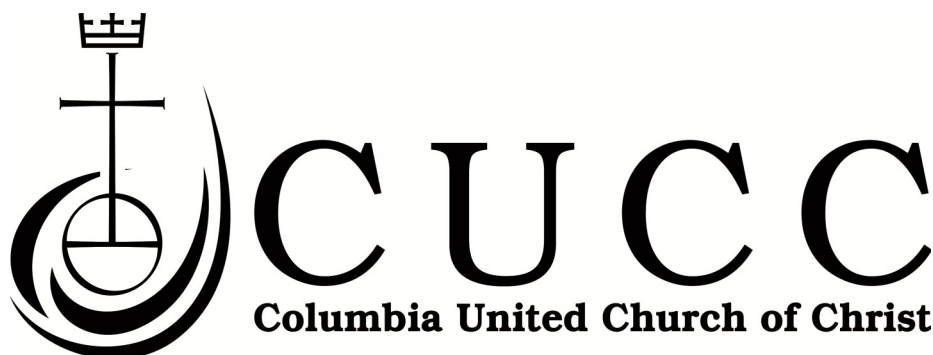


Columbia United Church Of Christ

November 9, 2025
"Veterans Day"



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**



November 9, 2025

10:30 a.m.

“Veterans Day”

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

“Great is the LORD and worthy to be praised!

Every day I will bless You and praise Your name forever and ever!”

-Psalm 145:2-3

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Connie Loveless

Arr. Cindy Berry

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 145)

Jim Loveless

Praise God! Bless God’s name forever and ever!

Great is the LORD, and worthy of our praise.

Every generation will declare God’s majesty

And meditate on God’s wondrous works.

God is gracious and merciful;

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

God is good to all,

And shows compassion for all of Creation.

God is near to all who call on Them,

To all who call on God in truth.

Our mouths will praise God for generations;

And we will bless God’s Holy Name forever and ever.

Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

#12

*Opening Prayer

Jim Loveless

God of grace, Your power and Your love are our comfort and guide. Help us to stay true as we live into the blessings You have given us. Forgive us for the times we let cultural customs and fear distract us. Remind us again that human rules and customs should never be barriers for Your truth, and that the blessings You give us far outweigh the details of the world. Keep us strong in our faith, as we live into our call as Your servant leaders. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God challenges us to work in unity with one another across human-created barriers to God's glory. But even when we forget this call, God still loves us and forgives us. Through our repentance and God's grace we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Weave”

*Weave, weave! Weave us together
Weave us together in unity and love
Weave, weave! Weave us together
Weave us together, together in love*

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”
(Sung as children return to their seats)

*I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back, no turning back*

New Testament Lesson 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Jim Loveless

In Paul's letter to the church in Thessalonica, he thanks God for their dedication and service to the ministry of Jesus Christ. He calls upon them to stand firm in the wisdom they have received through Christian instruction, and continue to have hope; for God will continue to give them strength in everything they do.

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Anthem

“A Living Sacrifice”

Celebration Singers

Cindy Berry

Gospel Lesson

Luke 20:27-40

Jim Loveless

Jesus talks about marriage, death, and what happens to widows using the Jewish custom of Levirate marriage as a metaphor. They are trying to trap Jesus, but he tricks them by pointing out the futility of their concerns. His message is that they should focus on the greater good, not the red tape of human constraints.

Page # 855

Sermon:

“Trick Questions”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“You Servants of God”

#305

Recognition of Servanthood – Veterans Day
*After the video presentation, Veterans will be invited to
stand (if comfortably able).*

Prayer Litany honoring Veterans Day

Pastor Rick

Loving God, the framers of our Declaration of Independence claimed that You have endowed us with inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Yet, there are those who would take these from us. Today, we remember the men, women, and others who have served in our country's armed forces to preserve the freedoms You have granted us. For all who have served in the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard,

We ask Your blessing.

For the families who made great sacrifices to make it possible for service members to be on watch at home or around the world or to go into harm's way,

We ask Your blessing.

For the families who realized the loss of a loved one in service,

We ask Your blessing.

Jesus tells us that no one has greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. For all those Veterans who have been willing to lay down their lives for us,

We ask Your blessing.

For the Veterans who bear scars in their bodies and spirits,

We ask Your blessing.

For Veterans who came home but couldn't "fit in" with their families or communities anymore,

We ask Your blessing.

For Veterans who have been excluded from community because of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other oppressive factor,

We ask Your blessing.

Ever present God, keep all our Veterans in Your care today. Grant them the peace they sought to preserve for others. As we honor our Veterans, we also pray for peace. Teach all Your people the ways of peace, that those who have sacrificed so much for peace and freedom will not have done so in vain. We pray all these things in the name of Your son, our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The LORD's Prayer

In an effort to encourage inclusion, we suggest using "Creator God" in our recitation of The Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to say "Our Father" or "Our Mother" instead of "Creator," "Trespases" instead of "debts," or "Thy" instead of "Your," if you prefer.

Creator God in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn "We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky" #563

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life Pastor Rick

Mission Moment VAC Christmas Drive Mahree Skala

Invitation to the Offering

*To give online text "GIVE" to 573.240.4041
You can also give online by visiting our website:
www.columbiaucc.com*

Offertory "Patriotic Hymn Medley" Gina Pierson
By Gustav Holst, arr. Sharon Wilson

*Prayer of Dedication Jim Loveless

God of love, take the gifts that we offer today and let them be used to work for justice in Your world. As we give, we honor those who have sacrificed so much for our benefit. May these gifts reflect our commitment to do the same. Amen.

*Benediction Pastor Rick

*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 "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" Gina Pierson
Arr. Julie Lind

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Organist/Accompanist:	
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
Song Leader:	Sarah Young
Ushers:	Jerry Kiesling & Pat Forward
Greeters:	Trisha Price & Norah Schultz
Technology:	Carissa Graves & John Graves
Council Stewards:	Ashley Ramirez & Jerry Kiesling



Online Giving

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Jessica Lucas
Song Leader:	Killian Boyd
Ushers:	Llona Weiss & Jim Loveless
Greeters:	John Muench
Technology:	Ted Dachroeden & Adam Veteto
Council Stewards:	Ted Dachroeden & Kristin Veteto

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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Nurture & Education:	Lena Muench	cfg323@yahoo.com
Outreach & Advocacy:	Mahree Skala	skalamahree@yahoo.com
Worship & Music:	Edie Diel	edie@thedandegroup.com
Pastor:	Rev. Rick Oberle	rick@columbiaucc.com

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!

BLESSING BOXES

It's time to send Blessing Boxes, filled with snacks and goodies, to our CUCC College and Technical School crew. Please submit the names of those who should receive a box to the office email to ensure they get their package.

TEAM EARTH LUNCH AND LEARN: SOLAR - 11/16

We will be looking at the scriptural basis for environmental stewardship and learn about the Solarize Columbia project. Columbia UCC has an opportunity to install solar panels at a deeply discounted rate through this city-sponsored program. Come learn more details and enjoy a delicious lunch.

NF FUNDRAISER

Dine today at Slim Chickens and mention this fundraiser (bring the flyer). They will donate 15% of the proceeds from your meal to the NF Midwest Foundation! NF Midwest is working to improve the lives of people with NF through education, comfort, clinical care and research for a cure.

LODO FOOD DRIVE

Bring your donations to church thru 11/23! All donations will be taken to the Central Food Pantry for distribution to those in need. The need is great!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP - 12/7

The Church Council is calling a special congregational meeting for after worship on December 7 to talk about the possibilities of investing in solar power for our congregation. More details to come– but save the date!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	11/9	Bible Study & Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Veterans Day Breakfast	9:15 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Team	12:00 p.m.
		Quorus Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
Mon	11/10	Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	11/11	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
Wed	11/12	Good Dads at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary	7:00 a.m.
		Heritage Team	12:00 p.m.
		Prayer Shawl Group	6:00 p.m.
		Chapel Ringers & Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
		Confirmation Class	7:15 p.m.
Thu	11/13	Women's Fellowship	9:30 a.m.
		LODO Thanksgiving Dinner	5:00 p.m.
Sun	11/16	Bible Study & Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Team Earth Lunch and Learn: Solar	12:00 p.m.
		Quorus Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Owen Ramsingh and family

Peri Ann Gulerson... health issues

Pam & Jim Kahler... health issues and challenges (Lyn Eggemyer's friends)

Jennifer... health issues (Edie Diel's Niece)

Monique... recovering from accident (Elaine Trout's friend)

Phillip Neale's Niece... awaiting liver transplant

Our Organist/pianist/accompanist search here at CUCC

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

Those experiencing humanitarian crisis due to war, violence, and displacement

Health Issues:

Rev. Jim Elliott, Lloyd Mickelson, Ronald Remika (Joe Remika's Brother), Jim Posz (Allen's Father), Mike Gregory, Doug (Alexandra's neighbor), Tiffany Greene, Harold Hackman, Glenn Duermeyer, Marsha Posz, Barry Kirchhoff, Claudia Hutcherson (Ron Tennill's Sister), Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley, Cody Kile, Dr. Ryan Link Fred & Ann Wilke (Alethea's Parents), Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale'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)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families, Kieran Armstrong

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Harold Hackman, Walter & Patty Schroeder

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Cliff & Sue Beckman, Linda Evans

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

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@gmail.com

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

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***

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I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Ps. 136:5-9; James 1:17

Isaac Watts, 1715; alt.

Descant

3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
 3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.

The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
 God formed the crea-tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.
 The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 Oh, how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye:
 All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

The tune Ellacombe was named for a place in Devonshire, England. It was first published in a collection of tunes used in the private chapel of the Duke of Wirtemberg, and was possibly sung with the text "Ave Maria, klärer."

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
 Gesangbuch der herzoglichen
 Wirtembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784
 Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993



Wher - ev - er peo - ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres - ent there.



The moon shines full at God's com - mand, and all the stars o - bey.
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
Wher - ev - er peo - ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres - ent there.



2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

13 But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

14 For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

15 So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope,

17 comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Luke 20:27-40

27 Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him

28 and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.

29 Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; 30 then the second

31 and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. 32 Finally the woman also died.

33 In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

34 Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, 35 but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage.

36 Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.

37 And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

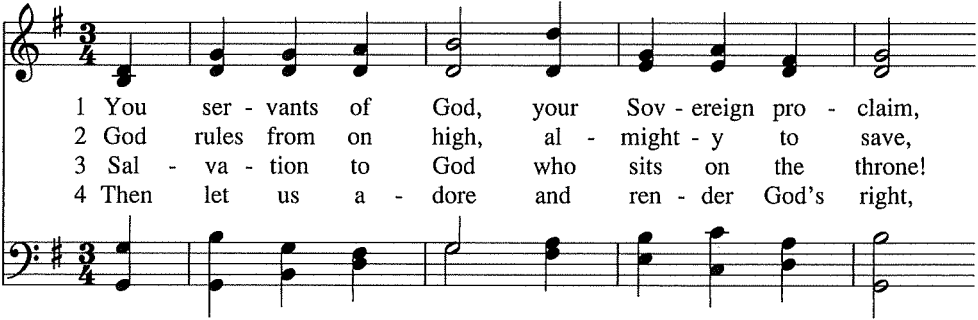
38 Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive.” 39 Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.”

40 For they no longer dared to ask him another question.

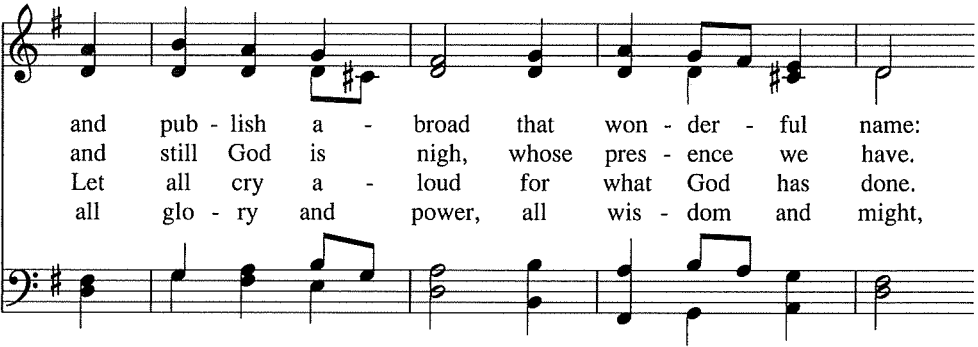
305 You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim

Rev. 4:9-11; 5:11-14

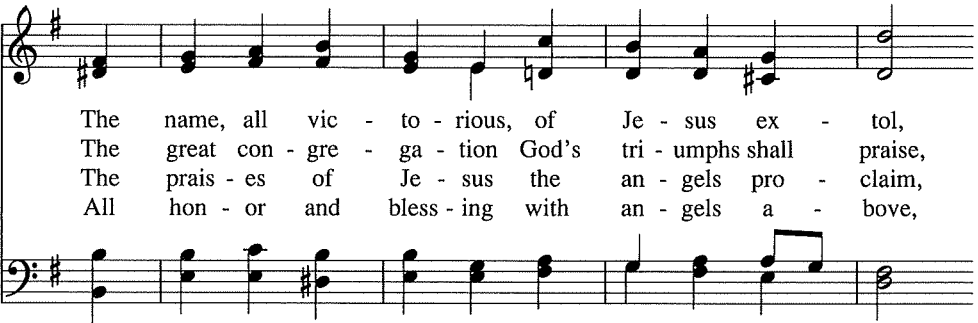
Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.



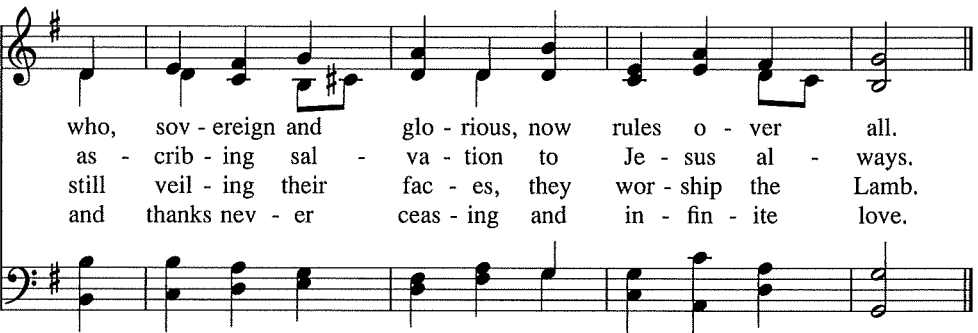
1 You ser - vants of God, your Sov - ereign pro - claim,
 2 God rules from on high, al - might - y to save,
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
 4 Then let us a - dore and ren - der God's right,



and pub - lish a - broad that won - der - ful name:
 and still God is nigh, whose pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud for what God has done.
 all glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,



The name, all vic - to - rious, of Je - sus ex - tol,
 The great con - gre - ga - tion God's tri - umphs shall praise,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 All hon - or and bless - ing with an - gels a - bove,



who, sov - ereign and glo - rious, now rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus al - ways.
 still veil - ing their fac - es, they wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er ceas - ing and in - fin - ite love.

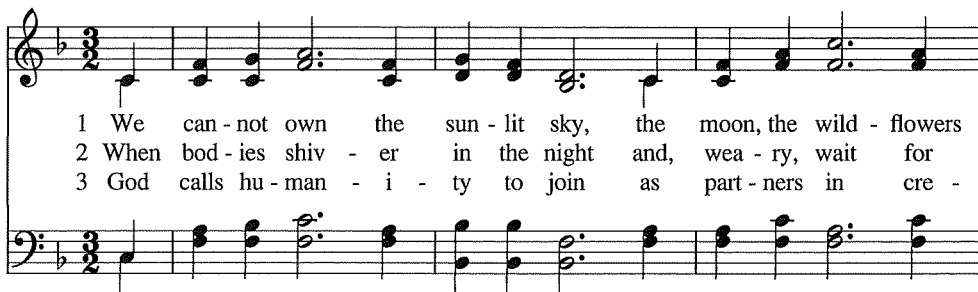
Written at a time of anti-Methodist sentiment, this hymn was included in Charles Wesley's Hymns for Times of Trouble and Persecution. The tune is attributed to William Croft, composer at England's Chapel Royal and organist at Westminster Abbey.

Tune: HANOVER 10.10.11.11.
 Attrib. to William Croft, 1708

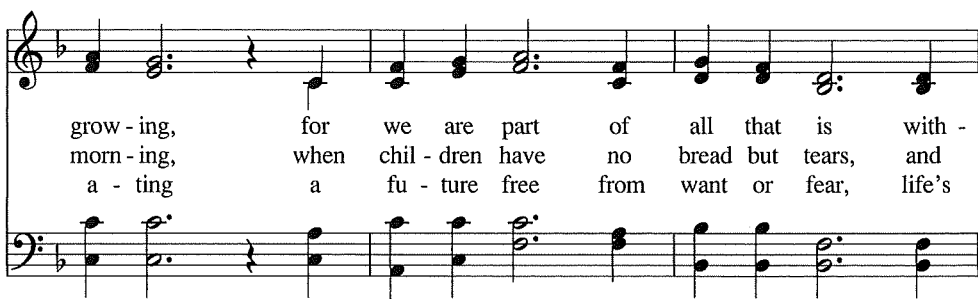
We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

John 10:10

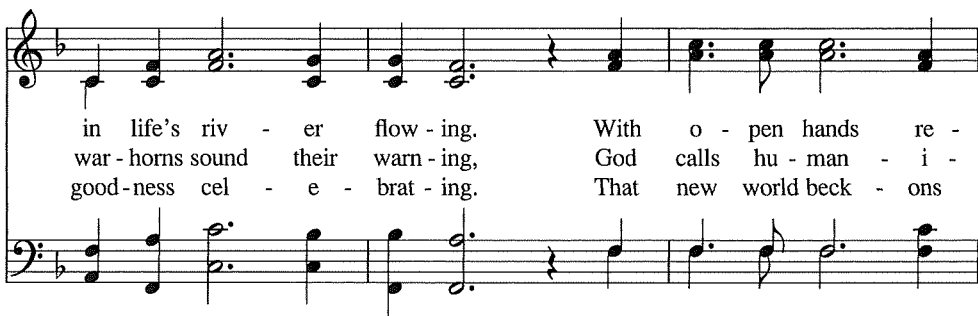
Ruth Duck, 1984; rev. 1989



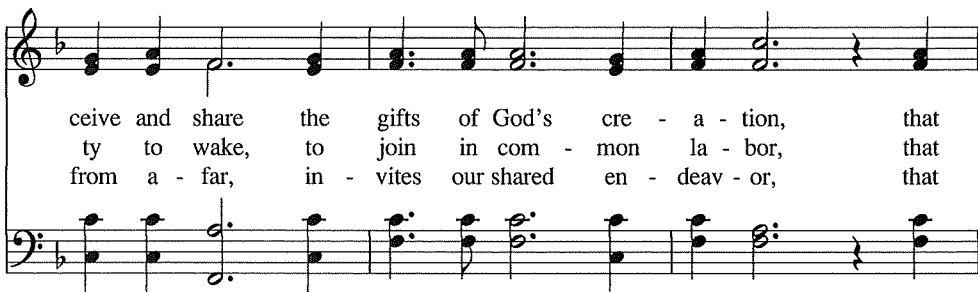
1 We can - not own the sun - lit sky, the moon, the wild - flowers
 2 When bod - ies shiv - er in the night and, wea - ry, wait for
 3 God calls hu - man - i - ty to join as part - ners in cre -



grow - ing, for we are part of all that is with -
 morn - ing, when chil - dren have no bread but tears, and
 a - ting a fu - ture free from want or fear, life's



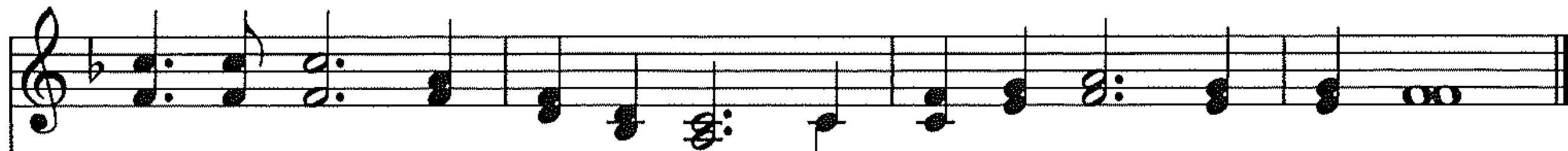
in life's riv - er flow - ing. With o - pen hands re -
 war - horns sound their warn - ing, God calls hu - man - i -
 good - ness cel - e - brat - ing. That new world beck - ons



ceive and share the gifts of God's cre - a - tion, that
 ty to wake, to join in com - mon la - bor, that
 from a - far, in - vites our shared en - deav - or, that

Ruth Duck wrote this text while she was serving as a corporate member of the United Church Board for World Ministries. In it, she wanted to "emphasize humanity's shared partnership with God in caring for one another and the whole creation."

Tune: ENDLESS SONG 8.7.8.7.D.
 Attrib. to Robert Lowry in Bright Jewels
 for the Sunday School, New York, 1869



all may have a - bun-dant life in ev - ery earth - ly na - tion.
all may have a - bun-dant life in one-ness with their neigh-bor.
all may have a - bun-dant life and peace en - dure for - ev - er.

