

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Zion United Church of Christ**

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551
St. Paul's UCC: 610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org
Zion UCC: 610-659-2775 -- mestme@aol.com -- www.1Zion.org

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our Combined
10:15am Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*



**Sunday, March 27, 2022
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*

Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table.*)

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are very welcome to participate in the entire worship service. Due to the COVID pandemic, for the safety of children, we are currently not offering a nursery during worship. Normally, we have supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor.

Junior Worship

For the safety of children, we are not offering Junior Worship during the pandemic. Normally, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs, on the 1st & 2nd Sunday of the month, following the children's sermon, for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

For the safety of all, our water fountains are disabled during the pandemic.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider St. Paul's or Zion United Church of Christ. For more information about St. Paul's, Zion, and the UCC, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our churches.

More Information....

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: *= if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♫# = Blue Hymnal Page}*



sprucc.org



Free WiFi

Virtual Worship Service

Online: [Live Stream](#) at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on [St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel](#)
[Facebook Live](#) (St. Paul's) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
[Phone Stream](#) at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later
[Zoom](#): Meeting ID: 104 401 368; Passcode: 301301 (or call 1-301-715-8592) - Live Only
If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

*Please Do Not move the red ribbons or sit where they are placed.
They are there for your safety and the safety of those around you to help designate social distancing.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” arr. for organ by Eugene Bradford

*{To center your hearts and minds,
you are invited to individually offer this prayer silently
during or before the Prelude}*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP ⑩ *(Silently Before Worship Begins)*

Compassionate God, your mercy overflows to the wayward. In our baptism you place on us garments of grace. Help us to welcome the wayward. Restore us from our waywardness. Let us dwell in your happiness. Amen.

GREETING AND WELCOME

*{Those who are able, please rise}
{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Give to Our God Immortal Praise” all verses **W&R # 63**
Public Domain

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*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (paraphrased from Psalm 32) ⑩

Leader: Happy are those whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

People: Our sin was heavy upon us.

Leader: Then we acknowledged our sin to you.

People: Then you forgave us the guilt of our sin.

Leader: Your kindness shields those who trust in you, Lord.

People: Happy are we as your mercy abounds in us.

We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*CALL TO CONFESSION ⑩ (Leader)

We find ourselves slipping away from God's favor. We come before God now asking for mercy from our Creator and Sustainer.

*CONFESSION OF SIN ⑩ (Unison)

Lord of Mercy, our hearts are sad. We feel the separation when we have said something unkind about someone else. We feel the separation when we have been selfish instead of sharing. We feel the separation when we can't get in the habit of reading scripture, or praying. Lord, help us to stay connected with you. Come by here and abide with us.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}

*PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Kyrie"

♪Red #518

Leader (*spoken*):

Lord, have mercy upon us.

People (*sung*):

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Leader (*spoken*):

Christ, have mercy upon us.

People (*sung*):

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Leader (*spoken*):

Lord, have mercy upon us.

People (*sung*):

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ⑩ (Leader)

"Beloved," says our loving Father, "I love you with an everlasting love. Try to be good. Come to me any time – day or night. I will walk with you through the challenges. See if you can notice the difference."

{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}

*SUNG RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Kum Ba Yah"

African American Spiritual
Public Domain

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Come by here, my Lord, come by here! Come by here, my Lord, come by here!

Come by here, my Lord, come by here! O Lord, come by here!

{Please be seated}

We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God." Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.

PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

First Lesson: [Joshua 5:9-12](#)

Second Lesson: [2 Corinthians 5:16-21](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON: [Luke 15:1-24](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}

HYMN

"Grace Greater Than Our Sin" all verses

W&R #353

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CONGREGATIONAL SONG 1. "Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him in the morning, Praise Him at the noontime. Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him when the sun goes down." 2. "Love Him". 3. "Serve Him". 4. "Thank Him".

SERMON

"The Lost Ones Are Found"

We Respond with Thanks

We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped, we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have learned more about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by re-affirming our faith in God, praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and giving of ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

(Those who are able, please rise)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*) United Church of Christ Statement of Faith
(Section Five: The Promise)

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Merciful God,

People: receive our prayer.

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE *“Someone’s Praying Lord”* African American Spiritual
Public Domain

**Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!**

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩

Leader: In thankfulness for God’s mercy and forgiveness.

People: we bring our offerings.

Leader: In our abundance of joy for God’s everlasting love,

People: we bring ourselves into your service, O awesome God!

Online Giving

RETURNING GOD’S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

*{As we share in hybrid worship, there is no passing of the plate in person.
A plate is placed in the rear of the sanctuary for offerings to be placed
when arriving or departing from the sanctuary.*

*Whether worshipping in person or online,
the safest way to offer your tithe and offering to God through his church
is through St. Paul’s UCC secure [Online Giving](#) option on our website at [sprucc.org](#). [St. Paul’s UCC Click Here](#)
or Zion UCC’s online giving at [www.1Zion.org](#) - [Zion UCC Click Here](#)
Offerings may also be mailed to St. Paul’s UCC; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551
or Zion UCC; PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567}.*

OFFERTORY/ANTHEM

“Happy Are Those”

Paul Taylor

{Those who are able, please rise}

{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** (Sung by Congregation) African American Spiritual
Public Domain

**Someone’s giving, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone’s giving, Lord, kum ba yah!
Someone’s giving, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER ⑩ (Leader)

Leader: Rejoicing God, for the coins that were found, we thank you. For the one sheep that was found, we thank you. For the lost son who returned, we thank you. For the gifts you have bestowed on us, we return a portion to you for the work of your kingdom. For your endless mercy and forgiveness, we give you our hearts.

All: Amen.

We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,
we go out into the world to share God's Good News
through our words and actions.*

*COMMISSION ⑩

Leader: Let us go forth from this worship service to a community that has lost something.

People: Something not tangible.

Leader: Something very valuable for the wholeness of our community.

People: How can we grasp this intangible something and share it?

Leader: God will fill our souls with so much joy

People: that it will burst from us!

ALL: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪Red #558

*SENDING HYMN "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" all verses

W&R # 59

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*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, CONCERNS

POSTLUDE

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

ALL are invited
*to share in a time of Refreshments and Fellowship
in the downstairs Miller Fellowship Hall*



The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



Worship Service Resource Credits

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

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 - ② *Gathered By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1994). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
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 - ⑦ Reprinted with permission from *Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ*. (2013).
 - ⑧ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑨ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
 - ⑩ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑪ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
 - ⑫ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
 - ⑬ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
 - ⑭ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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Zion United Church of Christ

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Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest
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Link to Website's **Upcoming Events**



About Today

Church Season: Lent -40 days and six Sundays before Easter; a season of penitence as we reflect upon our personal sins, which led to the need for the sacrifice of Jesus' life for us upon the cross.

The root word of "Lent" means to "lengthen", referring to the lengthening of days as we anticipate spring and the new life granted through the resurrection – moving from darkness to light.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

Purple/Violet –the color of royalty (royal purple); symbolizes the passion (suffering) of Christ our King that led to his sacrifice on the cross for us; the color of penance which we will be offering this Lent for his sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins.

Black – the color of mourning, for the passion, sacrifice, and death of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, used for the beginning (Ash Wednesday) and ending (Good Friday) of this season of penance.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year C**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Luke.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church). The first four books of the NT are called the "Gospels," which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

This Sunday, March 27 -- Lectionary Reading for Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-24

Joshua

Following the death of Moses, Joshua becomes the leader of the Jewish people. The OT book of Joshua tells the story of the Israelites who since having been freed from Egyptian slavery, have been following Moses to the "Promised Land." In Joshua, they make the final part of this journey, crossing the Jordan River into the land of Canaan, the land promised to them by God.

Psalm 32

This is an OT song expressing thanksgiving to God for forgiveness. This was written by King David, and is one of his seven penitential songs (Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143). It is called a "Maskil," which is a Hebrew musical term. The term is used here most likely in reference to the artistic nature of this psalm, or perhaps because of the didactic (teaching) components of the psalm.

The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

This NT Epistle (letter) was written by the Apostle Paul from prison between 50-56 A.D. to a gentile congregation he had founded several years earlier in Corinth (the capital city of the Roman province of Achaia, a large and prospering urban center that was ethnically, culturally, and religiously diverse). This letter is believed to be a compilation of fragments of multiple letters. This letter is in response to Titus' glowing reports and other negative reports Paul has received about this church. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and church leader, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Paul wrote more of the NT than any other person.

The Gospel According to Luke

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles is attributed to Luke "the beloved physician," written around 59-90 A.D. (C.E.). Not having met Jesus personally, Luke undertook the task of "investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account" of Jesus Christ, "so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed."

Next Sunday, April 3 -- Lectionary Reading for 5th Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm 126

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

March 27, 2022

One Great Hour of Sharing

The theme for the 2022 One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering is "Love Remains," based on 1 Corinthians 13:13, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." These words were written to a church in turmoil to remind them what love looks like in community.

What does love look like today? Through our collective generosity, the United Church of Christ has worked with both domestic and international partners to provide food, water, medicines, education, disaster recovery resources and opportunities for sustainable development, bringing hope to places of despair. Gifts to OGHS allow us to put love into action to make a difference in the lives of individuals and communities in crisis in this country and around the world.

What is One Great Hour of Sharing?

One Great Hour of Sharing, part of Our Church's Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. One Great Hour of Sharing also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Where and how are One Great Hour of Sharing funds shared?

The United Church of Christ responds to humanitarian and development needs in the world. Specifically, the UCC supports sustainable development and refugee needs internationally and provides disaster relief and immigration assistance in the United States. The United Church of Christ responds as a member of organizations such as Church World Service and the ACT Alliance. We also support the direct mission efforts of churches and church-based organizations that the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have direct partnerships with through Global Ministries. Nearly one-fifth of the UCC's OGHS offering is shared through Church World Service to support refugee, and disaster programs worldwide.



Babysitters needed for Spring Annual Meeting

We are looking for babysitters for our upcoming Spring Annual Meeting taking place June 3-4 at West Chester University.

Anyone interested must be over the age of 18 and must have their PA clearances. Time slots being sought are as follows:

Friday, June 3: 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

1:15 pm – 4:00 pm

6:15 pm – 8:30pm

Saturday, June 4: 8:45 am – 12:00 noon

1:15 pm – 5:30 pm

Sitters may work one shift, an entire day or both days. Sitters will receive free lunch and/or dinner if covering both shifts on either side of those meal times. Compensation will be \$20/hour. Please share this opportunity with childcare/ nursery attendants you know. Anyone interested should contact Susan at the Conference office at susan@psec.org.

From the Addiction & Recovery Taskforce: Giving something up for Lent

Many of us come from traditions that ask us to give something up for Lent. The Addiction and Recovery task force would like to suggest that we remind everyone that any prescription medication we have in the house that is not being used should be given up. Our own medicine cabinets can be a source of drug abuse for teens. Statistics have shown that up to 1 in 4 teens who use drugs have taken some from a medicine cabinet.

I recently had a total knee replacement. I was sent home with a bottle of 42 Tramadol for pain. I used one. As soon as I am able, I will get the rest to my local police station to turn them in to a secure drug destruction box. We all have these locations to turn in drugs in a number of places in our communities. Please post a list of these places for your congregation and remind people to clean out their medicine cabinets.

This is one thing we can all give up for Lent that can save lives.

Give to Our God Immortal Praise 63

D A7/E D/F# G A7/E D A/E E7 A D D/F#

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise; mer - cy and
 2 He built the earth, he spread the sky, and fixed the
 3 He fills the sun with morn - ing light; he bids the
 4 He sent His Son with power to save from guilt and
 5 Through this vast world he guides our feet, and leads us

G D/F# Em A7/E D A D A7/C# D D/F#

truth are all his ways: won - ders of grace to
 star - ry lights on high: won - ders of grace to
 moon di - rect the night: his mer - cies ev - er
 dark - ness and the grave: won - ders of grace to
 to his heav - enly seat: his mer - cies ev - er

G D/F# A7/E D A D/F# G A7/E D D/F# Em/G D A A7 D

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure, when suns and moons shall shine no more.
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure, when this our world shall be no more.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)
 MUSIC: John Hatton (ca. 1710-1793)

DUKE STREET
 L.M.

G D/G G D7 Em D/F# G D7 G D G/D D7 D

1 Mar - vel - ous grace of our lov - ing Lord, grace that ex - ceeds our
 2 Dark is the stain that we can - not hide; what can a - vail to
 3 Mar - vel - ous, in - fi - nite, match - less grace, free - ly be - stowed on

G D7/G G D/G G D7 Em D/F# G D7 Em

sin and our guilt, yon - der on Cal - va - ry's mount out - poured,
 wash it a - way? Look! there is flow - ing a crim - son tide;
 all who be - lieve: you that are long - ing to see his face,

Am C G/B Am7 G/B Am C D G Refrain G

there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt. Grace, grace,
 whit - er than snow you may be to - day. Mar - vel - ous grace,
 will you this mo - ment his grace re - ceive?

C/G G D7 Bm/D D7 G C/G G

God's grace, grace that will par - don and cleanse with - in; grace,
 in - fi - nite grace, mar - vel - ous

C/G G Am C G/B Am7 G/B Am C G/D D G

grace, God's grace, grace that is great - er than all our sin.
 grace, in - fi - nite grace,

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



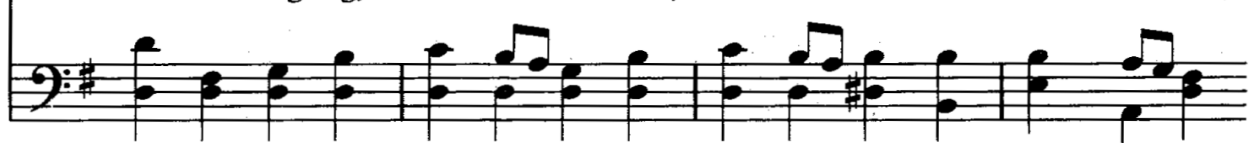
1. Joy-ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2. All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
4. Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, bind - ing all with - in its span.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.
joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward, in the tri - umph song of life.

