

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
Zion United Church of Christ**

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551  
*St. Paul's UCC:* 610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org  
*Zion UCC:* 610-659-2775 -- mestme@aol.com -- www.1Zion.org

*No matter who you are,  
or where you are on life's journey,  
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our Combined  
10:15am Worship Service  
In-Person & Streaming Online*



**Sunday, March 13, 2022  
Second Sunday in Lent**

# Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,  
and may you receive strength and guidance today  
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*

## **Children's Bulletins**

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.  
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

## **Biblias en Español**

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.  
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table.*)

## **Nursery**

Persons of all ages (including children) are very welcome to participate in the entire worship service. Due to the COVID pandemic, for the safety of children, we are currently not offering a nursery during worship. Normally, we have supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor.

## **Junior Worship**

For the safety of children, we are not offering Junior Worship during the pandemic. Normally, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs, on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, following the children's sermon, for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons.

## **Restrooms**

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

## **Changing Tables**

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

## **Water Fountains**

For the safety of all, our water fountains are disabled during the pandemic.

## **Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes**

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

## **Sunday Worship**

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

## **Prayer and Care**

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

## **Looking for a Church to Call Home**

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider St. Paul's or Zion United Church of Christ. For more information about St. Paul's, Zion, and the UCC, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our churches.

## **More Information...**

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: \* = if able please stand; ♯ = Red Hymnal Page; □# = Blue Hymnal Page}*



Free WiFi

## **Virtual Worship Service**

Online: **Live Stream** at [sprucc.org](http://sprucc.org) - Live or Watch & Listen Later on **St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel**  
**Facebook Live** (St. Paul's) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later  
**Phone Stream** at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later  
**Zoom**: Meeting ID: 104 401 368; Passcode: 301301 (or call 1-301-715-8592) - Live Only  
*If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org*

# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

## We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,  
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

*Please Do Not move the red ribbons or sit where they are placed.  
They are there for your safety and the safety of those around you to help designate social distancing.*

### A TIME OF GATHERING

### RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE – HANDBELLS “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” arranged by Barbara Kinyon

*{To center your hearts and minds,  
you are invited to individually offer this prayer silently  
during or before the Prelude}*

### PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP ② *(Silently Before Worship Begins)*

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross, you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### GREETING AND WELCOME

*{Those who are able, please rise}  
{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}*

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN “We Love Your Realm, O God” all verses **NCH # 312**  
One License #A-714101 for Words  
*Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.*

### \*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP FROM PSALM 27

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

**People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,

**People: they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

Leader: Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

**People: Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.**

Leader: Wait for the Lord and be strong.

**People: Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

## We Repent

*This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.*

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION ⑩ (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you.

### \*CONFESSION OF SIN ⑩ (Unison)

**O Lord God of Light, protect the righteous people on this earth. Who are the righteous people? Oh yes, the people who do not wish harm on others. The people who help their neighbors. O judge of the nations and of each of us who are imperfect, am I a righteous person? I confess that I am not a righteous person unless you cleanse me. Come by here and cleanse me, O God of mercy. Amen.**

### \*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}*

*{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}*

### \*PRAYER FOR MERCY

*"Kyrie"*

*♪Red #518*

Leader (*spoken*):

Lord, have mercy upon us.

People (*sung*):

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Leader (*spoken*):

Christ, have mercy upon us.

People (*sung*):

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Leader (*spoken*):

Lord, have mercy upon us.

People (*sung*):

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ⑩ (Leader)

God reminds us, "Yes, my child, I am here with you. I created you, I love you, I accept your confession and forgive you. Accept my forgiveness." **Amen.**

*{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}*

### \*SUNG RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*"Kum Ba Yah"*

African American Spiritual  
Public Domain

**Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!**

**Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!**

**Come by here, my Lord, come by here! Come by here, my Lord, come by here!**

**Come by here, my Lord, come by here! O Lord, come by here!**

*{Please be seated}*

## We Hear the Word of God

*We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God." Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.*

### PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

**First Lesson:** [Genesis 15:1-12,17-18](#)

**Second Lesson:** [Philippians 3:17-4:1](#)

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL LESSON:** [Luke 13:31-35](#)

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}*

**HYMN**

*"There Is a Balm in Gilead"* all verses

**W&R #631**

*Public Domain*

*Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.*

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG 1. "Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him in the morning,  
Praise Him at the noontime.  
Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him when the sun goes down."  
2. "Love Him". 3. "Serve Him". 4. "Thank Him".**

**SERMON**

*"As a Hen Gathers Her Chicks"*

## We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,  
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have  
learned more about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by  
re-affirming our faith in God,  
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and  
giving of ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

(Those who are able, please rise)

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)** Adapted from Ephesians 1:15-20

**Christ is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation. For in Christ all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities- all things were created through Christ and for Christ. Christ is before all things, and in Christ all things hold together; Christ is the head of the body, the church.**

## CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

## SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE “Someone’s Praying Lord”

**Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah!**

**Someone’s praying, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!**

## OFFERTORY INVITATION 10

Leader: Why do we bring our offerings?

**People: We bring them because we are thankful.**

Leader: For what are we thankful?

**People: For God’s faithfulness to us.**

Leader: How generous shall we be?

**People: As generous as God invites us to be.**

## RETURNING GOD’S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS

Online Giving

*{As we share in hybrid worship, there is no passing of the plate in person.*

*A plate is placed in the rear of the sanctuary for offerings to be placed  
when arriving or departing from the sanctuary.*

*Whether worshiping in person or online,*

*the safest way to offer your tithe and offering to God through his church  
is through St. Paul’s UCC secure [Online Giving](#) option on our website at [sprucc.org](http://sprucc.org). [St. Paul’s UCC Click Here](#)  
or Zion UCC’s online giving at [www.1Zion.org](http://www.1Zion.org) - [Zion UCC Click Here](#)*

*Offerings may also be mailed to St. Paul’s UCC; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551  
or Zion UCC; PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567}.*

**OFFERTORY/ANTHEM** “Be Still, for the Spirit of the Lord is Here” Words and music by  
Sung by Terry Pastor Dale Evans

*{Those who are able, please rise}*

*{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}*

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** (Sung by Congregation)

**Someone’s giving, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone’s giving, Lord, kum ba yah!**

**Someone’s giving, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER 10** (Leader)

Leader: Sorrowful Jesus, as you approached Jerusalem when God told you the time was right, you sacrificed yourself. As we approach the altar with our offerings and our sacrifices, we do so in thankfulness for your sacrifice.

**ALL: Amen.**

## We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,  
we go out into the world to share God's Good News  
through our words and actions.*

### \*COMMISSION ⑩

Leader: As we walk and drive from this place, let us carry with us the extreme love of Jesus.

**People: Jesus, thank you for your extreme love.**

Leader: As we pass the person who is just spending Sunday as a vacation day, help us to love that person with our extreme love.

**People: And as we pass a person who is ready to fight, we will pray that Jesus will soften hearts all over the world.**

**ALL: Amen.**

### \*BENEDICTION

*{Please remember to wear a mask whenever singing}*

### \*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪Red #558

### \*SENDING HYMN "O God of Every Nation" all verses

W&R # 626

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,  
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

### POSTLUDE

### TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

***ALL are invited***  
*to share in a time of Refreshments and Fellowship  
in the downstairs Miller Fellowship Hall*



### The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



## Worship Service Resource Credits

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

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  - ② *Gathered By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1994). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
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  - ⑦ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.
  - ⑦ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
  - ⑧ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
  - ⑨ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
  - ⑩ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
  - ⑩ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
  - ⑩ *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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*Pastor & Teacher:* The Rev. Mary Etta Mest - [mestme@aol.com](mailto:mestme@aol.com) - 610-659-2775 (C)

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### **St. Paul's United Church of Christ**

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Consistory Vice President: Elsa Wertz

Consistory Secretary:

Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Acting Financial Secretary: Terry Pastor

### **Zion United Church of Christ**

PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567

[www.1Zion.org](http://www.1Zion.org)

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610-507-7865

Consistory Secretary: Yvonne Rentschler

Financial Secretary: Janice Conner

**Free WiFi: StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest**  
**Password (for both): iamheretosome**

Link to Website's **Upcoming Events**





## About Today

**Church Season: Lent** -40 days and six Sundays before Easter; a season of penitence as we reflect upon our personal sins, which led to the need for the sacrifice of Jesus' life for us upon the cross.

The root word of "Lent" means to "lengthen", referring to the lengthening of days as we anticipate spring and the new life granted through the resurrection – moving from darkness to light.

**Color of the Paraments** (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

**Purple/Violet** –the color of royalty (royal purple); symbolizes the passion (suffering) of Christ our King that led to his sacrifice on the cross for us; the color of penance which we will be offering this Lent for his sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Black** – the color of mourning, for the passion, sacrifice, and death of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, used for the beginning (Ash Wednesday) and ending (Good Friday) of this season of penance.

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year C**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Luke.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church). The first four books of the NT are called the "Gospels," which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

### **This Sunday, March 13 -- Lectionary Reading for Second Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17-4:13

Luke 13:31-35

#### **Genesis**

The book of Genesis (OT) is a part of the Pentateuch (first five books of the OT or Torah or one of the five most central books in Judaism). Genesis means beginning. The book of Genesis tells about the creation of humankind and the entire universe by the will and power of God. Genesis creates a context for the reading of the entire rest of the Bible. The book is traditionally attributed to Moses, who led the Israelite people from Egyptian slavery to freedom, through the saving grace and divine providence of God.

#### **Psalm 27**

This is an OT song expressing trust in God to help, especially in times when one is being falsely accused. This song is attributed to the authorship of King David.

#### **The Letter of Paul to the Philippians**

This Epistle (letter) (NT) was written by the Apostle Paul from prison in the 60s A.D. Paul and Timothy are sending this letter to the church in Philippi, thanking and rejoicing with them for their steadfast faithfulness, prayers, and support, cautioning them of missionaries who focus on physical wants and needs, and encouraging them to stay true and united to his and Timothy's teachings and example. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and church leader, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Paul wrote more of the NT than any other person.

#### **The Gospel According to Luke**

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles is attributed to Luke "the beloved physician," written around 59-90 A.D. (C.E.). Not having met Jesus personally, Luke undertook the task of "investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account" of Jesus Christ, "so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed."

### **Next Sunday, March 20 -- Lectionary Reading for 3rd Sunday in Lent**

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

UNITED  
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OF CHRIST

**Communitas**  
PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE  
1441 Laura Lane, Suite 100, Pottstown, PA 19464  
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March 13, 2022

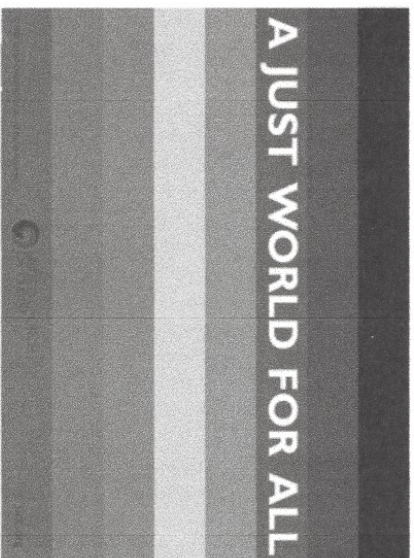
## New Materials Available for Stewardship

"From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving" makes the connection between our experience of God and our generosity as disciples. It includes practical tools such as logos, commitment cards, bulletin inserts, and letters. The materials also provide resources for preaching and teaching about stewardship throughout the year. Campaign guidance and calendars help leaders make the best use of these robust materials for their specific context and size.

Video by Bruce Barkhauer about these materials:

<https://youtu.be/2x623Zx5yQU>

Available for purchase at [ucc.org/stm2022](http://ucc.org/stm2022).



## A JUST WORLD FOR ALL Yard Sign

Available at [UCCResources.com](http://UCCResources.com). Yard signs are available in English and Spanish.

## Announcing the New SEC Stewardship/Development Mission Team

Did you know there is a new Stewardship/Development Mission Team in PSEC? The goal of this new group is to foster a spirit of generosity among the congregations of PSEC. We will provide you with information, resources and best practices to support stewardship in your congregation all year round. To that point, the Wisconsin Conference, in partnership with the national UCC, is offering a series of free webinars on a variety of giving topics. You can read more and register at this address: <https://www.wucc.org/conference-giving/generosity-learning-opportunities-2/>

In addition, you can check out the related item in this e-news on the new stewardship materials, "From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving."

We also need you! We are looking for volunteers who are willing to share their stewardship expertise or want to gain new skills in this area of ministry. Following are some desirable attributes for our volunteers:

- Demonstrates personal commitment to a spirit of generosity in time, talent and resources.
- Strong interest and expertise in stewardship and fundraising are highly desirable.
- Lay members and authorized ministers in good standing in the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference are preferred, but other individuals with expertise in stewardship and fundraising may also be asked to serve.
- Familiarity with the United Church of Christ denomination, Pennsylvania Southeast Conference and its congregations is highly desirable.

Since we are in the organizational stages of the life of this team, we are meeting about once a month with some assignments in between. It is anticipated we can meet less frequently, perhaps quarterly, after we are fully launched. Meetings are generally held via Zoom. There are no formal prescribed terms for this mission team, so length of service is flexible. If you would like to join us, please contact Caroline Dunleavy at [carolineayost@gmail.com](mailto:carolineayost@gmail.com) or 484.947.9079. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

# We Love Your Realm, O God

312

Timothy Dwight, 1801  
Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992

Ps. 26:8

1 We love your realm, O God, all places where you reign.  
2 We love your church, O God, for Christ has given life  
3 We recognize, with pain, that we have not achieved  
4 Yet Christ, our friend and guide, continues to forgive,

We recognize, with hope and joy, the world as your domain.  
To form communities of love that seek to heal our strife.  
The faithfulness of our resolve when we at first believed.  
Delivering us from our mistakes, inviting us to live.

5 Beyond our broken-ness,  
we seek to know your ways  
Of deep communion, solemn vows,  
and hymns of love and praise.

6 We know your truth will last.  
We trust your reign is sure.  
Equip us for those daily tasks  
that help your world endure.

*This poem by Lavon Bayler, a United Church of Christ minister, was inspired by and modeled after the oldest commonly used American hymn, "I Love Thy Kingdom" by Timothy Dwight.*

Tune: ST. THOMAS S.M.  
Williams' New Universal Psalmist, 1770

# 631 There Is a Balm in Gilead

*Refrain (Unison)*

C13 F  $\frac{Bb}{F}$  F C7

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

C13 F  $\frac{Bb}{D}$   $\frac{F}{C}$  C13 F

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

N.C. F F $_2$  F C7 F  $\frac{F}{A}$  C

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

$\frac{Bb}{C}$  F  $\frac{F^4}{G}$   $\frac{F7}{A}$  Bb  $\frac{F}{C}$  C13 *to Refrain* Dm  $\frac{Bb}{C}$

but then the Ho-ly Spir-it re-vives my soul a-gain.  
 you can tell the love of Je-sus, and say, "He died for all."  
 and if you lack for knowl-edge he'll ne'er re-fuse to lend.

# O God of Every Nation

N.C.  $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$  Cm6 D Gm  $\frac{Gm}{F}$   $\frac{Cm}{Eb}$  Cm Gm  $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$  D

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,  
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,  
 3 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

D7 Eb Cm6 F  $\frac{Bb}{D}$  Eb Bb Cm  $\frac{Bb}{D}$  Eb Cm6 D Gm

re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;  
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,  
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

Gm Bb Cm6  $\frac{Cm}{Eb}$   $\frac{Bb}{D}$  F  $\frac{Cm}{Eb}$  D  $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$   $\frac{D7}{A}$  Gm Dsus D

where hate and fear di - vide us, and bit - ter threats are hurled,  
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,  
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign,

N.C.  $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$  Cm6 D Gm Cm  $\frac{Bb}{D}$  Eb Cm6 D Gm

in love and mer - cy guide us, and heal our strife - torn world.  
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.  
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.