

**First Parish Church, Congregational
On the Village Green
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts**

*Awaken to the Light and Love of God;
Be a Joyful Beacon to the World*

Rev. Dr. Mark Boyea, Minister
Dr. Herman Weiss, Director of Music and Organist

First Parish Church, Congregational
United Church of Christ
Worship Celebration
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 22, 2022
10:00 am

Prelude *"Fairest Lord Jesus"* Schroeder

Welcome

Opening Hymn *"Praise to the Living God"*
(printed in bulletin)

Opening Prayer (together)

Today we gather and praise the great "I Am". We stand together as one family, looking to draw ever nearer to Mercy itself. We focus on the King of Kings. But what of tomorrow? Will our Monday lives steer us away from You, O God? Will we set aside our need for You in favor of human concerns? Will our demands and worries overshadow all You are to us and for us?

Hold us, Holy One. Whisper in our ear reminders of Your promises. Seed the strength and courage that only Your living waters can make bloom. Feed our souls with the meals of compassion, grace, and unyielding faithfulness, so that our Mondays, and all our days, may be an opportunity to shine a light on the right path. Your path. The path that Your son Jesus spoke of when He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except by me".

Open Your arms, O God, so that we may come to You now through the thoughts of our minds, the deeds of our hands and the words of our mouths, praying the words Jesus gave us...

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.

Choir Meditation *“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”* Ippolitov-Ivanov

Bless the Lord, O My Soul, and forget not all his benefits.
Bless the Lord, O My Soul, and all that is within me bless His Holy name.
He is full of compassion and mercy, long suffering and great in goodness.
He will not always be chiding nor keepeth He, His wrath forever.
Bless the Lord, O My Soul, and all that is within me bless His Holy name.
O blessed art Thou, O Lord.

Prayer Intentions

Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Solo *“Didn’t My Lord Deliver Daniel?”* spiritual, arr. Burleigh
Paul Knox, soloist

Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel?
Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not every man? He delivered Daniel from the lion's den, Jonah from the belly of the whale, and the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace, and why not every man?

Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel? Deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel? Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not every man? The wind blows east and the wind blows west – it blows like the judgment day, and every poor soul that never did pray will be glad to pray that day.

Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel?
Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not every man? I set my foot on the Gospel ship, and the ship it begin to sail. It landed over me on Canaan's shore, and I'll never come back anymore.

Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel, deliver Daniel? Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not every man?

Prayer of Dedication

The Hebrew Scriptures Joshua 6:1-20 Mary Ellen Cook
(New Revised Standard Version Bible Translation)

¹ Now Jericho was shut up inside and out because of the Israelites; no one came out and no one went in. ² The LORD said to Joshua, 'See, I have handed Jericho over to you, along with its king and soldiers.

³ You shall march around the city, all the warriors circling the city once. Thus you shall do for six days, ⁴ with seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When they make a long blast with the ram's horn, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and all the people shall charge straight ahead.'

⁶ So Joshua son of Nun summoned the priests and said to them, 'Take up the ark of the covenant, and have seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark of the LORD.' ⁷ To the people he said, 'Go forward and march around the city; have the armed men pass on before the ark of the LORD.'

⁸ As Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward, blowing the trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the LORD following them. ⁹ And the armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets; the rearguard came after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually. ¹⁰ To the people Joshua gave this command: 'You shall not shout or let your voice be heard, nor shall you utter a word, until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall shout.' ¹¹ So the ark of the LORD went around the city, circling it once; and they came into the camp, and spent the night in the camp.

¹² Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD. ¹³ The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD passed on, blowing the trumpets continually.

The armed men went before them, and the rearguard came after the ark of the LORD, while the trumpets blew continually. ¹⁴ On the second day they marched around the city once and then returned to the camp. They did this for six days.

¹⁵ On the seventh day they rose early, at dawn, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times. ¹⁶ And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, ‘Shout! For the LORD has given you the city. ¹⁷ The city and all that is in it shall be devoted to the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall live, because she hid the messengers we sent.

¹⁸ As for you, keep away from the things devoted to destruction, so as not to covet and take any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel an object for destruction, bringing trouble upon it. ¹⁹ But all silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are sacred to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD.’ ²⁰ So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat; so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured it.

Message

Jeanne Westcott

Choir Anthem

“Awake, My Soul and Sing”
(based on Psalms 71 and 108)

Pote

Awake, my soul, and sing; arise and sing a psalm. For great are you, Lord, and great Your love; Your kindness is forever. You have been my hope, my confidence since my youth. I will proclaim Your marvelous deeds. I will ever sing praises. Even when I am growing old, do not forsake me, O God. I will declare Your strength and power to the next generation, to all who are to come.

Awake, my soul, and sing. Arise and sing a psalm. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, your glory over all the earth. You have been my rock, my fortress, and my shield. I will ever praise Your name, for you are my God.

Awake, my soul, and sing. Arise and sing a psalm. Great are You, Lord, and great Your love. You are my God! Awake, my soul, awake, my soul, and sing!

Closing Hymn

“Community of Christ”
(printed in bulletin)

Blessing

Closing Song

“May the Road Rise Up to Meet You”

Lau

May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. And until we meet again, may God hold you in His hand. Amen.

- **Rev. Mark is away until Tuesday, May 24.**
- Our Deacon this morning is Paul Gudonis.
- Our Greeter is Mary Ellen Cook.
- **Women's Fellowship Potluck Dinner, tomorrow night, Monday, May 23** at 6:00 PM in the Chapel Hall. Please bring your favorite dish ready to serve. All are welcome! Hope to see you there. Questions call Mary Ellen Cook at 978-500-0018.
- *Bible Study* will be held this **Thursday, May 26** at 4pm on Zoom
- *Prayer and Meditation* will take place this **Thursday, May 26** on Zoom at 7pm.
- Our current *Spiritual Exploration* unit continues:

“These Things”: *Considering Your Life Testament*

Tuesdays: May 24, 31; June 7 and 14 (additional weeks as needed)
7:00pm – 8:30pm on Zoom

Based on a spiritual exercise crafted by Jesuit priest and author Father Anthony de Mello, this unit will involve considering and sharing our responses and insights regarding a number of “*these things*” statements – for example: “*These things I have loved in life:*” and “*These experiences I have cherished:*” It promises to be a time of deep spiritual reflection, challenge, clarity and growth. After the first session, one or more “*these things*” prompts will be provided as “homework” in preparation for the following session.

Each session can be participated in on its own for those concerned about missing one or more evenings.

The homework prompts for the session on **Tuesday, May 24** are:

*“These Beliefs I Have Outgrown
“These Risks I Took...”*

Remember:

1. Write as many responses as you can.
 2. Avoid “self-editing”
 3. Let go of concerns over how “trivial” a response might be to you or others.
 4. Be as detailed as possible.
- Readers and Greeters are always needed, to volunteer speak to the Deacons, or you can also sign up [online](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49-diaconate).
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49-diaconate>
 - Listening devices are available for those in need; they are at the back of the Sanctuary. Feel free to address a Deacon should you need help.
 - Welcome to all who are new to our Worship time. To join our mailing list please fill out a “Welcome Card” to place in the collection plate or contact office.fpchurch@gmail.com, 978-526-7661 ext. 1.
 - You can contribute to the work of First Parish Church or pay your pledge @PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester

- Our FPCC Compassion child, Chepkirwok needs supporters for June, July and August, [sign up now](#), questions can be directed to Sue Parker, sueparker33@aol.com.
- [Click to read](#) The Church Bell Newsletter of First Parish Church Congregational for May 2022.
- Manchester Affordable Housing Trust Announces Emergency Rental Housing Payment Assistance - The Manchester Affordable Housing Trust (MAHT), in collaboration with Action, Inc., a Gloucester-based human and social services agency, is offering short-term rental housing payment assistance to income eligible Manchester residents in response to job and income loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consistent with its mission to support and promote community affordable housing, the MAHT is reaching out to income eligible residents who are experiencing housing rent payment issues.

The MAHT can and wants to help during this difficult and uncertain time. For further information please contact Action, Inc. at 978-282-1000 or live chat at **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid..**

- Stewardship – Though many of us do not use the pledge offering envelopes anymore, please look in the Narthex to see if your name is on a box. If you don't need them, please let Mary Ellen know.
- The Outreach and Service collection continues for The Open Door and Grace Center. Bring items to the Chapel or Church. There is a box outside by the Church Office at the Chapel:
 - Baking Mixes - Cake, Brownie, Cookie, Muffin, Pancake
 - Peanut Butter
 - Canned Tuna, Chicken, and Turkey
 - Healthy Snack Items
 - 100% Juice/Juice Boxes
 - Breakfast Cereal
 - Hearty Soups
 - Canned Vegetables and Fruits
 - Spaghetti Sauce

Macaroni and Cheese
Rice, Noodles, Pasta
Pet Food
Gift cards from local grocery markets

- **From the Open Door and the Outreach and Service Committee**

Volunteers needed Fridays

Fulfillment Center, 11-1pm

Fulfillment Center, 1-3pm

Pick-Up Assistant, 3-5pm

No Contact Deliveries, 3-5pm

Visit VolunteerHub to claim your spot now:

<http://foodpantry.volunteerhub.com/>

- **Announcing a new Outreach and Service opportunity!**

Each month the American Legion in Manchester collects items for *Operation Troop Support*, an organization that focuses efforts on helping our deployed troops as well as their loved ones back home.

The Service & Outreach committee has agreed to help by collecting requested items. Each month we will let you know what the items are and have a collection bin outside the Chapel Office door and in the Church for donations. This collection is in addition to the mission for The Grace Center and The Open Door (which is ongoing, see next page for those items) to give another opportunity to participate in hands on service and outreach.

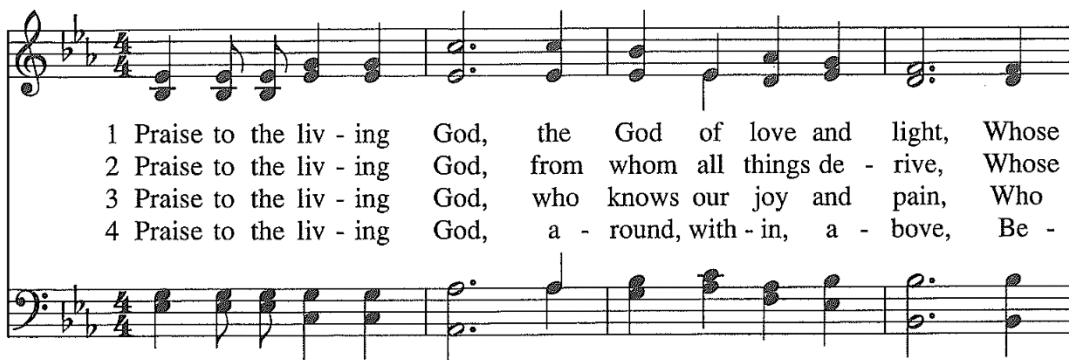
The troop items requested for May are sunscreen, foot powder and deodorant; for June they are powdered drink mixes (Gatorade, iced tea, lemonade).

Book Group will next meet on Monday, May 30 at 6:30 PM at Lauren Gudonis' home, 56 Masconomo St. Manchester. We will be discussing "Wish You Were Here" by Jodi Picoult.

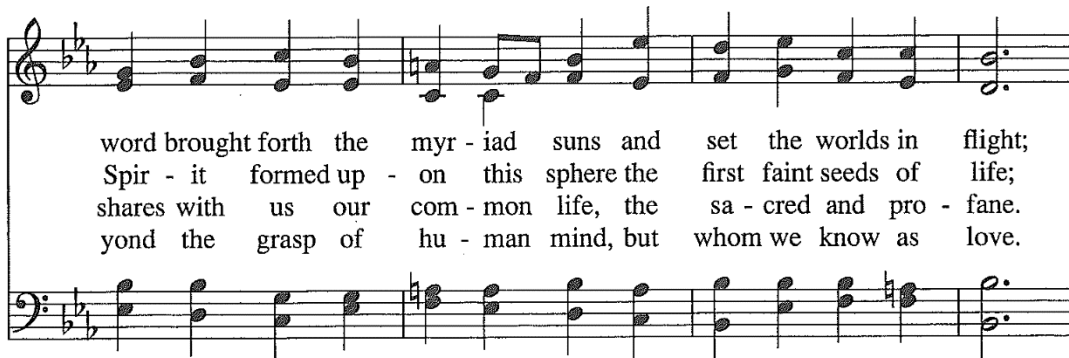
Praise to the Living God

Ps. 84:1-2

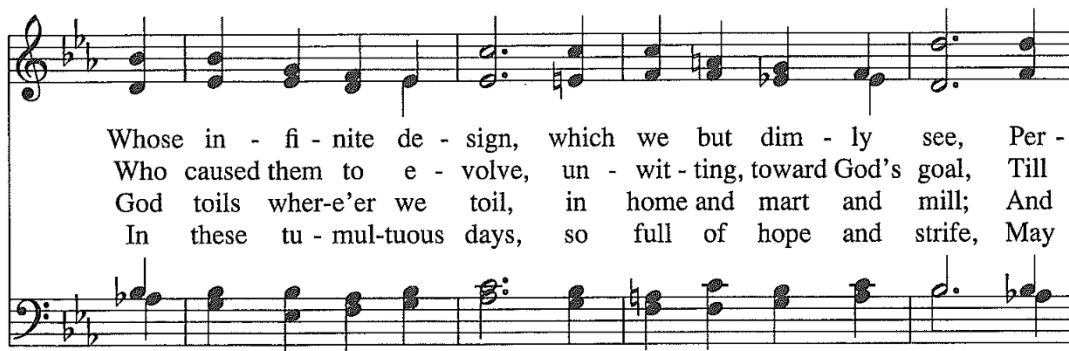
Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.



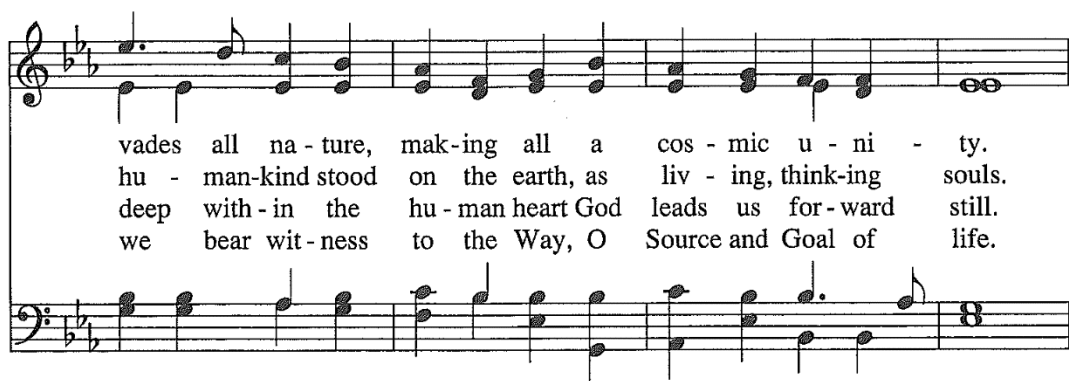
1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -



word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.



Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
God toils wher - e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
In these tu - mul - tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May



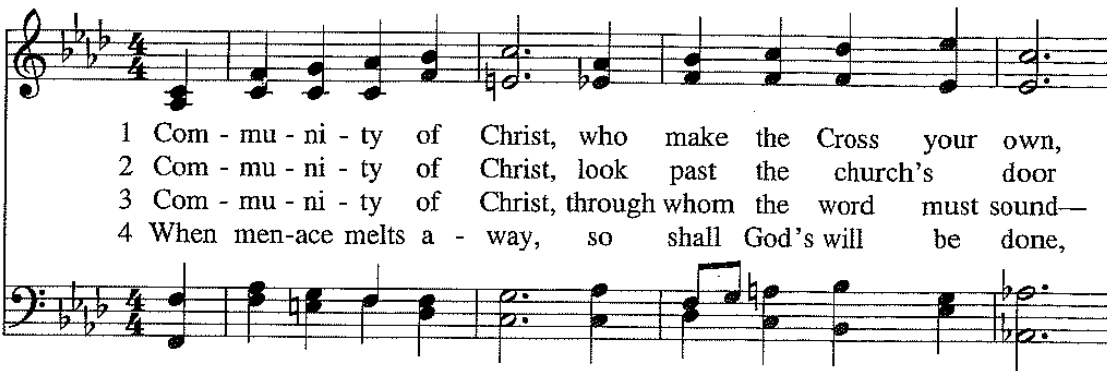
vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
hu - man-kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Curtis Beach, born into a family of several generations of ministers, was educated at Harvard University, the Boston University School of Theology, and the University of Southern California. A minister in the United Church of Christ, Beach authored *The Gospel of Mark: Its Making and Meaning*.

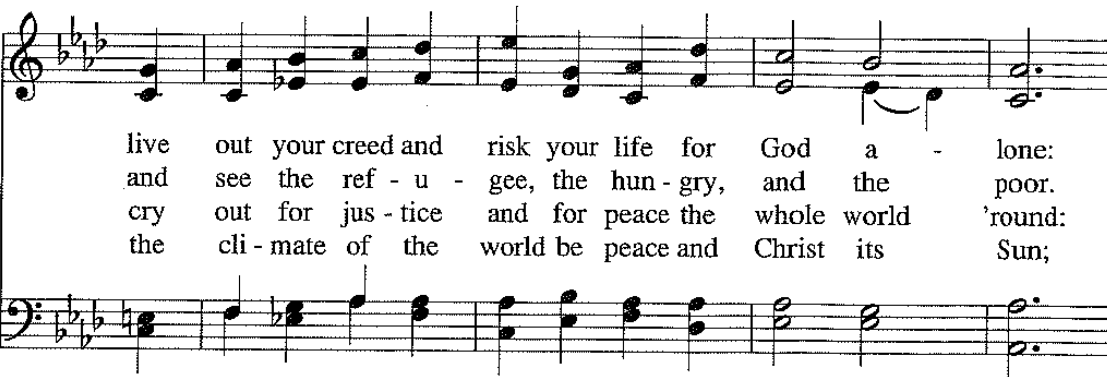
Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.
George J. Elvey, 1868

Community of Christ

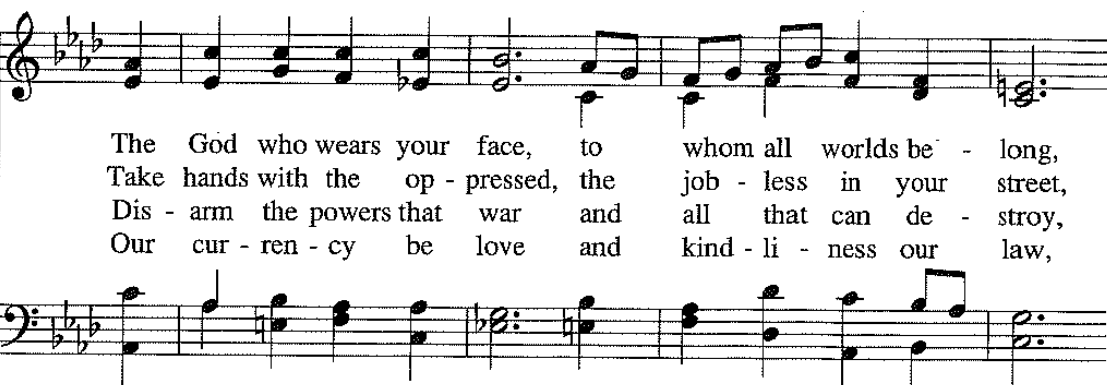
Shirley Erena Murray, 1985



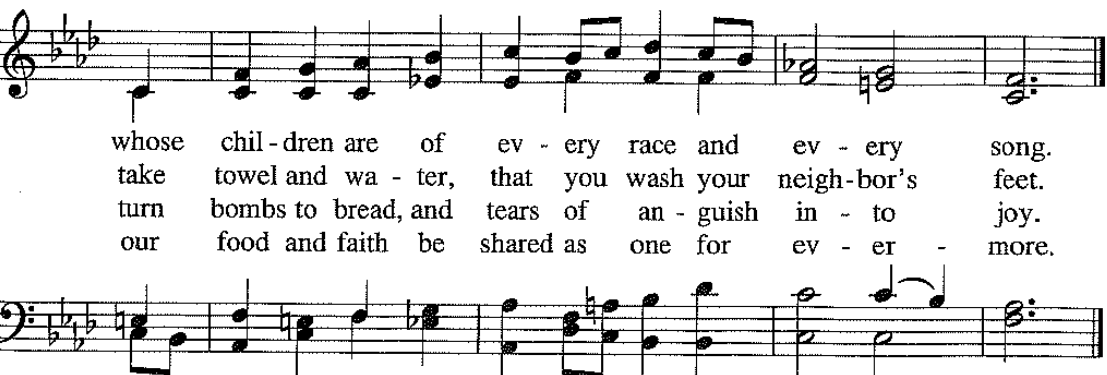
1 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who make the Cross your own,
2 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church's door
3 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—
4 When men-ace melts a - way, so shall God's will be done,



live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:
and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.
cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world 'round:
the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;



The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,
Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,
Dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,
Our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,



whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.
take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.
turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.
our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

Shirley Erena Murray has grown up within the Ecumenical Movement and addresses related themes such as Christian unity and social justice in her hymnody. This text was first sung at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand.

Tune: LEONI 6.6.8.4.D.
Traditional Hebrew melody
Adapt. Meyer Lyon, 1770