

Instructions for the Service over Zoom

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89971769424?pwd=dWpBSWI3Z2tjR25GRVJYc0d1VW53QT09>

Meeting ID: 899 7176 9424

Passcode: 295308

Dial in: 646 558 8656

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Please use the chat button to convey your celebrations and your prayer concerns. We can save them to a file and publish them as the prayer list for the congregation on Monday.

Communion

This is a communion service. Please have a piece of bread or a cracker along with wine, juice, or water. During the service, please, say the epiclesis during the communion liturgy before taking the bread and the cup.

Recording this Service

We will record today's service for members and friends who cannot participate in worship at this hour. The recording will begin with the Call to Worship and end at the close of the Benediction. We will also post an audio of the reading and homily.

The service will be ready for viewing beginning on Monday evening and will be available until Saturday evening. The link to view the service will be in the Monday e-mail. You can listen to the audio and print a copy of the sermon from the church's website:

<https://www.shcong.org/sermons>

17TH SUNDAY AFTER THE PENTECOST
October 2, 2022 at 10:00 AM

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Friends, we gather to give thanks for God's extravagant generosity.

We come with thanksgiving for the Holy One's outpoured abundance

Let us open our mouths to praise to the One who has blessed us bountifully.

We will give our thanks with prayers and songs of praise.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Generous and loving God, before time began you created this world with a generous bounty. Your generosity exceeds our imagination. As a sign of your love and trust in us, you made us its stewards. Come among us and encourage us to share this bounty generously. May our generosity through our ministry proclaim Jesus' message of love and hope to our community and the world. In turn, may the recipients express their thanksgiving through their generosity to remind all that love and generosity go hand in hand. Amen.

***HYMN**

For the Beauty of the Earth

NCH 28

SCRIPTURE – Epistle Lesson - 2 Corinthians 9:6-14 (Trans. Common English Version)

Remember this saying,

“A few seeds make
a small harvest,
but a lot of seeds make
a big harvest.”

Each of you must make up your own mind about how much to give. But don't feel sorry that you must give and don't feel you are forced to give. God loves people who love to give. God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others.

The Scriptures say,

“God freely gives his gifts
to the poor,
and always does right.”

God gives seed to farmers and provides everyone with food. He will increase what you have, so you can give even more to those in need. You will be blessed in every way, and you will be able to keep on being generous. Then many people will thank God when we deliver your gift.

What you are doing is much more than a service that supplies God's people with what they need. It is something that will make many others thank God. The way in which you have proved yourselves by this service will bring honor and praise to God. You believed the message about Christ, and you obeyed it by sharing generously with God's people and with everyone else. Now they are praying for you and want to see you, because God used you to bless them so very much.

HOMILY

***HYMN**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

NCH 565

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

***Hymn**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

NCH 347

COMMUNION

INVITATION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You are exceedingly generous, O God. You have blessed us with Creation's abundance. You have given us spiritual gifts. All that there is and all that we have are yours. Yet, at times we forget. We forget that we have so much to share. Our sharing is not just treasure. It is time and talent too. Forgive us. May we not forget. Stir in us a spirit of generosity. May we sow bountifully and widely here in our community. Amen.

Silent Prayer and Reflection

Words of Assurance

COMMUNION PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God most high.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give thanks, O God, for the bounty of your Creation, which you generously left in our care. There is enough so no one should suffer scarcity or deprivation. Throughout time, O God, you have been generous to our forebears. We remember that after you freed Israel from bondage, you provided them with manna in the morning and quail at night as they wandered in the wilderness. During their exile in Babylon, you generously provided for them until they could return to Jerusalem to be a light to all nations. You came to us in Jesus who grew in stature to teach and to heal. We remember how he took a few loaves of bread and some fish and generously fed 5000 people reminding us that when things pass through your hands, they are multiplied abundantly. He taught how love inverts all the assumptions of this world. He taught that it is fundamental to peace and justice. This alarmed the religious and political authorities. Threatened by love's transforming power, they executed him on a cross. Yet, the tomb did not hold him. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead to teach for another forty days before ascending to sit with you and the Holy Spirit.

We boldly proclaim this with the words of the ancient hymn:

Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty. The whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the Highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Days after Jesus entered Jerusalem on the back of a donkey, he and his friends ate dinner together. Little did his friends know that that would be their final meal together. During that meal he took bread and after blessing it and giving thanks, he broke it saying, “Take. Eat. This is my body broken for you. As often as you eat of it, remember me.” Later after supper he took a cup and after blessing it and giving thanks, he gave it to them saying, “Drink this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you drink of it, remember me.”

By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we boldly proclaim:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

EPICLESIS

Set your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this fruit of the vine. By partaking them, make us one body of Christ to proclaim your peace and your justice through our ministries of transforming love.

SHARING THE FEAST

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, try as we might, we cannot fully comprehend your generosity. You called us to this table. You provided us with bread and fruit of the vine. You now send us forth on our journey. Thank you for nourishing us to continue the ministry Jesus began. We leave this table confident that sharing our treasure, time, and talents with our neighbors and friends will further your peace in this world. Amen.

***Hymn**

Take My Gifts

NCH 562

***BENEDICTION**



Scan this code using your cell phone camera
Scroll down to click on the Donate button to make an offering

For the Beauty of the Earth

*St. 1-3, Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.**St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993*

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

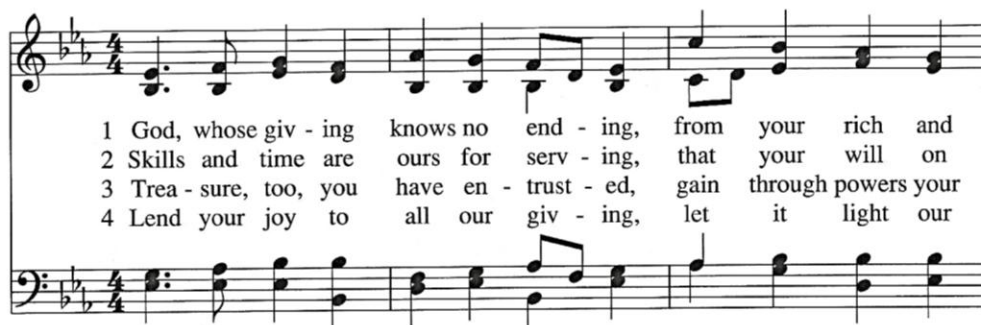
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Folliott S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

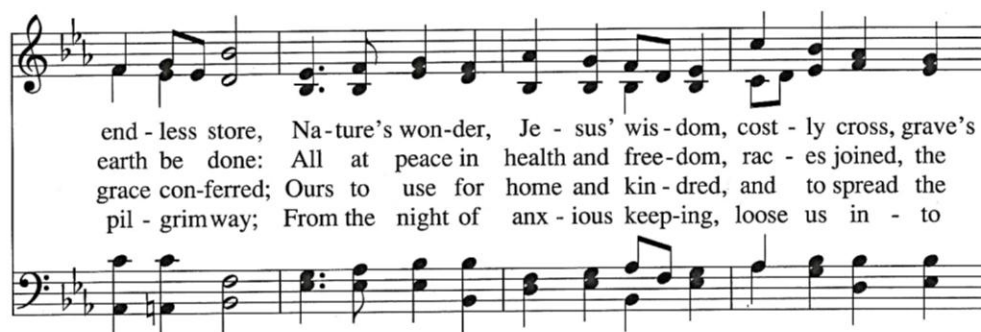
Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain
 Conrad Kocher, 1838
 Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Robert L. Edwards, 1961; alt.



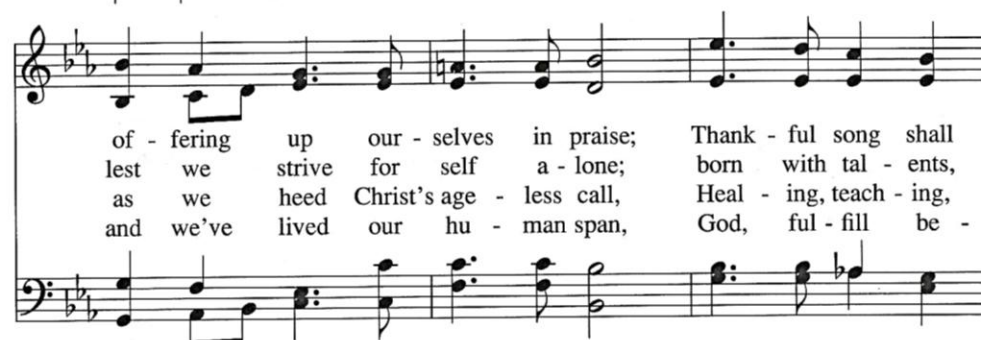
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for serv - ing, that your will on
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your
 4 Lend your joy to all our giv - ing, let it light our



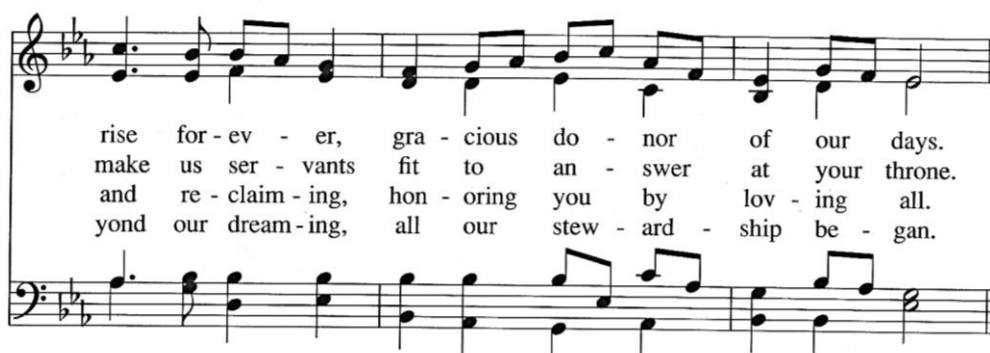
end - less store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's
 earth be done: All at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the
 grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the
 pil - grim way; From the night of anx - ious keep - ing, loose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

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Luke 10:1-9

Fred Kaan, 1975; alt.

C F G Dm G C G

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,

C F G Dm7 C G C

bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex-press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - ery-where!

Refrain (first time *p*, second time *f*)

C C7 F Dm G C F C

Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

This hymn came into being when composer Doreen Potter asked poet Fred Kaan to write a text for her adaptation of a Jamaican folk melody. It was first used at the World Council of Churches Assembly in Nairobi (1975), and in Vancouver (1983).

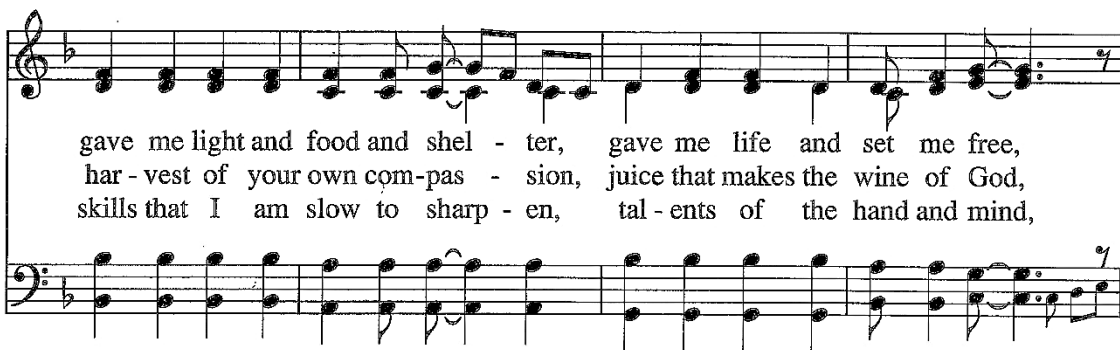
Tune: LINSTAD L.M. with refrain
 Jamaican folk song
 Adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975

Take My Gifts

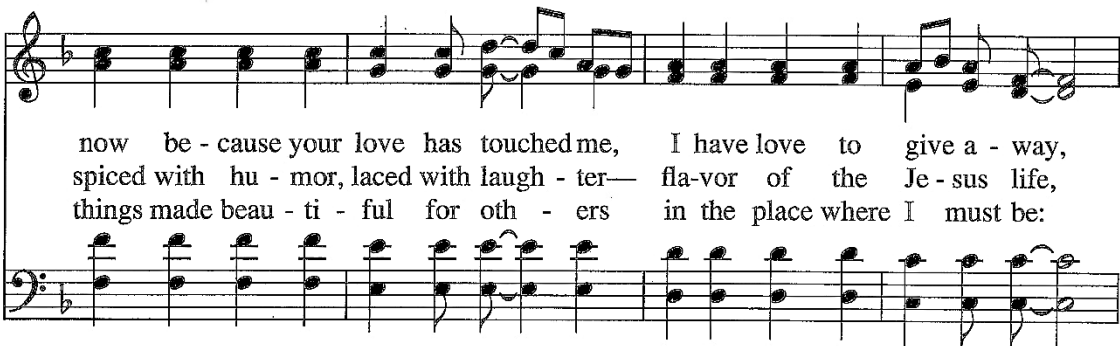
562

Shirley Erena Murray, 1991



1 Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
 2 Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your Spir - it sowed,
 3 Take what - ev - er I can of - fer— gifts that I have yet to find,



gave me light and food and shel - ter, gave me life and set me free,
 har - vest of your own com - pas - sion, juice that makes the wine of God,
 skills that I am slow to sharp - en, tal - ents of the hand and mind,



now be - cause your love has touched me, I have love to give a - way,
 spiced with hu - mor, laced with laugh - ter— fla - vor of the Je - sus life,
 things made beau - ti - ful for oth - ers in the place where I must be:



now the bread of love is ris - ing, loaves of love to mul - ti - ply!
 tang of risk and new ad - ven - ture, taste and zest be - yond be - lief.
 take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

Shirley Erena Murray recounted that Colin Gibson composed this tune for her stewardship text "almost instantaneously." Gibson has served as professor at the University of Otago, as well as organist and choir director in nearby Dunedin, New Zealand.

Tune: TALAVERA TERRACE 8.7.8.7.D.

Colin Gibson, 1991

Alternate tune: HOLY MANNA