



*The First Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ,  
Stockbridge, Massachusetts*

WORSHIP SERVICE

June 22, 2025 10:00 a.m.

Children start in worship. There will be an optional activity for kids after Time with Children. Nursery care is available during worship. **Today prayer requests can be shared verbally during worship. Alternatively, you may give a prayer slip to a Deacon or place it in the offering plate.**

**PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

GATHERING MUSIC

Sean Lewis

FRAMING WORDS / WELCOME

Rev. Linda Hoddy

**GATHERING IN WORSHIP**

INTROIT

*The Sound of Silence*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalms 42 and 43

Jo Ann Levitt

One: We come from many places, many conditions:

Some born aloft in God's intimate Presence;

**ALL: Some feeling only Her absence;**

One: Some in joy, with shouts of jubilation;

**ALL: Some with souls cast down by sorrow and oppression;**

One: Some satisfied, sustained by scripture and song;

**ALL: Some thirsty of soul, like a deer longing for clear, cool waters;**

One: Some in clarity of purpose, sure of our path of righteousness;

**ALL: Some disquieted, lost, filled with ambiguity and doubt.**

One: Some basking in light, some knowing only darkness.

**ALL: Nevertheless, we will praise-**

continued

One: Let us open ourselves again to the wisdom of the ages  
to the voice of God calling us forward in hope

**ALL: Together, we enter into worship,  
Open to challenge, and at peace in His steadfast love.**

\*HYMN

*Morning Has Broken*

see page 6

\*SHARING OF THE PEACE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Lord's Prayer

**Our God, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass  
against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is  
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*\* Children are invited to participate in an activity. \*\***

## **THE GIFT OF THE WORD**

SCRIPTURE      A Dramatic Reading of I Kings:19      (page 255 in pew bible)

CONTEMPORARY READING      Elizabeth Young

**"The Place Where we are Right," Yehuda Amichai**

*From the place where we are right*

*Flowers will never grow*

*in the spring.*

*The place where we are right*

*is hard and trampled*

*like a yard. ...*

*But doubts and loves*

*dig up the world*

*like a mole, a plow.*

*And a whisper will be heard in the place*

*where the ruined*

*house once stood.*

SERMON

*When Elijah Grows Up*

Rev. Hoddy

\*HYMN

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

see pages 4-5

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sean Lewis

\*DOXOLOGY

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore;**

**One God, Triune, whom we adore.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

\*BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENCE

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Hoddy

PRAYER RESPONSE

*How Can I Keep from Singing*

## GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

INVITATIONS

\*HYMN

*O God of Every Nation*

see page 7

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Hoddy

POSTLUDE

Sean Lewis

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10 with refrain

Thomas Obediah Chisholm, 1923

William Marion Runyan, 1923

1. \*Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,  
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;  
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

\*Or "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

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Hymns, Psalms, &amp; Spiritual Songs (1990)

*Refrain*

Great is Thy faith-ful-ness! Great is Thy faith-ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed Thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; Great is Thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

### Music Notes ~ Sean Lewis

A note about the gathering music and postlude: you will notice in the coming weeks is that there may not be any specific selections listed. This is not for lack of thought or planning, rather it is with an open and flexible approach in mind. With the start of summer and the feel and flow of the worship services ahead, I want to remain open to a variety of music choices so I will be making selections from a wide range of piano and organ literature that tie into the mood and theme for the Sundays over the next month. If there's a particular piece that moves you and you'd like to know the title and composer, that's a good way to introduce yourself to me following the service and start up a conversation!

# Morning Has Broken

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BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4 D

Eleanor Farjeon, 1931

Gaelic melody  
Arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

C Am Dm G Dm G C

1. Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has  
2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first  
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

Em Am Em F G C Am F C

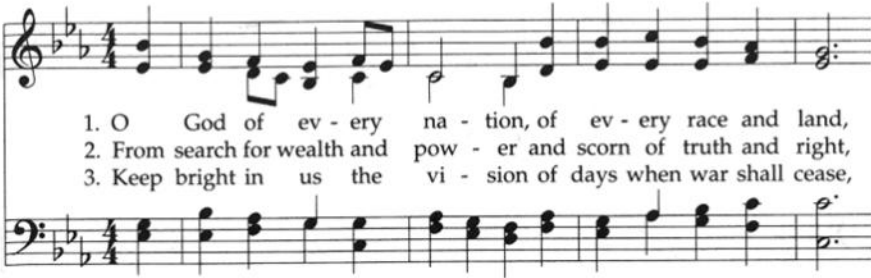
spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet  
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - ery

Am G C G Am Dm G7 C

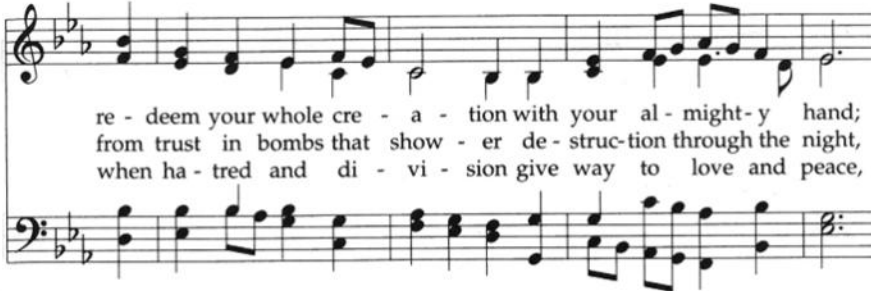
morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!  
gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where God's feet pass.  
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

# O God of Every Nation

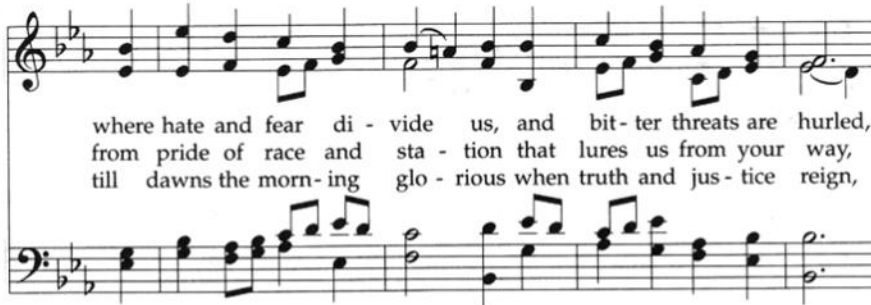
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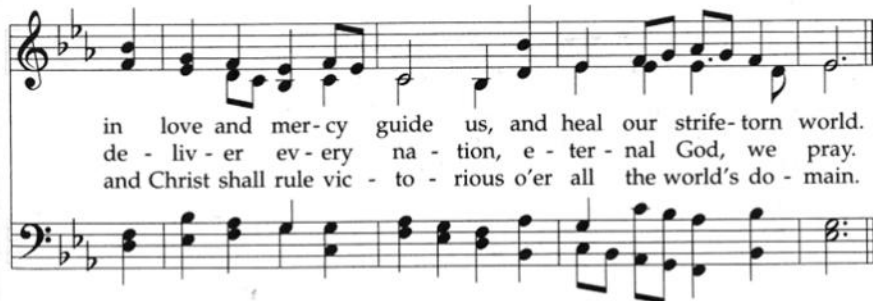
1. O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,  
 2. From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,  
 3. Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;  
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,  
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us, and bit - ter threats are hurled,  
 from pride of race and sta - tion that lures us from your way,  
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us, and heal our strife - torn world.  
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.  
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

WORDS: William W. Reid, Jr., 1958, alt.  
 MUSIC: Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans, 1927

NYLAND  
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 music adapt. and harm. used by permission of Oxford University Press

$\text{♩} = 52-56$

*The Chalice Hymnal (1995)*

**Thank you** to all who helped with today's service, including David Anderegg for writing and organizing the dramatic reading and to Scripture readers Gary Cilley, Beth Cilley, Jo Ann Levitt, and Elizabeth Young.

Thanks also to Deacons Jo Ann Levitt and Helen McCormick, and to the Board of Growth & Fellowship for social hour. Will Curtiss is running the Livestream and Rae Geddes is in the nursery. Thanks to David Anderegg for the flowers today.

### **Church Picnic**

July 20 at 12:00pm, at beautiful Mohawk Lake in Glendale. This is a great day to come to church dressed for a picnic. Don't forget to pack your bathing suit and towel. More details in the weekly email and on the bulletin board in the JE Room.

### **Strawberry Social**

It's today after worship! The social hour celebrates freshly-picked local strawberries, served atop homemade shortcake, all topped with local (whipped) cream. **Special thanks to Liz Horton and her family** for picking the berries late yesterday and delivering them to church.

*Welcome! We are Open and Affirming, which means that we invite persons of every sexual orientation, gender identification and expression, racial and cultural identity, age, physical ability, economic circumstance, faith background and family structure to share fully in the ministry, leadership and fellowship of this congregation's life in Christ.*

*As followers of Christ and committed to Isaiah's charge to "maintain justice and do what is right," we acknowledge with gratitude and humility that we are learning, speaking, gathering, and worshipping on the ancestral homelands of the Mohican people, who are the indigenous peoples of this land. Despite tremendous hardship in being forced from here, today their community resides in Wisconsin and is known as the Stockbridge-Munsee Community. We pay honor and respect to their ancestors past and present as we commit to building a more inclusive and equitable space for all.*

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