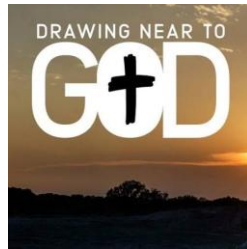




CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



August 9, 2026

10:00 am

AN ASTERISK IN THE BULLETIN INDICATES THAT ALL FOR WHOM IT IS COMFORTABLE SHOULD RISE FOR THAT PART OF THE SERVICE

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt Howard

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

‘We Gather Together’

No. 276

CALL TO GATHERING¹

Leader: When we long for the special effects we think life should offer,

ALL: it is enough, for us, that God comes in a soft summer shower.

Leader: When our hearts are cracked by the drought of doubt,

ALL: it is enough, for us, that God opens up the fountains of faith for us.

Leader: When our senses are deadened by the sales pitches and shouting matches all around us,

ALL: it is enough, for us, that God wraps us in the silence of grace.

OPENING PRAYER²

***HYMN**

‘Be Still, My Soul’

No. 566

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

ALL: God, we confess that we do not always understand Your ways. We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing. We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult, and quick to question Your presence and Your power. Forgive us. Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing. Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives - to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it. And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience, trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome. We praise You for Your faithful love, and pray that You would make us worthy to bear Your name. Amen.

***WORDS OF GRACE**

***SUNG RESPONSE**

‘The Voice Of God Is Calling’ (vs. 1)

No. 666

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Dani Kardisco

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹ There he went into a cave and spent the night.

The LORD's word came to him and said, "Why are you here, Elijah?"

¹⁰ Elijah replied, "I've been very passionate for the LORD God of heavenly forces because the Israelites have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars, and they have murdered your prophets with the sword. I'm the only one left, and now they want to take my life too!"

¹¹ The LORD said, "Go out and stand at the mountain before the LORD. The LORD is passing by." A very strong wind tore through the mountains and broke apart the stones before the LORD. But the LORD wasn't in the wind. After the wind, there was an earthquake. But the LORD wasn't in the earthquake. ¹² After the earthquake, there was a fire. But the LORD wasn't in the fire. After the fire, there was a sound. Thin. Quiet. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his coat. He went out and stood at the cave's entrance. A voice came to him and said, "Why are you here, Elijah?"

¹⁴ He said, "I've been very passionate for the LORD God of heavenly forces because the Israelites have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars, and they have murdered your prophets with the sword. I'm the only one left, and now they want to take my life too."

¹⁵ The LORD said to him, "Go back through the desert to Damascus and anoint Hazael as king of Aram. ¹⁶ Also anoint Jehu, Nimshi's son, as king of Israel; and anoint Elisha from Abel-meholah, Shaphat's son, to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill. Whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. ¹⁸ But I have preserved those who remain in Israel, totaling seven thousand—all those whose knees haven't bowed down to Baal and whose mouths haven't kissed him."

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Alex Green

During this time, we invite you to embrace the transition from hearing the word to gathering ourselves in prayer by taking a moment for quiet reflection either in your pew, or by coming forward to light a candle to give light to the prayer(s) on your heart that have no words to be expressed.

Come and Light a Candle...



PASTORAL PRAYER³

THE PRAYER OF JESUS *(in unison)*

Our Creator (Father) who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY	'Would I Find You'	(A. Green)
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE	'If You Will Trust In God To Guide You' (vs. 1)	No. 565
*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION		
*HYMN	'God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending'	No. 606
*BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	Variations on "Winchester New" (Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure)	(Crassellius/Williams)

Participating In Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor
Alex Green, Music Director
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter
Dani Kardisco, Faith Formation Director

¹written by Thom Shuman, and posted on Lectionary Liturgies. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

²written by Rev. Heather A. Moody, and posted on the United Church of Christ's *Worship Ways* website.
<http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>

³written by Rev. John Harvey, and posted on the Church of Scotland's *Starters for Sunday* website.
http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/16290/29_September_2013.pdf

We Gather Together

276

1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask for God's bless - ing,
 2. Be - side us to guide us, O God, we per - ceive you
 3. May all sing your prais - es, Re - deem - er tri - um - phant,

to turn to a wis - dom sur - pass - ing our own;
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing the pow - er of life.
 de - fend us, be - friend us, what - ev - er may be.

the pow'rs that op - press us now cease to dis - tress us.
 Yes, yours be the glo - ry; let all tell the sto - ry.
 May your con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion.

O God, be pres - ent with us, and make your will known.
 Our God, be ev - er with us, in glad - ness and strife.
 Your name be praised for - ev - er, O God, make us free!

WORDS: *Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck*, 1626; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894;
 adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981
 MUSIC: Dutch melody (16th century); arr. Edward Kremser, 1877

KREMSER
 Irr.

Adapt. © 1981 Ruth Duck; used by permission

Be Still, My Soul

1. Be still, my soul: for God is on your side;
 2. Be still, my soul: for God will un - der - take
 3. Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
 to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past.
 when we shall dwell with God for - ev - er more,

Trust in your God, your sav - ior and your guide,
 Your hope, your con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.
 all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

WORDS: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; tr. Jane Borthwick, 1855, alt.
 MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933

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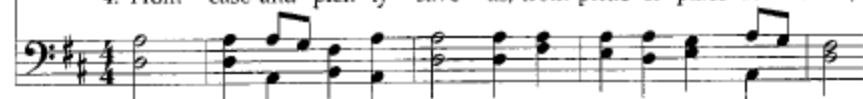
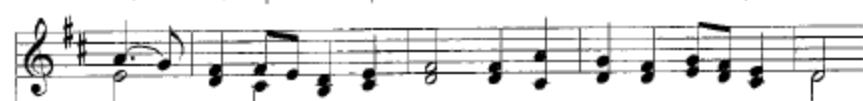
Arr. © 1933, renewed 1961, Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

Be still, my soul: your best, your heaven - ly friend
 Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

through thorn - y ways leads to a peace - ful end.
 the voice that calmed them in this world be - low.
 all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.



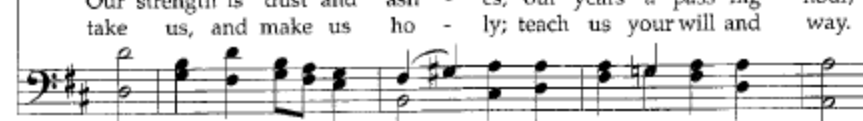
1. The voice of God is call - ing to wom-en and to men;
 2. I hear my peo-ple cry - ing in slum and mine and mill;
 3. We heed, O God, your sum-mons, and an-swer: Here are we!
 4. From ease and plen-ty save us; from pride of place ab - solve;

the voice once heard in Zi - on, re-sounds on earth a - gain:
 no field or mart is si - lent, no cit - y street is still.
 Send us up - on your er - rand; let us your ser - vants be.
 purge us of low de - sire; lift us to high re - solve;




whom shall I send to suc - cor my peo-ple in their need?
 I see my peo-ple fall - ing in dark-ness and de - spair.
 Our strength is dust and ash - es, our years a pass-ing hour,
 take us, and make us ho - ly; teach us your will and way.



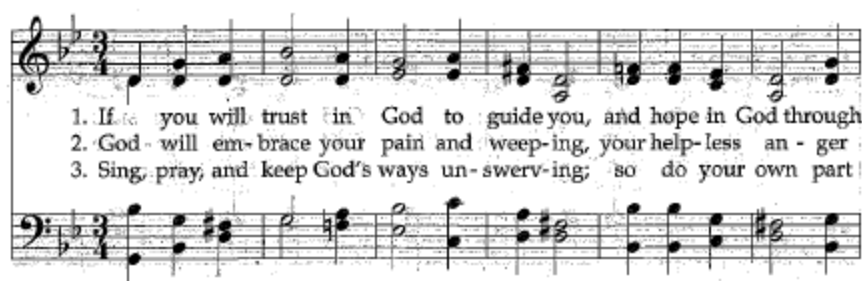

Whom shall I send to loos - en the bonds of shame and greed?
 Whom shall I send to shat - ter the fet - ters which they bear?
 But you can use our weak - ness to mag - ni - fy your power.
 Speak, and, be - hold! we an - swer; com-mand, and we o - bey!



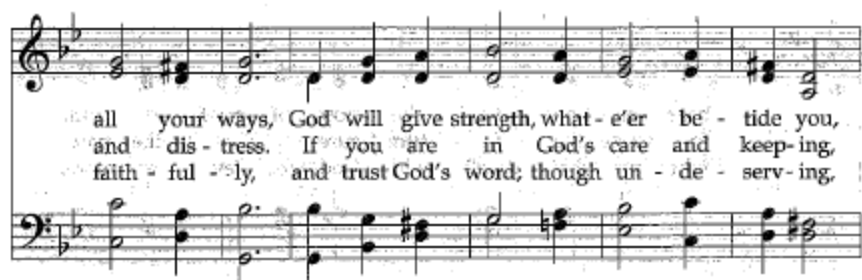
WORDS: John Haynes Holmes, 1913, alt.
 MUSIC: William Lloyd, 1840

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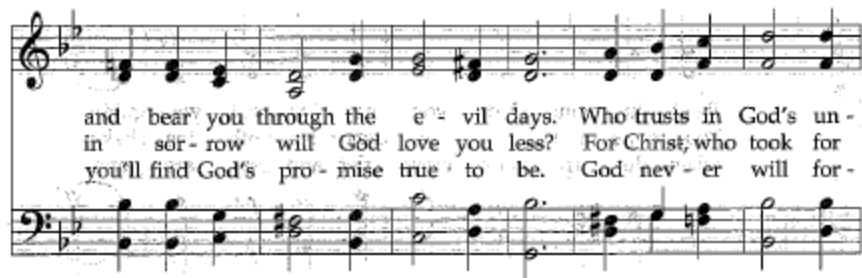
If You Will Trust in God to Guide You 565



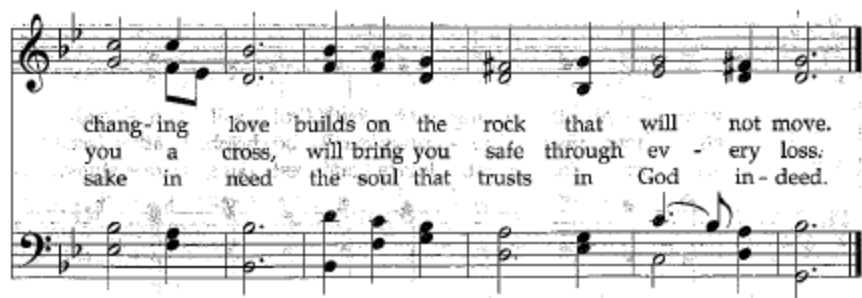
1. If you will trust in God to guide you, and hope in God through
 2. God will embrace your pain and weep-ing, your help-less an-ger
 3. Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un-serv-ing; so do your own part



all your ways, God will give strength, what-e'er be-tide you,
 and dis-tress. If you are in God's care and keep-ing,
 faith-ful-ly, and trust God's word; though un-de-serv-ing,



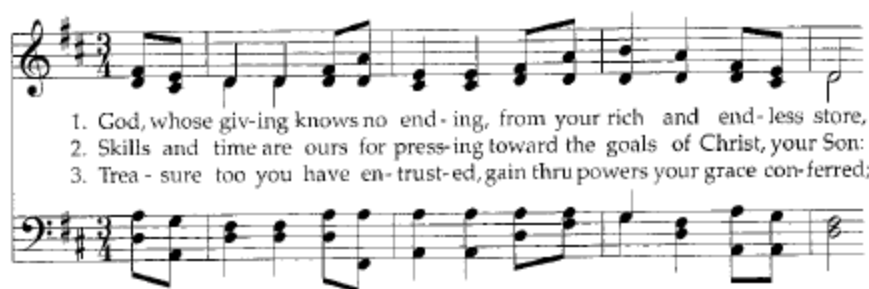
and bear you through the e-vil days. Who trusts in God's un-
 in-sor-row will God love you less? For Christ, who took for
 you'll find God's pro-mise true to be. God nev-er will for-



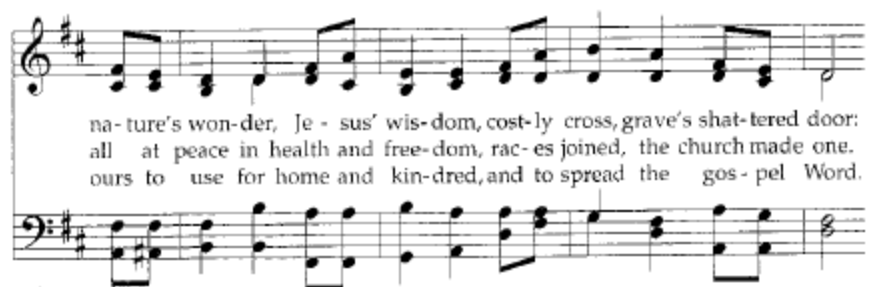
chang-ing love builds on the rock that will not move.
 you a cross, will bring you safe through ev-ery loss.
 sake in need the soul that trusts in God in-deed.

WORDS: Georg Neumark, 1657; tr. st. 1, 3, Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.; WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT
 st. 2 tr. Jaroslav Vajda, alt. 98.98.88
 MUSIC: Georg Neumark, 1657

606 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



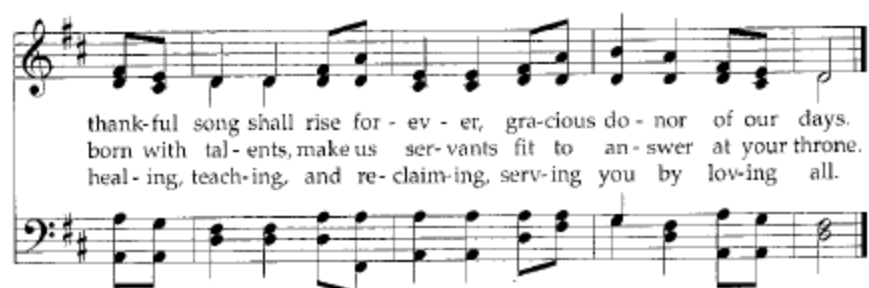
1. God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store,
 2. Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
 3. Treas-ure too you have en-trust-ed, gain thru powers your grace con-ferred;



na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door:
 all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.
 ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel Word.



gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-fering up our-selves in praise;
 Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
 O-pen wide our hands, in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,



thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.
 born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
 heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

WORDS: Robert L. Edwards, 1961
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

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