Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

November 22nd , 2026 – Reign of Christ
Thanksgiving Sunday



Centering Words

(1 Thessalonians 5)
Live with Christ. Look for Christ. Listen for Christ,
and expect Christ's arrival to come in unexpected ways.



www.betheluccontario.org
536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762
In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 9:55am
Facebook, YouTube, Twitch, Twitter
Also available On Demand on Vimeo, Roku and Amazon Fire TV

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.
Quienquiera que seas y dondequiera que estés en el camino de la vida,
eres bienvenido aquí.

Bethel Congregational Church, UCC

Sunday – November 22, 2026

Prelude Music for Gathering

Responsive Call to Worship *(Psalm 100, Matthew 25)*

ONE: Enter God's gates with gladness,
MANY: and God's courts with praise.
ONE: Rejoice as God's people,
MANY: and rest as sheep in God's pasture.
ONE: Serve God with joyful hearts,
MANY: worship God with justice and mercy.

Unison Opening Prayer *(Ezekiel 34, Ephesians 1, Matthew 25)*

Glorious God, enlighten our eyes
to our hope in Christ.
Help us claim the richness of our glorious inheritance
in Christ, our shepherd.
Reveal to us your ways,
and guide us on right paths,
that we might bring the light of your love
to a world shrouded in shadow.
Bless this church with unity and strength,
that we may be Christ for the world.
For our shepherd rescues the perishing
and reclaims the lost and scattered
through those who follow as his sheep. Amen.

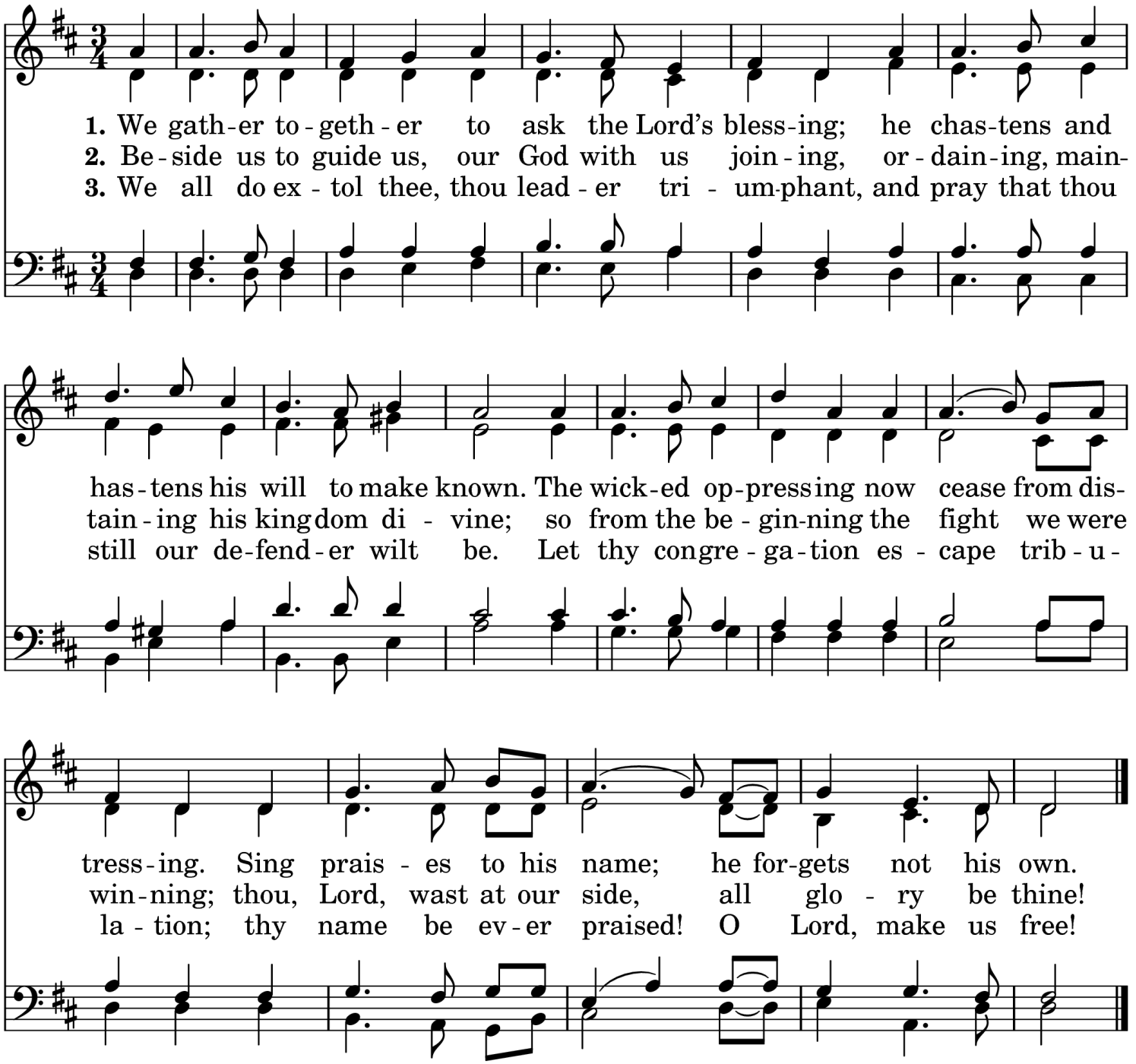
Gathering Hymn ***We Gather Together***

1. We gather together
to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens
his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing
now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name;
he forgets not his own.

2. Beside us to guide us,
our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining
his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning
the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side,
all glory be thine!

3. We all do extol thee,
thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still
our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation
escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised!
O Lord, make us free!

We Gather Together



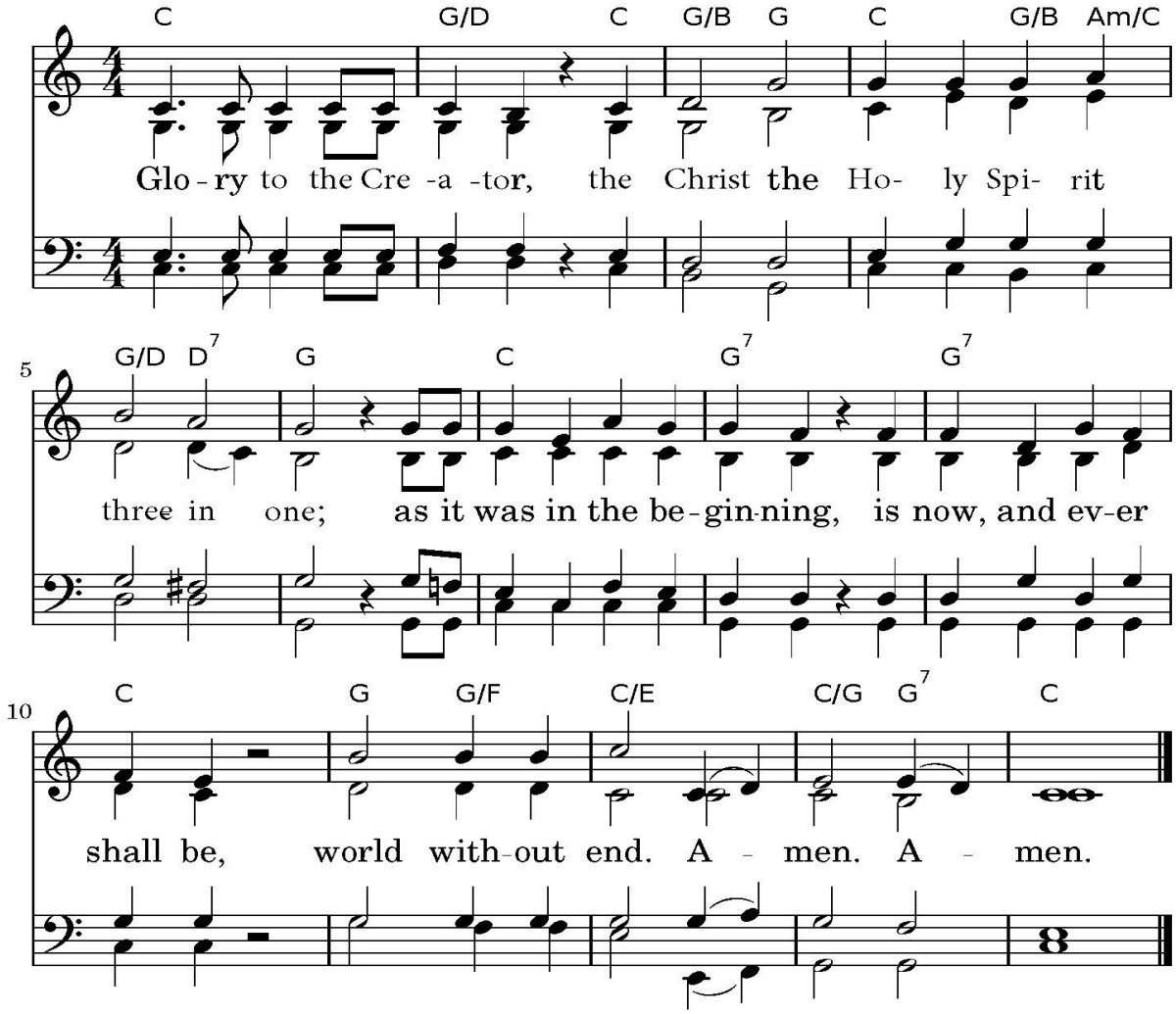
Welcome, Passing the Peace – Announcements

- **Sundays –** Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am)
- **Sundays 9:15am – Pop-Up Choir practice!**
- **Thursdays 10am -** Qi-Gong/Tai Chi
- **Fridays – Southland Wind Ensemble Rehearsal – eve**
- **Concerts coming up:**
  - **MESSIAH – Sunday Dec 6 at 4pm at Bethel;**
  - **Sunday Jan 3rd – Opera – The Mikado 4pm.**

Children's Time **Jesus Walks on Water** **Kids' Video**

*** Gloria**

Glory to the Creator,
The Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be
World without end, Amen, Amen.



Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 **Donna Saxton**

For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.

I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.

I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.

Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd.

And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Psalm 95:1-7a

O come, let us sing to God;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

For God is a great God, and a great Ruler above all gods.

In God's hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are also God's.

The sea is God's, for God made it,
and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before God, our Maker!

For God is our God, and we are the people
of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

Matthew 25:31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sermon ***Shepherds and Kings*** Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann

Prayer of Yearning (Unison) *(Matthew 25)*

God of glory, we long to see your glory
in the world around us.
We yearn for the courage to meet another's eyes
when we find them in need.
We seek to be found faithful
when we hear others cry out in distress.
Heal our sight when we fail to see you
in our everyday lives.
Give us the vision to see others with compassion,
that we might be your loving presence
in the world. Amen.

Words Assurance *(Ephesians 1)*

There is immeasurable greatness in the power of God
for those who believe.
There is unquenchable fire in the hearts of believers
for those who have tasted God's hope.
In the name of Christ Jesus,
we are offered fullness of life.

Prayers of the People (Joys and Concerns to share)

Silent Prayers

The Lord's Prayer *(Unison)*

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 and ever.
Amen

Offering

Invitation to Generosity

Please remember to send your offerings in so that we can continue our ministries.

(If you want a portion of your offering to be designated as something specific, just write that in the message area.) If you forget to write a note with the offering – just email us (info@BethelUCCOntario.org) *or message us through Facebook.*

Giving Options: **In person –***We are not yet "passing the plate". You may leave your offering in one of the offering plates (front of the sanctuary, or usher's table in the rear).*

Give online at www.betheluccontario.org,
To use a credit or debit card, use the yellow "Donate" button (processed by PayPal – no PP account required), or green Tithe.ly button (Processed by Tithe.ly)

Donate

Give via Tithe.ly

Use **ZELLE** (through your bank website or via the stand alone app) to transfer your offering to us directly from your bank. When you use Zelle, we are "Bethel Congregational Church" Our verified Zelle email is info@betheluccontario.org

MAIL - Just mail your check to Bethel Congregational Church 536 N Euclid Ave, Ontario CA 91762.

QR Code – Scan the code to send your offering to us through PayPal

PayPal Scan. Pay. Go.

Blessing of the Gifts *(Unison)(Matthew 25)*

Gentle Shepherd, may the gifts we bring this day:

be nourishment for a hungry world,

clothing and shelter for those in need,

and compassion for those who are hurting.

Bless these offerings,

that they may help those in need.

With gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Singing into Mission** ***Come O Thankful People Come **NCH 422**

1 Come, O thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in
as the winter storms begin;
God our Maker doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

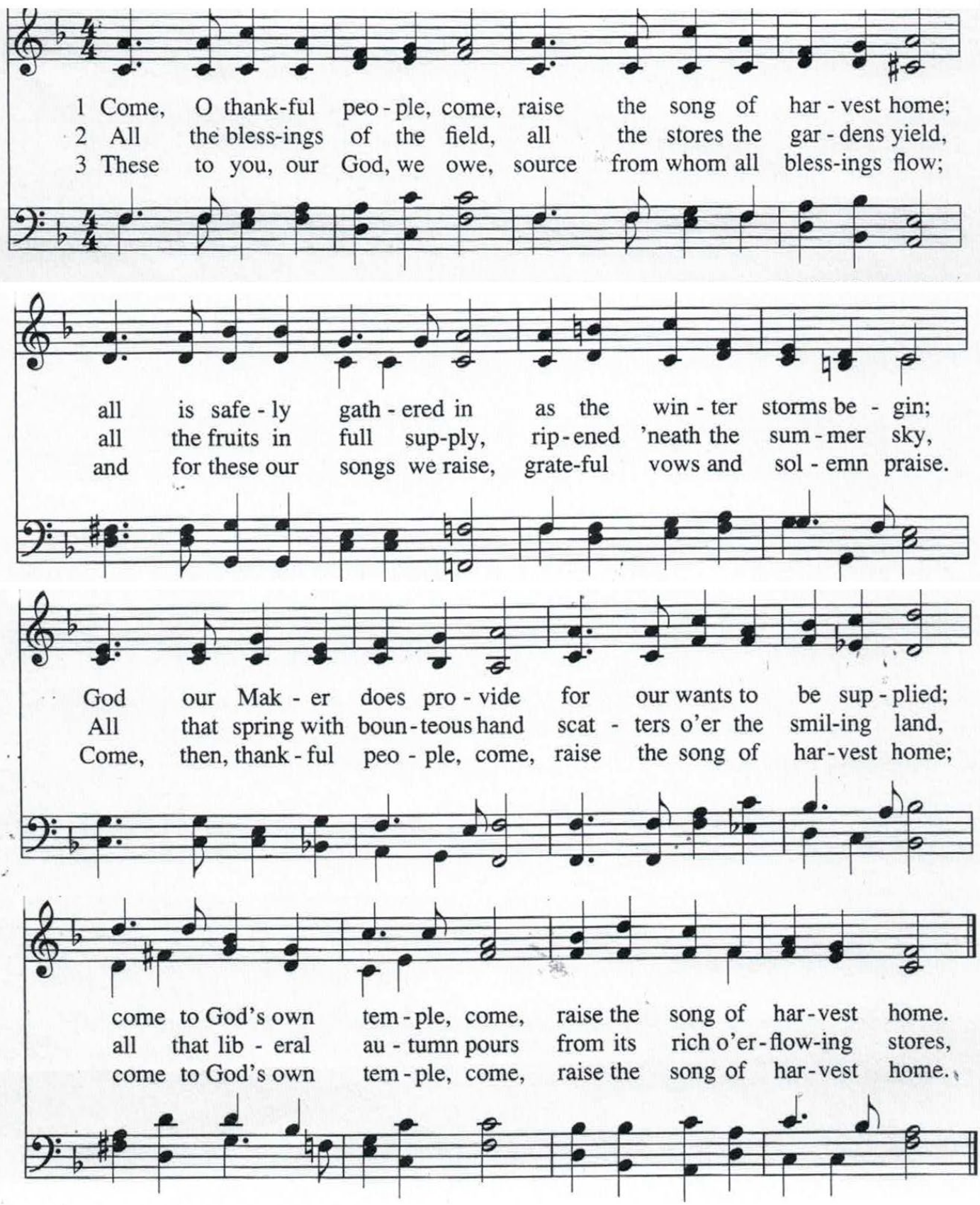
2 All the blessings of the field,
all the stores the gardens yield,
all the fruits in full supply
ripened 'neath the summer sky,
All that spring with bounteous hand
scatters o'er the smiling land,
all that liberal autumn pours
from its rich o'erflowing stores.

3 These to you, our God, we owe,
source from whom all blessing flow;
and for these our songs we raise,
grateful vows and solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

422 Come, O Thankful People, Come

Exod. 23:16

St. 1, Henry Alford, 1844; alt.
St. 2, Anna Laetitia Aiken Barbauld, 1772; alt.
St. 3, composite of Alford and Barbauld; alt.



Unison Benediction

Seek the lost and heal the injured.
We will encourage the fainthearted
and strengthen the weak.
Seek justice and love mercy.
We will share God's justice
and offer Christ's grace.
Go with God.

Postlude Carillon



Bethel Congregational Church, UCC
526 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762
www.betheluccontario.org
info@betheluccontario.org
(909) 984-9111

Rev. Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann
Pastor & Minister of Music
drmann@betheluccontario.org
(626) 393-5507

Live Stream Worship Sundays at 10 am on Facebook, YouTube, Twitch

*All music licensed and used by permission-(CCLI, One License, Artist Permission, PD)

God sends us to serve, but God does not send us alone.
The Spirit is with us in the world, guiding our steps and protecting our paths.
Christ yearns for us to be one in ministry and service,
and one in community and faith—a unity that we discover
through the Spirit's miraculous power in our lives.
Sent to serve, we are sent not only with the power of the Spirit,
but also with the power of unity with one another.
Embracing this unity with both the Holy Spirit and one another
opens a path to the "complete joy" that Christ prays we may one day know.

www.betheluccontario.org