

Columbia United Church Of Christ

August 3, 2025
"Faithful Stewardship"



C U C C

Columbia United Church of Christ

CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression, or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality, or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status, or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal, or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

**Columbia
United Church
Of Christ**



August 3, 2025

9:30 a.m. "Faithful Stewardship"

**indicates that all are invited to stand, if comfortably able*

*"Give thanks to God, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever."
Psalm 107:1*

Welcome and Greetings

Rev. Mike Williams

Prelude

"Menuet"

Steve Jannetti
Jean-Philippe Rameau

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 107)

Jim Loveless

Give thanks to God, for God is good;
God's Steadfast Love endures forever!

**God has redeemed us from our troubles;
God has gathered us together from all directions.**

Let all who have been gathered in God's name give thanks;
Praising God for God's wonderful works and Steadfast Love.

**God satisfies the thirsty;
God fills the hungry with good things.**

Let us hear what God will speak;
For God will speak Love to God's people.

**Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
And let your glory be over all the earth!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Hymn

"The Church's One Foundation

#386

*Opening Prayer

Jim Loveless

**God of the faithful in every time, today You have called us
into Your church to be one body in Jesus Christ. You have
bestowed upon us the gifts we need for Your service. Even
as we praise You for those blessings, challenge us not to put
our trust in the gifts instead of the giver. Grant us the
faithfulness to always support Your mission in the world,
being knit together with all Your people through the world,
through Your Spirit of unity. Amen.**

*Assurance of Blessing

Rev. Mike Williams

God's love for us was demonstrated in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Anyone in Christ is a new creation; the old has passed away; behold, the new has come. Friends, since we are justified by faith we have peace with God and each other through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Prayer Response

“Seek Ye First”

***Seek Ye first the kingdom of God
And God's righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!***

***Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek and you shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Rev. Mike Williams

“Tell me the Stories of Jesus”
(Sung as children return to their seats)

***Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
Things I would ask him to tell me, if he were here.
Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
All in the love light of Jesus' face!***

Mission Moment

“Reading & Writing Packs”

Mahree Skala

New Testament Lesson

Colossians 3:1-11

Jim Loveless

The Apostle Paul continues his letter to the church in Colossae, he talks about focusing on God first and foremost. He emphasizes that we should put aside the worldly things that keep us separated from Christ. If we focus on things of Christ instead of the world, we will realize the unity that Christ wished for us.

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Gospel Lesson

Luke 12:13-21

Jim Loveless

Jesus talked about money often. In this instance, he is asked an inheritance question, and he uses it to point out that greed separates us from each other and from God. His parable about the rich man causes us to think about what really matters in life.

Page #847

Anthem

“Siciliano from Sonata No. 2 in Eb Major” Linda Neale

Johann Sebastian Bach

Rev. Mike Williams

(insert)

Invitation to Communion

As we gather around the communion table, God's love is gloriously revealed most clearly to us. We remember the Wisdom of Christ's ministry that is represented by the bread and the promise of Eternal Living that is represented by the cup. As God's children, let us gather together for this meal.

Communion Prayer, Pastoral Prayer, & Silent Prayer; Invocation

(insert)

In the Sacrament of Communion, we most clearly see Jesus in our midst. Our desire to share this presence prompts us to celebrate with our children, granting them a special blessing. During the hymn, our children are invited to come forward via the center aisle and receive a blessing.

Institution; Fraction; Distribution

Steve Jannetti
John Michael Talbot

Rev. Mike Williams

We thank You, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth Your praise in our lives. Now we gather, singing the prayer that You taught us;

(sung by the congregation, led by Mike Pierson)

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.

Rev. Mike Williams

Invitation to the Offering

You can also give online by visiting our website: www.columbiaucc.com

Silas J. Vail

*Prayer of Dedication

Jim Loveless

You shower us with Your goodness every day, O God. With grateful hearts we bring You these gifts. Transform them into outpourings of peace and justice to reconcile all people to one another and to You. Amen.

*Benediction

Rev. Mike Williams

Response

“Let There be Peace on Earth”

***Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with me!
Let there be Peace on Earth; the Peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, Children all are we!
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony!
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now!
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!***

Postlude

“Bourree ”

Steve Jannetti
George Frédéric Handel

***The United Church of Christ:
“United in Christ’s Love, A Just World for All”***

***CUCC celebrates God’s boundless love by:
Welcoming all God’s Children;
Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;
Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
Building a supportive church family;
Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach***

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Organist/Accompanist: Steve Jannetti	steve.jannetti@yahoo.com
LODO Director: Sara Koenig	lodo.sara.koenig@gmail.com
Custodian: Caleb Berry	calebprenticeberry@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Jim Loveless
Ushers:	Brenda & John Muench
Greeters:	Donna Marsh
Technology:	Carissa Graves & John Graves
Council Stewards:	Judi Privitt & Jerry Kiesling

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Tricia Soncasie
Ushers:	Keith Birkes & Jerry Kiesling
Greeters:	Mary Lorber
Technology:	Ted Dachroeden & Carissa Graves
Council Stewards:	Ted Dachroeden & Ashley Ramirez



Online Giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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Pastor:	Rev. Rick Oberle	rick@columbiaucc.com

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NURSERY CARE is available for children in kindergarten and younger in room #201 in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

NEW NAMETAGS

The Membership & Care and Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Teams have worked together this summer to roll out new nametags for the congregation! If you do not have a nametag, fill out a form in the coatroom. We have many “new” folks in our community, so it is important to wear your nametag!

SCOUTING AMERICA KICKOFF BBQ 8/18– YOU ARE INVITED!

Come join our Scouting America unites for a kickoff BBQ on August 18 at the CUCC Shelter House! We will begin gathering at 5:30 p.m. and eat at 6:00 p.m. This will be a great time to celebrate our Scouting relationship! Hope to see you there!

READING AND WRITING KITS– DUE BACK BY 8/24

This year, CUCC’s “Festival of Sharing” focus will be on “Missouri Reading and Writing Packs.” Beginning today, lists of needed items along with gallon size zipper storage bags will be available in the Gathering Area. Filled bags need to be returned by August 24. The supply list is in the bag.

FOOD BANK EVENING SHIFTS RETURN 8/26

Our next opportunity to serve at the Food Bank will be August 26 at 5:30 p.m.! We would love to have you join us! To sign up, talk to Mahree Skala or click on the link that is in the Friday email.

LABOR DAY OPEN HOUSE AT THE OBERLE’S- 9/1

You are invited to a Labor Day open house on Monday, September 1, from 12:00-4:00 p.m. at Pastor Rick and Kim’s house! We will be grilling brats and chicken, and will have a few sides. Feel free to bring a side or sweet if you wish; but don’t feel obligated to do so. Your presence is welcome enough! We will have yard games along with our food. 3905 Snow Leopard Dr. 65202.

RALLY DAY WILL BE HERE SOON– 9/7

Mark your calendars– Rally Day will be September 7! We will kick off the new program year with Sunday School Classes, a return to our Academic Year Schedule (Sunday School/Bible Study at 9:00 a.m., Worship at 10:30 a.m.) communion, and a great fellowship event after church that day.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	8/3	Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
		Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	9:30 a.m.
Tue	8/5	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
Sun	8/10	Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
		Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	9:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Dr. Ryan Link... health issues; prayers for him and his family

Mark Wilson... hand injury

Cody Kile... recovery from accident

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our Partner in Education

The people of Palestine, Israel, Iran, and Ukraine

Flood victims in Texas... on their loss

Health Issues:

Tiffany Greene, Harold Hackman, Glenn Duermeyer, Lloyd Mickelson,

Marsha Posz, Barry Kirchhoff, Ruth (Edie's Cousin),

Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley, Rachel Demand,

Kristan Whelihan (Russell Eveler's teacher),

Fred & Ann Wilke (Alethea's parents)

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's Niece), Jennifer (Edie Diel's Niece),

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter),

Martha (friend of the Veteto family), Ken (Adam Veteto's Cousin),

Linda Hancik and Beverly Wilcox (Corinne Remeika's friends),

Lortisha Powell (Dorothy Vetter's friend)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families, Kieran Piersee

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves, Harold Hackman,

Walter & Patty Schroeder

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Alice Moon, Cliff & Sue Beckman, Linda Evans

Serving us in the military:

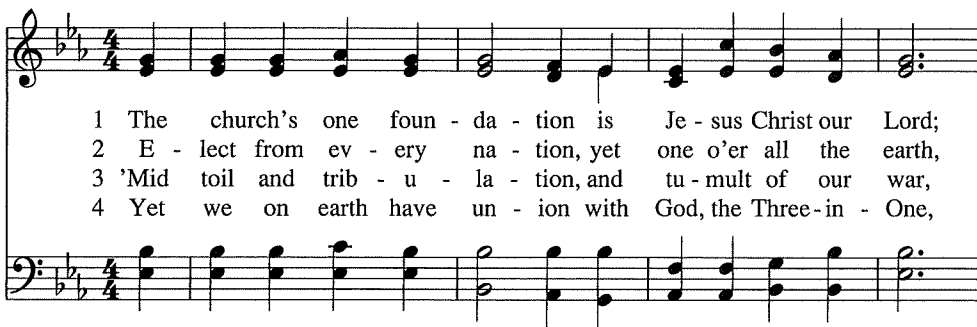
Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Did you know we have a Prayer Team here at CUCC, lifting up the prayer concerns of our congregation? If you are interested in joining our Prayer Team or have a prayer request for our team to lift up please contact

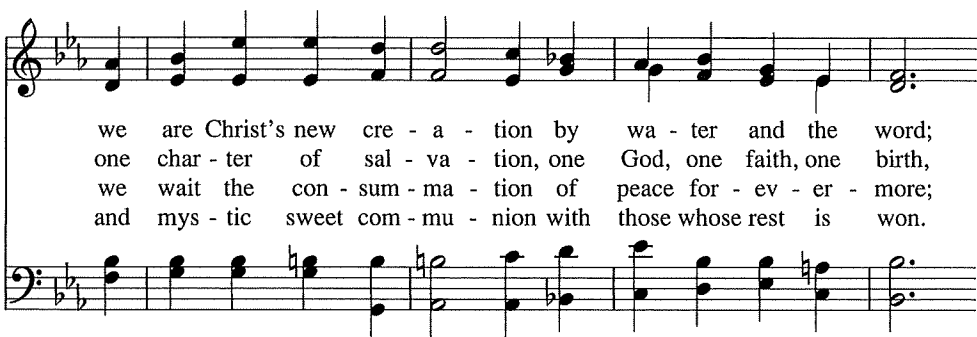
Melba Shaffer (573) 474-2997 melbamaes@google.com

Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 soncasie@aol.com

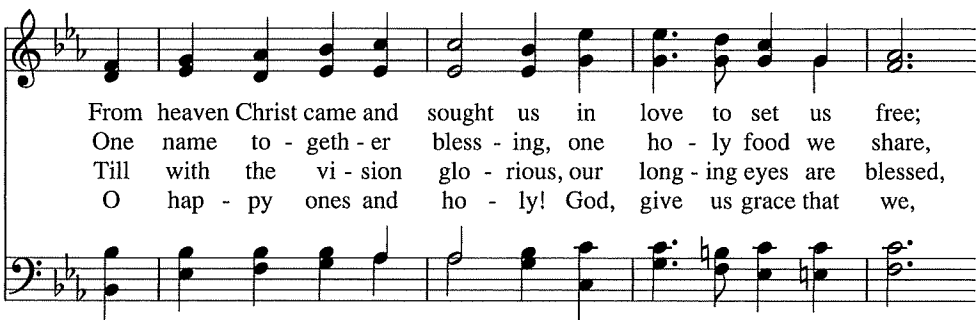
The Church's One Foundation

*Eph. 2:13-22; 4:4-6; 1 Cor. 3:11**Samuel J. Stone, 1866; alt.*


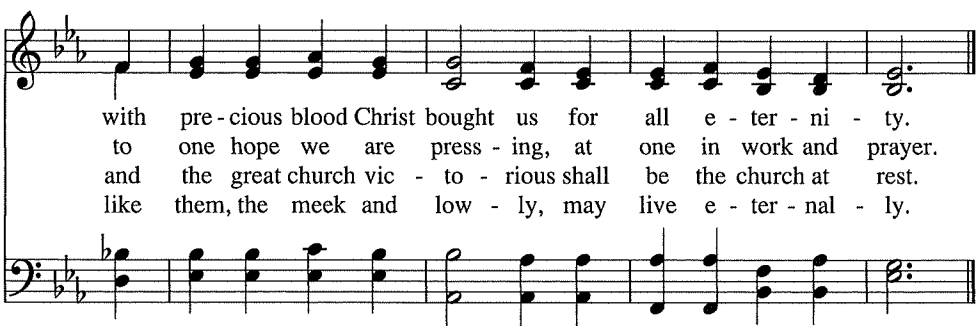
1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ our Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of our war,
 4 Yet we on earth have un - ion with God, the Three - in - One,



we are Christ's new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
 one char - ter of sal - va - tion, one God, one faith, one birth,
 we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free;
 One name to - geth - er bless - ing, one ho - ly food we share,
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious, our long - ing eyes are blessed,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! God, give us grace that we,



with pre - cious blood Christ bought us for all e - ter - ni - ty.
 to one hope we are press - ing, at one in work and prayer.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

Like the writings of Ambrose many centuries earlier, this hymn was born out of a doctrinal dispute. The young priest Samuel J. Stone composed twelve hymns on the articles of the Apostles' Creed in support of those reacting against nontraditional views of biblical scholarship. This hymn is based on article nine, "the holy Catholic Church."

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

Colossians 3:1-11

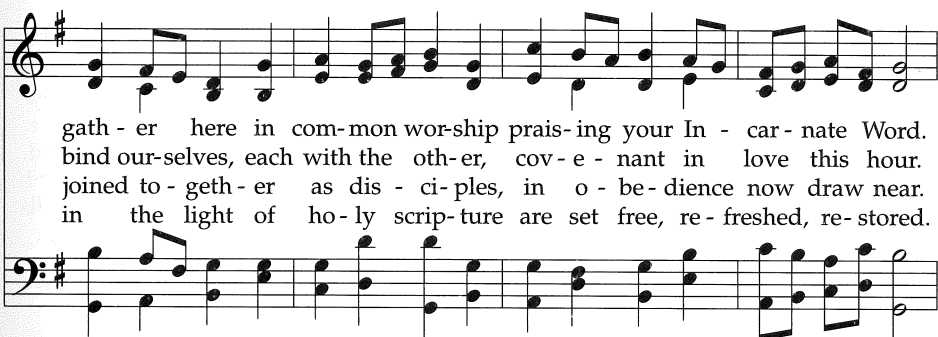
- 1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth,
- 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.
- 5 Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry).
- 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.,
- 7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.
- 8 But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.
- 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices
- 10 and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.
- 11 In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

Luke 12:13-21

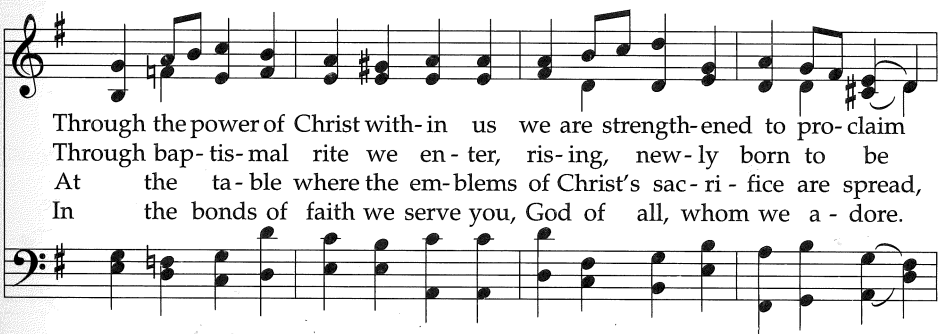
- 13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.”
- 14 But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?”
- 15 And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”
- 16 Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly.
- 17 And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’
- 18 Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
- 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’
- 20 But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’
- 21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”



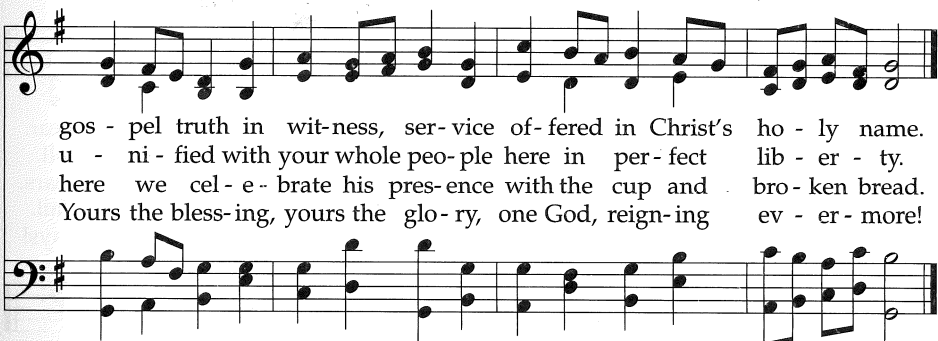
1. We, your peo-ple, God, con-fess-ing Je-sus Christ your Son as Lord,
 2. We, your peo-ple, God, re-joic-ing in your vast cre-a-tive power,
 3. We, your peo-ple, God, com-mun-ing through the Ho-ly Spir-it, here,
 4. We, your peo-ple, God, re-ceive-ing gifts of min-is-try out-poured



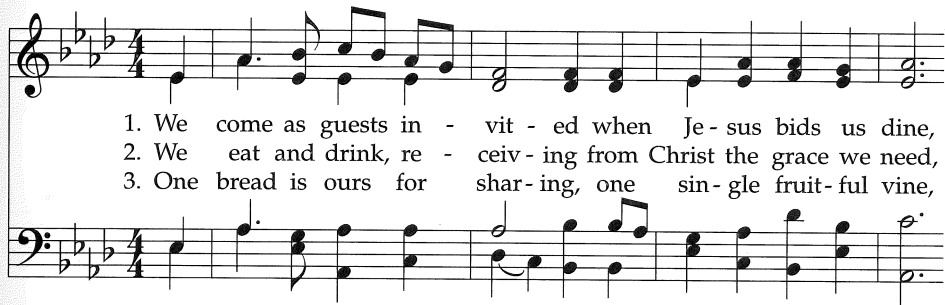
gath-er here in com-mon wor-ship prais-ing your In-car-nate Word.
 bind our-selves, each with the oth-er, cov-e-nant in love this hour.
 joined to-geth-er as dis-ci-ples, in o-be-dience now draw near.
 in the light of ho-ly scrip-ture are set free, re-freshed, re-stored.



Through the power of Christ with-in us we are strength-ened to pro-claim
 Through bap-tis-mal rite we en-ter, ris-ing, new-ly born to be
 At the ta-ble where the em-blems of Christ's sac-ri-fice are spread,
 In the bonds of faith we serve you, God of all, whom we a-dore.



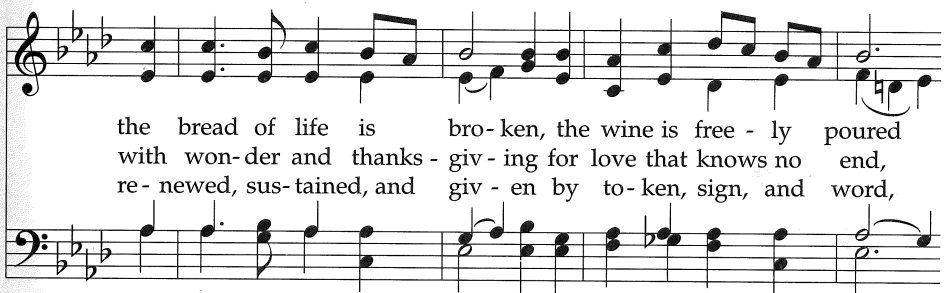
gos-pel truth in wit-ness, ser-vice of-fered in Christ's ho-ly name.
 u-ni-fied with your whole peo-ple here in per-fect lib-er-ty.
 here we cel-e-brate his pres-ence with the cup and bro-ken bread.
 Yours the bless-ing, yours the glo-ry, one God, reign-ing ev-er-more!



1. We come as guests in - vit - ed when Je - sus bids us dine,
2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing from Christ the grace we need,
3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, one sin - gle fruit - ful vine,



his friends on earth u - nit - ed to share the bread and wine;
and in our hearts be - liev - ing on him by faith we feed;
our fel - low - ship de - clar - ing re - newed in bread and wine:



the bread of life is bro - ken, the wine is free - ly poured
with won - der and thanks - giv - ing for love that knows no end,
re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en by to - ken, sign, and word,



for us, in sol - emn to - ken of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
we find in Je - sus liv - ing our ev - er - pres - ent friend.
the pledge and seal of heav - en, the love of Christ our Lord.