

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting "Healer of Broken Hearts" Oxana Khramova
(G. Stiffler, arr. F. Bock)

Ringing of the Bell

***Call to Worship** (*rise in body, mind, or spirit)
One: Loving God, you create us in your image and claim us as your children.
All: **We give you our lives in thanksgiving and praise!**
One: You give us gifts, each different, and bless us with your grace.
All: **We give you our lives in thanksgiving and praise!**
One: Fill us with your Spirit, that we may serve you with love and joy.
All: **We give you our lives in thanksgiving and praise! Alleluia!**

***Opening Prayer** (in unison)
Gracious God, unending source of blessing, unceasing well of grace, we thank you for the abundance of your good gifts. You have laid the treasures of your goodness in our hands. Stir up your grace in us so that we may bear your love and trust gladly into the world, by the power of your Spirit working in us. Amen.

Opening Hymn "The God of Abraham Praise" Hymnal #488

Readings Sherry Bernick
Matthew 25:14-30, Contemporary Reading is a quote from John Dominic Crossan

Anthem "A Psalm" Chancel Choir
(Andy Beck)

Sermon "Extravagant Opportunity" Pastor René Mehlberg

Transitional Hymn "Canticle of Turning" SoF #20

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer
Our Creator, 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.

Speaker "Together for Tomorrow" Rick and Sara Nagler

Offertory "Jesus Loves Me" Oxana Khramova
(C. Debussy, W. Bradbury, arr. F. Bock)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** (in unison)
Having received abundantly, we offer ourselves abundantly. Send us into the world, transformed by your spirit of generosity, to invest ourselves in the mending of all Creation, in the name of Christ. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** "Spirit" Hymnal #319

***Benediction**

***Sung Benediction** (unison)

God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a Shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude "Great Is the Lord" Oxana Khramova
(M. Smith and D. Smith, arr. C. Tornquist)

The flowers for church on Sunday are in memory of Lindsay Dehnert from her mom, Marilyn Dehnert and her aunt Margi Stauss.

Credits

- Liturgy from Garnaas-Holmes, Steve. "OT 33 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost." Unfolding Light. https://unfoldinglight.net/2023/03/01/ot-33-25th-sunday-after-pentecost/.
- Bass, Diana Butler. "The Parable of the Talents." The Cottage, July 8, 2026. https://dianabutlerbass.substack.com/p/the-parable-of-the-talents?utm_source=publication-search.

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This Week

Tuesday, November 17: **5pm** Menomonie Area Mission Coalition, R1

Wednesday, November 18: **9am** Thursday's Table meeting, R1; **9:30am** Tour of Homes crafts, R3; **4pm** Kid's Club, R2; **5:30pm** Chancel Choir; **6:30pm** Bell Choir; **7pm** Dance Practice, FH

Saturday, November 21, 4pm *Together for Tomorrow* reception at Schwebs

Link to the full church calendar: https://www.menomonieucc.org/monthlycalendar

Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Menomonie, WI
We are called together:

To celebrate God's presence.
To help each person to grow in their relationship with God;
To create a welcoming and supportive community of all God's people, affirming the diversity of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, and identity, social and economic status, and disability;
To observe and share life's passages and our faith traditions;
To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;
And to tell the old story of Jesus and His love.

Land Acknowledgement

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ho Chunk land. Generations of Indigenous people occupied and provided careful stewardship of this land long before Europeans arrived on these shores. The traumatic dispossession of this land by European immigrants and the displacement of countless individuals produced collective suffering that has repercussions for our Indigenous neighbors today. The original inhabitants of this land–known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island–took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creatures. With gratitude, we acknowledge the lessons we continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbors as we seek to be good stewards and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations.

ONA Covenant

We covenant as a congregation to welcome, celebrate, and include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families into the full life of our church. We take this stance publicly and proudly, knowing that silence is inadequate to confront the violent theology that is widespread throughout the Christian church. We covenant to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families with our prayers, words, and actions.

488 The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI 6.6.8.4 D

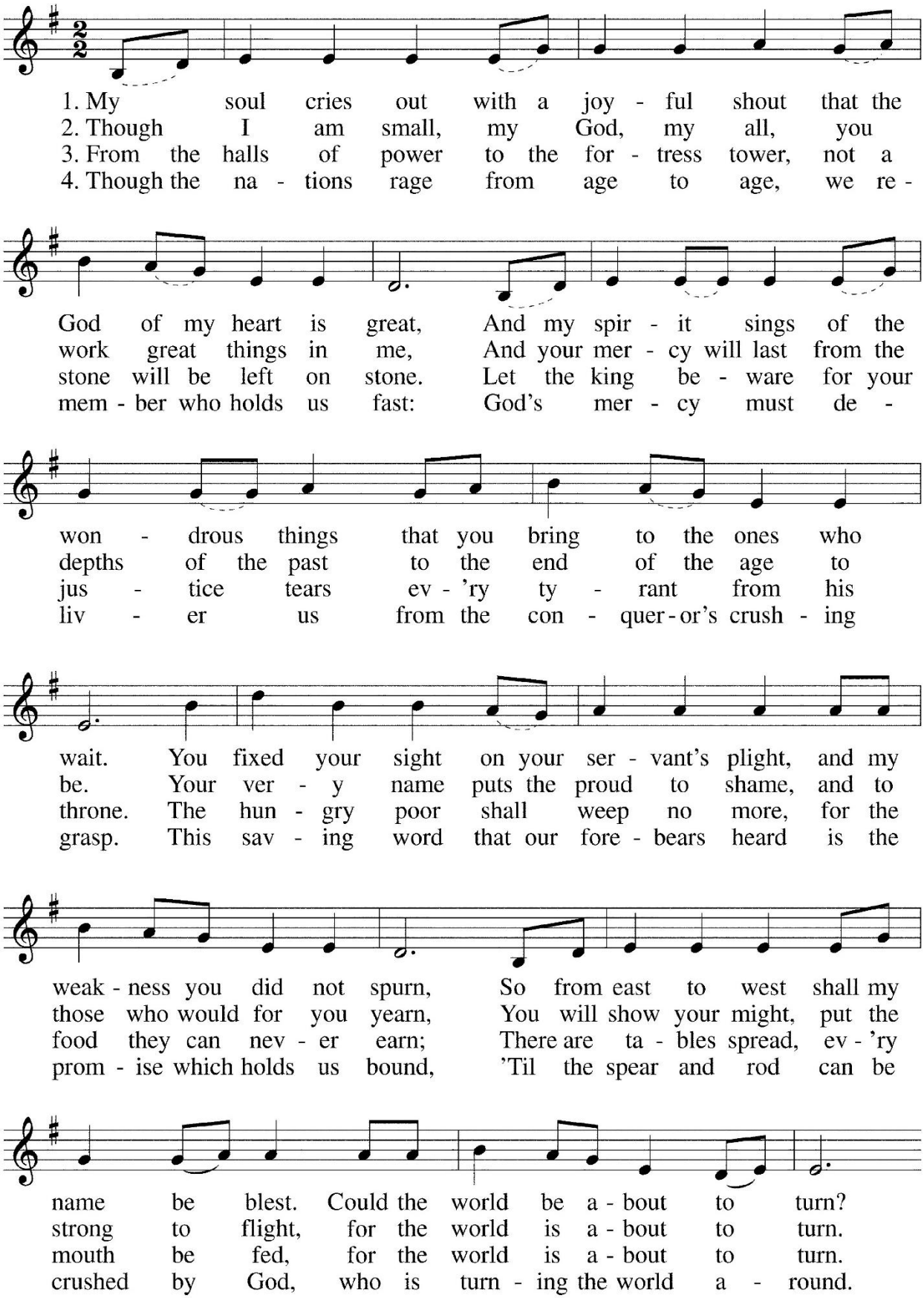
Daniel ben Judah, 1404
Trans. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1885; alt.

Hebrew melody
Adapt. Thomas Olivers
and Meyer Lyon, 1770

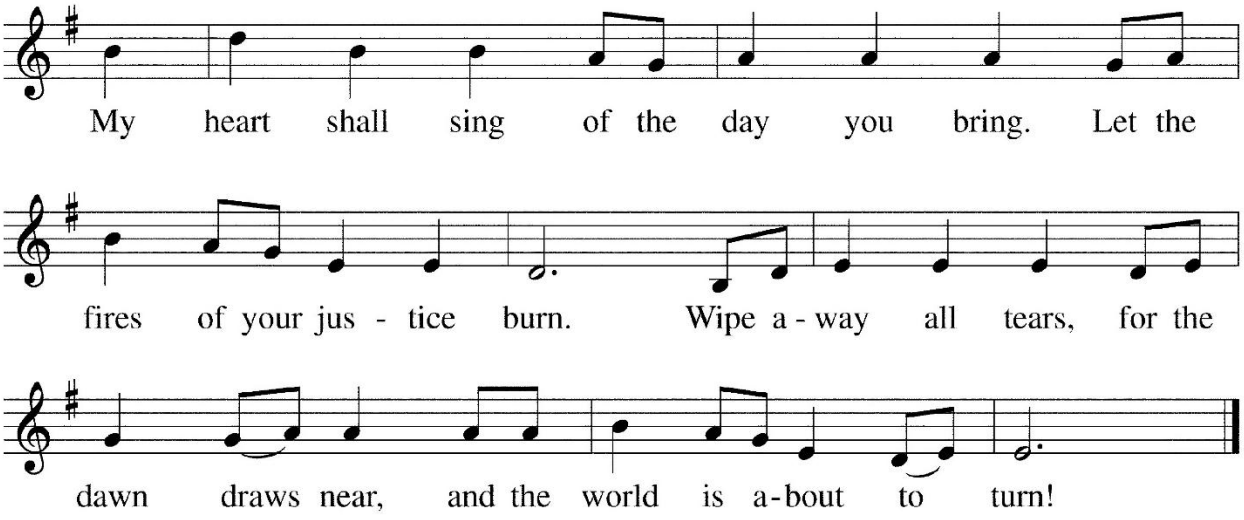


Canticle of the Turning

Verses



Refrain



Text: Luke 1:46-58; Rory Cooney, b.1952, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.
Tune: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN; Irish traditional; arr. by Rory Cooney, b.1952

319 Spirit

James K. Manley, 1975 — James K. Manley, 1975



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E A D G
val - leys of sleep, And o - ver the e -
law and a land, And when they were blind -
whole world was still, And down in the cit -
cap - tives dream dreams; Our wom - en see vi -
A G D
ons You called to each thing, "A -
ed With their i - dols and lies, Then You
y You called once a - gain When You
sions, Our men clear their eyes. With
Bm G
wake from your slum - bers And
spoke through Your proph - ets To
blew through Your peo - ple On the
bold new de - ci - sions Your
A D G/A D A D.C. al Fine
rise on your wings."
o - pen their eyes.
rush of the wind.
peo - ple a - rise.