

**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*

**First Parish Church, Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
Worship Celebration  
Sunday, September 18, 2022  
10:00 am**

**Prelude** Prelude in D Flat (“Raindrop”) Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn** *“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”*

**Opening Prayer/Call to Worship**

**Leader:** We are not here because we have found God  
but because God has called us here.

**People:** **We come responding to that call  
as different people from different lives.  
Different people with different histories. We are all children  
of God.**

**Leader:** We have one teacher, Jesus, who is God's living Word to us.  
We have one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

**Choir Anthem** Harvest Song Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010)

Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise;  
With joyful hearts and voices Your alleluia raise!  
By Him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;  
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.  
By Him the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring, the hills leap  
up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing. He filleth with His fullness all  
things with large increase; He crowns the year with goodness, with plenty,  
and with peace. Bring to His sacred alter the gifts and goodness gave, the  
golden harvest, the souls He died to save. Your hearts lay down before  
Him when at His feet you fall, and with your lives adore Him, Who gave His  
life for all.

**Prayer Intentions**

**Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer with The Lord’s Prayer**

**Merciful God, we confess before you  
that though we say we believe, yet we have unbelief;  
though we vow to be faithful, yet we are unfaithful.**

**We are those who have heard your call to follow and serve.  
We acknowledge that our tendency is to look to our own  
interests,  
setting aside the interests and concerns of others.  
In subtle ways, we sometimes succumb to the appeal of fame,  
without regard to the needs of others.**

**Lord God, forgive our foot-dragging and help us  
to wholeheartedly take the plunge to be your faithful disciple.  
In the silence of our prayers, hear us as we seek your holy presence  
in our daily living ... (Silent 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 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.

### **Invitation to the Offering**

**Music Meditation** We Sing to Him – Henry Purcell (1659-1695)  
Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

We sing to Him, whose wisdom was formed the ear, our songs, let Him who gave us voices, hear. We joy in God, who is the spring of mirth, who loves the harmony of Heaven and Earth. Our humble sonnets shall that praise rehearse, Who is the music of the Universe. And whilst we sing, we consecrate our art, and offer up with ev'ry tongue a heart.

### **Prayer of Dedication (together)**

**For the wondrous gift of life, we are thankful, O God. Your generous outpouring of grace reminds us of the fruitful life we are called to bear. May these gifts of time and labour, therefore, embody our desire to share and contribute to your coming reign among us. Amen.**

### **Hebrew Scripture: Psalms 107:1-9 Nancy Peterson**

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

<sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble

<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,

from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

<sup>4</sup> Some wandered in desert wastes,  
finding no way to an inhabited town;

<sup>5</sup> hungry and thirsty,  
their soul fainted within them.

<sup>6</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress;

<sup>7</sup> he led them by a straight way,  
until they reached an inhabited town.

<sup>8</sup> Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.

<sup>9</sup> For he satisfies the thirsty,  
and the hungry he fills with good things.

### **Gospel Scripture: Luke 16:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" <sup>6</sup> He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." <sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup> 'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

## **Sermon “Street Smart and Faithful!” Rev. Dr. David VanArsdale**

**Choir Anthem** The Gift of Love arr. Hal H. Hopson  
Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.  
Come spirit come, our hearts control. Our spirits long to be made whole, O come, spirit, come let inward love guide every deed. By this we worship, and are freed. Amen

**Closing Hymn** “*There Is a Balm in Gilead*”

### **Blessing**

**Closing Song** The Peace of the Earth – words and music Guatemalan traditional

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heavens too; the peace of the rivers be with you, the peace of the oceans too. Deep peace falling over you; God’s peace growing in you.

- **Welcome our Preacher today Rev. Dr. David VanArsdale.**  
Dave retired in 2013 after 41 years in ministry, which started with Ordination in Edwards U.C.C. in Framingham and concluded as Pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church in Sun City, AZ. Ellen and Dave have become a part of the South Church (U.C.C.) in Andover since moving six years ago from Arizona to the Edgewood Retirement Community in North Andover. Dave is also serving as the Chair of the Council on Aging for North Andover.
- Our Deacon this morning is Sue Parker.
- **We invite everyone to join us for “Coffee Hour Fellowship” immediately following Worship!**
- 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.

- **First Parish Staff**

Dr. Herman Weiss, Director of Music

[hweiss05@comcast.net](mailto:hweiss05@comcast.net)

Jeanne Westcott, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry

[jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com)

Nancy Klebart, Office Manager

[office.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:office.fpchurch@gmail.com)

978-526-7661 ext. 1

- **Jazz Sunday is back on October 2nd**

Once again we'll raise the roof in the Sanctuary, worshipping through jazz and gospel music. Featuring the First Parish Choir and soloist Rebecca Shrimpton, with favorite guest musicians Brian Price (tenor sax), Carolyn Wilkins (piano), Tom Palance (trumpet), Russell Lane (drums), and more. Come raise a joyful voice with us!

- 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>

- 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](mailto: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 2023, [sign up now](#), questions can be directed to Sue Parker, [sueparker33@aol.com](mailto:sueparker33@aol.com).

- [Click to read](#) The Church Bell Newsletter of First Parish Church Congregational.

- **Use the links below to learn more about First Parish Church online**

[Facebook](#) [www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/](http://www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/)

[Instagram](#) [www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/](http://www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/)

[Website](#) [www.firstparishchurch.org/](http://www.firstparishchurch.org/)

[YouTube Worship Services](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUvfURhmsH8lfE13FLaRtWcw-pOTC9T2h>

- **The Seaside Parish Knitters meets each 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Chapel, from 1-5 pm.** We welcome anyone to stop by anytime during that time and join in.

Over the years we have enjoyed our time knitting and crocheting items for baptismal events at the church, shawls and blankets for friends at home, scarves, neck gators, and helmet liners for our veterans in combat, and mittens and hats for Cape Ann children. We are always looking for knitting needles and yarn that you might be considering “casting” aside, especially wool. Contact Penny Lapham at 978-526-7128.

- **Thursday- Bible Study** sessions are changing during the pre-interim period. The group will continue their lively discussions each Thursday afternoons, 4 PM, on Zoom using The Daily Word as a resource. For more information or to join in contact Paul Lengieza at 978-526-4765, [lengiezap@hotmail.com](mailto:lengiezap@hotmail.com) or contact the FPC office at 978-526-7661.

- **Fall Youth and Children’s Ministry News**

**The School Supplies Drive** continues through October 9 with a *Blessing of the Supplies*. This benefits Beeman in Gloucester. There will be a bin to collect assorted school supplies outside of the Chapel Hall.

**Needed:**

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Backpacks                  | Number 2 Pencils            |
| Sharpeners                 | Washable Markers            |
| Composition Books          | School Glue                 |
| Two Pocket Folders         | Ballpoint Pens              |
| Colored Pencils            | Pencil Cases                |
| Colored Construction Paper | Thin Dry Erase and Sharpies |

**Today Sunday, September 18:** The second Sunday School open house, 3-5 PM. Including tours, snacks, a mission opportunity for younger kids (Fall cards for Seniors), and the opportunity to register for Sunday School.

**Sunday, September 25:** A registration event with games, snacks, registration, and an opportunity to add to the school supplies drive. This will take place after worship from 11:15 AM - 1 PM.

**Sunday, October 2:** Sunday School begins with a Family Sunday, every Communion Sunday the children remain for the worship service.

**Sunday, October 9:** Sunday School classes begin.

**Saturday, October 8:** CE will host a *Hoops for School Supplies* event. More details on this and Youth Fellowship registration will be coming in the October newsletter. Two monthly meetings-a dinner included discussion topic meeting, games, group mission hands on project and the 2nd a special event - movie, paint night, escape room, trampoline park, ropes day, etc.

- The Visiting Nurses Association offers a **VNA health clinic the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month**, 10:00 - noon at the Chapel building. Services offered include: health assessments, blood pressure screenings, 812 administration, pulse, heart and lung monitoring, blood sugar screenings for diabetics, medication and diet consults.
- **Manchester Seniors - Drop in for Coffee and Conversation**  
Starting September 12<sup>th</sup> and continuing every Monday 10 AM-12:30 PM (except holidays) at the First Parish Chapel Hall located behind Santander Bank. Hospitality provided by *The Friends of The Manchester Council on Aging*. Come sit down and talk!
- **Book Group News** - Did you know we have a book group at First Parish? It is open to anyone and meets on the last Monday of the month. This is a time for church members as well as non-church friends to come together and engage with one another, build relationships, and share in a discussion of books that are of interest to people of various backgrounds. We have fun visiting, conversing about the book and sharing stories and would love to have you join us!

We are next meeting **September 26, 6:30 PM** at Meredith Tuff's home, 3 Woodholm Circle, Manchester. Please call Meredith at 978-500-5439 to RSVP if you are attending.

We will discuss ***"The Remarkably Bright Creatures"*** by **Shelby Van Pelt**. If you haven't seen the video *"The Octopus Teacher"* on TV this would complement the book.

The October gathering will be on **October 24th** (not the 31st which is Halloween), at Mary Lumsden's home, 18 Woodcrest Rd. Manchester. We will discuss ***"The Alice Network"*** by **Kate Quinn**. RSVP to Mary at 978-712-0047.

For questions about Book Group call Mary Ellen Cook 978-500-0018 or the FPC office at 978-526-7661 ext. 1.



- **The Outreach and Service collection continues for The Open Door, The Grace Center and Operation Troop Support-**

Drop at the Church before Worship or at the Chapel.

### **The Open Door and The Grace Center items needed –**

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  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Macaroni and Cheese  
Rice, Noodles, Pasta  
Canned Vegetables and Fruits  
Pet Food

Gift Cards from local grocery markets (Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Market Basket, etc.) so they can purchase butter, cream and other perishables

### **Troop items for September –**

Instant Breakfast    Cereal & Oatmeal    Soup

- **Our New Online Prayer Wall - Give it a try!**

Request prayers and pray for others through the Prayer Wall on our website.

A few of us have given it a "test drive," and we've found it to be a spiritually deepening and enlivening addition to our lives.

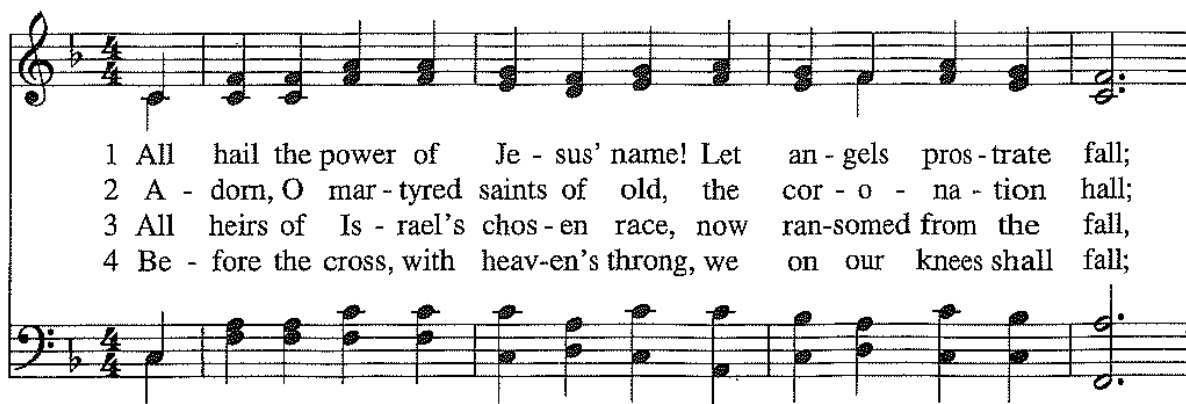
We feel more connected to the Joys and Concerns of our congregation, and don't have to wait until the Sunday service to hear what's on each other's hearts. And we've been touched to receive notifications every time someone prays for us. Please, give it a try! [www.firstparishchurch.org](http://www.firstparishchurch.org)

# All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

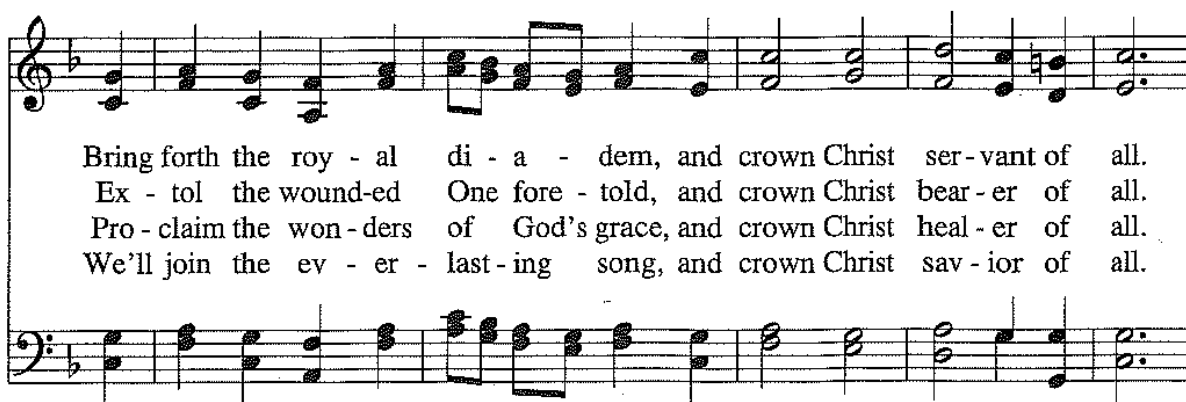
St. 1-3, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780; alt.

Rev. 19; 5:9; Phil. 2:9-11

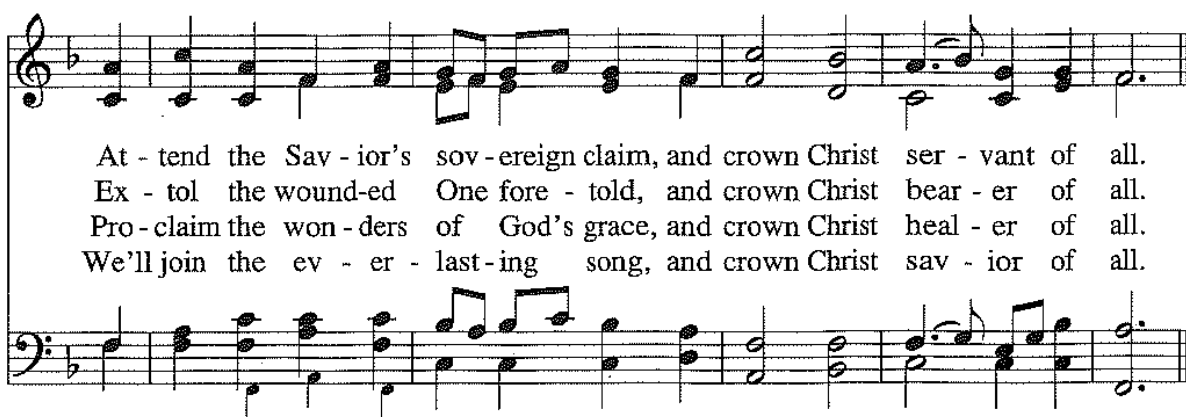
St. 4, John Rippon, 1787; alt.



1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
2 A - dorn, O mar - tyred saints of old, the cor - o - na - tion hall;  
3 All heirs of Is - rael's chos - en race, now ran - somed from the fall,  
4 Be - fore the cross, with heav - en's throng, we on our knees shall fall;



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown Christ ser - vant of all.  
Ex - tol the wound - ed One fore - told, and crown Christ bear - er of all.  
Pro - claim the won - ders of God's grace, and crown Christ heal - er of all.  
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown Christ sav - ior of all.



At - tend the Sav - ior's sov - ereign claim, and crown Christ ser - vant of all.  
Ex - tol the wound - ed One fore - told, and crown Christ bear - er of all.  
Pro - claim the won - ders of God's grace, and crown Christ heal - er of all.  
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown Christ sav - ior of all.

*Edward Perronet, long a worker for English Methodism, later became a Congregational minister near Canterbury. John Rippon, an English Baptist minister, wrote more than 1,000 hymns. The tune is by Oliver Holden, an early American carpenter, legislator, musician, and hymnal editor.*

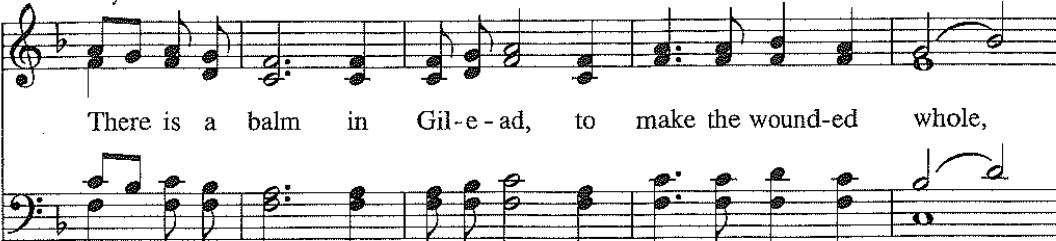
Tune: CORONATION C.M.  
Oliver Holden, 1793

# There Is a Balm in Gilead

Jer. 8:18-22; 46:11; Acts 10:34-43

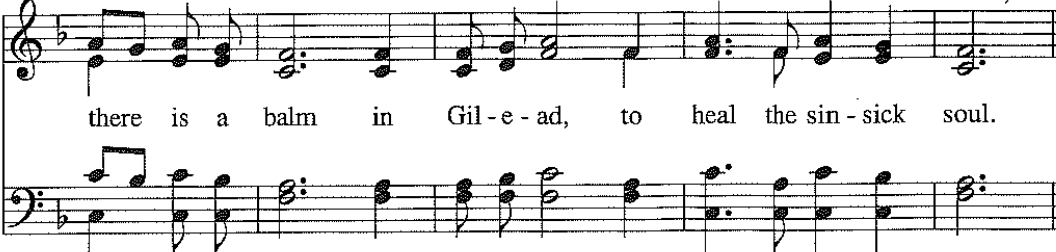
African-American spiritual; alt.

*Refrain*

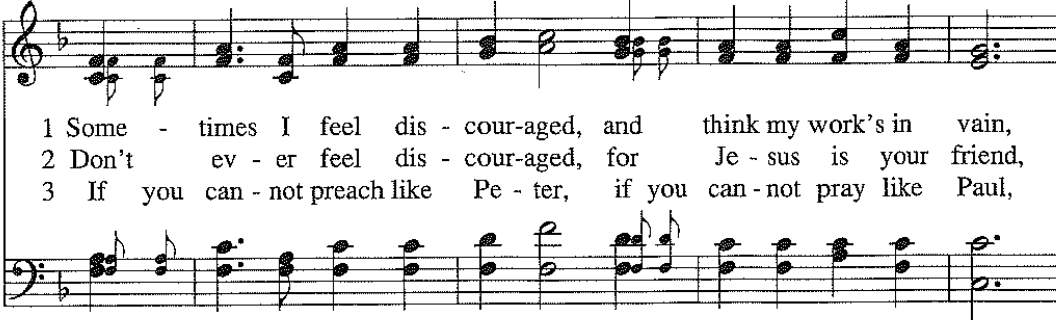


There is a balm in Gil-e-ad, to make the wound-ed whole,

*Last time, end*

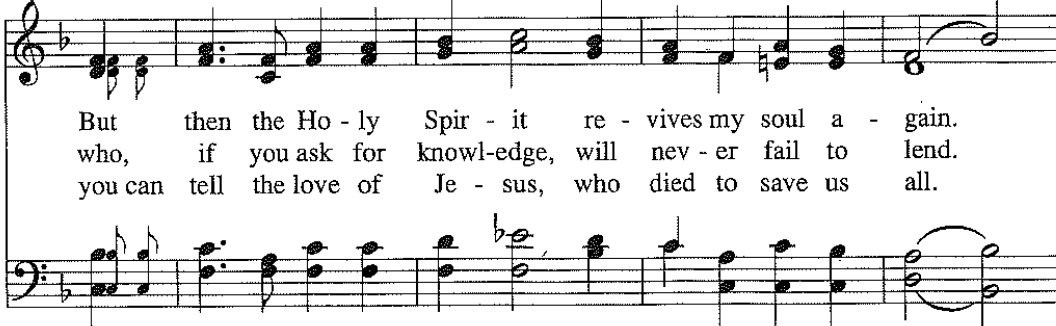


there is a balm in Gil-e-ad, to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged, and think my work's in vain,  
2 Don't ev - er feel dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend,  
3 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,

*to Refrain*



But then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.  
who, if you ask for knowl-edge, will nev - er fail to lend.  
you can tell the love of Je - sus, who died to save us all.

*This is one of the most moving of the African-American spirituals because it illustrates the way in which the enslaved tried to encourage those who were feeling especially weighed down by the burden of their captivity.*

Tune: BALM IN GILEAD Irr. with refrain  
African-American spiritual

- **Upcoming Guest Worship Leaders**

Through our pre-interim period we will have the following worship leaders filling our pulpit-

Today, September 18, Rev. Dave VanArsdale

September 25, Rev. Brian Frederick-Gray

October 2, Rev. Teri Motley

October 9, Jasmine Buchanan, Minister in Discernment

October 16, Rev. Judy Brain

October 23, Gene D'Angelo

October 30, Rev. Jared Hamilton

November 6, Rev. Teri Motley

November 13, Rev. Judy Brain

November 20, Outreach & Service Committee

November 27, Rev. Dr. Llewelyn Smith

December 4, Rev. Dr. Llewelyn Smith

December 11, Rev. Dr. Llewelyn Smith

December 18, Rev. Dr. Llewelyn Smith

December 24, 5 PM Jeanne Westcott, FPC Director of Youth and  
Children's Ministry

December 24, 7 PM Rev. Dr. Llewelyn Smith

December 25, Rev. Dr. Llewelyn Smith