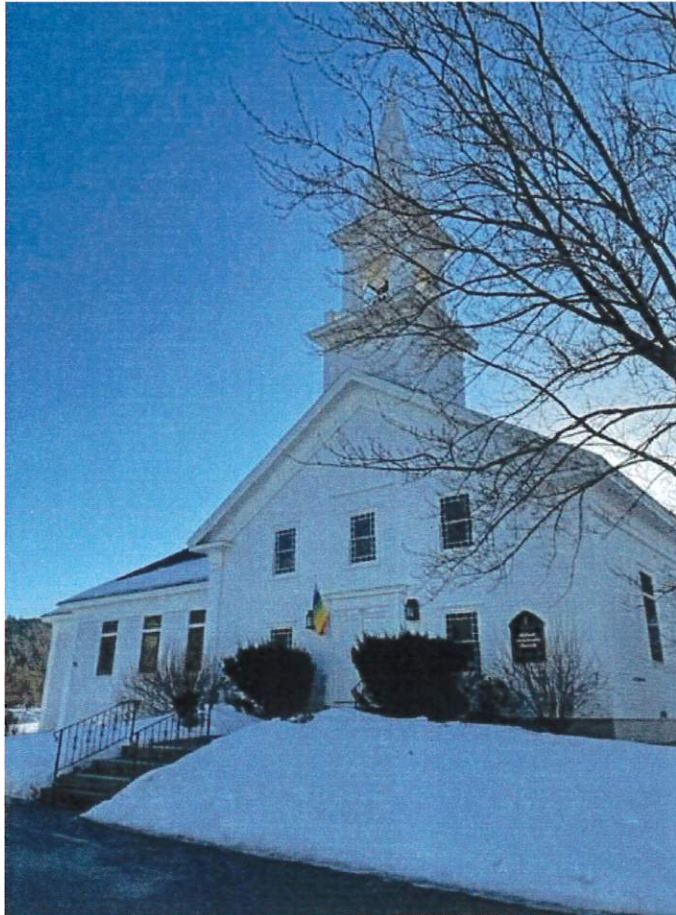


Sunday, February 11, 2024



**The Gilford Community Church
The Reverend Michael C. Graham, Pastor
Amber McLane, Director of Youth and Family Programs
AJ Coppola, Music & Choir Director**

**19 Potter Hill Road
Gilford, NH 03249
gilfordcommunitychurch.org**

Gathering Time

As we arrive for worship, let us greet and make new friends, and be alert for guests as we celebrate the fellowship of our faith community.

Time for Prayer and Meditation

The ringing of the church bell and lighting of the candles calls us to sit down and allow ourselves to forget the hurry and worry of the world. Center your heart, mind and soul on God's love for you and all creation.

Ring the Bell and Bring the Light

Words of Welcome

Prelude "Simple Gifts" arr. Nelson/Oneschuk
Trumpet Trio performed by Leslie McEvoy, May Stewart and AJ Coppola

*Call to Worship

We have gathered the elements of our lives and brought them to this place –
the joy of waking and living,
the joy of health,
the pain of illness,
the grief of loss,
the gift of love.

Some of these we have carried a long way.

All we have carried through the seasons of our lives has brought us here to this place which we make sacred by our coming together.

***Hymn of Praise** "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" #182

Prayer of Invitation followed by the Lord's Prayer (debts)

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.

Choral Response (Old Hundredth)

**Rejoice in love we know and share,
in love and beauty everywhere;
rejoice in truth that makes us free,
and in the good that yet shall be.**

Scripture Reading Mark 1:40-45 Diane Lyons

Anthem "The Greatest Gift of All by Jill Gallina
Performed by the Chancel Choir

Children's Time

Special Music "You'll Be in My Heart" by Phil Collins
Duet performed by AJ Coppola and Cindie Graham

Morning Prayer

***Hymn of Preparation** "Be Now My Vision" #451

Sermon "Gross"

***Hymn of Commitment** "Help Us Accept Each Other" #388

***Benediction**

***Choral Amen**

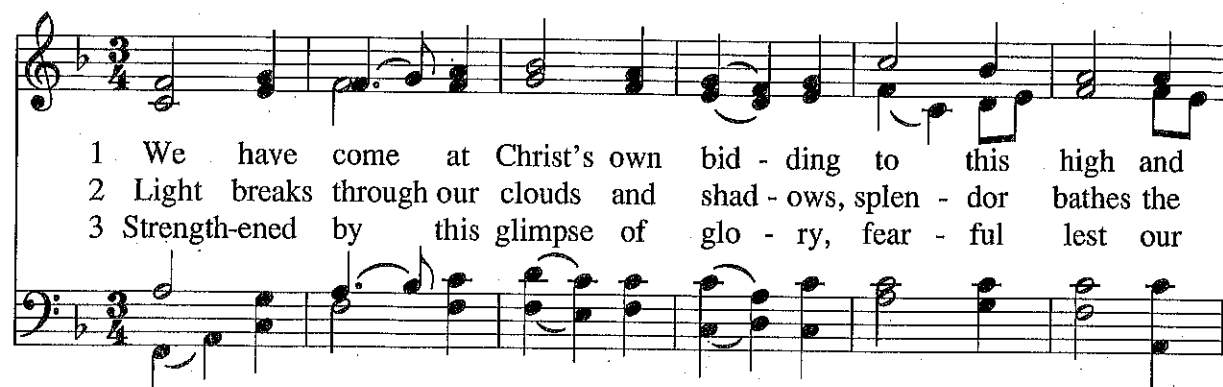
GCC Announcements

- ❖ Today's Coffee Hour will be hosted by our Flower Committee!
- ❖ Our Membership Committee will host a Meet & Greet today for any new members that may want to join the church.

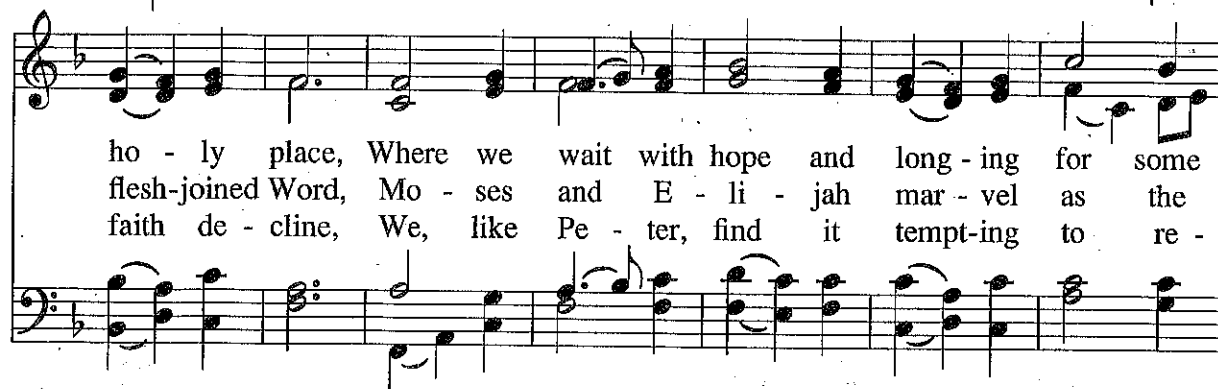
The Gilford Community Church is an inclusive, open community. We embrace believers and doubters, seekers and skeptics, young and old. We welcome new companions on a journey of faith that often includes laughter, live music and joy. We celebrate both our differences and our shared commitments: to spiritual journey, to supporting each other, and to building community in Gilford, the Lakes Region and beyond.

If you wear hearing aids, please remember to have the TELECOIL option activated for optimal benefit.

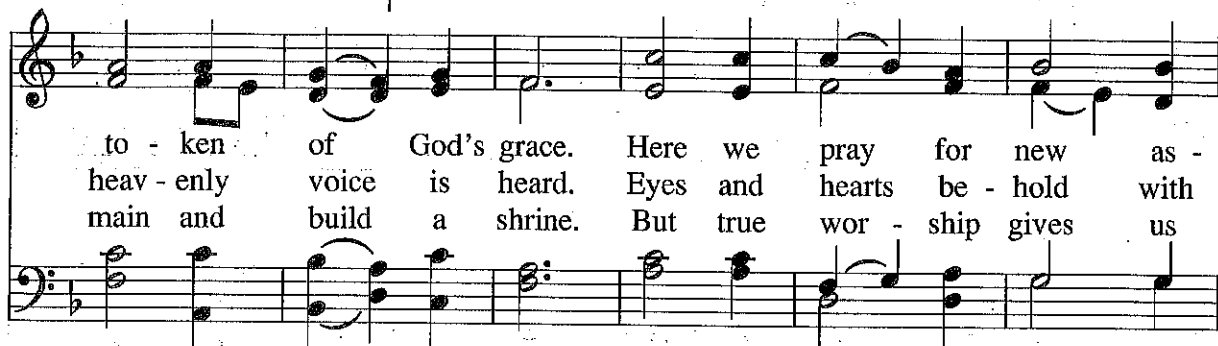
We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding



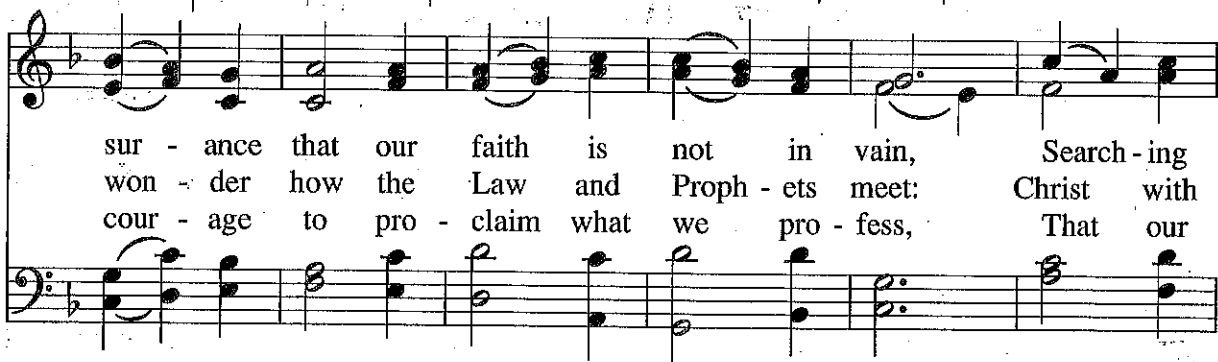
1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our



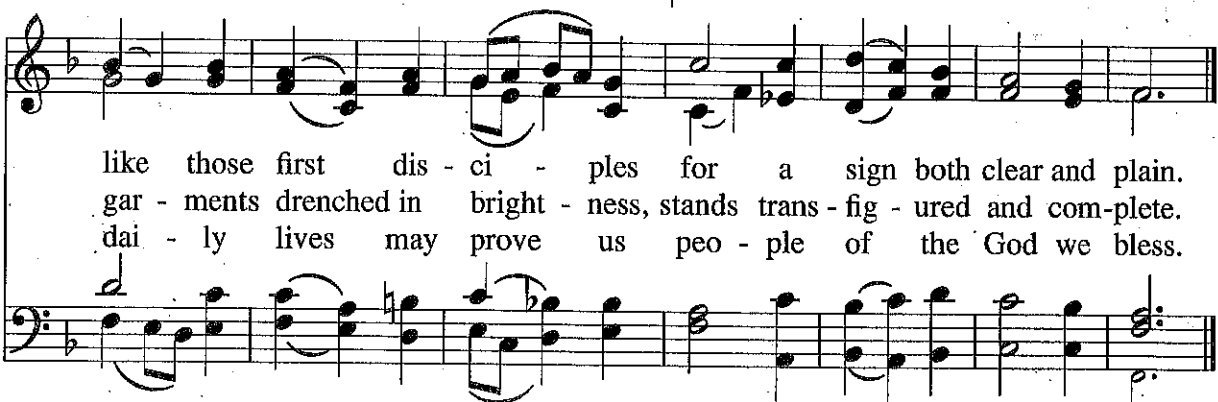
ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -



to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us



sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing
 won - der how the Law and Prop - ets meet: Christ with
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our



like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

Unison

1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
 2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;
 3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
 4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—
 ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;
 you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,
 Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,
 You and you on - ly are first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.
 now and for - ev - er your child I will be.
 great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,
each per-son to em-brace.
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,
and bring us to be-lieve
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,
as in our dai-ly life
we strug-gle to be hu-man
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for peo-ple,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may be-come.
- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,
so that we may be moved
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions
to do the truth in love;
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,
un-til we know by heart
the ta-ble of for-give-ness
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters
with all who are in need,
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,
for righ-teous-ness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,
new hands for hold-ing on;
re-new us with your Spir-it;
God! Free us, make us one!