

HILLS CHURCH



CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

207 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481 • 781-235-4424

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 11, 2021

PRELUDE: Blessed Jesus, We Are Here
Marjorie Ness, Guest Organist

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O God of the earth, and all that is in it, and all who live on it. Your power is vast, and real, and eternal.

All: You awe us with starshine; you soothe us with birdsong.

One: Holy one, you open your hand: you give us food and the strength to go on.

All: We trust you to lead us to truth and to new life.

* HYMN: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #12

St. Denio

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O merciful God, you can see into our hearts and minds,
so you know how we struggle with what we want in our lives,
and rationalize our own choices, actions, and plans.
Forgive our endless negotiations with you.
Help us to forgive old hurts and move forward in relationships.
Lead us by your Holy Spirit into the future.
Create in us a new willingness to do your will.
We ask that you help us come to understand that success is
generosity, and that serving others is a holy privilege. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

GLORIA

Music by Alice Jordan

Glory to God the Creator,
and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE (American Sign Language)

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 29: 11-14

Gary McCabe

SERMON: "Home or House?"

Rev. Pashington J. Obeng

SOLO: "If with All Your Hearts" (from *Elijah*)

Mendelssohn

Christian Figueroa, tenor

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

* HYMN: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *Beecher*
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #404

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Fugue in D major *Johann Pachelbel*

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou dwell - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - migh - ty, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.

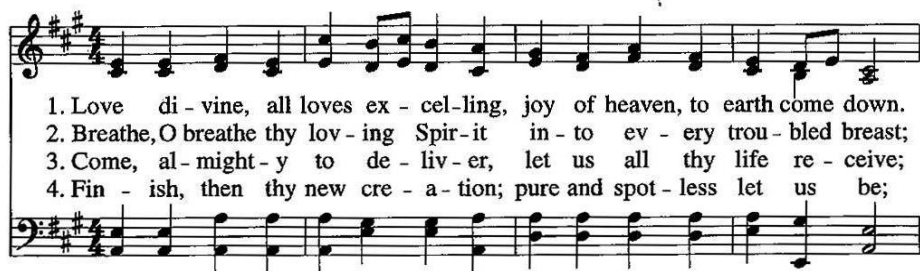
MUSIC: Welsh melody from John Roberts' *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

ST. DENIO

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Minister and scholar Walter Smith also became Moderator of the Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland. The opening phrases are based on Timothy 1:17.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



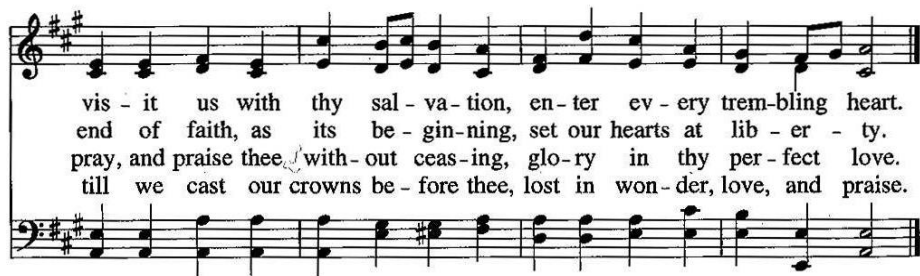
1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven, to earth come down.
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
 3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;
 4. Fin - ish, then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less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

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

Liturgists

Rev. Anne Marie Holloway
Co-senior Deacon, Gary McCabe

Soloists

Laurie Stewart Otten
Shannon Lebrón
Christian Figueroa
Stephen Lebrón

We welcome Rev. Pashington J. Obeng who served as an Associate Minister at the Hills Church from July 1989 to October 2017.

We welcome Marjorie Ness as our guest organist today. Marjorie retired from Fitchburg State University in Dec. 2015, having taught in the Humanities department, and directed the Choral Arts program. She has just completed an interim as Director of Music and Organist for Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester for most of 2018, preceded by 3 other interims. Her degrees are in organ performance from Oberlin College, Northwestern University and the University of Iowa, Iowa City. She resides in Lancaster, MA.

GOD
IS STILL
SPEAKING

WE ARE AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION,
NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE,
NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE
ON LIFE'S JOURNEY,
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.