

Sunday, August 30th, 2026
Summer Worship Series – Rest & Renewal

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

God calls us to rest, not only for ourselves but for all people and all creation.

We come to embrace this gift of rest, knowing it is meant for every person, every creature, and the earth itself.

In this time of worship, we pause to reflect on the ways we may have denied others their rest.

We come seeking balance, equity, and justice in how we live and rest together.

Let us receive the gift of God's love, freely given to all, without exception.

We come to be restored, and to offer restoration to all.

***Hymn**

“Praise to the Living God”

NCH#8

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Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, You have created rest as a gift for all of Your creation, yet we often forget to share that gift with others. Open our hearts and minds to see where we have neglected the rest of our neighbors. Help us to restore balance and equity so that everyone can experience renewal in You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Scripture

Leviticus 25:1-19

***Hymn**

“Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?”

NCH#539

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Sermon

The Gift of Rest

Rev. Abby Gackenhaimer

Music of Reflection

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and 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 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. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology** Pilgrim Hymnal #515 *[alternative words]

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him [God], all creatures here below

Praise Him [God] above, ye heavenly host

Praise Father [Creator], Son [Christ], and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

God, we offer you these gifts, and pray that you would take this offering and turn it into ministry. Use these gifts to transform the world we live in to better reflect the home you have envisioned for us—a home of peace, a home built on the foundation of love. Gratefully we pray, amen.

***Hymn**

“Be Our Inhale”

please see insert

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Benediction

Postlude

Liturgy: Call to Worship and Prayer for Illumination: *Season of Rest: Rest.Work.Play*. Breakthroughseries.org. Preachersrestworkplay.com

Praise to the Living God

Ps. 84:1-2

Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.

1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
 2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
 3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
 4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -

word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
 Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
 shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
 yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.

Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
 Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
 God toils wher-e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
 In these tu - mul-tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May

vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
 hu - man-kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
 deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
 we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Curtis Beach, born into a family of several generations of ministers, was educated at Harvard University, the Boston University School of Theology, and the University of Southern California. A minister in the United Church of Christ, Beach authored The Gospel of Mark: Its Making and Meaning.

Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.
 George J. Elvey, 1868

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

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Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
 5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.
 We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.
 Richard Gillard, 1977
 Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

BE OUR INHALE

Eli Cooper-Nelson

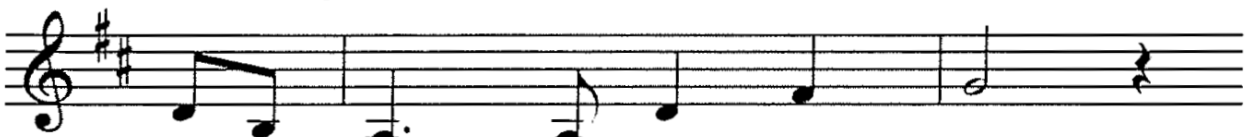
OLSON KOPP
Benjamin Brody



1. Be our in - hale; Spir - it, come.
2. Be our fresh breeze; Spir - it blow.
3. Be the bird - song; Spir - it sing.



Be the ex - hale we flow from.
Be the calm in which we grow.
Be the pow'r be - neath our wing.



Be our in - the - mo - ment sigh.
Be the air up - on our face;
Be the wav - ing branch - es' chant;



Ground us now; be our sup - ply.
cool re - lief or warm em - brace.
budd - ing growth of ev - 'ry plant.



Be our por - tion; be our lot;
Be our prom - ise; be our peace:
Be our breath as yet we roam:



cen - t'ring breath when life is fraught.
Wind of change, our fears re - lease.
you our jour - ney, you our home.