

Sunday, August 31st, 2025
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 81 and 112)

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to God.

Happy are those who revere the Holy One.

Generation to generation delight in God's blessings.

Sing aloud to God our righteousness; shout for peace to God.

We rise from the depths in mercy, grace, and justice.

Sing aloud to God our hope; shout for love to God.

Our hearts are steady and secure. Worship the Holy One!

***Hymn**

"Gather Us In"

please see insert

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Responsive Prayer for Illumination

God of Glory, we acknowledge your presence among us as we gather. You have knit us together as a community. In your kin-dom, the first will be last and the last will be first. We only exalt you yet you come near to us. Dwell in the praises we voice, in the hope to which we cling, and the love that persists. Reveal yourself to us, Great One, and we will declare and spread your goodness in the land of the living. Amen.

Scripture

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Bill Harvey

A Time for All God's Children

***Hymn**

"Jesu, Jesu"

New Century Hymnal #498

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Sermon

"Open Table"

Rev. Abby Gackenhaimer

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**

“O for a World”

New Century Hymnal #575

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**Benediction
Postlude**

Liturgy: ***Places of Honor: Service Prayers for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*** was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

Marty Haugen



1. Here in this place, new light is stream-ing, now is the
 2. We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin - ing, not in some



1. dark - ness, van - ished a - way, See, in this space, our
 2. old who yearn for your face, We have been sung through-
 3. take the bread of new birth, Here you shall call your
 4. heav - en, light years a - way, but here in this place, the



1. fears and our dream-ings, brought here to you in the light of this
 2. out all of his - t'ry, called to be light to the whole hu - man
 3. sons and your daugh - ters, call us a - new to be salt for the
 4. new light is shin - ing, now is the King-dom now is the



1. day. Gath - er us in the lost and for - sa - ken, Gath - er us
 2. race. Gath - er us in the rich and the haugh - ty, Gath - er us
 3. earth. Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to
 4. day. Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, Gath - er us



1. in the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a -
 2. in the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so
 3. eat the bread that is you; Nour - ish us well, and teach us to
 4. in and make us your own; Gath - er us in all peo - ples to -



1. wa - ken, we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 2. low - ly, give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 3. fash - ion, lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 4. geth - er, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

John 13:1-20; Gal. 5:13-14

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994

Refrain Unison

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you. *Last time, end*

1 Knelt at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their
 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, show - ing our faith by our
 5 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

feet, Je - su, you act - ed as ser - vant to them.
 race, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 deeds, serv - ing the neigh-bors we have from you.
 feet, this is the way we should live with you.

to Refrain

This African folk melody was presented to the Church at Chereponi, Northern Ghana, by Ghanaian musicologist, A. A. Mensah, when United Church of Christ missionaries, Al and Sue Krass were serving there. Like Tom Colvin, a Scottish missionary in neighboring Tamale, Al Krass was encouraging the making of hymns to indigenous melodies. Tom Colvin wrote these words to this adapted form of the melody in dedication to the Church at Chereponi.

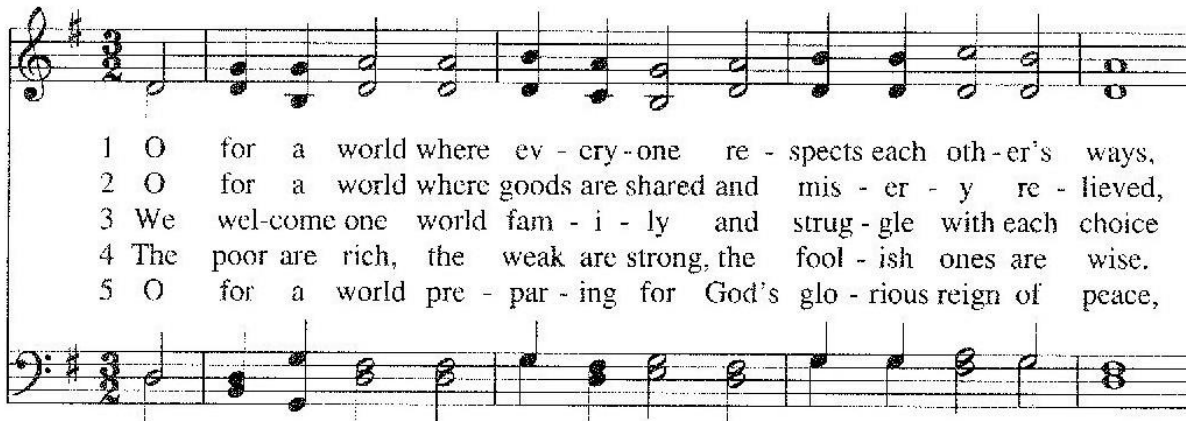
Tune: CHEREPONI Irr. with refrain
 Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1969
 Arr. Jane Marshall, 1982

O for a World

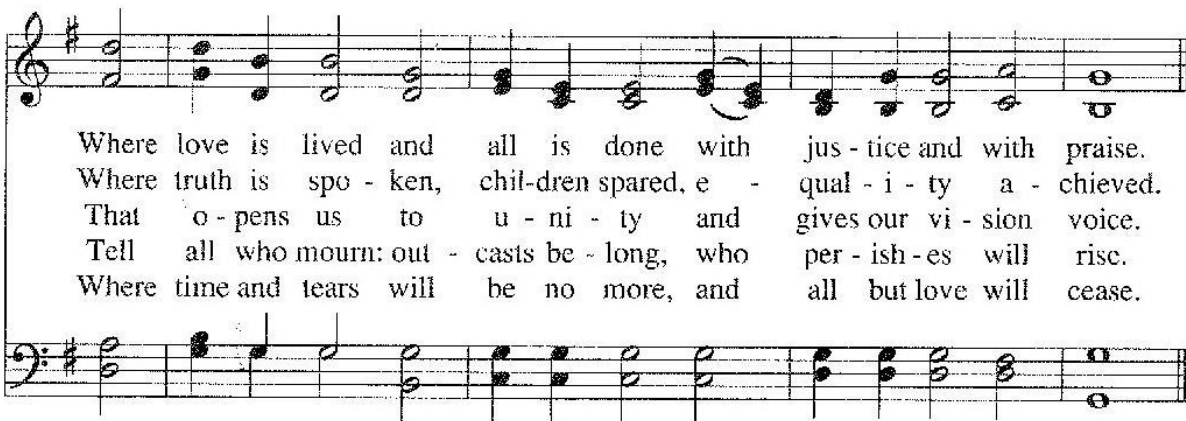
575

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; 1 Pet. 3:8-12



1 O for a world where ev - cry - one re - spect's each oth - er's ways,
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
 4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,



Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
 Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
 Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Inspired by Charles Wesley's phrase "O for a thousand tongues" and the familiar tune Azmon, Miriam Therese Winter wrote this hymn envisioning a new world order for the Presbyterian Women's Triennial Conference in 1982. It was later recrafted and recorded by the Medical Mission Sisters.

Tune: AZMON C.M.

Carl G. Gläser, 1828

Adapt. Lowell Mason in Modern Psalmody, 1839