



Pilgrim Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Summer Worship | August 6, 2023

**MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE LICENSED FOR  
STREAMING/PODCAST by OneLicense**

- **PRELUDE:** Sonata Opus 26 Andante  
con Variazioni Theme, Variations I &  
II – L. Beethoven
- **HYMN:** Praise to the Living God\*
- **MUSICAL OFFERTORY:** Come, Thou  
Fount of Every Blessing – arr. Becki  
Slagle Mayo
- **COMMUNION HYMN:** Let us Break  
Bread Together\*
- **HYMN:** Be Now My Vision\*

*\*From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995.*

*Today's service will be recorded.*



**PILGRIM**  
Congregational Church



**Welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ  
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation**

**Statement of Welcome**

*We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God first loved us. We welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people of any race, nationality, religious background, educational background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, economic status, and physical, mental, and emotional abilities.*

**Mission Statement**

*A welcoming home to all  
spiritual seekers  
Making a difference in our world,  
By fusing our Christian faith with  
everyday life and Serving God by serving others.*

**Children at Pilgrim**

Children are an important part of our worshipping community. We try to make them feel at home!

All are welcome. Professional childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the nursery from 10:15 to the end of the service.

**Please note:** The video of this service is posted online. If you prefer not to be filmed, please sit near the rear of the sanctuary.

**Visual and Hearing Aids**

Hearing devices may be picked up from the table in the narthex.

**Large Print bulletins** and Sermons texts are available.

*AUGUST 6, 2023*      **Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC**  
*SERVICE OF WORSHIP*      *COMMUNION SUNDAY*

PRELUDE      Sonata Opus 26 Andante con Variazioni Theme Variations I & II  
L. Beethoven

WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: This is no ordinary place: this is the house of God.

**ALL: This is the place where the prophets cry out for justice.**

ONE: This is the place where God reaches into the corners of our lives to offer us the mystery of holy love.

**ALL: This is no ordinary gathering, and this is no ordinary place: this is the house of God. Amen.**

\*HYMN      Praise to the Living God – Black Hymnal 8

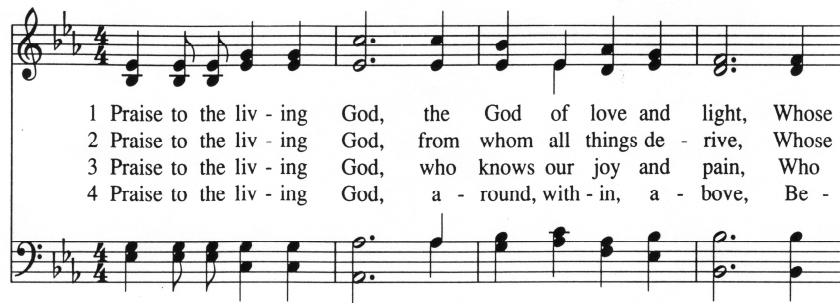
UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we offer up to you the times our hearts were bitter and we refused to forgive, or when we were sad and refused to be comforted, or when we were dismissive to others and didn't share love. Forgive us, and renew our lives. Amen.**

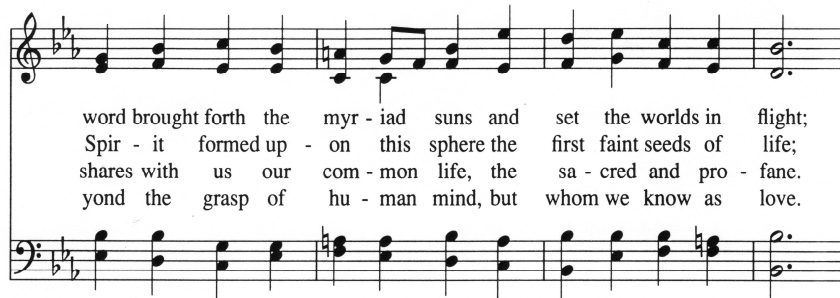
## Praise to the Living God

Ps. 84:1-2

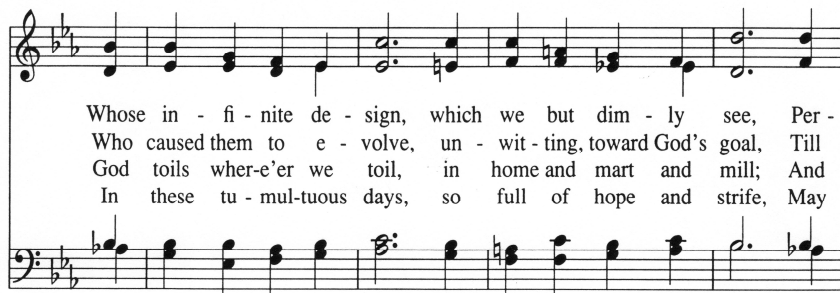
Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.



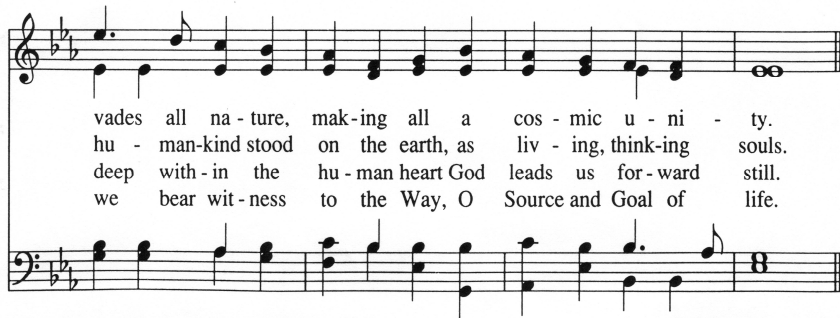
1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose  
 2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose  
 3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who  
 4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -



word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;  
 Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;  
 shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.  
 yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.



Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -  
 Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till  
 God toils wher-e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And  
 In these tu - mul-tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May



vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.  
 hu - man-kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.  
 deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.  
 we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Curtis Beach, born into a family of several generations of ministers, was educated at Harvard University, the Boston University School of Theology, and the University of Southern California. A minister in the United Church of Christ, Beach authored *The Gospel of Mark: Its Making and Meaning*.

Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.  
 George J. Elvey, 1868

1 Praise to the living God, the God of love and light,  
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight;  
Whose infinite design, which we but dimly see,  
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.

2 Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive,  
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere the first faint seeds of life;  
Who caused them to evolve, unwitting, toward God's goal,  
Till human-kind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls.

3 Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain,  
Who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane.  
God toils wher-e're we toil, in home and mart and mill;  
And deep within the human heart God leads us forward still.

4 Praise to the living God, around, within, above,  
Beyond the grasp of human mind, but who we know as love.  
In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,  
May we bear witness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ONE: God brings you new life, forgives you, and redeems you. Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the spirit of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying:

**ALL: 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.**

## SCRIPTURE

## MEDITATION

## CALL TO PRAYER

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## OFFERING AND MUSICAL OFFERTORY

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
arr. Becki Slagle Mayo

### \*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**or**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Our service of communion is open to all who wish to participate.  
The sacrament is a gift from God, and all are welcome to receive it.  
We serve bread and grape juice - with gluten free options available.*

### INVITATION AND COMMUNION PRAYER

### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

# HYMN DURING COMMUNION

# Let us Break Bread Together—Black Hymnal 330

330

## Let Us Break Bread Together

*Acts 2:42*

*African-American spiritual*

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
 \* 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*  
 When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

My God, have mer - cy on me.

1 Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the  
 rising sun,

My God, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

[Refrain]

3 Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees.

[Refrain]

## UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give you thanks, O God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world united in courage and peace. Amen.**

## \*HYMN

Be Now My Vision—Black Hymnal 451  
(next pages)

## \*UNISON BENEDICTION

**May we go out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill our high calling as disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## \*CLOSING RESPONSE

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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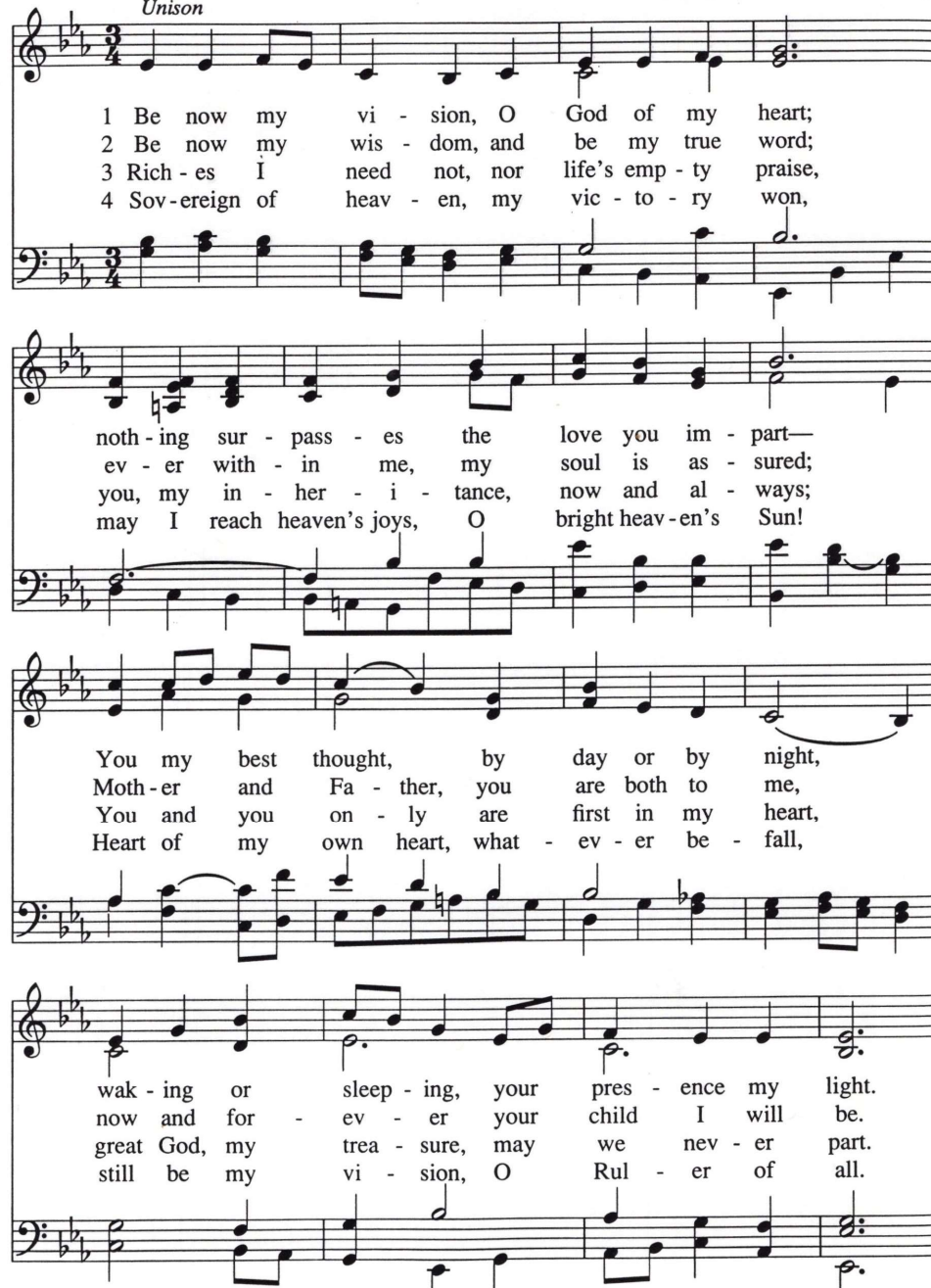
\* Please rise in spirit or body.

*Thank you to our Musician, Dorothy Bowe!*

## Be Now My Vision

*Ancient Irish text, c. 8th century; transl. Mary E. Byrne, 1905  
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.

1 Be now my vision, O God of my heart;  
nothing surpasses the love you impart-  
You my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

2 Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;  
Ever within me my soul is assured;  
Mother and Father, you are both to me,  
now and forever your child I will be.

3 Riches I heed not, nor life's empty praise;  
you, mine inheritance, now and always.  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
great God, my treasure, may we never part.

4 Sovereign of heaven, my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
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Music Director: [Dot.Bowe@PilgrimCongregational.org](mailto:Dot.Bowe@PilgrimCongregational.org)

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[www.PilgrimCongregational.org](http://www.PilgrimCongregational.org)

Sunday Summer Worship 9:30 am

