



## Hope UCC Weekly Update: November 9, 2025

*There is always something happening at Hope UCC, so we thought we would add a weekly announcement feature to the bulletin that is mailed and emailed out to everyone. This Weekly Update will provide you with announcements, information, and updates on all that is going on in our community – at church and beyond.*



## Share Your Story for Our Advent Devotional

### Unseen Wings: Our Messages of Inspiration, Support, Encouragement, and Love

As we look toward the Advent season, a time of hope, reflection, and anticipation, we're creating something special together: this year's Advent Devotional, Unseen Wings: Our Messages of Inspiration, Support, Encouragement, and Love. We'd love your help in making it meaningful by sharing your stories. Have you ever felt God's quiet encouragement in a difficult time? Experienced love or support in an unexpected way? Found strength, comfort, or peace that you knew came from God? These are the moments that we hope you will share with us in this Advent devotional.

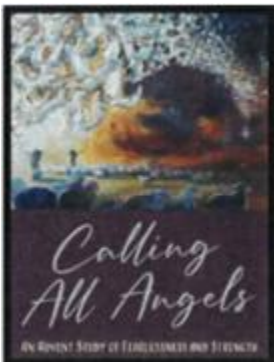
We're gathering short, heartfelt stories and reflections (they can be anywhere from 200-600 words) from our Hope UCC community—our experiences of hope and trust in God's presence, kindness, and faithfulness. Devotionals are a wonderful daily spiritual practice and your story could be just what someone else needs to read this Advent.

It's easy to be part of this special Advent tradition here at Hope! Please send your story to the church office by November 19<sup>th</sup>. You can email it to [office.hopeuccqc@gmail.com](mailto:office.hopeuccqc@gmail.com) and of course, handwritten submissions are welcome too! Either drop it off or mail it to our church office. All submissions are due by November 19. The Hope UCC 2025 Advent Devotional will be available the first Sunday of Advent, November 30.

Let's encourage one another and remind our community that even when we don't see it right away, God is always at work, with messengers and messages that lift us, guide us, and love us as we are enfolded in the shelter of God's loving care.

## Advent Devotional Study: Calling All Angels

### Tuesdays, November 18, December 2, 9, & 16 at 6:00 P.M.

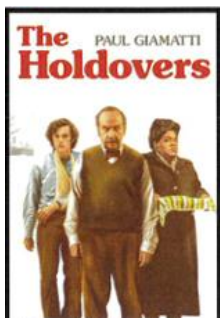


*"What would we do if we weren't afraid? What would change in our relationships, in our vocations, in our congregations, maybe even in our communities and in our world – if God's people led with a courage and vision that was always, first and foremost, unafraid?" Erin Wathen*

Where might you journey? Where might our congregation journey? Where might we sojourn together?

Join Member in Discernment, Lindsey Svetlick, for an Advent Devotional Study starting Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We are reading "Calling All Angels: An Advent Study of Fearlessness & Strength" by Erin Wathen. Hope UCC office have books available for purchase of \$11.00. Class meeting dates are Tuesday, November 18, December 2, 9, and 16<sup>th</sup>. Financial assistance is available. Please see Lindsey with any questions.

## Reel Theology November 14: The Holdovers



Join us to watch and discuss the Holdovers, and Academy award nominated and winning holiday comedic drama about a very grumpy instructor at a New England prep school who remains on campus during Christmas break to babysit a handful of students with nowhere to go. He soon forms an unlikely bond with a brainy but damaged troublemaker, and also with the school's head cook. The film explores themes of family, chosen family, loss, grief, and renewal. The film is rated R – which is a big change from our usual Reel Theology selections. This rating is given due to frequent profanity, brief sexual material, and alcohol and marijuana use. This is such a great film that we decided to share and discuss it even though the rating is stronger than our usual selections. If you would like to eat together before the film, please bring your own dinner at 5:30. The film will begin at 6:00 with the discussion and dessert to follow.

### **Special Offering for Church of Peace UCC Food Pantry**

Our friends at Church of Peace UCC in Rock Island have offered a weekly food pantry every Saturday for many years. They have seen a significant increase in the number of people attending each week; some weeks as many as 140 households have come through for much needed food and hygiene items. There were already challenges with maintaining the inventory to meet the demands, and now with the impending restrictions and cuts to SNAP benefits as well as the lack of funding for SNAP due to the government shutdown, they are expecting an increase in need. They could use our help to meet the expected increased demand. Hope UCC will be taking a special collection for Church of Peace's pantry program from October 30- November 16. All donations are welcome and will be forwarded to Church of Peace following worship on November 16. Please indicate 'Church of Peace' on your check or, if it is a cash donation, please use the designated envelope or make sure it is noted on the envelope you use. Church of Peace welcomes volunteers for their Pantry Saturdays or the days when they prepare the food for distribution. Please see Kathy Lewis for more information about this or Pastor Santina to connect you with their leadership of the pantry. Thank you for supporting our neighbors and helping to ensure our community is cared for.

### **The Story of Hope: Helping Our Friends at Moline High School**

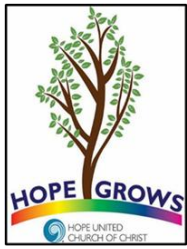
Moline High School is building a supply of personal care items for students in need. Can you help by donating the following items: deodorant (spray or roll-on), body wash, powdered laundry detergent, wash cloths, dryer sheets, and no rinse body wipes. We will have a basket in the front of the sanctuary to collect these items through November 16. Thank you for helping out the wonderful students at Moline High School! Any questions please see Lindsey Svetlick or Pastor Santina.

### **Visitation Committee, Wednesday, December 3rd at 11:30am**

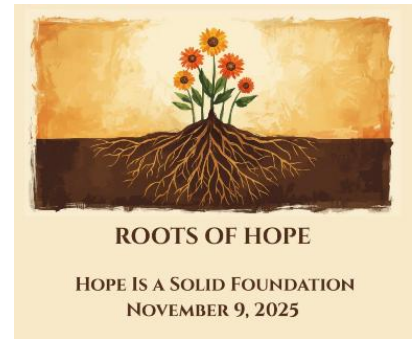
UCC's Visitation Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 3rd at 11:30am. This will be the last Visitation Committee meeting for 2025. We will resume our regular meeting schedule in January.

### **Book Club Meets Monday, November 24th at 2:30pm**

UCC's Book Club meets on Monday, November 24th at 2:30pm in Hope UCC's Conference Room. All are welcome to read our current book, ***Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver***, and meet to discuss this wonderful book. Contact Dorothy Burdick for more information.



**Hope United Church of Christ Moline, IL**  
**Worship Bulletin Novembre 9, 2025**  
**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Rev. Santina Poor, Pastor**  
*Thank you for joining us for worship today.*  
*We are glad you are here!*  
*Because you are who you are,*  
*you are welcome here!*  
**\*Those who are able, please stand.**



PRELUDE

*Amazing Grace*

arr. by Mary Rounsavall

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We call on God, who is as near as our next breath.  
 We gather to meet God, who has promised to bless us.

**Many: God is great and greatly to be praised.**

**Through many generations, God has acted among us.**

One: Meditate on the wondrous works of our Creator.  
 Marvel at the glorious splendor of God's majesty.

**Many: God is the Savior of all who seek refuge.**

**God hears our cries and fulfills our deepest desires.**

One: Remember God's steadfast love and faithfulness.  
 Make a joyful noise and break forth in song.

**Many: Our mouths will speak the praise of God.**

**Let all flesh bless God's holy name.**



OPENING HYMN

*How Firm a Foundation*

NCH #407



### \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Give ear to our prayers, gracious God, and attend to our cries. We call on you, knowing that you will answer and make your way known to us. We seek to follow the path you show us. We take courage, knowing that you are kind and just in all you do. When we need assurance, you gather us in the shadow of your wing. As we mature in faith, you give us wings to fly on our own. Meet each one of us in our particular need this hour. Amen.**



### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All-knowing God, we are reluctant to identify weakness or wickedness in ourselves. We do not recognize violent behavior or lawless rebellion as a personal problem. We would not think of elevating ourselves to take your place. Yet we find ourselves viewing the world from the narrow perspective of our own self-interest. Our anger at others spills over into our words and deeds. We ignore you in our decision making and fail to give thanks to you in our daily living. Without your forgiveness and transforming love, there is little hope for us. Hear us and save us, we pray. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

\*SHARING GOD'S PEACE



PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

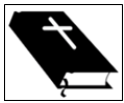
One: The Lord be with you.

**Many: And also, with you.**

One: Let us pray: ...

With the assurance Jesus offers, together we pray the words Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**



HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Job 19:23-27

- <sup>23</sup> "O that my words were written down!  
 O that they were inscribed in a book!  
<sup>24</sup> O that with an iron pen and with lead  
 they were engraved on a rock forever!  
<sup>25</sup> For I know that my vindicator lives  
 and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;  
<sup>26</sup> and after my skin has been destroyed,  
 then in my flesh I shall see God,  
<sup>27</sup> whom I shall see on my side,  
 and my eyes shall behold, and not another.  
 My heart faints within me!

Psalm 17:1-9

- <sup>1</sup> Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;  
 give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.  
<sup>2</sup> From you let my vindication come;  
 let your eyes see the right.  
<sup>3</sup> If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,  
 if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;  
 my mouth does not transgress.  
<sup>4</sup> As for what others do, by the word of your lips  
 I have avoided the ways of the violent.  
<sup>5</sup> My steps have held fast to your paths;  
 my feet have not slipped.  
<sup>6</sup> I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;  
 incline your ear to me; hear my words.  
<sup>7</sup> Wondrously show your steadfast love,  
 O savior of those who seek refuge  
 from their adversaries at your right hand.  
<sup>8</sup> Guard me as the apple of the eye;  
 hide me in the shadow of your wings,  
<sup>9</sup> from the wicked who despoil me,  
 my deadly enemies who surround me.

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

<sup>1</sup> As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, <sup>2</sup> not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. <sup>4</sup> He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. <sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

<sup>13</sup> But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. <sup>14</sup> For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>15</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

<sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, <sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

## SERMON

*How Firm a Foundation!*

## SERMON HYMN

*I Know that My Redeemer Lives (verses 1-4)*

## STORY OF HOPE MISSION MOMENT

Lindsey Svetlick

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

Great treasures have come to us from God's hand. The air we breathe, the lives we treasure, the love we have known are all gifts from our Creator. We are privileged to say thank you as we dedicate a portion of our resources for the ministry and mission of the church.



*Hope UCC thanks you for the gifts you share with this congregation. Your offering enables us to live into our mission. Offering plates are located near the Sanctuary doors.*

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION



**For the future glory of your church, we dedicate our gifts. Toward the reign of love in our midst, we consecrate ourselves. O God of all the ages, show yourself to us in our time. Work within us individually and among us as a community of faith, that we may experience resurrection and carry your good news into our world. Amen.**

## GATHERING AT THE TABLE: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome

One: God be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth



and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Many: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

### Remember

...Let us be a community of messengers, proclaiming and reminding each other and creation:

**Many: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

### Consecration

One: Let us pray...

**Many: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.**

### Breaking Bread and Pouring the Cup

### Sharing Holy Communion

*The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated through an open table at Hope UCC. All are invited to share this holy meal. Please come forward to receive a piece of bread and then take a cup from the tray. If you are unable to come forward to receive Communion, Pastor Santina will bring it to you in your pew. \*All of the bread is gluten free.*

COMMUNION HYMN

*As We Gather at Your Table*

NCH #332

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence and the holy renewal in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us as we find healing and renewal at this table so that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that we may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**



\*CLOSING HYMN

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

NCH #448

### \*BENEDICTION

One: A kind and just God sends us out into the world.

We are bearers of truth beyond our understanding.

**Many: We have been comforted and strengthened this day.**

**We have good news to share with the world.**

One: God watches over those who respond in love.

God fills us with hope and multiplies our good works.

**Many: We will praise God as long as we live.**

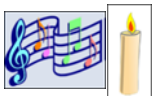
**We will witness to the resurrection day by day.**

One: Take courage and sing a new song.

Work in new ways, for the Spirit abides in you.

**Many: We will break down barriers with joyous daring.**

**We will live with a spirit of adventure. Amen.**



\*POSTLUDE *The Church's One Foundation*

arr. by Laurel Filzen Etzel

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**Serving in Worship Today:** Reverend Santana Poor, Pastor Hope UCC

**Liturgist:** Marilyn Rada

**Ministers of Music:** Laurel Filzen Etzel, Greg Etzel

**Accompanist:** Robyn Carter

**Greeter:** Mary Tallitsch

**Communion Preparation:** Jan Varga, Judy Hawotte, Jim Grafton

**Fellowship Hour:** Ruth Circle, Ken Curtis, Bob Morales

**Audio-Visual Ministry:** Jenny Hookey, Donna Werner, Bob Tallitsch, Kathy Hobson,  
Bob Poor, Bek Svetlick

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## How Firm a Foundation

Isa. 43:2-5; 2 Tim. 2:19; Heb. 13:5

"K" in John Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787; alt.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,  
 by God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!  
 for I am your God, I will still give you aid;  
 the riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;  
 my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;  
 What more can God say than to you has been said,  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand  
 For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt you; for I have de - signed  
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,  
 to you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."  
 de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."  
 your soul to make pure just as gold is re - fined."  
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

In 1787, John Rippon, English Baptist clergyman, identified the author of this hymn as "K"; no one has yet verified a complete name. The pentatonic melody has been known by several names since it first appeared in Funk's Genuine Church Music (1832).

Tune: FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11.  
 Early United States melody  
 from Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832  
 Alternate tune: ADESTE FIDELES



# 619 I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

5 He lives to bless me with his love;  
 he lives to plead for me above;  
 he lives my hungry soul to feed;  
 he lives to help in time of need.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;  
 he lives and loves me to the end;  
 he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;  
 he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
 he lives my mansion to prepare;  
 he lives to bring me safely there.

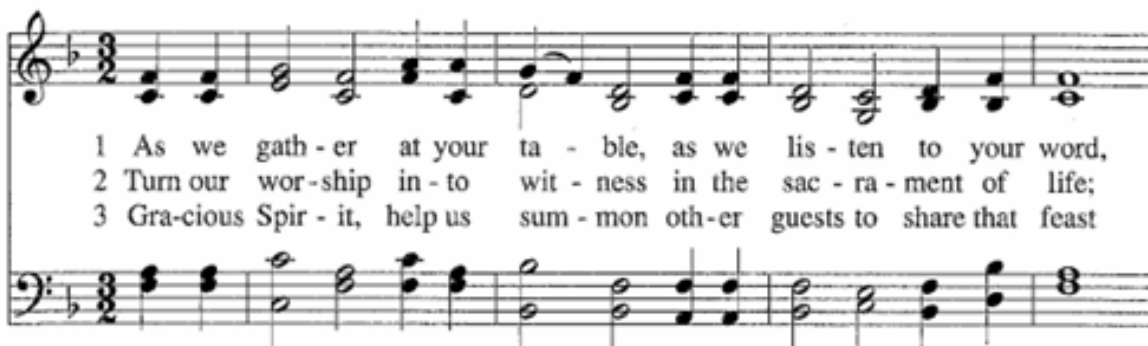
8 He lives, all glory to his name!  
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
 what joy this blest assurance gives:  
 I know that my Redeemer lives!

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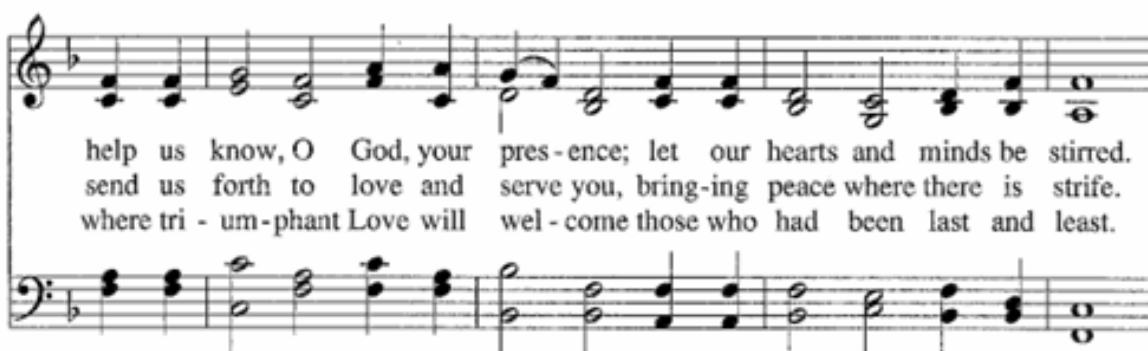
## As We Gather at Your Table

Matt. 22:1-10; Luke 14:16-24

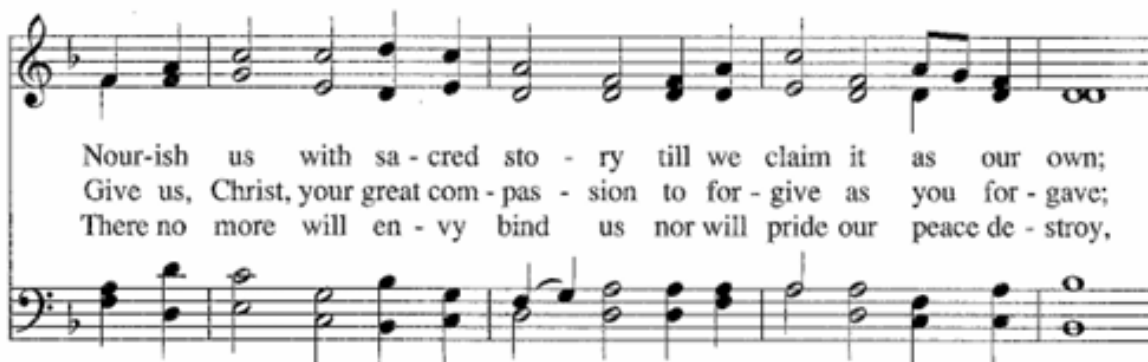
Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989



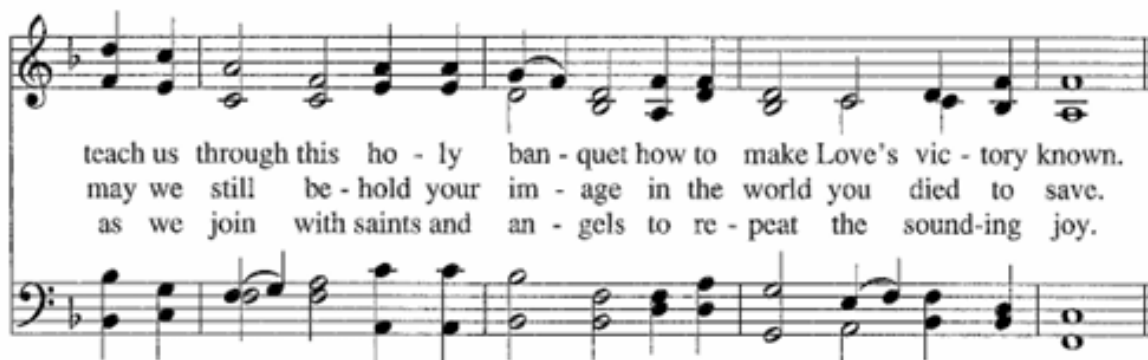
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

*In this hymn, commissioned by an Episcopal parish in Virginia for the celebration of its tricentennial, Carl P. Daw, Jr., utilized a familiar phrase from Isaac Watts' "Joy to the World," which was the motto for the celebration: "Repeat the sounding joy."*

Tune: BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.  
 The Sacred Harp, 1844  
 Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1992

# Take My Life, God, Let It Be

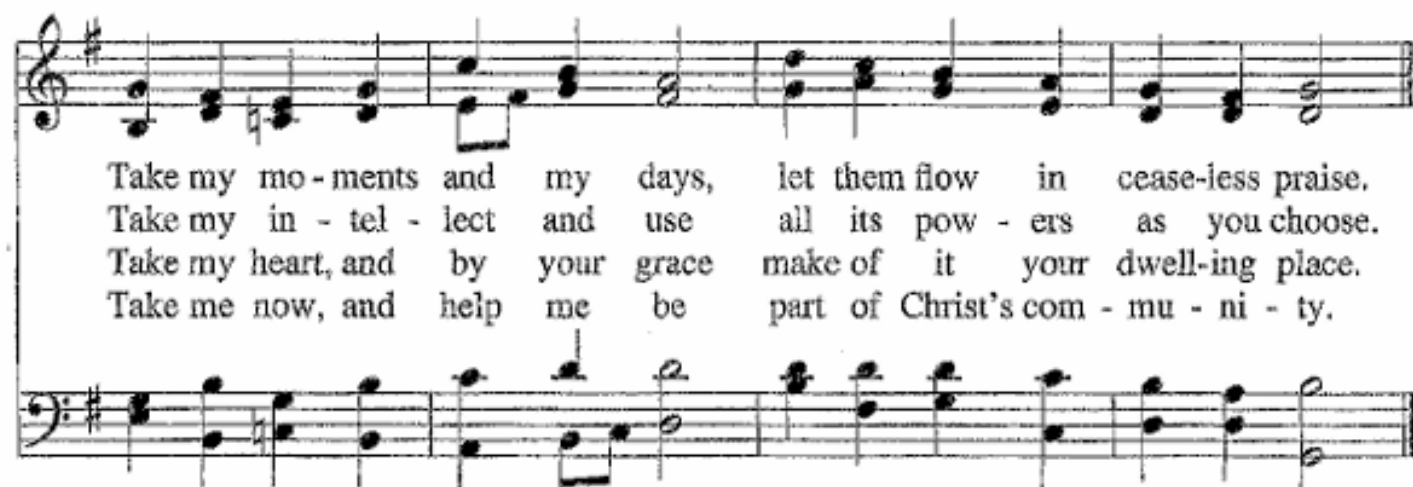
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Frances R. Havergal, 1874; alt.

Rom. 12:1



1 Take my life, God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - ly.  
 2 Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.  
 3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.  
 4 Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow.



Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease-less praise.  
 Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose.  
 Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place.  
 Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.

Frances R. Havergal wrote her hymn following a visit to Areley House in Worcestershire, England. Among the ten persons at the house were "some unconverted . . . some converted but not rejoicing." Before she left, "everyone had got a blessing."

Tune: VIENNA 7.7.7.7.

Justin H. Knacht, 1797

Alternate tune: HENDON