

HILLS CHURCH



CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Sunday, August 1, 2021

** Those who are able may rise.*

PRELUDE: Allegro moderato (from *Sonata in E-flat major*)

John Finney, piano

J. S. Bach

Sara Johnson, flute

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come this day to worship a God of love!
The God of all!

All: **We come with hearts and eyes wide open!**

One: We come before God and one another
to proclaim the good news of the Gospel!

All: **We come to worship this God who looks into
the human heart and through Christ Jesus
makes all things new!**

One: May it be so!

All: **Amen!**

* HYMN: Blessed Assurance

Assurance

As printed

“Blessed Assurance,”

Words by Fanny J. Crosby; Music by Phoebe P. Knapp

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* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,

You call us to place our trust in you,

to live according to your direction.

Yet we want life to make sense from a human point of view.

It’s hard to live by faith.

You call us to listen for the ways your Spirit is speaking.

Yet, we close our ears to the voices and stories

within each of us.

You call us to feel the mystery of life,

to marvel at the power of your love.

Yet it’s not easy to accept your promise.

It’s hard to live by faith.

Forgive us, holy maker of reality.

Forgive us O God for our stubborn moments,

for our turning away from you and one another.

Forgive us for not recognizing the ways you connect us all

through the faithful stories you have already written on our hearts. 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

EPISTLE READING: 2 Corinthians 3: 1-6 (The Message version)

SERMON: “The Story Written On Our Hearts”

Anne Marie Holloway

PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

INVITATION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

SURSUM CORDA

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord Most High.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Music by Ronald A. Nelson

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,
The whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!
Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ACCLAMATIONS

One: Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:
All: **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE POURING OF THE CUP

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Siciliano (from *Sonata in E-flat major*)

J. S. Bach

John Finney, piano

Sara Johnson, flute

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

* HYMN: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #7

* COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

Please remain seated during the Postlude.

POSTLUDE: Allegro (from *Sonata in E-flat major*)

J. S. Bach

John Finney, piano

Sara Johnson, flute



Preaching Rev. Anne Marie Holloway

Liturgists Dawn and Anna McGrew

Deacons Katherine Edmonds
 Steven Patrick
 George Pettee

Music Members of the Chancel Choir

Blessed Assurance

426

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a fore-taste of
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav-ior am

glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God,
 burst on my sight; an-gels de-scend-ing, bring from a-bove
 hap-py and blest, watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove,

Refrain

born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. This is my sto-ry,
 filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long; this is my

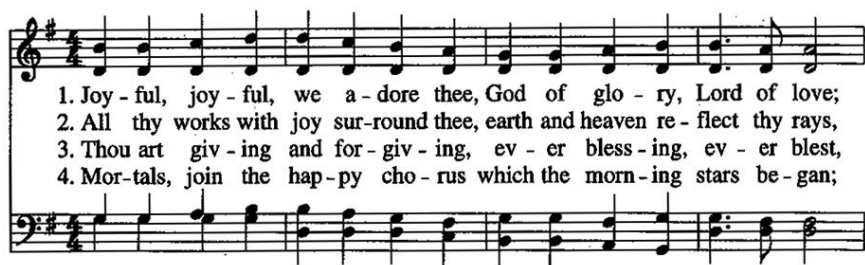
sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915)
 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp (1839-1908)

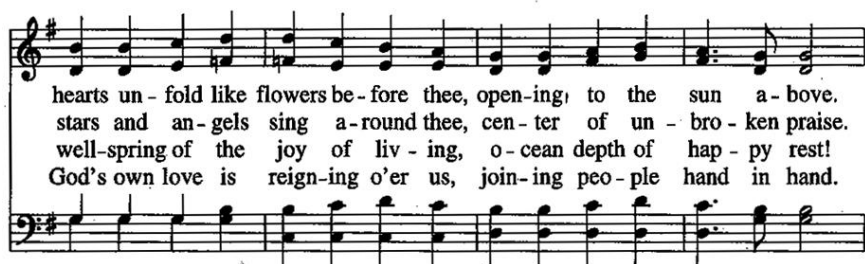
ASSURANCE
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Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

7



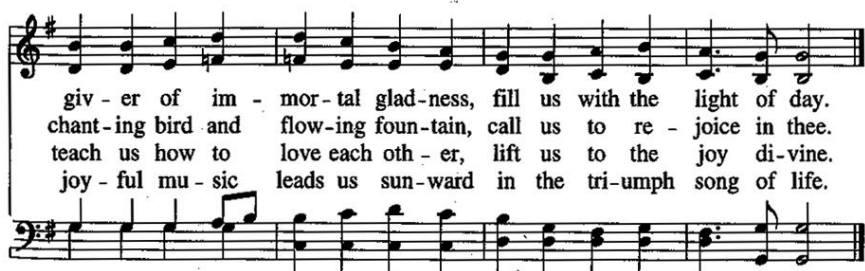
1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays;
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
 4. Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan;



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing, to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 God's own love is reign - ing o'er us, join - ing peo - ple hand in hand.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Source of grace and fount of bless - ing, all who live in love are thine;
 Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife,



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.
 joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

WORDS: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1864

HYMN TO JOY

87.87D

Henry van Dyke was ordained a Congregational minister, but his varied life included teaching and writing at Princeton and a critical 1913-1916 ambassadorship to Luxembourg and The Netherlands.

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Sound Technician	Kenny Goshgarian
Sound Technician	Steven Hopkins

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.