

Sunday, September 12, 2021
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion

* stand +kneel

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE To God Be The Glory with Great Is The Lord Almighty arr. Carol Tornq

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the leader begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will**

**and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these words.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4–9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

‘The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens —
wakens my ear

to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

PSALM: Psalm 116:1–9

¹I love the LORD, who has ¹heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,
²**for the LORD has given ¹ear to me
whenever ¹er I called.**
³The cords of death entangled me;
the anguish of the grave ¹came upon me;
I came to ¹grief and sorrow.
⁴**Then I called upon the name ¹of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray you, ¹save my life."**
⁵Gracious is the ¹LORD and righteous;
our God is full ¹of compassion.
⁶**The LORD watches o- ¹ver the innocent;
I was brought low, ¹and God saved me.**
⁷Turn again to your rest, ¹O my soul.
for the LORD has dealt ¹well with you.
⁸**For you have rescued my ¹life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my ¹feet from stumbling;**
⁹I will walk in the presence ¹of the LORD
in the land ¹of the living.

SECOND READING: James 3:1–12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it is to reflect our faith.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue — a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

***GOSPEL: Mark 8:27–38**

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - *We invite you to reflect on the words as the organist plays the hymn.*
"Will You Come and Follow Me" **ELW#798**

***CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The assembly kneels or sits.

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
Let us pray.

A brief silence.

Revealing God, you have made yourself known through bread and wine, water and word.
Continue to nurture your church, that it is a place where your presence is experienced and shared.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, you brought life into being and called it good. Bring new creation to lands
devastated by tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires, and other disasters especially those still
recovering from Hurricane Ida. Restore forests and curb overflowing waters. Lord, in your
mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protecting God, you desire all people to live in peace and safety. Provide for all who are in danger. As we remember those who served and died on 9/11, strengthen first responders to help meet to the complex needs of others. Provide care and compassion as they face trauma themselves. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Transforming God, you announce release to the captives and freedom to the oppressed. Break chains of discrimination and injustice. Guide us as we to offer care and compassion to those who are sick or mourning. Comfort those who suffer. We remember especially.... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Forming God, you gather this community together. Shape our communal life, that in our prayer, praise, and worship, we honor you and encourage one another. Keep our disagreements civil and increase our joy in working together. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Redeeming God, you accompany your people through every stage of life. We give you thanks for the saints who now rest in your embrace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is received at the entrance of the sanctuary for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set.

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads the following prayer.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord

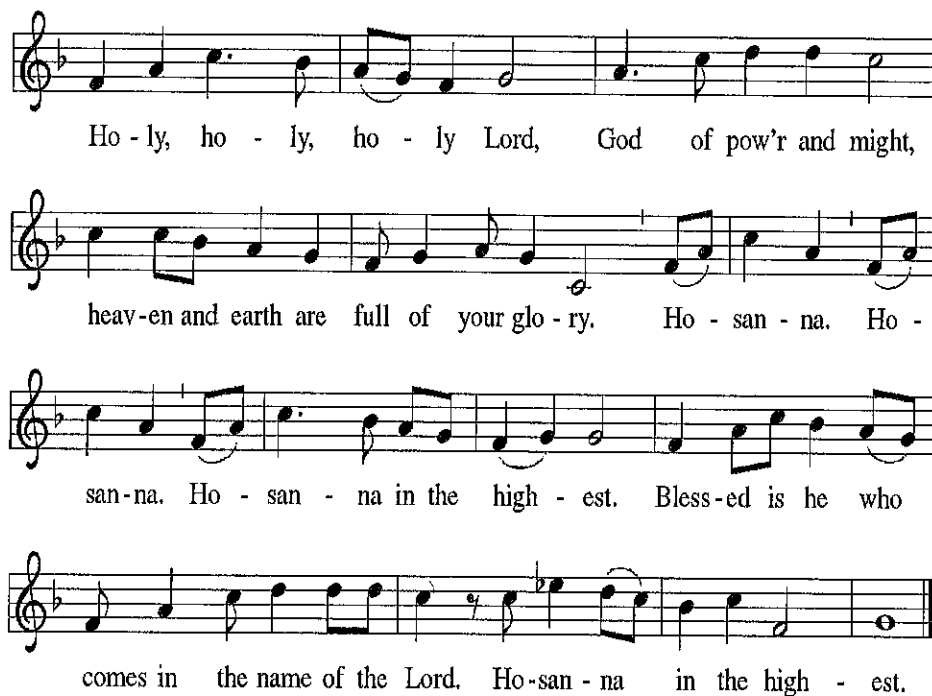
Let us give thank for the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - Spoken**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The presiding minister continues.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
 we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

***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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

We welcome to the Lord's Table all visitors who are eligible to receive the Sacrament in their home congregation. Please come forward using the center aisle. At the table sanitize your hands, take a glass and proceed to the pastor to receive the wafer. Move to the communion assistant to receive the wine. Return to your pew by the side aisle, placing your glass in the tray provided. Children and those not receiving Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing. Remember to abide by social distancing.

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond
Amen.*

***TABLE BLESSING**

*The presiding minister says a table blessing, and the assembly responds
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.
Amen.*

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

The assisting minister leads the following prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

God of abundance,
with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ,
making us one with all your people.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life
of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***DISMISSAL**

The minister may send the assembly into mission.
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Lift High The Cross

arr. Larry Shackley

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Bulletins have been dedicated in honor of the birthday of John M. Edwards by his sister, Eva Waldman.

One vase of altar flowers has been placed in honor of the birthday of John M. Edwards by his sister, Eva Waldman.

Prayer Requests – Please email, text, or call Pastor Kathy with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. Please direct Pastoral care requests in the same way.

In Home Holy Communion kits are no longer being distributed. Please return all your supplies by the weekend of September 12th. With the extraordinary circumstances of the pandemic and Covid restrictions, Pastor Kathy developed in-home communion kits to allow everyone worshipping to come to the Lord's Table, especially when no one was worshipping in person. Because this is not the

standard practice of the church, it will be up to the next pastor to decide if he or she is comfortable with this practice. We will transition from our in-home communion kits back to home visits from eucharistic ministers or the pastor, which is the standard practice of the church. If you would like Pastor Kathy to bring you Holy Communion before she retires, please call the church office.

Online Bible Study began again on Thursday, August 12th at 7 pm using ZOOM. We are reading the Book of Acts and exploring the beginning of the church. Contact Charles Hawk or Pastor Kathy for the information to connect with the group. Please join us!

UPDATES! With the COVID rates increasing (Schuylkill County metrics sit in the high risk and still climbing), we are not singing in our service. While Pennsylvania has no mask mandate, we encourage you to wear a mask if you are unvaccinated or are more comfortable doing so. The offering plate will not be passed along the pews but placed at the entrance to the sanctuary to receive the offering. Holy Communion will be distributed with the same sanitizing guidelines. At the appropriate time in the service, the offering will be brought forward to the altar. Please remember to sign in.

Prayer Requests - Please direct your prayer requests to Pastor Kathy via email, phone call, or text.

Crop Walk – The Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches will hold its annual Crop Walk on Sunday, October 3rd starting at the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry (at the back of the Evans building and Walk-In Art Center). Sponsor forms are available on the table in the Narthex for those who wish to walk. Donations for the Crop Walk will be received during the month of September. The walk's starting time is yet to be determined.

Reminder: Hospital visits -The church is NOT informed when someone is in the hospital by the hospital. The person hospitalized or a family member must call the church to let us know they want the pastor to visit. If leaving a message on the answering machine, please remember to leave the hospital name and the room number. Some hospitals will not give the room number to a visitor, expecting you to know that.

Weekly Bulk Mailing of the Bulletin has stopped. The bulletin will continue to be posted on the website and sent via an email blast. If you wish to continue to receive a paper copy of the bulletin, please call the church office. We'd be more than happy to mail you a copy.

Attendance for September 5, 2021 54 physically present; 86 livestream views; 1 shares as of 9/8/21.

Sponsoring bulletins and flowers is a great way to honor a special event in your loved ones' lives or to remember a loved one who has died. (Please only two vases of flowers per week.) If flowers are not sponsored, this is an added cost to the church. Many dates are available in 2021

In order that we are able to produce a list of people who were in the church during a certain service, if we are requested to produce one, please remember to sign in upon entering the church prior to a service. Thank you.

October newsletter. Articles due September 15th.

All are welcome to join us for a farewell lunch for Pastor Kathy at the pavilion (outside weather permitting) following the 10:30 AM service next Sunday 9/19. Please join us as we thank Pastor Kathy for her many years of service, dedication and leadership, and to wish her well in her best years to come! A light lunch will be provided (served in a safe manner).

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FROM LAST WEEK:

Synod/ELCA Benevolence	\$49.50
Local Benevolence	\$155.50
Current	\$2328.83
Capital Building Fund	\$25.00
Plate Offering	\$6.00
Soup Kitchen	\$149.00
<u>Total Received</u>	<u>\$2713.83</u>

QR CODE ONLINE GIVING



"THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

Today: 8 and 10:30 am Holy Communion Service
9:15 am Sunday School and Confirmation

Monday: 10 am Prayer Shawl Group
7:00 pm Stewardship Committee

Wednesday: Worship Committee

Thursday: 7:00 pm Bible Study (by zoom)

Friday: Office Closed

Saturday: 5 pm Holy Communion

Next Sunday: 8 and 10:30 am Holy Communion Service
9:15 am Sunday School and Confirmation

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon: Psalm 119:169-176; 1 Kings 13:1-10; Romans 3:9-20

Tues: Psalm 119:169-176; 1 Kings 13:11-25; Colossians 3:1-11

Wed: Psalm 119:169-176; Isaiah 10:12-20; John 7:25-36

Thu: Psalm 54; Judges 6:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Fri: Psalm 54; 1 Kings 22:24-40; Romans 11:25-32

Sat: Psalm 54; 2 Kings 17:5-18; Matthew 23:29-39

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: 8 am Paul Fabian

10:30 am Jessica & Grayson Rollman

Lector: 5pm Holly Maldonado

8 am Elizabeth Thomas

10:30 am Marlene Troxell

Ushers: 8 am Eva Waldman

10:30 am Don & Becky Mairose

Counting Team: Charles Hawk, Sr., Jennie Raudenbush

Council Greeter: 5 pm Holly Maldonado **8:00 am** Charles Hawk **10:30 am** Becky Mairose

Communion Assistants: 5 pm Holly Maldonado **8:00 am** Charles Hawk **10:30 am** Becky Mairose

Live Streaming: Matt Platt

Church Office Hours: 9 am - 3pm Monday - Friday

Office closed for lunch 12 pm until 12:30 pm

Church Telephone 570-754-7350

www.SummerHillLutheran.org – Church's website

Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill
Student Loan Committee email:
stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com

The Rev. Kathleen Ash-Flashner, Pastor 570-977-4189
Email: stpaulsummerhill.pastor@gmail.com
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music 484-794-7902
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Linda Angstadt, Church Secretary 570-754-7350
Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com
Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton 570-345-1279
Eva Waldman, Church Sexton/Treasurer 570-754-7350



Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Dennis Ryan, Ron Boris, Jr., Gary & Shirley Krammes, Irene Peiffer, Arlene Lickman, Betty Freeman, Thelma Brensinger, Chester Johnson, Shirley Fessler, Barbara Pennypacker, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Hayley Moyer, Helen Runkle, Eleanor Jamison, Adam Brink, Glenn & Linda Curtis, Arlene Moyer, Charles Wernert, Stephen Curtis, Brayden Crews, John Strauch, Jr., Dianna Curry, Fern Staller, Rosemary Meade, Tyler Boland, Ray Yeich, David Axtt, Greg Phillips, Gaylene Ebling, Connie Klinger, Stacey Rao, Betty Strauch and John Strauch, Sr., Helen Miller, Nancy Vargas, Jerry Heffleger, and Robert & Joyce Zeledonis. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tom Leganza, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, and Brad Renninger.

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life as -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such at -
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional
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