

*An Open & Affirming, Creation Justice
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

12 October 2025 – 10:30 AM
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Accessibility Sunday

***indicates the congregation is invited to stand.
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.**

PRELUDE *Amazing Grace* John Ness Beck

Vlada Volkova-Moran, organist

WELCOME Lisa Hoelsing and David Pattee

*GATHERING Marty Haugen

**We are the young – our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old – who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty, gather us in – the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.**

*INVOCATION

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

*GREETING OF PEACE

RESPONSIVE PSALM from *Psalms* 66 Susie Land, liturgist

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

All: Sing to the glory of God's name.

One: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

All: Through fire and flood, you are bringing us out to a spacious place.

ANTHEM *Jubilate Deo* Benjamin Britten

CHANCEL CHOIR • Cheryl Anderson, director

WITNESS Liz Homer Smith

RESPONSIVE PSALM from *Psalms* 130

One: Out of the depths I cry to you. Lord, hear my voice.

All: Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

One: If you kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?

All: But with you there is forgiveness, that we might serve you with reverence.

One: I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in God's word I put my hope.

All: Put your hope in the Lord and in God's unfailing love.

One: Out of the depths I cry to you.

All: Lord, hear my voice.

WITNESS Jaleel Mackey

WITNESS

Carol DeCarvalho

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lisa Hoelsing

One: We are not perfect but, by God's grace, we are forgiven and empowered. We are called to love our neighbor and to recognize where we have opportunity to love more fully, for the increase of justice and the reign of peace.

All: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.

One: Let us rejoice in the continued work of access, celebrating the gifts and abilities of our neighbors, especially those with disabilities. Let us be bold, creative, thoughtful, empathetic, and faithful, rejoicing in the journey of access for all.

All: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.

One: In this quiet moment, O God, we pray that you will hear us in our joys and concerns, petitions and thanksgivings for ourselves, our families and communities, and this world, asking that you would guide us in witness and service.

--- silent prayer ---

One: We offer our prayers in trust of your gift to us in Jesus Christ, pioneer and perfecter of our faith, in whose spirit we pray together...

All: Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:

May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.

May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.

And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.

Through times of temptation, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.

OFFERTORY

Invitation

www.PeaceUnited.org/giving

Offertory Music

Lord of the Dance

arr. Larry Fleming

*COVENANT

We covenant with God and with each other:

to walk together in all God's ways as the Holy is revealed to us;

to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus' ministry in this church;

to celebrate through worship God's amazing gifts of unity and diversity;

to take up Christ's mission around the world, striving for justice and peace;

to care for the earth and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;

for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life.

*HYMN 547

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude in Classic Style

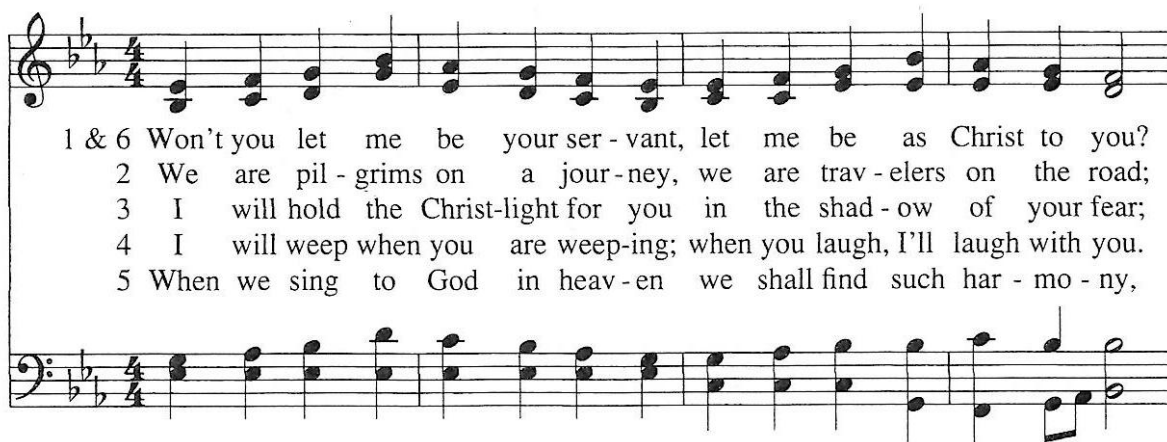
Gordon Young

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

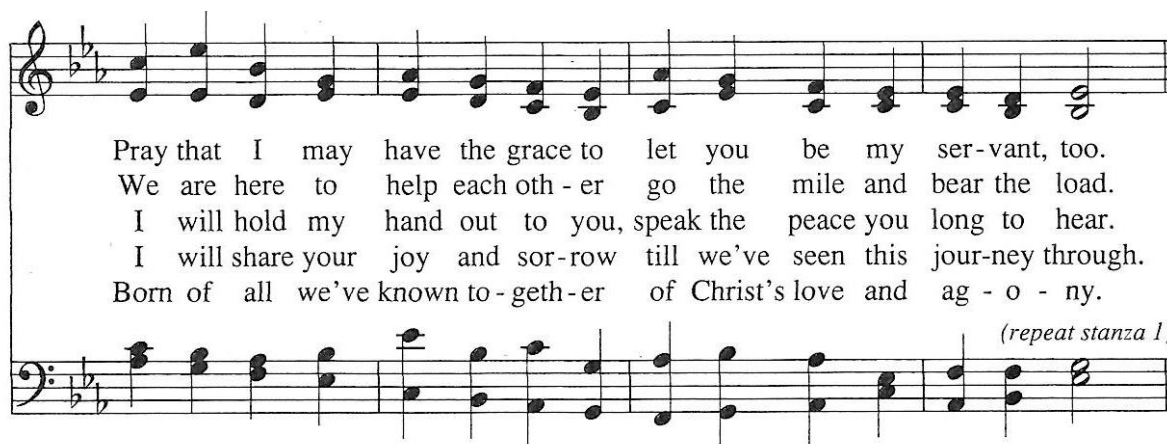
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Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

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-ellers 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.

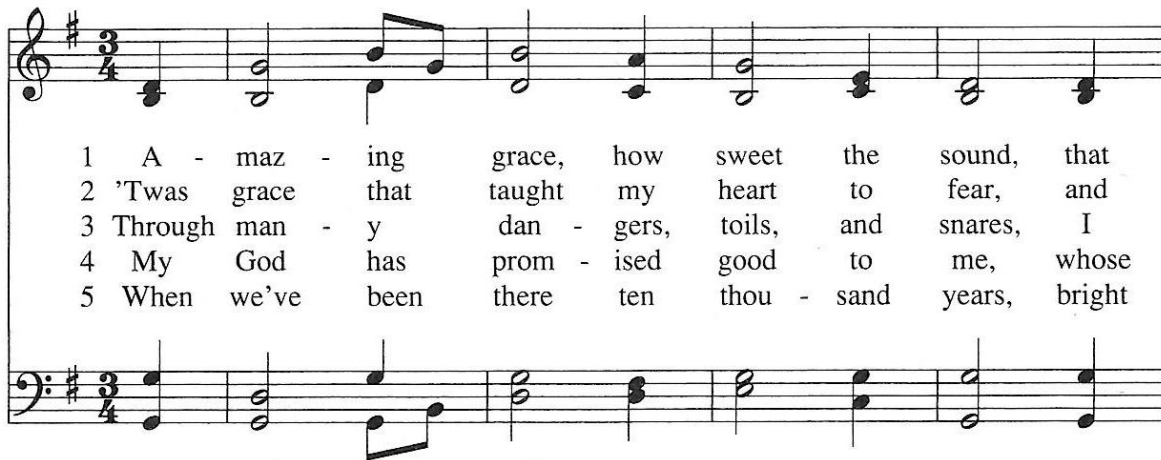
Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.
 Richard Gillard, 1977
 Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

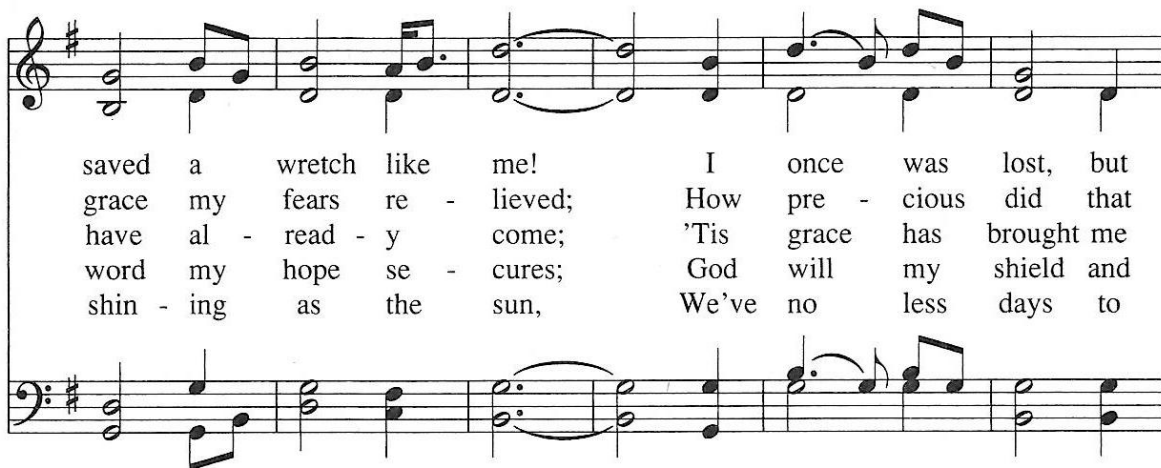
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St. 1-4, John Newton, 1779; alt.

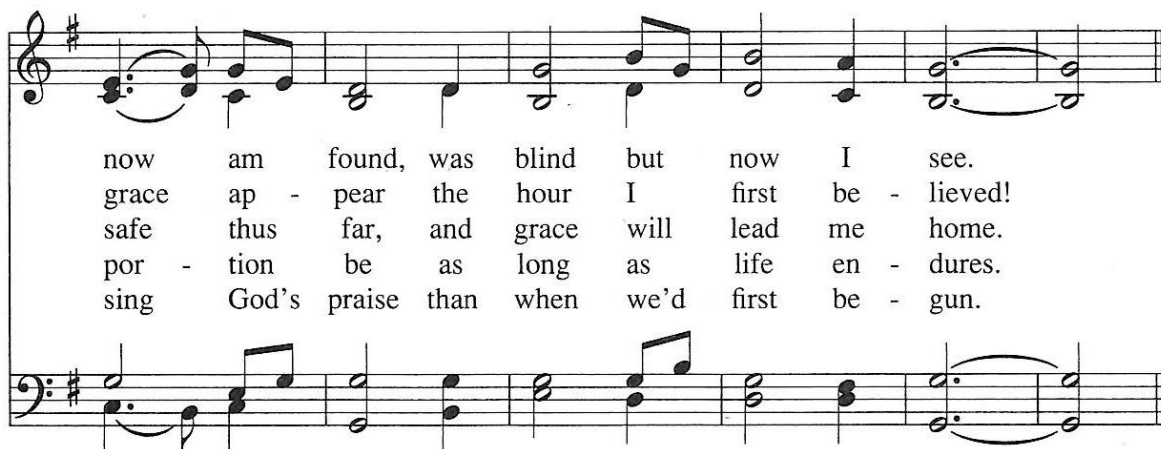
St. 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

John Newton's autobiographical hymn reflects his conversion from his earlier existence as a slave trader. While serving as curate in the English village of Olney, Newton met William Cowper, and together they published Olney Hymns, which included this hymn.

Tune: AMAZING GRACE C.M.
 (NEW BRITAIN)
 Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829
 Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900