



# THE GATHERING

## PRELUDE FOR ORGAN

Prelude on *Ubi caritas* [op. 8, no. 9]

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

*The medieval plain-song melody upon which this piece is based is played by the feet. The setting to be sung by the choir at the time of the offering uses an original melody by the composer (Ola Gjeilo). Both melodies serve the text well, the text being the priority.*

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## GREETING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

## PEALING OF THE BELL AND SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*Teaching God, we want to learn your ways.*

*We want to learn the ways of forgiveness.*

*We want to learn the ways of grace.*

*We want to learn your ways of love.*

*Meet us here. Speak your truth. Help us listen. Amen.*

## CHORAL INTROIT

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

from Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*,  
*Part Second*, 1813

Come, thou fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;

Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

*—Robert Robinson, 1758; alt.*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Why are you here?

**People: I am seeking God with my whole heart, with my entire mind,  
with a fire burning in my bones.**

Pastor: You are in the right place! This is God's house. The door is open.

**People: Let us learn from the Spirit.**

Pastor: Let us worship God.

## \*HYMN 445

God, How Can We Forgive

*Leoni*

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we long to be lifelong learners. We long to approach you with curiosity and an open mind. Instead, we often live as if we know best. We forget that the disciples called you “Rabbi, Teacher.” Forgive us for the times when we fail to be curious. Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best. Forgive us for the moments when we imagine that our learning is done and that we have all the answers.

*Silent prayers of confession are offered.*

Like Peter—who was brave enough to ask, “How many times should we forgive?”—make us brave. Spark a desire in us to learn, and may our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters. With hope and humility we pray. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON *(sung by the choir)*

Richard Warner, 1958

*Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

*-Greek, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> centuries; transl.*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*These words, with the music, are printed in the hymnal at no. 475 (Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing), stanza 3.*

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here’s my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

*-Robert Robinson, 1758; alt.*

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*Children age 4 through 8th grade may now leave to go to their Sunday School classes.*

## THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jacqueline Manks, *lay reader*

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 14:7-12

(Pew Bible: New Testament, p. 163)

*after each reading:*

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:15-22

(Pew Bible: New Testament, p. 20)

SERMON

“Wandering Heart: A Teachable Heart”

Dr. Miller

## THE RESPONSE

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"How many times should I forgive?" "Jesus, where are you going?" "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

**We believe that questions are a building block of faith.**

"Where does it hurt?" "What do you need?" "How can I help?"

**We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.**

"Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." "Here I am." "Send me."

**We believe that God is a teacher.**

We believe that faith invites our whole being to engage,  
**with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength.**

We believe.

**Help our unbelief. Amen.**

### \*HYMN (*see back page*)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*Blaenwern*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 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.**

### CHORAL RESPONSE

O Thou Who Hearest Prayer

Welsh melody, harm.

O thou who hearest prayer, give ear unto our cry; O let thy children share thy blessing from on high.  
We plead the promise of thy word, O grant us peace, almighty Lord!

### CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*Please visit <https://ryepc.com/give/> to give online. If you do not have your offering with you today,  
"Gift cards" are in the pews so that you may participate in this portion of worship  
by placing one in the offering plate.*

### ANTHEM FOR CHOIR

Ubi caritas

Ola Gjeilo, 2001

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.  
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

*God is where there is charity and love.  
Christ's love has gathered us as one.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Let us honor and love the living God.  
And with sincere hearts let us love each other. Amen.*

*-based on John 13:35 and 1 Corinthians 13:13*

### \*LENTEN HYMN OF PRESENTATION

*Rockingham*

*These words, with the music, are printed in the hymnal at no. 652, stanza 1.*

**A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering.  
Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice.**

*-David Gambrell, 2009*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**THE SENDING FORTH**

**\*HYMN** (*see back cover*)

Help Us Accept Each Other

*Aurelia*

st. 4 harm. Noel Rawsthorne (1929-2019)

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE FOR ORGAN** (*All are invited into the chancel to listen to the postlude.*)

Collin Miller

Prelude in the Form of a Toccata [op. 88, no. 3]

Charles V. Stanford (1852-1924)

*\*indicates standing for those who are able*

*Welcome to Rye Presbyterian Church*

If you are new to Rye Presbyterian, we welcome you and hope you are enriched by your time here. So that we may get to know you better, please fill out an information card found in the pew racks and put it in the offering plate. You may also go to: <https://ryepc.com/im-new/> and fill out the Welcome Form.

If you or a family member need to step out of the sanctuary during worship, please feel free to do so. There is live audio from the service in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary and live video in the church library.

*Participants in this service*

Solene Thinat, *crucifer*

Edward Avery, Carl Friedrich, Ashley Ginnings, and Pat McGunagle, *ushers*

**TODAY**

*Following worship, coffee will be available in the Assembly Room.*

*Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 a.m., Chapel*

*Easter Egg Celebration, 11:15 a.m., Assembly Room and Grape Arbor*

*Food 2 Grow On, 2:30 p.m., Congregation KTI*

*RPC Youth, 3:00 p.m., Clay Arts Center*

*5:00 p.m., Confirmation, Westminster Room*

*8:00 p.m., Men's Bible Study*



**CHILDCARE & SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Childcare for ages 3 months through 3-year-olds is being offered this Sunday!** Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education

Wing. Please make sure to sign your children up for Childcare using the form on our [website](#).

**Sunday School for ages 4 through 8th grade is being offered this Sunday as well.** Classes for age 4-3rd grade are on the second floor of the Education Wing, and 4th -5th grade are in the Westminster Room. Middle school meets in the Youth Rooms downstairs in the basement.



**EASTER EGG CELEBRATION - TODAY @ 11:15 A.M.**

We hope you can join us for a morning of joy and excitement as we search for colorful eggs hidden around church grounds and enjoy each other's company during this Lenten season! We will start off in the Assembly Room for some delicious snacks and Easter-themed coloring. We will then make our way to the Grape Arbor for the Easter Egg Hunt! If it rains, we will remain in the Easter Egg adorned Assembly Room.



## FOOD TO GROW ON

**TODAY** we are hosting a food packing event with Food2GrowOn. The packing of spring vacation bags will take place at 2:30 p.m. at Congregation KTI, at 575 King Street in Port Chester. The packing should take approximately 1-1/2 hours. The food bags will be given to Port Chester elementary school children to bring home during their spring vacations. We need student and adult volunteers to help with the packing. Thank you to all who can volunteer their time to help pack.

## THIS WEEK

### Monday, March 18

9:15 a.m. Bible Discussion - Zoom

### Tuesday, March 19

11:00 a.m. Stephen Leaders - Conference Room

1:00 p.m. Women's Discipleship - Library

7:30 p.m. Moms' Bible Study - Library

### Wednesday, March 20

7:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting – Westminster Room

### Thursday, March 21

10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop

10:00 a.m. 3 Ts - Online

7:00 p.m. Coming Home Dinner– Westminster Room



## GIVING AT RPC

Online donation options are available on the RPC Website Giving page ([ryepc.com/give/](http://ryepc.com/give/)), or you may scan the QR Code to the left with your cell phone. You may also use Zelle from your mobile banking app. Please contact the church office to register with us first. Contact Maida Robinson at 914-967-0842 or email [mrobinson@ryepc.com](mailto:mrobinson@ryepc.com), if you have any questions. *Many thanks for your continued generosity and support of the church!*



We are excited to share that RPC is developing a new and improved Social Media presence. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to keep up to date on the weekly happenings at RPC as well as to share all the great things happening within our community. Let's stay connected and grow in faith together!

**Instagram: @ryepres10580, Facebook: Rye Presbyterian Church**

## CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING WITH THE TRANSITION TEAM – MARCH 24

Join members of the Transition Team and our consultant, Michelle Snyder, in the Assembly Room immediately after worship on March 24. We will build upon the February 2 meeting, discussing the RPC DNA, as unearthed through the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT). A copy of the CAT results will be available following the presentation. There will be time for questions and dialogue. A light lunch will be served. If you need childcare or if you have any questions, please reach out to [TransitionTeam@RyePC.com](mailto:TransitionTeam@RyePC.com).



## MOMS' BIBLE STUDY

### NEW BIBLE STUDY FOR MOTHERS Tuesdays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., in the RPC library

Join this group for moms with young children who are looking for support, encouragement, and fellowship with other moms. Meetings will be held in the church library on Tuesday evenings. The group will brainstorm ideas and choose a book to read together in the first meeting. Please contact Madison Walsh or Lindsey Furnary for more details and to be added to the email list: [MadisonLichtliterWalsh@gmail.com](mailto:MadisonLichtliterWalsh@gmail.com) or [Lindsey.wetmiller.Furnary@gmail.com](mailto:Lindsey.wetmiller.Furnary@gmail.com)

## EASTER FLOWERS AND MUSIC

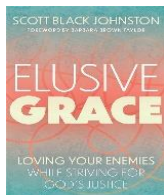
We invite you to join in celebrating Easter by making a donation for Easter flowers and music. Envelopes are available in each pew. Your gift can be recognized in the Easter bulletin in one of two ways:

- An acknowledgement showing the name(s) of the donor, or
- As a dedication showing:
  - In Loving Memory of \_\_\_\_\_
  - In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_
  - In Gratitude for \_\_\_\_\_



To donate by check - make your check payable to RPC with "Flowers & Music" on the memo line and include a note with the wording for your dedication. To donate online, [click here](#) and email the wording for your dedication to [Tangy Linzy](mailto:tlinzy@ryepc.com) (tlinzy@ryepc.com).

**All donations must be received no later than Thursday, March 21, to be included in the Easter bulletin.**



## SPRING BOOK STUDY

Monday Evenings - April 8, 15, 22, 29  
7:30 p.m. in the Library

Participants are asked to purchase and read the book in advance. Contact John Miller ([jmiller@ryepc.com](mailto:jmiller@ryepc.com)) or 914-967-0842, ex. 14, to let him know if you plan to attend. We look forward to you joining us.

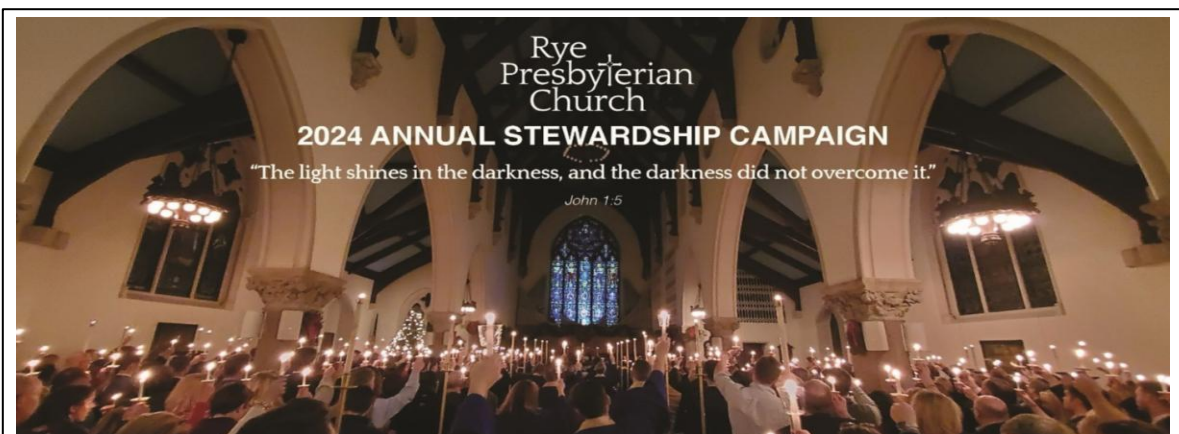
## SOUL SHOP FOR CONGREGATIONS

Wednesday, April 17, 7:30 -9:00 p.m.

All are invited to join us as we learn basic suicide awareness and conversation skills to help save the life of someone considering suicide and to be companions to those impacted by suicidal desperation.

This 90-minute workshop will be led by John Miller ([jmiller@ryepc.com](mailto:jmiller@ryepc.com)) and Jean-Paul Marshall ([jmarshall@ryepc.com](mailto:jmarshall@ryepc.com)). Contact them for more details.





## Rye Presbyterian Church

### 2024 ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

John 1:5

**Stewardship 2024 is lighting the way for an exciting year at RPC!**

As of March 14, here's how our light shines:

287 pledges for \$1,337,000

**Of those 287, 39 were new pledges, and 131 households increased their pledge!**

Thank you for helping generously light the way for the community, mission,  
and ministry of Rye Presbyterian Church!

If you haven't yet made your pledge, you can do so at [ryepc.com/give](http://ryepc.com/give).



## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

**Palm Sunday:** March 24, 10:00 a.m.,  
Sanctuary, starting in the Assembly Room,  
and online

**Maundy Thursday:** March 28, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary and online

**Good Friday:** March 29  
Noon, Sanctuary and online  
Family Service, 3:00 p.m., beginning in the Westminster Room

**Easter Sunday:** March 31  
Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m., on the beach at Rye Town Park  
Family Service with Flowering of the Cross, 9:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online  
Worship with Communion, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary and online.



## CHURCH & JUSTICE SERVICE, SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 10:00 A.M.



On Sunday, April 7, we will celebrate our annual Church and Justice Service, led by people who have been formerly incarcerated in New York's prison system and then went on to lead lives devoted to improving society in various and profound ways.

Our guest preacher will be Mr. Sean Pica. Sean first spoke at an RPC Church and Justice Sunday some 20 years ago. He is Executive Director of Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison. Sean received his MPS from the New York Theological Seminary and his MSW from Hunter College.



Liturgy adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

Permission to reprint music in this Order of Worship and to livestream it obtained from ONE LICENSE License #A-725535.

Ubi caritas [from *Twelve Choral Preludes on Gregorian Chant Themes*]

Music: Jeanne Demessieux

Music © 1950 Summy-Birchard Music, Inc. (distr. Warner Bros. Publications, Inc.).

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Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Music: Richard Warner

Music © 1958 W. L. Jenkins, from *Worship and Hymns for All Occasions*; admin. The Westminster Press.

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God, How Can We Forgive

Text: Ruth Duck

Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Ubi caritas

Music: Ola Gjeilo

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A Grateful Heart

Text: David Gambrell

Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.).

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Help Us Accept Each Other (*Aurelia*)

Text: Fred Kaan, 1974 Music (st. 4) harm. Noel Rawsthorne

Text © 1975 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music harm. © 1991 Kevin Mayhew, Ltd. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Front Cover Image Artist's Statement  
By The Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

"Seventy-seven Times"  
Inspired by Matthew 18:15-22

When I'm creating a mandala inspired by a text, I'm able to zoom out and see the bigger picture, and the image itself ends up looking like a bird's eye view, which I think is a helpful perspective sometimes.

In this mandala, I wanted to follow a person through the process of reproof, forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration as Jesus describes in Matthew 18. In the center, a person is standing alone, isolated, with their arms crossed in a closed-off posture. If you're sinned against, Jesus says to go and "point out the fault when the two of you are alone" (Matthew 18:15). When you move to the second ring of the mandala, there are pairs of people shaking hands, finding common ground, or at least attempting to. If this doesn't work, then you are to bring more people (one or two more) together to provide counsel and witness. In the third ring of the mandala, two people are engaging with the closed-off person, sharing a way forward. In the next ring hyacinth flowers—which represent sorrow, regret, and forgiveness—stretch, bloom, and grow, bringing beauty into the now open arms of the people in the last ring of the mandala, who are embraced and woven into the community. The person from the center goes from being alone and closed-off to embraced and open.

When I was drawing the figures from the center out, it began to look like a dance. Is this the picture that grace paints? Forgiveness cannot happen in isolation and certainly neither can reconciliation nor restoration. The movement toward wholeness is the movement toward one another.

Perhaps craving more tangibility and practicality, Peter asks how many times he should forgive someone who has wronged him, and Jesus says, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:22). This piece contains seventy-seven people and flowers to represent the abundance of grace that Jesus calls us into. The gold represents the divine presence of empathy, compassion, grace, and love throughout this dance from isolation toward community, from brokenness toward wholeness, and from guilt and shame toward freedom.

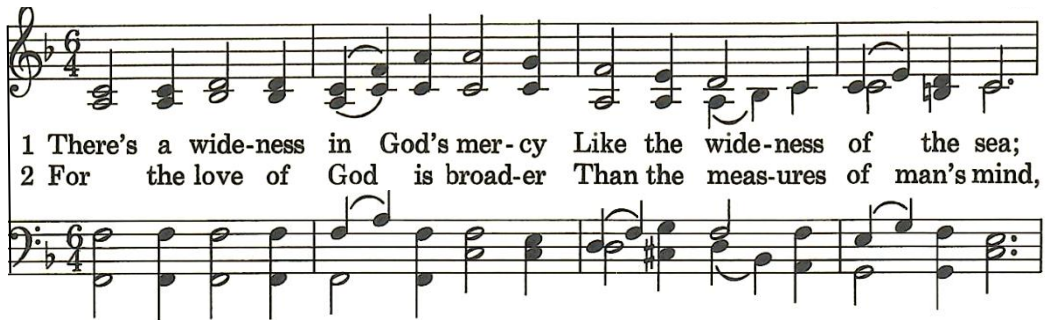
**CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. Daniel Love, *Co-Pastor*  
The Rev. Dr. John Miller, *Co-Pastor*  
The Rev. Jean-Paul Marshall, *Associate Pastor*  
Jason Charneski, *Director of Music and Organist*  
Collin Miller, *Knock Intern in Sacred Music*  
Maida Robinson, *Chief Administrative Officer*  
Peggy Berretta, *Administrative Assistant*  
Tangy Linzy, *Interim Pastoral Assistant*  
Juan Velasquez, *Head Sexton/Building Manager*  
Alonso Osorio, *Sunday Sexton*

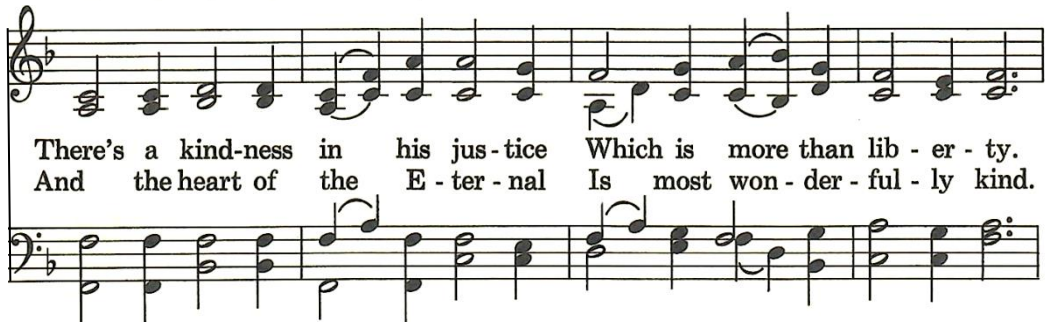
*We are a Stephen Ministry church that offers one on one caring ministry to those in need.  
If you need assistance from your pastors, deacons, or a Stephen Minister, please call at (914) 967-0842.  
CareNotes on a variety of topics are available near the Sanctuary exits.  
If you are experiencing an acute crisis, you can call or text 988  
and you'll connect with a mental health professional through the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.*

# There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

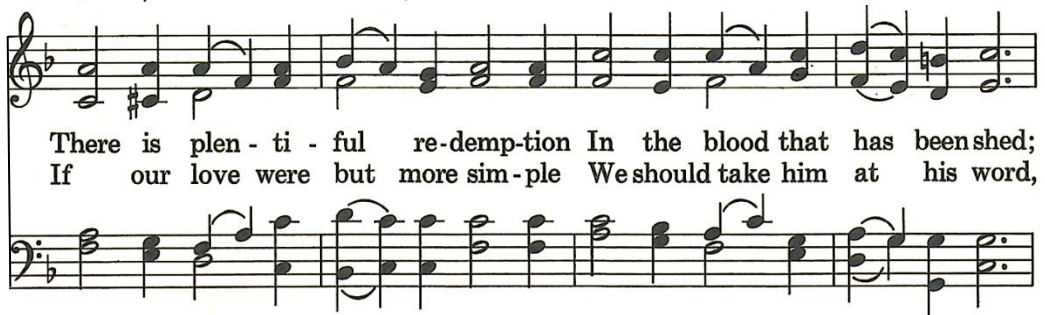
*Blaenwern*



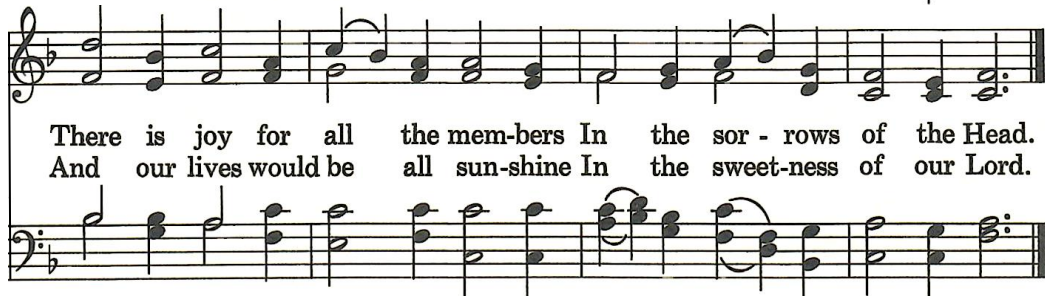
1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy Like the wide-ness of the sea;  
2 For the love of God is broad-er Than the meas-ures of man's mind,



There's a kind-ness in his jus-tice Which is more than lib-er-ty.  
And the heart of the E-ter-nal Is most won-der-ful-ly kind.



There is plen-ti-ful re-demp-tion In the blood that has been shed;  
If our love were but more sim-ple We should take him at his word,

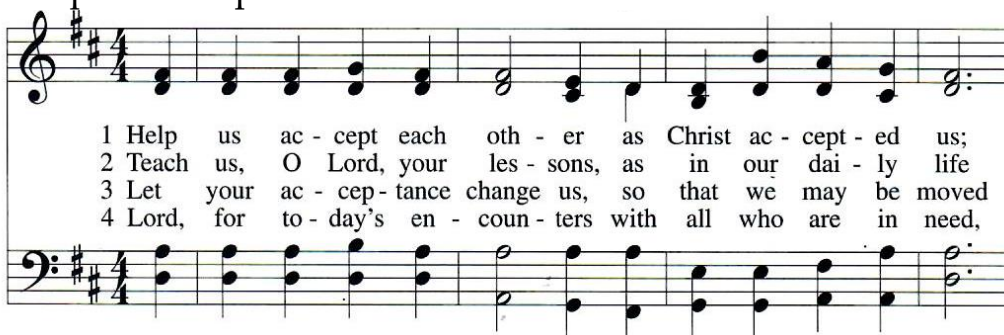


There is joy for all the mem-bers In the sor-rows of the Head.  
And our lives would be all sun-shine In the sweet-ness of our Lord.

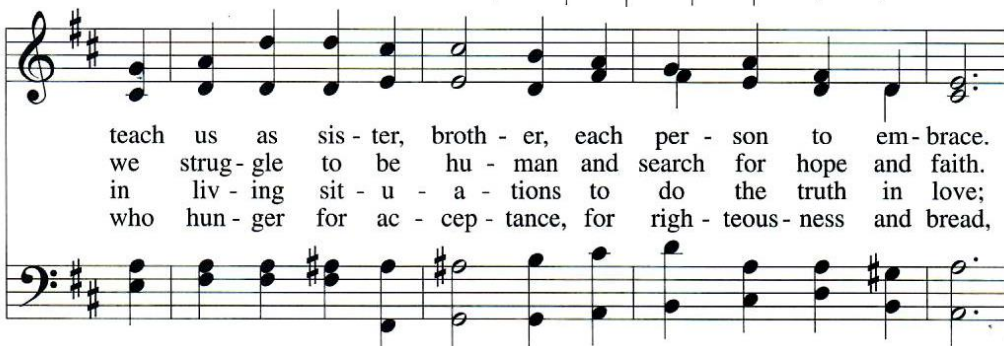
Text: Frederick W. Faber (1814-1863)  
Music: William P. Rowlands (1860-1937)

# Help Us Accept Each Other

*Aurelia*



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;  
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life  
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved  
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.  
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for righ - teous - ness and bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us, and bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,  
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance, un - til we know by heart  
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on;



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed and meant to love and live.  
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.  
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!