



ORDER OF WORSHIP  
Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Sacrament of Communion  
Sunday, May 2, 2021

PRELUDE: Adorn Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness  
John Finney, organ

*Johannes Brahms*

CALL TO WORSHIP

**We gather to worship God whose love was revealed in Jesus.  
Let all the ends of the earth turn toward God.  
Beloved, we are called to love as God loves us.  
Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God, for God is love.**

HYMN: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (Verses 1, 2, & 4)  
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #404

*Beecher*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God of mercy,  
We confess the times when we have ignored our connection to you, the source of life.  
We have followed illusions of self-interest rather than abiding in your love.  
We have been afraid to examine our own thinking  
for mistaken assumptions or misplaced priorities.  
O God, release us from our fears and failures so that we may trust your love  
and live with bold generosity. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

GLORIA

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SCRIPTURE READING: John 15:1-7

SERMON: "A Live Connection"

Rev. Matt Wooster

HYMN: Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song  
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #230

*Bridegroom*

SHARING OF CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 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.**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

HYMN: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #39

*Azmon*

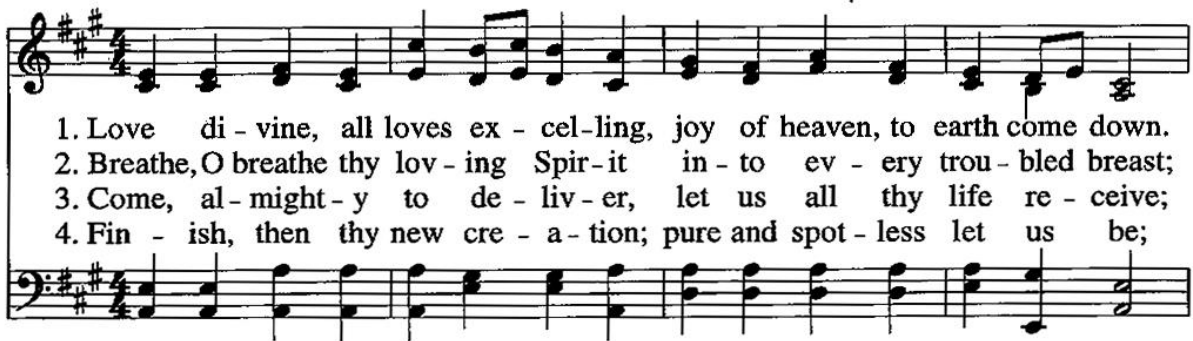
COMMISSION and BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Toccata in F major

*Dietrich Buxtehude*

Preaching      Rev. Matt Wooster  
Liturgists     Rev. Judy Swahnberg, Rev. Anne Marie Holloway  
Soloists       Laurie Stewart Otten, Shannon Lebrón, Christian Figueroa, Garrett Murphy

## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



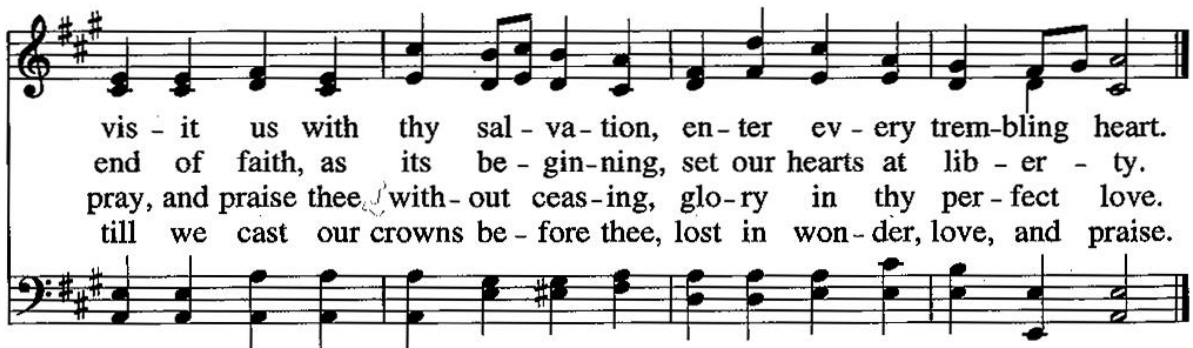
1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven, to earth come down.  
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;  
 3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;  
 4. Fin - ish, then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown;  
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find thy prom - ised rest;  
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.  
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee;



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
 take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1747, alt.  
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1855

BEECHER  
 87.87D

This hymn is sung by every major denomination. Charles Wesley, brother of John, wrote the text as a spiritual parody of a Dryden poem.

# Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song 230

1. Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her  
 2. To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the  
 3. With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of

flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the  
 Vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our  
 prayer, with the pow'r to love and wit - ness, with the

new flame's ea - ger might:  
 midst as gift and sign: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.  
 peace be - yond com - pare:  
 come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1982  
 MUSIC: Peter Cutts, 1969

BRIDEGROOM  
 87.87.6

Composer Peter Cutts, coming from a United Reformed Church background in England, has served on the UCC's Andover-Newton Seminary faculty.

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## O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
 2. My gra-cious Sav-ior and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,  
 3. Je-sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease,  
 4. Glo-ry to God, and praise and love be ev-er, ev-er given

the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of God's grace!  
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.  
 is mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!  
 by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the church in earth and heaven.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; adapt. Lowell Mason, *Modern Psalmody*, 1839

AZMON  
 CM

Charles Wesley wrote this hymn on the first anniversary of his conversion experience. In its original version it had eighteen stanzas. It is the first hymn in most Methodist hymnals.