

Columbia United Church Of Christ

July 16, 2023
"God's Word"



CUCC

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**



July 16, 2023

9:30 Worship

"God's Word"

*"... God's Word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path ..."*

-Psalm 119:105

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Close to Thee"

Amy Crousore
Vail/Berry

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 119)

Mahree Skala

God's word is a lamp to our feet;

God's word is a light to our path.

We have sworn an oath to be God's servants;

We are confirmed to God's righteous ordinances.

God's decrees are our heritage forever;

God's wisdom is the joy of our hearts.

We live by God's law, and on it, we meditate.

God is our hiding place and our shield.

Though we are afflicted by many challenges, God is our guide.

We offer our praises to God!

Uphold us, O God, that we may be safe;

Deal with us according to Your Steadfast Love!

Come, let us worship God!

*Gathering Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

(insert)

*Opening Prayer

Mahree Skala

Creator God, You create us in Your image and then we quarrel against it. Like Jacob and Esau, we construct barriers based on appearance, ability, and attitude. We often deny our own birthright, selling it for convenience. Forgive us for our quarreling ways, our blindness to our inheritance from You. Open our eyes and our hearts to the permanence of Your grace and the provision of Your love, so we may, reflecting on our blessings, be blessings in Your world, glorifying You in all that we do. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God calls us to question what is and discern what could be as we fully explore God's abundance. But even when we neglect this call, God loves us and forgives us. Through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved, and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

"Seek Ye First"

(insert)

***Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
And God's Righteousness!
And all these things shall be added unto you
Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu-ia!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

Response:

"Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

(insert)

(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;
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me!***

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 25:21-34

Mahree Skala

Isaac and Rebekah give birth to twin boys, Jacob and Esau. From the womb, they quarrel with one another. They are fraternal, not identical, and they are very different in appearance, ability, and attitude. They wind up quarrelling over their birthright and Esau, seeking convenience over permanence, sells his to Jacob for a bowl of stew.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-8

Mahree Skala

Jesus tells the parable of the Sower who goes about scattering seed all around. Some seeds fall on healthy ground and grow, other seeds fall on less fertile ground and wither. The purpose of parables is to get us to think . . . what does this cause us to think about?

Anthem

"I Will Sing New Songs of Gladness"

Jedd Schneider
Antonín Dvořák

Sermon

"Inheritance and Identity"

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

"O Word of God Incarnate"

(insert)

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The LORD's Prayer

*In an effort to encourage inclusion, this Sunday we are suggesting using the address
"Creator God" in our unison recitation of The Lord's Prayer.
You are certainly welcome to say "Our Father" 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.

Prayer Response

**"Grant Us Peace"
*Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
Hear our prayer, O Lord!
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
And Grant us Thy Peace! A-men!***

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

Mission Moment

"Mobility Worldwide"

Invitation to the Offering

*As we have been blessed, we give to be blessings in God's World.
To give online text "GIVE" to 573.240.4041*

Offertory

"Waltz in A Minor"

Amy Crousore
Frederic Chopin

*Prayer of Dedication

Mahree Skala

Take these gifts, O God, for they are reflections of our identity: servant leaders in Your world. Through them, we glorify You. Use these gifts to bring Your Kingdom closer to reality and to sow seed of justice, righteousness, and Shalom. 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!***

THE NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY!

Celebrating our Past, Embracing our Future

We have reached our goal! As of June 30, we have received \$152,766 in pledges and donations toward our goal of \$150,000 for our

NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY!

However, that does not mean further donations are not necessary! Although we anticipate our planned work to finish under \$150,000, there are often unforeseen items that exceed expectations. We also have many more building projects that will need to be completed over the next few years in excess of this current campaign (including replacement of 10 more HVAC units, and the flat roof over the gathering space). Any money leftover after our New Century Sanctuary project is completed will go into our Building Fund, invested with United Church Funds, to fund other upcoming projects.

You can give by scanning the QR code on the next page, or by texting the word “GIVE” to 573.240.4041. Select “New Century Sanctuary Campaign” from the dropdown menu. You can also mail checks to the church office. We are also equipped to handle stock or mutual fund donations or QCD contributions from an IRA. You can even defer a significant contribution over time or include CUCC in your estate planning.

For more information on donation options, talk to Sue Ann Schaefer, Brent Marcks (NCS Team Recording Treasurer), Christine Staelens, Keith Birkes, or Paula Wilson; for details on the remodeling plan, talk to Mike Pierson, Team Chair.

UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS

We will have a paint party on Saturday, July 29 starting at 9:00 a.m. to paint the Sanctuary! If you feel you have a skill for painting, we would love to have you join us! We will be painting the lower portion of the Sanctuary. The ceiling and higher parts will be painted professionally in August. We hope to have the carpet installed in late August, also and be back in the Sanctuary by Rally Day, September 10!

We are on Summer Schedule!

Fellowship Time - 9:00 a.m. Worship - 9:30 a.m.

9:00 Sunday School and 10:30 worship resume September 10

Columbia United Church of Christ

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rick@columbiaucc.com

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shellyraeadams@gmail.com

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heinekurt@gmail.com

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brandon.michael.brown@gmail.com

Organist/Accompanist: Amy Crousore

amycrousore@gmail.com

LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger

littleonesdayout@yahoo.com

Custodian: Caleb Berry

calebprenticeberry@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Mahree Skala
Ushers: Christine Staelens
Greeters: Judi Privitt
Technology: Dominick Lee
Hospitality: Christine Staelens
Council Stewards: Kurt Heine

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Llona Weiss
Ushers: Jim Loveless & Mahree Skala
Greeters: Jolene Kirchhoff
Technology: Josh Muench
Hospitality: Connie Loveless
Council Stewards: Alethea Tennill & Kurt Heine



Online giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator: Kurt Heine

heinekurt@gmail.com

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Nurture & Education: Lydia Whitacre

lydiaawhitacre@gmail.com

Outreach & Advocacy: Mark Duncan

markduncan2@mchsi.com

Worship & Music: Mike Pierson

mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com

ALL MUSIC (photocopied in the bulletin and reproduced on the video screen) is done so using onelicense.net: License #A-727757

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!

CENTENNIAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Join us for an **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** at Hulen Lake Shelter (located at the end of Martin Drive off Rollins Road) TODAY from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.! We will have vanilla and chocolate ice cream, as well as toppings, but if anyone would like to bring homemade ice cream to share, that would be great, too!

MUSIC THIS SUMMER

The music ministry is seeking your musical talents during Sunday morning worship services through August 20. You can sing or play an instrument during the “anthem” portion of the service or participate as the song leader. If you would like to sign up to either do the anthem and/or be the song leader, scan this QR code, email Brandon Brown. or email MJ!



Summer Worship

RSVP FOR ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND TODAY

Have you registered for our Anniversary weekend yet? All attendees must register ahead of time for catering counts. If you have not done so yet, you can do so today by filling out a card on the table by the door, you can scan the QR code to the right, or call MJ in the church office.



Anniversary RSVP

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration for VBS officially ended yesterday, July 15! If you missed your chance to sign up but still wanted to participate, contact MJ in the church office, Lena Muench, or Gina Pierson.

STAY AND LEARN – TODAY 11:00 a.m.

Dementia & Aging Best Resources: *Aging Best* staff member Melissa Schulte will share how to understand the social signs of Dementia and learn effective ways to communicate with those affected by it. Snacks and drinks provided.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

| | | | |
|-----|------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Sun | 7/16 | Bible Study | 8:30 a.m. |
| | | Fellowship Time | 9:00 a.m. |
| | | Worship (in person and livestream) | 9:30 a.m. |
| | | Stay and Learn | 11:00 a.m. |
| | | Craft Beer & Carts | 1:00 p.m. |
| | | Ice Cream Social | 2:00 p.m. |
| Mon | 7/17 | Loaves & Fishes | 4:30 p.m. |
| | | Worship & Music Ministry Team | 6:30 p.m. |
| Tue | 7/18 | Quilters | 10:00 a.m. |
| | | Council Meeting | 6:30 p.m. |
| Sun | 7/23 | Bible Study | 8:30 a.m. |
| | | Fellowship Time | 9:00 a.m. |
| | | Worship (in person and livestream) | 9:30 a.m. |

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Roger Roskins . . . health issues (Lena Muench's father)

Mary Jean King (MJ's grandmother) . . . Suffering with Congenital Heart Failure

Health Issues:

Glenn Duermeyer; John Adams; Andrea Waner; Cliff Beckman; Ed Kaiser;
Jessica Raymond; Neal Stumbo (Jean Strothmann's nephew)

Terry & Mike Freeman (friends of the Remeikas)

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

Jessica Jenks . . . recovering from surgery

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our partnership friend

Sheila . . . challenges in life and faith

The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Bea Gordon, Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt,
Vernie Blank

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Helen Graves

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden,
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

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*



*If you try to fit God into your life, You will
never have time for God.*

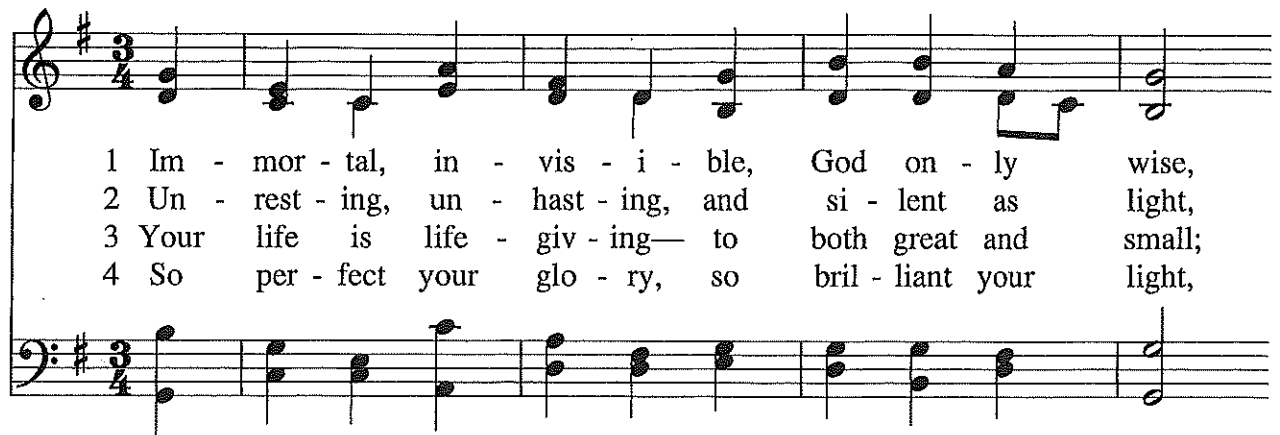
*If you try to fit your life into God, You will
always have time for what matters.*

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

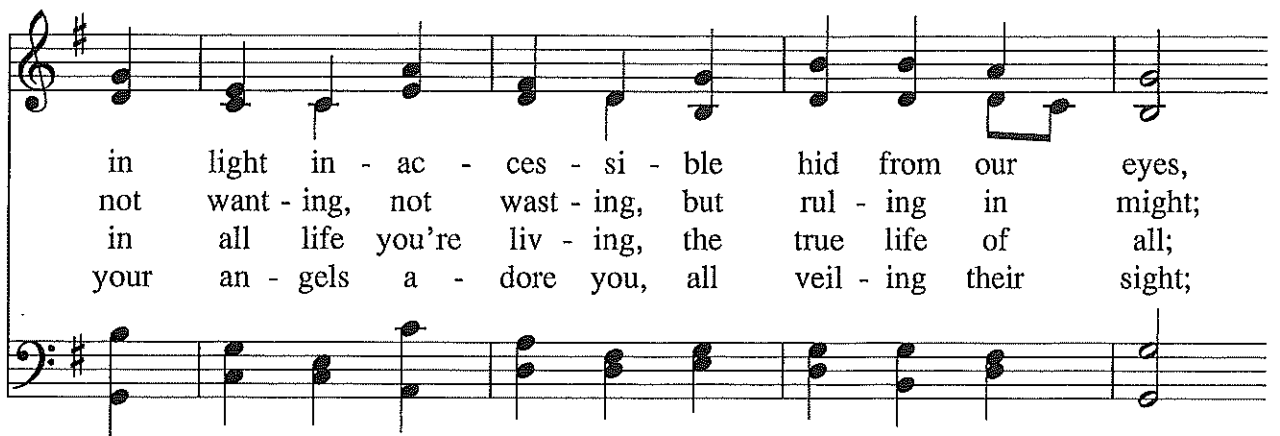
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Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6



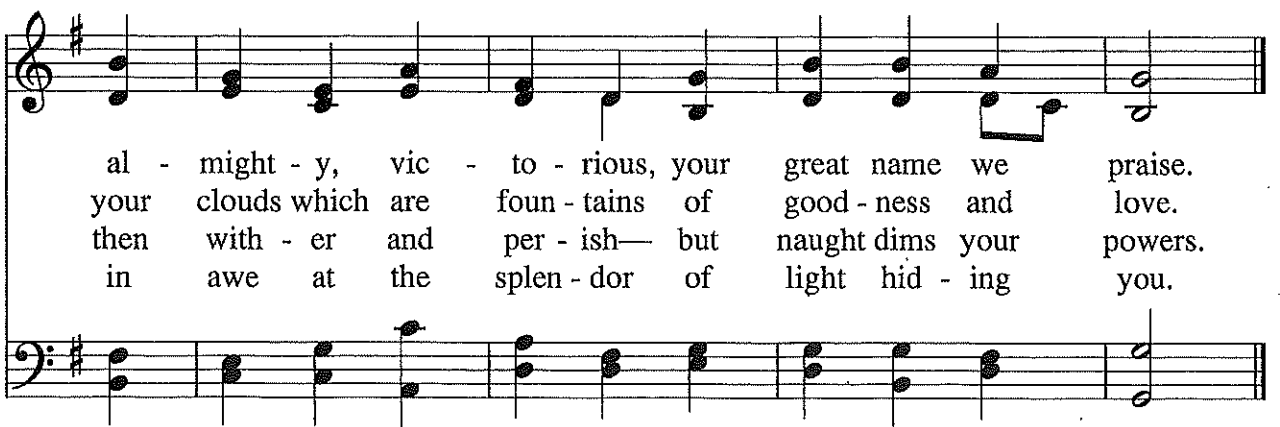
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;
 4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;
 in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;
 your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,
 All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.
 your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.
 in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

Seek Ye First

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Descant D F#m G D G

Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia, Al-

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God and God's
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and

D Em7 A7sus D F#m

le - - - lu - ia, Al - - - le-

righteous - ness, and all these things shall be
ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be

G D G Em D

lu - - - ia, Al - - - le - - - lu - ia!

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS and MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1972

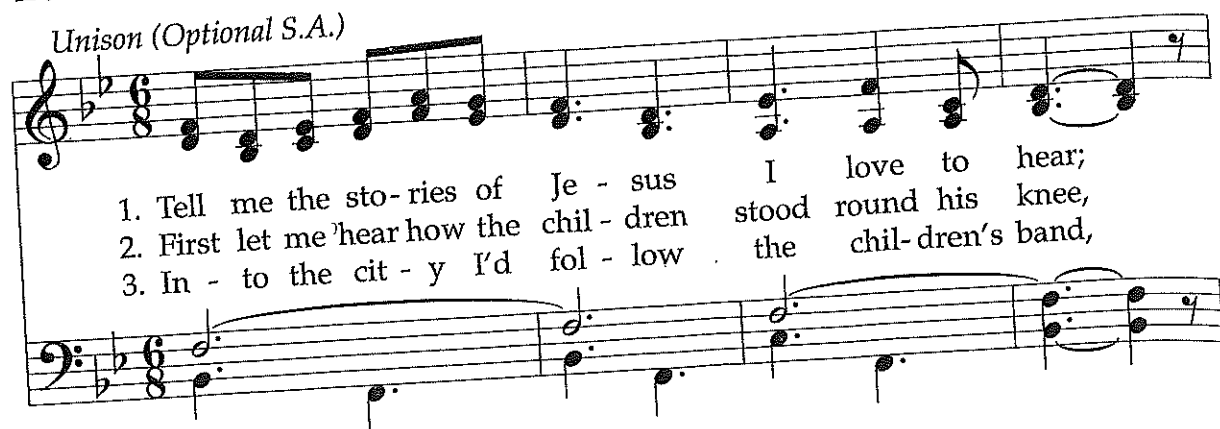
© 1972 Maranatha! Music

SEEK YE FIRST
Irr.

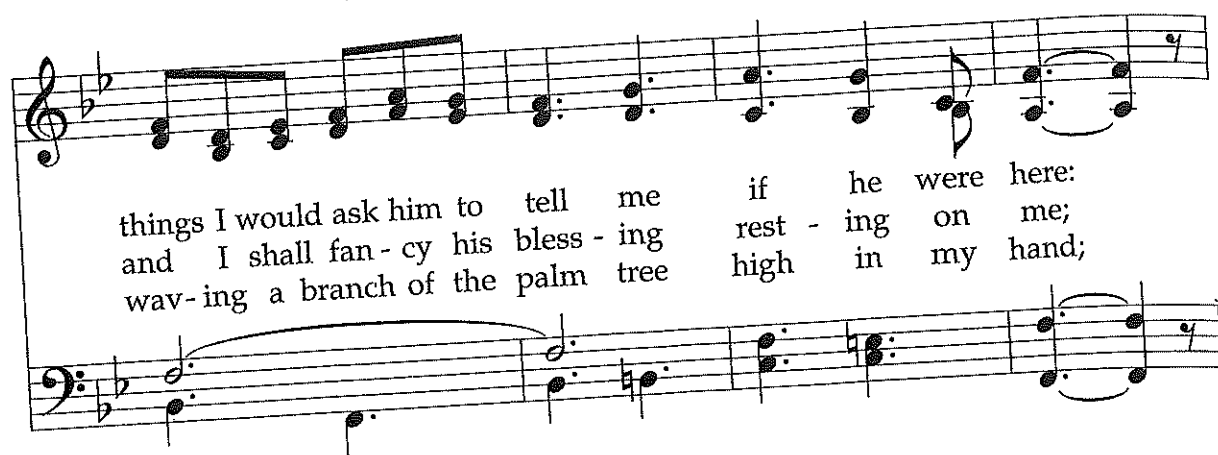
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Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

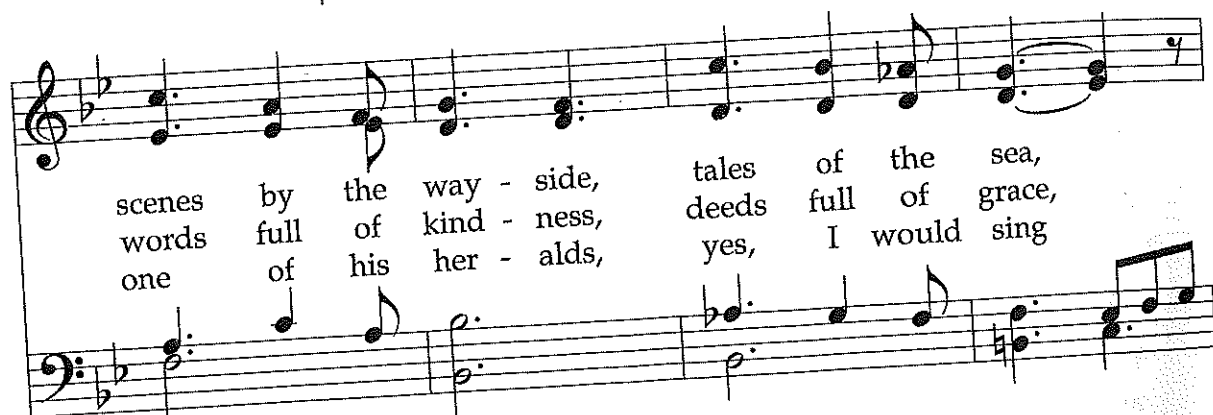
Unison (Optional S.A.)



1. Tell me the sto-ries of Je - sus I love to hear;
 2. First let me hear how the chil - dren stood round his knee,
 3. In - to the cit - y I'd fol - low the chil-dren's band,



things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
 and I shall fan-cy his bless - ing rest - ing on me;
 wav-ing a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;



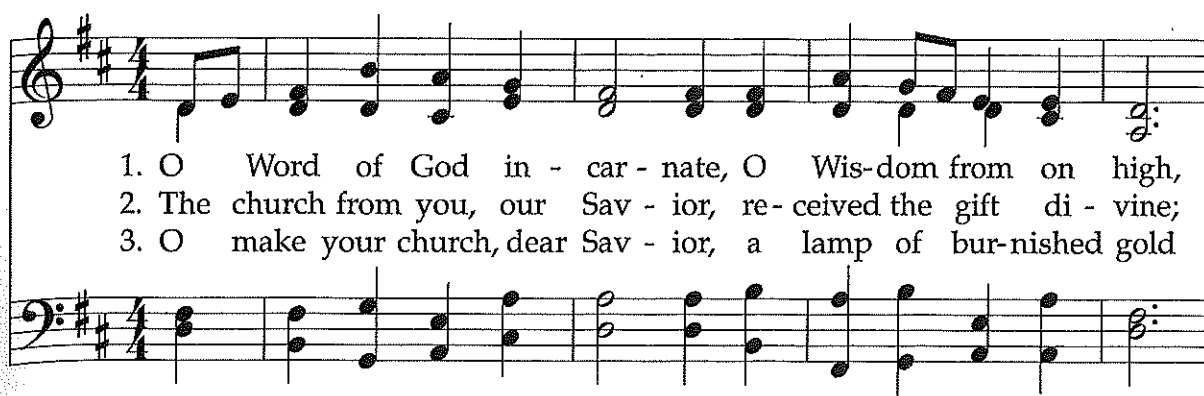
scenes by the way - side, tales of the sea,
 words full of kind - ness, deeds full of grace,
 one of his her - alds, yes, I would sing



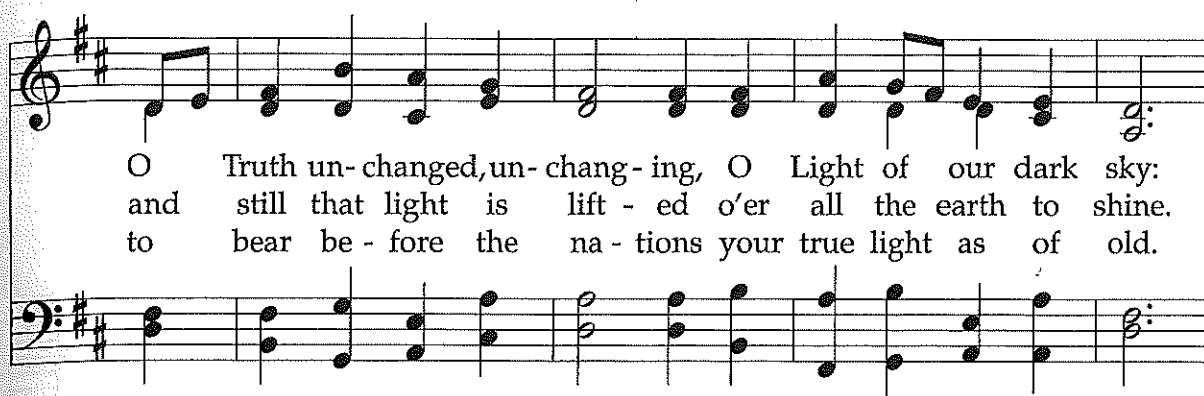
sto - ries of Je - sus, tell them to me.
 all in the love - light of Je - sus' face.
 loud - est ho - san - nas, "Je - sus is King!"

O Word of God Incarnate

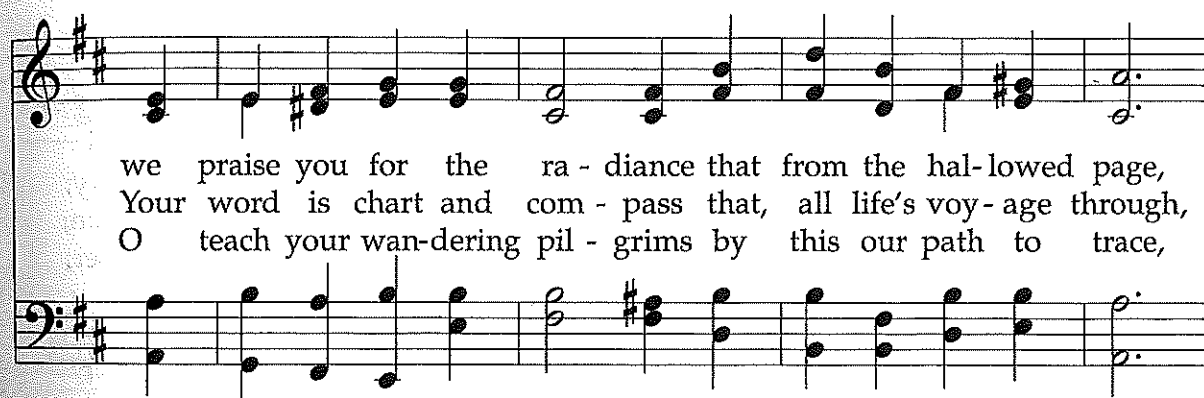
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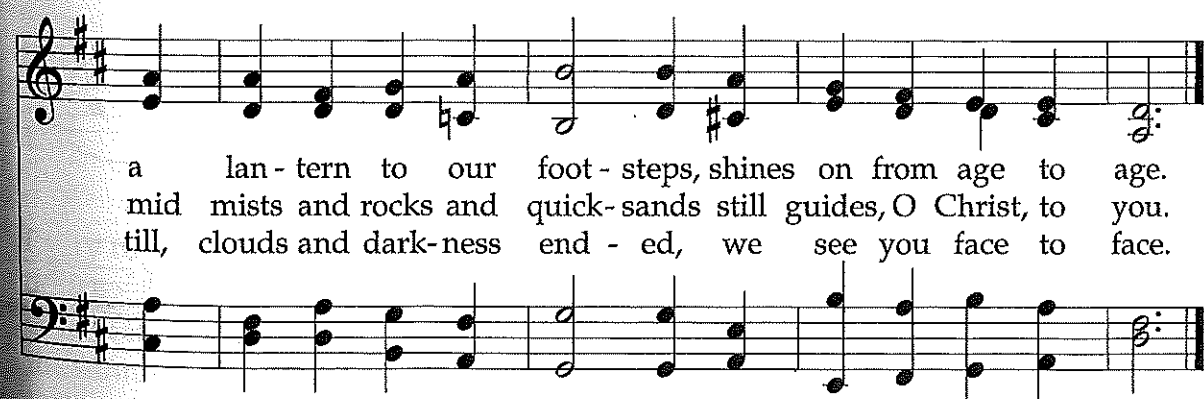
1. O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2. The church from you, our Sav - ior, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
 3. O make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur-nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light as of old.



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 Your word is chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 O teach your wan - dering pil - grims by this our path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, we see you face to face.

WORDS: William W. How, 1867, alt.
 MUSIC: Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693

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