



July 20, 2025 9:30 am  
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



God is Here

FINDING OUR  
SACRED CENTER\*

\*HENRI NOUWEN

~ Welcome Visitors! ~

**Guide to the bulletin:** An asterisk (\*) indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit. Text printed in **BOLD** indicates everyone says them together. **NCH** is the New Century Hymnal next to your pew chair.

**Children:** Children are always welcome here. We know youth grow – in the love of God and the love of others – when they have opportunities to worship in community. After the Message for All, children are welcome to join in Sunday Funday activities. There are a variety of quiet activities and fidgets the youth (and adults!) can do available by the sanctuary doors. There is also a [Prayer Ground](#) set up at the front of the sanctuary. There are several quiet activities prepared for children. We know many of us need to wiggle a bit to be comfortable. Kids do too!!! Adults are welcome to sit in this area as well! #ChildofGod. You and/or your children are welcome to get up during the service to select something to do.

## GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

*Steal Away*

Spiritual

### Welcome and Community Connections

**\*Opening Song**

***Come, All You People***

Sing! 22 (in bulletin)

**\*Call to Worship<sup>1</sup> *after Proverbs 8***

**One:** God of Martha, God of Mary

**All:** guide us in the tradition of wise women—

**One:** those who know the work of love

**All:** requires devotion to the practical and devotion to the spiritual.

**One:** Those who teach us that caregiving and contemplation  
are not opposed to one another—

**All:** but inform one another and weave in and out of our days.

**One:** Come, the God of work and wonder awaits!

**\*Opening Prayer**

Protect us from distraction, Radical Love. Wealth hoarders are  
invested in our scattered minds. Corporations profit from our  
shortened attention spans. We feel fractured by the enormity of  
sorrow in the world.

Rake us in. Steady our gaze. Plant devotion in our hearts. Turn us  
towards what is ours to do today. May we sit like Mary at the feet of  
Love. Like Martha, may we do what needs done. Amen.

**Hymn**

***Martha Labored in the Kitchen<sup>2</sup>***

words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette<sup>3</sup>

Tune *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**Martha labored in the kitchen; there was much yet to be done!  
There was cooking, cleaning, baking**

---

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from “Liturgy That Matters Resource Collection,” enfleshed, July 20, 2025, <https://enfleshed.com/liturgy-that-matters-subscription-library/>.

<sup>2</sup> 1. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Martha labored in the kitchen, accessed July 14, 2025, [https://www.carolynshymns.com/martha\\_labored\\_in\\_the\\_kitchen.html](https://www.carolynshymns.com/martha_labored_in_the_kitchen.html)

— too much work for anyone.

For the Lord had come to visit; Jesus sat there as her guest.  
So much work! She longed to share it,  
so the meal would be its best.

Mary sat and humbly listened to their guest

— her Friend and Lord.

She just thought of Jesus' teaching  
— not the need for bread and board.

So when Martha came complaining,  
seeking Mary's help that day.

Jesus turned to her explaining, "Mary chose the better way."

God, we see in her distraction — Martha lost sight of her goal;  
In her grumbling and complaining, She forgot food for the soul.  
For there's always something pressing  
— something urgent we must do,  
Yet for us there's also blessing in the time we spend with you.

Were there days when Mary labored,  
helping others, serving well?

Were there times when Martha savored stories  
Jesus loved to tell?

May we worship, pray and study; may we serve you well today!  
All are needed on the journey as we travel Jesus' way.

### **HEARING THE WORD**

**First Bible Reading**

Psalm 52<sup>4</sup>

**Special Music**

***Just a Closer Walk***

trad. American/arr. D. Gillis

**Gospel**

Luke 10:38-42

---

<sup>4</sup> Greenberg, Pamela, The Complete Psalms: The Book of Prayer Songs in a New Translation, Bloomsbury, New York, pgs 109-110

**Message for All** Mary and Martha at Church Camp **Blessing for Church Camp Youth**

**All:** God of all comfort, we ask you today to be with our campers and with their family and friends. Help them to know you are always with them just as you promised. We ask for safe travels and faith-filled experiences at camp. In the name of God the Creator, Teacher, and Companion, we say the words Jesus taught us...

**Prayer of Jesus**

**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.**

*After the Message for All, children are invited participate in Sunday Funday, sit by their family in the sanctuary, or at the Prayer Ground.*

**Reflection**

**SHARING OUR LIVES**

**Call to Prayer**

***In Our Prayers***

***Sing! #125***

In our prayers, in our hearts, in our prayers, in our hearts,  
God in your grace, hear our prayers.  
God in your grace, O God, hear our prayers. (*repeat*)

**Prayers of the People**

*During our online worship service, we invite you to type your prayers in the comments section on your screen. Or you can text prayers to Pastor Kris at 608-438-6307 or Pastor Peter at 608-338-2268. They will collect the petitions and read them during the service. Know that prayers shared on this day are public. If you have prayer request you would like to remain private, you may email them to: [pastorkris@memorialucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@memorialucc.org) and/or [pastorpeter@memorialucc.org](mailto:pastorpeter@memorialucc.org)*

**GOING OUT TO THE WORLD**

**Mission Moment** Blessing those going on the Racial Justice Trip

**\*Song for Going Out**

***Be Now My Vision***

NCH 451, vss 1, 2, & 4

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**      *Farandole (from L'Arlesienne Suite No.2)*

G. Bizet/arr. W Barnes

---

**Worship Leaders:** Jonathan Schroerlucke (Dir. of Music), Jeff Darwin (Pianist), Pastor Kris Gorton, and Pastor Peter Morris

**Readers:** John Koeppe and Sonjia Short

**Ushers:** John Rosch and Haylie Schmit

**Special Musicians:** MUCC 6: Amy Boutelle, Mark Hanson, John & Mary Koeppe, Mark Sieger and Jen Williams

**Media Room:** Scott Oebser

**Fellowship:** Dean & Nancy Baumgardner

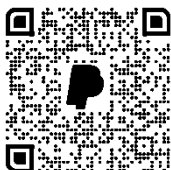
Memorial UCC uses photographs and video for social media communication with our members and friends. If someone does not wish to be photographed or in a video, ushers will help them find a seat out of camera view.

Memorial UCC's ONE LICENSE for streaming: #A-711042



**Hearing Loop and Listening Devices:** For those who have hearing aids, Memorial UCC has a t-coil compatible hearing loop. Listening devices are also available for people who are hard of hearing. See an usher if you need assistance.

**Bathrooms:** There are two bathrooms near the main entrance of the church. A third Gender Neutral and Accessible bathroom is in the hallway by the nursery. If you need assistance finding the restrooms, an usher will gladly help you



**Giving Options—Ever-Widening Opportunities:** Checks can be mailed directly to the church or dropped off during office hours. Please indicate any special designation in the memo line. You can give securely via PayPal with your credit card, debit card, or direct withdrawals. Giving online through PayPal is fast and secure, and you do not need a PayPal account to make one-time or recurring donations. Visit [memorialucc.org](http://memorialucc.org) and click the "giving" link in the upper right-hand corner or scan the QR code here. If you are

interested in monthly automatic withdrawals, please email Cathy Halpin at [halpincjo@gmail.com](mailto:halpincjo@gmail.com), and she will get you signed up.

**Want to Know More About Us?** Co-pastors Kris and Peter would be happy to set up a time to chat further. Feel free to contact either of them at [pastorkris@memorialucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@memorialucc.org) or [pastorpeter@memorialucc.org](mailto:pastorpeter@memorialucc.org). You don't need to be a formal member to get involved here. There is a lot of information on our website at [www.memorialucc.org](http://www.memorialucc.org). You can also follow us on Facebook (@FitchburgMemorialUCC), Twitter (@MemUCC), or join our Facebook group Memorial UCC: Ever-Widening Circles.

GATHER

## Come, All You People

22



1. Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High.  
2. Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior.  
3. Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it.



Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High.  
Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior.  
Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it.



Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High.  
Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior.  
Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it.



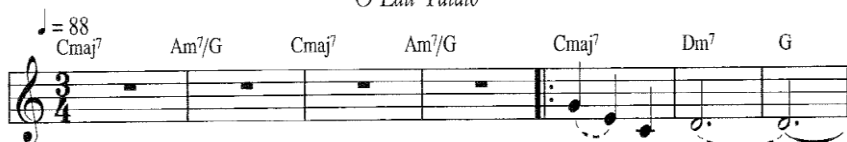
Come now, and wor - ship our God.  
Come now, and wor - ship our God.  
Come now, and wor - ship our God.

RESPOND

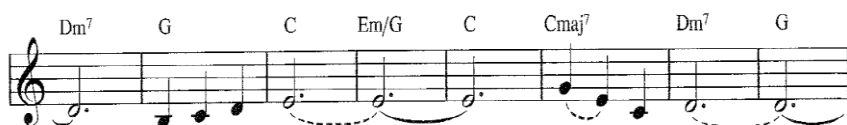
125

# In Our Prayers

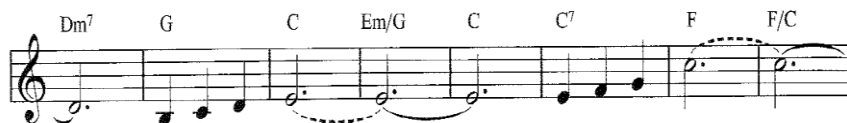
*O Lau Tatalo*



In our prayers,  
O lau ta - ta - lo,



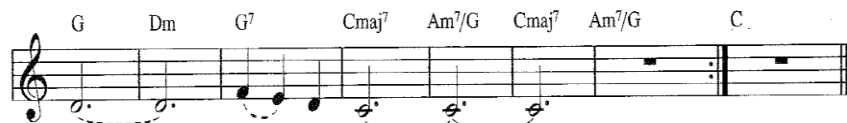
in our hearts, in our prayers,  
Ma-i lo'u lo - to. O lau ta - ta - lo,



in our hearts, God in your grace,  
Ma-i lo'u lo - to. Le A-tua Ma - ma -



hear our prayers, God in your grace, O  
na, Ta-li-a ma - i, Le A-tua Ma - ma - na A -



God, hear our prayers.  
-lo - fa, Ta-li-a ma - i.

## Be Now My Vision

Ancient Irish text, c. 8th century; transl. Mary E. Byrne, 1902;  
Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; adapt.

Unison

1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;  
2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;  
3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,  
4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—  
ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;  
you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,  
Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,  
You and you on - ly are first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.  
now and for - ev - er your child I will be.  
great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.  
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Dating from the eighth century or earlier, this Irish hymn was translated into prose by Mary Byrne. It was then versified by Eleanor Hull, author of several books on Irish literature and history. David Evans arranged the Irish melody for this text in 1927.

Tune: SLANE 10.10.9.10.  
Traditional Irish melody  
Harm. David Evans, 1927