

**A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.**

UNISON PRAYER

Heidi Wilderman

O God, only you are truly good. We try to love our neighbors, but find some are hard to love. We try to forgive, but hold tight to our anger. We try to follow you, but find ourselves wandering away. Forgive us, we pray. Gather us like straying sheep. May we be yours once again. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Ancient Words*

**Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart. *(Repeat)***

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SCRIPTURE READING *Deuteronomy 31:1-8* Heidi Wilderman

¹ When Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel, ² he said to them: “I am now one hundred twenty years old. I am no longer able to get about, and the Lord has told me, ‘You shall not cross over this Jordan.’ ³ The Lord your God himself will cross over before you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua also will cross over before you, as the Lord promised. ⁴ The Lord will do to them as he did to Sihon [SIGH-hawn] and Og [AHG], the kings of the Amorites [AM-uh-rites], and to their land, when he destroyed them. ⁵ The Lord will give them over to you and you shall deal with them in full accord with the command that I have given to you. ⁶ Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.”

7 Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel: “Be strong and bold, for you are the one who will go with this people into the land that the Lord has sworn to their ancestors to give them; and you will put them in possession of it. 8 It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.”

NRSV

THE MESSAGE

“Moving Targets”

Rev. Kirby

MUSICAL OFFERING

Human Nature Michael Jackson
Chappell Kingsland, (arr. Kingsland)
Piano

DOXOLOGY NCH #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that Love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Kirby

THE 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE Hear Our Prayer, O God

NCH #769

**Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;
incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN *In the Midst of New Dimensions* NCH 391

**In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate
ways?**

Refrain:

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever,
Now and ever, now and evermore.**

**Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and
despair,
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of
care? (*Refrain*)**

**As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams.
(*Refrain*)**

**We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young,
Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung.
(*Refrain*)**

**Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in
pain,
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.
(*Refrain*)**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Kirby

Leader: May the Peace of God go with you.

People: And also with you. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

NCH 393

**Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
Yes, we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again!**

Postlude

Human Nature Reprise Chappell Kingsland,
Piano