

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, August 16, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
Teacher Appreciation Sunday

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" (ELLACOMBE, arr. Hal Leonard) - DeeAnn

Opening Sentences - Jerry

Hymn 45: "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Jerry

Special Music (see insert): "The Prayer" (Carole Bayer Sager and David Foster) - Barb

Teacher Appreciation (see insert) - Pastor Mark/Pastor Nate

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Mark

Doxology (Hymn 563) - DeeAnn et al.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors) - Pastor Mark

Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:21-28 - Lorraine

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Sermon: "THE ALL TOO HUMAN JESUS" - Pastor Mark

Hymn 88: "Canticle of the Turning" - DeeAnn et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 576: "May the Lord Bless You" - DeeAnn et al.

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever; grant you peace, perfect peace, courage for ev'ry endeavor. Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barbara and Jerry Fuller, Pastor Nate Jones, Lorraine Finison

The Prayer

by Carole Bayer Sager and David Foster

I pray you'll be our eyes, and watch us where we go, and help us to be wise in times when we don't know. Let this be our prayer, when we lose our way. Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace to a place where we'll be safe.

I pray we'll find your light, and hold it in our hearts when stars go out each night, eternal light will shine. Let this be our prayer, when shadows fill our day. Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace. Give us faith so we'll be safe.

We're dreaming of a world that has no violence; a world without injustice, war and hunger. Where neighbors give a helping hand to strangers as a sign of friendship, brotherhood and love.

We ask that life be kind, and watch us from above. We hope each soul will find another soul to love. Let this be our prayer, just like every child, need to find a place, guide us with your grace. Give us faith so we'll be safe.

And now with this faith which is in our hearts, we can feel that we'll be safe.

A LITURGY OF BLESSING AND PRAYER FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Leader: God of all wisdom, we celebrate the beginning of a new school year and ask for your blessing upon the students, educators, and all the families and communities who support them. From the beginning you planted us in the shadow of your knowledge. You gave us a desire to seek wisdom and to find truth. You demonstrated dazzling creativity. You immersed us in wonder. You stimulated us with curiosity. You unleashed our imagination. You came as a child to show us how to be fully human and how to be children of God. You taught us to love.

People: **With gratitude and love, we offer everything we are to you. Thank you for the gift of education.**

Leader: Bless the students. Bless curious young minds that grow and develop in unique ways and at unique speeds—we are astounded by that miracle. Guide their choices, their quest for knowledge, and their relationships. Strengthen them with resilience and self-esteem. Let them enjoy friendship and compassion and dignity. Use their successes and failures as opportunities to grow in understanding of who you are and who you would have them to be. Continue shaping them in the way of Christ, with the Spirit's love for all people, and in the complete joy of life in you.

People: **May students of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds grow in knowledge and wisdom, and learn to follow you.**

Leader: Bless the educators—teachers, staff, and administrators. Grant these faithful servants an abundance of your wisdom. Give them grace in their encounters. Bless them with patience and compassion. Strengthen them with courage when they face challenges. Remind them that we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the gifts they share with our children.

People: **May educators past and present see how their dedication forever impacts generations.**

Leader: Bless the classrooms. Foster creativity and wonder. Give to all students, teachers, and caregivers a clear sense of your love. May they feel your presence throughout the school year.

People: **May you keep our classrooms safe, free from harm, and protected by your presence.**

Leader: We do not forget that there are children and families and teachers who do not have all the resources they need. Remind them that you see, that you remember, and that you provide.

People: **May we be your blessing in the world. Use the gifts of our congregation to help meet needs and demonstrate your providence.**

Leader: Teacher, thank you for the wisdom of your son, Christ Jesus, who reminds us we are all your children. We are all on a lifelong journey learning to be more like him.

All: **Amen.**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

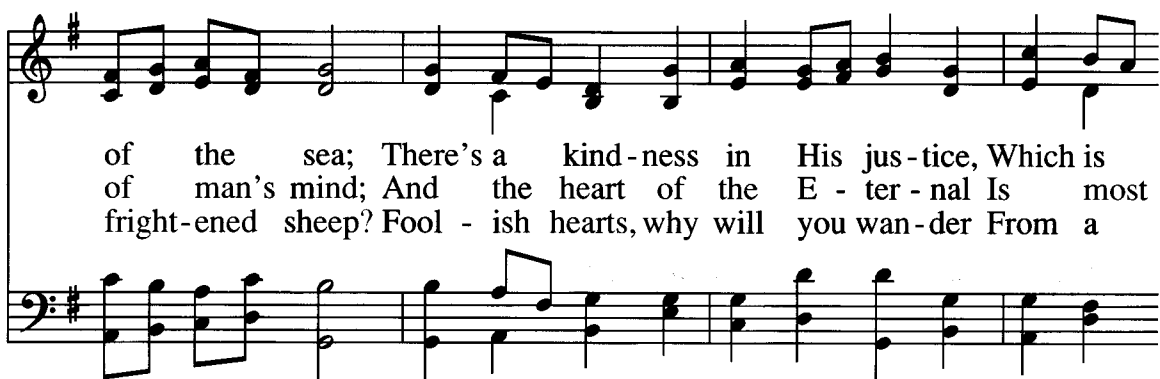
Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863

Traditional Dutch Melody

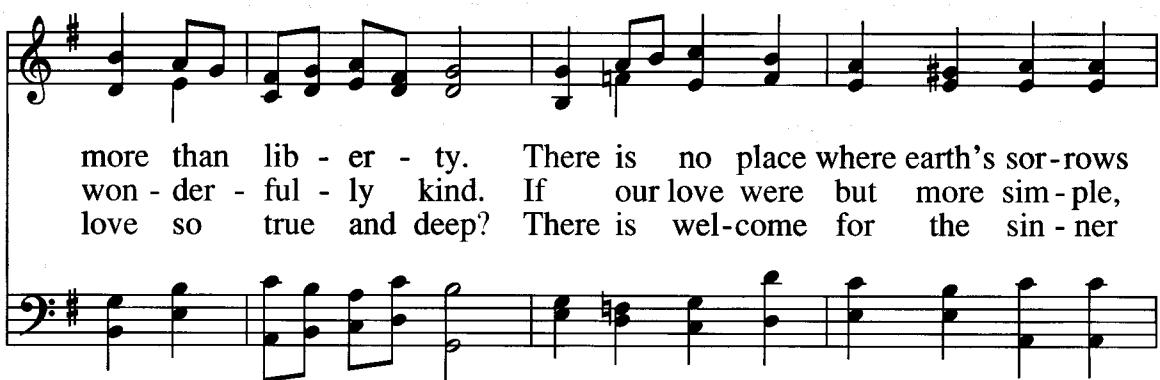
Arr. by Julius Röntgen, 1855-1933



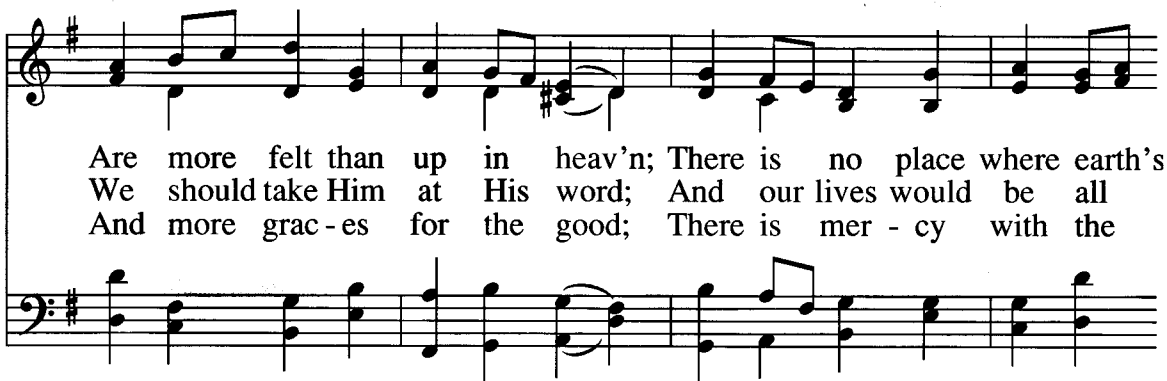
1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, Like the wide-ness
 2. For the love of God is broad-er Than the meas-ure
 3. Trou-bled souls, why will you scat-ter Like a crowd of



of the sea; There's a kind-ness in His jus-tice, Which is
 of man's mind; And the heart of the E-ter-nal Is most
 fright-ened sheep? Fool-ish hearts, why will you wan-der From a



more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's sor-rows
 won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more sim-ple,
 love so true and deep? There is wel-come for the sin-ner



Are more felt than up in heav'n; There is no place where earth's
 We should take Him at His word; And our lives would be all
 And more grac-es for the good; There is mer-cy with the

"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God(s)" or "You(r)."

Second verse: "Than the measure of our minds"

IN BABILONE

8.7.8.7 D

THE TRIUNE GOD



fail - ings Have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
sun - shine In the sweet - ness of our Lord.
Sav - ior, There is heal - ing in His blood. A - men.

THE TRIUNE GOD

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Canticle of the Turning

Luke 1:46-58
Rory Cooney, 1952-

Irish Traditional
Arr. by Rory Cooney, 1952-

Verses Unison

1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, You
3. From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -

God of my heart is great, And my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, And Your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for Your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -

won - drous things that You bring to the ones who wait. You
depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his throne. The
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp. This

fixed Your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the

THE TRIUNE GOD

Em C D Em

weak-ness You did not spurn, So from east to west shall my
those who would for You yearn, You will show Your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, 'Til the spear and rod can be

G D Em C Em

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain G D

My heart shall sing of the day You bring. Let the

Em C D Em

fires of Your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

C D Em C Em

dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn!

May the Lord Bless You

Jim Beinke

Jim Beinke

Unison

May the Lord, might - y God, bless and

This system features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "May the Lord, might - y God, bless and".

keep you for - ev - er; Grant you peace,

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "keep you for - ev - er; Grant you peace,".

per - fect peace, cour - age for ev - 'ry en - deav - or.

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "per - fect peace, cour - age for ev - 'ry en - deav - or.".

Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His".

grace for - ev - er. May the Lord,

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "grace for - ev - er. May the Lord,".

might - y God, bless and keep you for - ev - er.

This system concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "might - y God, bless and keep you for - ev - er.".