of God

People: meant as a blessing for all to share.

Leader: In these moments, we recognize our responsibility to manage these resources for the redemption of all God's people.

People: Let us give with care.

RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

Online Giving

{Today, we will be passing the offering plate in person. You may also offer your tithe and offering to God through our secure [Online Giving](#) option on our website at [sprucc.org](#) (Click Here), or you may mail your offering to United Church of Christ of Robesonia; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.

VOCAL OFFERTORY

{Those who are able, please rise}

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Doxology"

♪ *Red #551*
George Bourgeois; Public Domain

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER ^② (Leader)

Our God, with joyous praise and dancing spirits, we dedicate these tithes and offerings, acknowledging our covenant responsibility to share your word and love all your people. In gratitude for the gospel of salvation, we pledge our first loyalty and highest faithfulness as disciples of Jesus Christ. Thank you for the wisdom and insight we have received. Help us now to live according to the best we know, in Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,
we go out into the world to share God's Good News
through our words and actions.*

*COMMISSION ²

Leader: Dwell in the mystery of God's will for you.
Dare to reach out in love to those who share your world.

People: **We will seek God's counsel daily.**
We will open our hearts to others' pain.

Leader: The Holy Spirit goes with you to empower you.
The love of Christ sustains you in all circumstances.

People: **We have been blessed and fed in this place.**
We will share with others the joy we have known.

ALL: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*
Public Domain

*SENDING HYMN

"Faith of Our Fathers"

♪ *Red #282*
Public Domain

*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

POSTLUDE

Join Us For Fellowship and Food in Miller Fellowship Hall
Free WiFi: UCCRobesonia-5G-Guest
Password: iamheretoserve



The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



Worship Service Resource Credits

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

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 - ① United Church of Christ Neighbors in Need (NIN) 2023 Resources.
 - ② *Led By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1996). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
 - ② *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
 - ③ Reprinted with permission from *Sundays and Seasons*. (2023). Augsburg Fortress.
 - ④ Reprinted with permission from the *Order of Worship for the Reformed Church in the United States*. and/or *The Hymnal of the Evangelical and Reformed Church*. (1985) New York: United Church Press.
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 - ⑥ scouting.org - resources for Boy Scouts of America
 - ⑥ Reprinted with permission from *Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ*. (2013).
 - ⑦ *Sunday Sermons Preaching Resources*. (2017). Margate, NJ.
 - ⑦ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
 - ⑧ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑨ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
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 - ⑩ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
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Sextons: Michael Pastor & Terry Pastor

Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Financial Secretary (Interim): Terry Pastor

Consistory President: George McLain

Consistory Vice President: Kirk Aulenbach

Consistory Secretary: Geri Gammel

About Today

Church Season: Pentecost -which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. The day of Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian church.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

Green - symbolizing the growth of the Christian church, as we go out into the world and share God's Good News with both our words and actions, and invite others into the church of Jesus Christ.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year B**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Mark.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church). The first four books of the NT are called the "Gospels," which are about the life of Jesus Christ, which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

This Sunday, July 14, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 8th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 *and* Psalm 24 *or* Amos 7:7-15 *and* Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14;
Mark 6:14-29

Amos

This OT book is a compilation of the prophet Amos' speeches and accounts about the prophet from between about 786-760 B.C. Throughout the book, Amos calls upon people to remember and adhere to the teachings of justice and righteousness found in scripture and their faith traditions, and declares that, due to the social injustice and religious arrogance of the people of Israel, they will be punished by a total military disaster. The prophecy came true in 722 B.C. when Israel fell to the Assyrians.

Psalm 85

This OT song is a prayer of lament, asking God for His divine favor and blessing. God responds to the prayer with an oracle of salvation. The Korahites were singers and one of the four divisions of the priestly Levite tribe of Israel.

The Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

The Epistle (letter) to the Gentile church in Ephesus is attributed to the Apostle Paul, written in the first century A.D. This is an open letter to many churches in response for the life-changing radical transformation in our personal and social life as we become a part of Christ's family. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and leader in the Christian church, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. He wrote more of the NT than any other person. The title of this letter "Hebrews" presumably refers to the original audience of this letter as primarily Jewish-Christian.

The Gospel According to Mark

Mark's Gospel is the oldest and shortest of the four Gospels, written between 65-75 A.D. Papias, a church leader in the 2nd century, reported that this Gospel's author is Mark, a follower of Peter who wrote this Gospel after Peter's death.

Next Sunday, July 21, 2024, Lectionary Reading for the 9th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 7:1-14a *and* Psalm 89:20-37 *or* Jeremiah 23:1-6 *and* Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22;
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

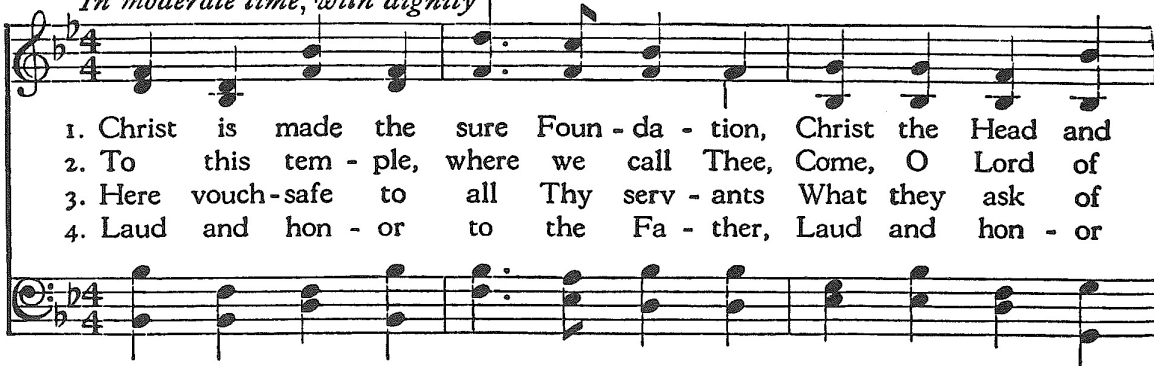
The Church

REGENT SQUARE

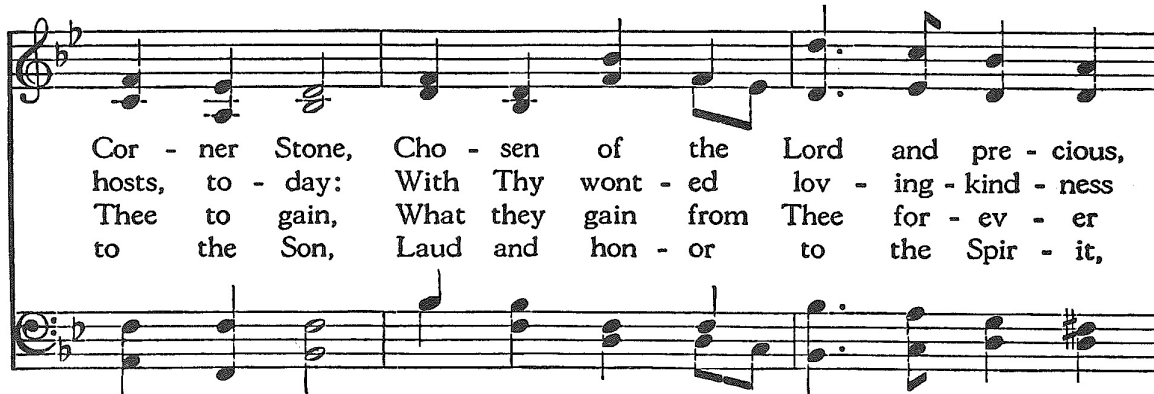
Latin, 7th century
Tr. JOHN MASON NEALE, 1851

8. 7. 8. 7. 8. 7.

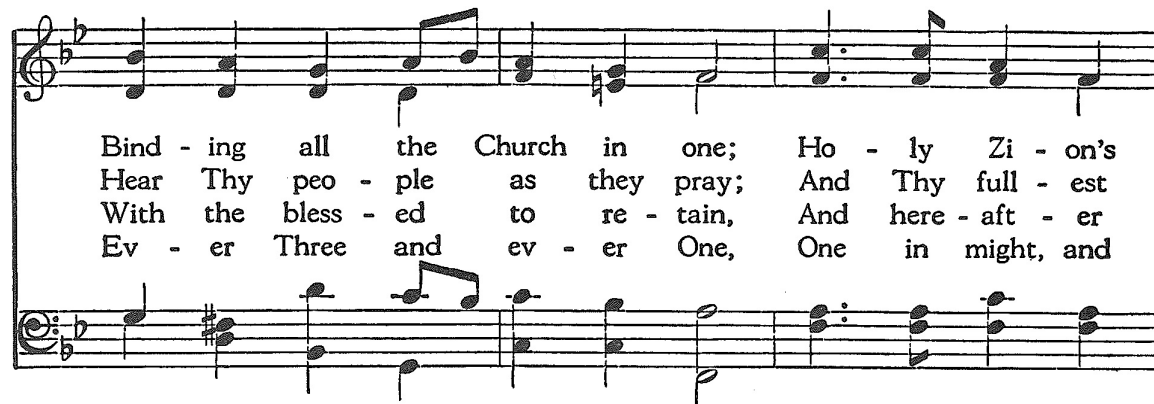
HENRY SMART, 1867

In moderate time, with dignity


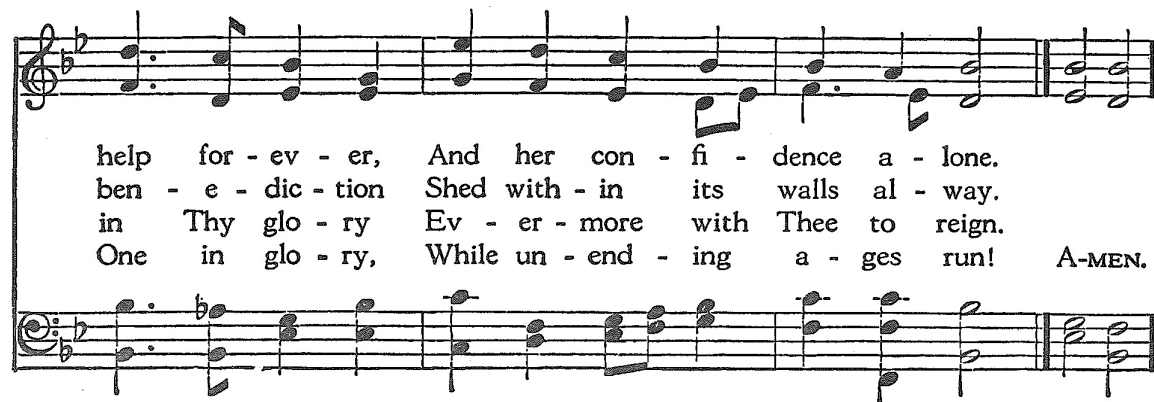
1. Christ is made the sure Foun - da - tion, Christ the Head and
 2. To this tem - ple, where we call Thee, Come, O Lord of
 3. Here vouch - safe to all Thy serv - ants What they ask of
 4. Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Laud and hon - or



Cor - ner Stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, to - day: With Thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
 Thee to gain, What they gain from Thee for - ev - er
 to the Son, Laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,



Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's
 Hear Thy peo - ple as they pray; And Thy full - est
 With the bless - ed to re - tain, And here - aft - er
 Ev - er Three and ev - er One, One in might, and



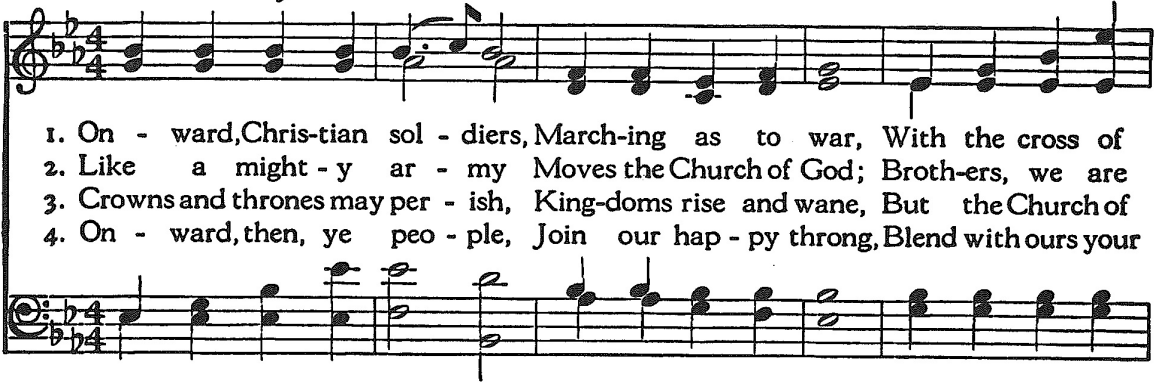
help for - ev - er, And her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in Thy glo - ry Ev - er - more with Thee to reign.
 One in glo - ry, While un - end - ing a - ges run! A-MEN.

The Christian Life

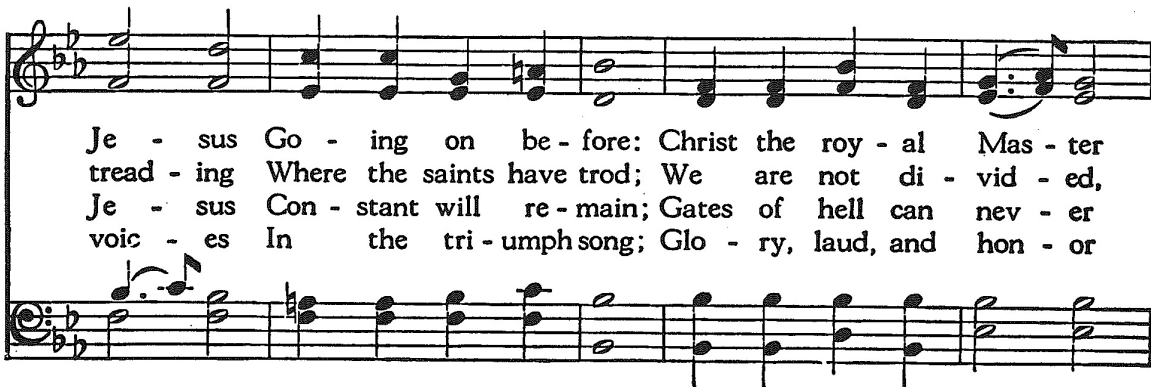
SABINE BARING-GOULD, 1865
In march rhythm

6. 5. 6. 5. D. with Refrain

ST. GERTRUDE
ARTHUR S. SULLIVAN, 1871



1. On - ward, Chris-tian sol - diers, March-ing as to war, With the cross of
2. Like a might - y ar - my Moves the Church of God; Broth-ers, we are
3. Crowns and thrones may per - ish, King-doms rise and wane, But the Church of
4. On - ward, then, ye peo - ple, Join our hap - py throng, Blend with ours your



Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore: Christ the roy - al Mas - ter
tread - ing Where the saints have trod; We are not di - vid - ed,
Je - sus Con - stant will re - main; Gates of hell can nev - er
voic - es In the tri - umph song; Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or



Leads a - gainst the foe; For - ward in - to bat - tle,
All one bod - y we, One in hope and doc - trine,
'Gainst that Church pre - vail; We have Christ's own prom - ise,
Un - to Christ the King; This through count - less a - ges

REFRAIN



See, His ban - ners go. On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers,
One in char - i - ty.
And that can - not fail.
Men and an - gels sing.

282

Conflict and Victory

FREDERICK W. FABER, 1849
Stanzas 2, 3, alt.

8. 8. 8. 8. 8.

ST. CATHERINE
HENRI F. HEMY, 1865
Alt. JAMES G. WALTON, 1871*With dignity and conviction*

1. Faith of our fa - thers! liv - ing still In spite of
2. Faith of our fa - thers! we will strive To win all
3. Faith of our fa - thers! we will love Both friend and

dun - geon, fire, and sword, O how our hearts beat high with joy
na - tions un - to thee; And through the truth that comes from God
foe in all our strife, And preach thee, too, as love knows how,

When - e'er we hear that glo - rious word: Faith of our fa - thers,
Man - kind shall then be tru - ly free: Faith of our fa - thers,
By kind - ly words and vir - tuous life: Faith of our fa - thers,

ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death.
ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death.
ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death. A - MEN.