

November 22, 2020 * Spirit of Hope United Methodist Church
Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday

We Gather – at a Distance

GREETING & GATHERING MUSIC

For the Beauty of the Earth
Jerry Rubino

John Rutter

WELCOME & TIME OF SINGING

Jeff Hansen

He Has Made Me Glad

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart.
I will enter His courts with praise.
I will say, "This is the day that the Lord has made."
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He (She, God) has made me glad, He has made me glad,
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.
He has made me glad, He has made me glad,
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

In God's Presence

In God's Presence there is comfort. In God's presence there is peace.
When we seek to know God's heart, We will find such blessed assurance,
In the presence, in the presence of the Lord.

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Chorus

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The bible tells me so.

Oh How I Love Jesus

There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth
It sounds like music in my ears the sweetest name on earth.

Chorus

Oh how I love Jesus, oh how I love Jesus, oh how I love Jesus,
Because He first loved Me.

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OUR INFORMAL FORMAL BEGINNING

Gladness comes at times as a surprise,
Like sadness, reassurance, peace;
These feelings arrive for good reason,
Or seemingly no reason at all!
But all of them underline, emphasize
Our aliveness, this gift of right now!
Doesn't all of that call for gratitude?!

Nun danket alle Gott (Now Thank We All Our God)

Sir. 50:20-24; 39:35; Ps. 67

Martin Rinkart, 1647; transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.

1 Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit Herz - en, Mund und Händ - en,
 1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God our Mak - er now be giv - en,

der gro - sse Ding - e tut an uns und al - len End - en;
 Who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es,
 With ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 To Christ, and Spir - it, too, our help in high - est heav - en,

der uns von Mut - ter - leib und Kind - es - bein - en an
 Who, from our par - ents' arms, has blessed us on our way
 And keep us still in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 The one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heaven a - dore,

un - zäh - lig viel zu gut bis hier-her hat ge - tan.
 With count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 For thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

For much of his life, German Lutheran pastor and musician Martin Rinkart ministered to the walled city of Eisleben amidst the horrors of the Thirty Years' War. This hymn has become one of the most widely used hymns of the church.

Tune: NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.
 Johann Crüger, 1647
 Harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

A PRAYER

Now thank we all our God,

With hearts and hands and voices! We thank you, God, to whom this world belongs, all of it, every creature and stone and snowflake and blade of grass, and in whom this whole world rejoices! Even when a virus, another element of your world, makes it dangerous for us to gather and celebrate and give thanks – even then, we are grateful! Even at a distance; even home alone; even as this strange time stretches out and on, for who knows how long, we thank you! Because in this world and the next, we belong to you, and your love holds and sustains us, through everything, in Christ! Amen!

We Lean in, Listen, Engage

A WORD OF PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN: In a little while we're going to talk about some questions that adults may have about God, the Bible, life. Everyone has questions, and every question is good. When you have questions, do you have someone to talk to? Don't be afraid to ask your questions.

A GIFT OF MUSIC

God Is Love

John W. Peterson

Susan Williams, Donna Beyer, Kris Kooiker

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:31-46

For the word of God, in scripture, within, among us, and beyond us

Thanks be to God!

A MESSAGE

“Touch Questions”

Jeff Hansen

We Respond in Grateful Generosity

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

<https://bit.ly/giveSOH>



A PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

God of all, this is a time riddled with questions. We prefer answers! And clarity. And certainty. But, we live in anticipation of your ever-new presence, even in the face of much un-certainty, to surround us, lift us, and to encourage us to trust you, to love each other, and to offer ourselves in all the ways we can, in gratitude for this rich life, and in the hope that our gratitude will “go viral”, in the name and spirit of Jesus, whose longing we share as we pray...

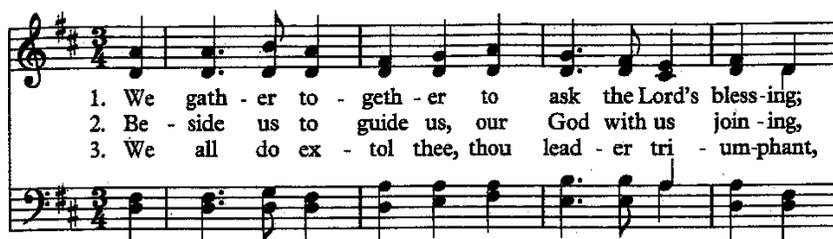
OUR LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Scatter—Together, in Christ, Always

CLOSING SONG

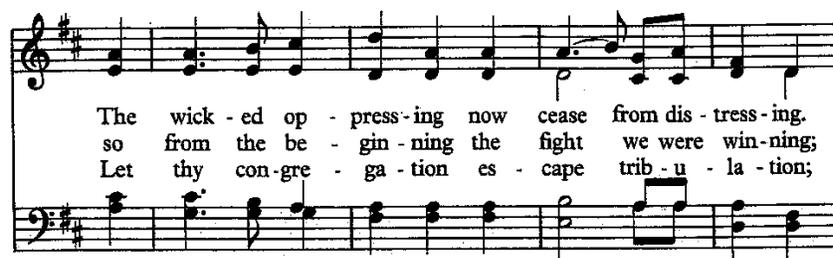
We Gather Together



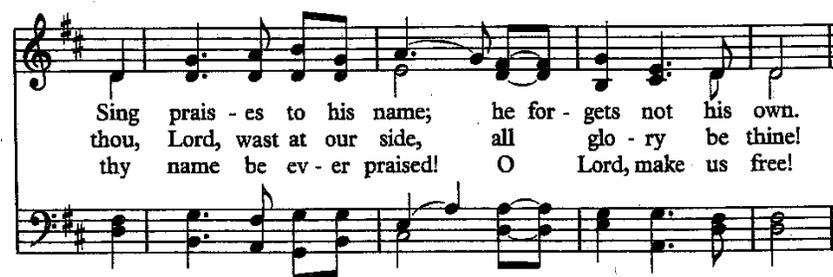
1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3. We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,



he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known.
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.



The wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing.
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion;



Sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glo - ry be thine!
thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

WORDS: *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626; trans. by Theodore Baker, 1894
MUSIC: 16th cent. Dutch melody; arr. by Edward Kremser, 1877

KREMSEK
Irr.

A BLEST SENDING

We gathered together, virtually, and now,

We scatter together, asking that God's blessing

Will do its work in and through us, to set this whole world free, and bring us all into the unity that is Christ!
Yes indeed! So may it be! God send you, the Spirit fill you, Christ go with you and you with Christ,
always and everywhere!

Amen! God bless! Go in peace! Amen.

CHIMES AND CLOSING MUSIC

Improvisation on *Now Thank We All*

Jerry Rubino

Karg-Elert