

United Church of Christ

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

*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*



August 14, 2022
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:15 a.m.

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. For safety, during the COVID pandemic we temporarily ceased having supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, on Sunday, September 11, 2022. In the meantime, parents who would like to do so, are welcome to watch their own children in the nursery, where a closed circuit TV is located, so that you can still see and hear the worship service.

Junior Worship

For safety, during the pandemic we temporarily ceased offering Junior Worship. We will resume Junior Worship on Sunday, September 11, 2022. The option of Junior Worship is offered downstairs, on the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, following the children's sermon, for elementary age children to learn 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}*



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

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP[Ⓢ] *(Unison)*

**Holy God, great people have gone before us. Great people are with us.
Great people will come after us. Help us to recognize the true prophets
among us and follow them. Help us to recognize the imposters among
us and stay our distance. Give us courage, Holy One, to set our goal on
running the race you have set before us. Amen.**

PRELUDE

“My Lord, What a Morning”

arr. by Robert Thygerson

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him”

Blue #82

Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper

*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 - adapted from Psalm 82 [Ⓢ]

Leader: God stands to charge the divine council assembled,

People: giving judgment in the midst of the gods.

Leader: Save the weak and the orphan;

People: defend the humble and needy.

Leader: Rescue the weak and the poor;

People: deliver them from the power of the wicked.

Leader: Arise, O God, and rule the earth,

People: for you shall take all nations for your own.

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)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you.

*CONFESSION OF SIN ⑩ (Unison)

God, our judge, it is so easy to follow the wrong people, to take our eyes from you. Help us to discern your path for us. Help us not to follow the entertainer with frivolous ways. Help us not to be attracted to leisure that has no space for you. Forgive us. Help us to use the "great cloud of witnesses" as our models. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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

*PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Kyrie"

Red #518
Public Domain

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)

Our loving God does forgive us even while this loving God judges us. God judges out of love. Be assured that we are following the one true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

*CALL TO PRAISE ⑩

Leader: May you be filled with the Holy Spirit.

People: **May we continually gather and sing praise to God.**

*CHORUS OF PRAISE

"I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me"

African American Spiritual
One License #A-714101

**I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

**Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

(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: [Jeremiah 23:23-29](#)

Second Lesson: [Hebrews 11:29-12:2](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON: [Luke 12:49-56](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN *"Children of the Heavenly Father"*

Blue #719

One License #A-714101

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CONGREGATION SINGS *"Jesus Loves the Little Children"*

**Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Shy and quiet, glad and bright,
They are treasures in his sight.
Jesus blesses all the children of the world.**

SERMON "The Cloud of Witnesses: The Refiner's Fire"

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 - adapted from the Nicene Creed ⑩

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is – both seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. Amen.

(Please be seated)

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.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Unison)*

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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

**Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Red #501
George Whelpton
Public Domain

OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩

Leader: Why do we bring offerings to worship?

People: God commands that we do this.

Leader: What if we have little income compared to expenses?

People: We may be surprised at how God cares for us

Leader: when we step out in faith;

People: when we give in thankfulness.

OFFERTORY SOLO

“She is the Spirit”
soloist – Sheri Rowe

words and music by John Bell

{Those who are able, please rise}

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE (Sung by Congregation) “We Give Thee but Thine Own”**

Blue #816
Public Domain

**We give thee but thine own, what'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone – a trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

*{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 worshiping 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](#)
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 PRAYER (Leader) 10**

O gracious, loving God, your provisions for us are many. Help us to be good stewards of your gifts. Help us to remember that the first giving from our income shall be yours.

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: We can leave this place of worship with glad hearts.

People: We can take the gladness with us.

Leader: We can choose to be witnesses of God's love.

People: We can live as courageous people for the sake of God's kingdom on earth.

***BENEDICTION**

***THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN**

Red #558
Public Domain

***SENDING HYMN**

“Stand by Me”

W&R #495
Public Domain

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.

*{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.}*

POSTLUDE

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP



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.

- ① Reprinted with permission from *The New Century Hymnal* of the United Church of Christ. (1995). Cleveland, Ohio: The Pilgrim Press. and/or the *Book of Worship* of the United Church of Christ (1986). New York: United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership.
 - ② *Gathered By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1994). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
 - ③ Reprinted with permission from *Sundays and Seasons*. (2020). Augsburg Fortress.
 - ④ Reprinted with permission from the *Order of Worship for the Reformed Church in the United States*. and/or *The Hymnal of the Evangelical and Reformed Church*. (1985) New York: United Church Press.
 - ⑤ Reprinted with permission from *Sourcebook of Worship Services*
 - ⑥ Reprinted with permission from *Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ*. (2013).
 - ⑦ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑧ 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
 - ⑨ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - ⑩ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
 - ⑪ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
 - ⑫ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
 - ⑬ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
- One License is our Church Copyright License# A-728042,, which is a subscription service giving us copyright permission to print the words and music found in the bulletin and to live stream music on the internet during the Worship Service.



Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz - PastorMotz@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Mary Etta Mest - mestme@aol.com - 610-659-2775 (C)

Music Minister: The Rev. Robert Masenheimer

Bell Choir Director: Miriam Borkert

Office Secretary: Geri Gammel - Office@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Church Secretary: Janice Conner - 610-781-4825 or 717-933-8910

Sextons: Michael Pastor & Terry Pastor

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

301 West Penn Avenue; Robesonia, PA 19551

610-621-5770 *** office@sprucc.org

www.SPRUCC.org

Consistory President: Sheri Rowe

Consistory Vice President: Elsa Wertz

Consistory Secretary:

Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Acting Financial Secretary: Terry Pastor

Zion United Church of Christ

PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567

www.IZion.org

Consistory President: George McLain

Consistory Vice President: Cory Putt

Treasurer: George McLain 717-628-1875 or

610-507-7865

Consistory Secretary: Yvonne Rentschler

Financial Secretary: Janice Conner

Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest

Password (for both): iamheretoserve

Link to Website's **Upcoming Events**



About Today

Church Season: Pentecost –which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. During this season we focus on how we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are called by God to go out into the world and share his Good News through both our deeds and words.

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

Green – symbolizing the growth of the Christian church, as we go out into the world and share God’s Good News with both our words and actions, and invite others into the church of Jesus Christ.

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, August 14 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalm 82

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

Jeremiah

The book of Jeremiah (OT) is attributed to the major prophet Jeremiah and written around 600-500 B.C. (B.C.E.). A prophet is one who is divinely appointed by God to lead and instruct. Jeremiah’s ministry extended over the last tragic forty years of the kingdom of Judah to the destruction of Jerusalem and the deportation of the Jewish people to Babylon.

Psalm 82

The theme refers to a fair judge. God will judge the wicked who have unfairly treated others.

Hebrews

The Epistle (letter) to the Hebrews (NT) is attributed to the Apostle Paul, believed to be written between 60-95 A.D. (C.E.). Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and leader in the Christian church, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus’ ascension into heaven. He wrote more of the NT than any other person. The title of this letter “Hebrews” presumably refers to the original audience of this letter as primarily Jewish-Christian.

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 and orderly account” of Jesus Christ, “so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.”

Next Sunday, August 21, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalm 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17



August 14, 2022

From the Addiction & Recovery Taskforce: Step Nine

We made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Shortcomings such as pride, fear, and procrastination can stand in the way of progress and growth. We make the amends we can and are ready to accept the reactions of the people we harmed. Amends are made when the opportunity presents itself. If amends are not possible at the present time, we remember to hold on to our willingness. It is often necessary to take guidance from others in these matters.

Unresolved conflicts may still exist and we humbly ask for understanding of past wrongs. Amends can be made both directly and indirectly. We do not have the right to contact someone who may still be hurting from our misdeeds. Step Nine helps us with our guilt and helps others with their anger. Sometimes the only amend is to stay clean.

We learn to contribute to our society and communities. We begin effectively relating to others and our own physical pain and mental confusion is lessened.

Through humility and patience, our relationships can be restored and the change within us becomes more easily accepted.

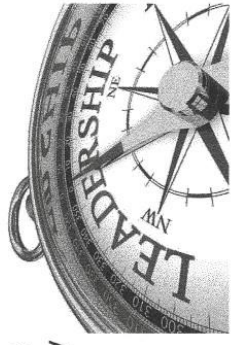
Courage and faith are key components in making an amend and spiritual growth results. We are slowly freeing ourselves from the wreckage of our past and we continue moving forward with a personal daily inventory in Step Ten .

Lay Leadership Support Group

A Lay Leadership Education Team has been formed to be a support team for Consistory Presidents and/or representatives.

Wouldn't it be helpful to have a place to ask questions, find support, and to learn from each other. It is comforting to know you are not alone. Pre COVID several

Consistory Presidents and/or representatives started gathering once a month. It was a great place to gain support, knowledge and form friendships. We are revising this gathering.



This first meeting will be in person in the Lansdale area. Future locations to be decided by attendees.

Date of event: Saturday, September 17th
Times: 10:00 am—12:00 pm

For free registration use this link:
pseclaylead917.eventbrite.com



Quiet Days

1st Tuesday of Every Month

Come away for a time of quiet and solitude, individual reflection, and fellowship and sharing. Quiet Days are held on the first Tuesday of each month from 9:30 am-1 pm.

Quiet Days are designed to open new avenues of communing with God, and to provide an opportunity for sharing faith journeys and stories. They allow for Sabbath time and renewal in the midst of our busy world. There is no formal registration, but a minimum donation of \$5 is requested on Quiet Day. **Each participant is asked to bring a Bible, journal, pen and a bag lunch.** Come and see what God has in store for you!

For more information go to psec.org, click on the Calendar and click on the first day of every month for location and more information!

82 Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him

Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise the Lord from the earth. Psalm 148:1, 7

Eb
Eb⁴
Eb
Bb
Bb⁷/_D
Eb
Bb⁷
Eb
Ab
Eb
Bb⁷/_D
Eb
Fm
Cm
Bb

1. Praise the Lord! ye heav'ns, a - dore Him; Praise Him, an - gels, in the height.
 2. Praise the Lord! for He is glo - rious; Nev - er shall His prom - ise fail.
 3. Wor - ship, hon - or, glo - ry, bless - ing, Lord, we of - fer un - to Thee.
 4.

Eb
Eb⁴
Eb
Bb
Bb⁷/_D
Eb
Bb⁷
Eb
Ab
Eb
Bb⁷/_D
Eb
Fm
Cm
Bb

5. Sun and moon, re - jice be - fore Him; Praise Him, all ye stars of light.
 6. God hath made His saints vic - to - rious; Sin and death shall not pre - vail.
 7. Young and old, Thy praise ex - press - ing, In glad hom - age bend the knee.
 8.

Bb
Eb
Bb
Fm
Eb
Bb
Bb
Eb
Fm
Bb⁷Cm
F7
Bb

9. Praise the Lord! for He hath spo - ken; Worlds His might - y voice o - beyed.
 10. Praise the God of our sal - va - tion! Hosts on high, His pow'r pro - claim.
 11. All the saints in heav'n a - dore Thee; We would bow be - fore Thy throne.
 12.

Eb
Eb^{M7}/_G
Ab
Eb
Ab
Eb
Bb
Bb
Bb
Eb
Ab
Eb
Gm
Bb⁷Eb

13. Laws which nev - er shall be bro - ken For their guid - ance hath He made.
 14. Heav'n and earth, and all cre - a - tion, Laud and mag - ni - fy His name.
 15. As Thine an - gels serve be - fore Thee, So on earth Thy will be done.
 16.

Children of the Heavenly Father 719

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us. 1 John 3:1

D D⁴ D D D D A A G D A⁷ A⁷ A⁹ B^{m7} A⁷ D⁴ D

1. Chil-dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther Safe - ly in His bos-om gath - er;
 2. God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
 3. Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the Lord His chil-dren sev - er;
 4. Tho' He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

D D⁷ G G G D B⁷ E^{sus} E^m A A⁷ D

Nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things He spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 Un - to them His grace He show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 His the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

TEXT: Carolina Sandell Berg; translated by Ernst W. Olson
 MUSIC: Traditional Swedish melody

TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA
 L.M.

Stand by Me

495

E_b **A_b** **E_b**

1 When the storms of life are rag - ing, stand by me; when the
 2 In the midst of trib - u - la - tion, stand by me; in the
 3 In the midst of faults and fail - ures, stand by me; in the
 4 When I'm grow - ing old and fee - ble, stand by me; when I'm

E_b **B_b7sus** **B_b7**

storms of life are rag - ing, stand by me. When the
 midst of trib - u - la - tion, stand by me. When the
 midst of faults and fail - ures, stand by me. When I've
 grow - ing old and fee - ble, stand by me. When my

E_b **E_b B_b** **Bdim7** **Cm**

world is toss - ing me like a ship up - on the sea,
 hosts of sin as - sail, and my strength be - gins to fail,
 done the best I can, and my friends mis - un - der - stand,
 life be - comes a bur - den, and I'm near - ing chil - ly Jor - dan,

E_b B_b **A_b B_b** **E_b**

thou who rul - est wind and wa - ter, stand by me.
 thou who nev - er lost a bat - tle, stand by me.
 thou who know - est all a - bout me, stand my me.
 O thou Lil - y of the Val - ley, stand by me.