DANVILLE
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

The Heir by A Sanctified Art

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 6, 2020

Zoom Worship

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE	*You Are Our God, We Are Your People*	David A. Hoekema
	God It Was	Lewis Folk Melody
	The Power of God	Frederick Arthur Graves

God told Abraham, "I will give you a land, a people as many as the stars."
Though childless and old, he and Sarah believed and trusted the word of the Lord.
God gave them Isaac, a son, at last, and this is the covenant he made:
"I am your God; you are my people." - David A. Hoekema

God it was who said to Abraham, 'Pack your bags and travel on!'
God it was who said to Sarah, 'Smile and soon you'll bear a son!'
Traveling folk and aged mothers wandering when they thought they'd done -
This is how God calls his people, losing all because of One. - John L. Bell

When Abraham and Sarah had promised them a son,
They were surprised and knew not what to say;
But they knew what God had promised He was able to perform:
And the power of God is just the same today.

The pow'r of God is just the same today,
It doesn't matter what the people say;
Whatever God has promised, He's able to perform:
And the power of God is just the same today. - F. A. Graves

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS — Zac Furber-Dobson

CALL TO WORSHIP — the Beaver familiy

One: In worship,
All: May we be as welcoming as Sarah and Abraham,
who were quick to serve the stranger.
One: In faith,
All: May we proclaim that nothing is too big for God.
One: In moments of holy surprise,
All: May we laugh with deep abiding joy.
One: For God is in the holy surprise.
All: God is in the winding path.
One: And God is in our presence today.
All: Let us worship Holy God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION — Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

God of unexpected joy and answered prayers,
We confess that sometimes things feel too good to be true,
While at other times we wonder if you hear us at all.
When life unravels for the worst—we blame you.
But when life unravels for the best, filling our days with holy surprise—
We tend to praise ourselves, thinking we've earned this unexpected joy.
Forgive us. Help us to see you in our midst.
And with every breath that turns into a laugh, draw us closer to you. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE — the Beaver familiy

One: Peace be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Let us greet one another with waves and smiles
and pass the peace of Christ using the chat feature.

OPENING HYMN — *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You* — See page 6.

TIME WITH CHILDREN — Nancy Halseth

SCRIPTURE LESSON — *Genesis 18:1–15; 21:1–7* — the Beaver familiy

SERMON — *Is There Anything Too Marvelous for God?* — Pastor Todd

ANTHEM
There is a Line of Women — George J. Webb
O God, Whose Steadfast Love — John D. Edwards
God of the Women — Irish folk tune

There is a line of women, extending back to Eve
Whose role in shaping history God only could conceive
And though, through endless ages, their witness was repressed
God valued and encouraged then through whom the world was blessed

So sing a song of Sarah to laughter she gave birth
And sing a song of Tamar who stood for women's worth
And sing a song of Hannah who bargained with her Lord
And sing a song of Mary who bore and bred God's Word - John L. Bell

Your promises, O God, so sure throughout the years,
Have lived in mothers' hearts, have bloomed from mothers' tears
So Sarah laughed, and Hannah wept,
and singing Mary secrets kept, and singing Mary secrets kept. - James L. Haddix

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth. - Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

TIME OF PRAYER Rev. Mariah Callison

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

(*Email your requests to Pastor Eric or type them in the chat window*.)

All: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using these words or the words most familiar to you)

Our Loving God, 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.

TIME OF GIVING the Beaver familiy

Invitation to Giving

During this time of virtual worship, we invite you to
give online via our web site and clicking "Donate" in the upper right of the screen.

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

Offertory Prayer

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

One: This one Table extends across the globe and time.
All: In our shared love for God through Jesus Christ, we are one at the Communion Table.
One: Those that might not elsewhere be welcome to serve or receive are welcomed here today—All means all at this Table.
All: We are a diverse people but not divided. We are a united people but not uniform.
One: At this Table, we are liberated and made one, not for ourselves, but for the world.
All: Although the world is broken and fragmented, here we can be inclusive to make more room at the Table because every human being—each one of us—is a beloved child of God. Together let us do our parts towards healing others with God's love.

SURSUM CORDA

One: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift our hearts up to God.
One: Let us give thanks to God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Thank you, God, for refreshing us at your table, for giving us this visible reminder of you and your love. By your grace you have nourished us with the living presence of Christ, the bread of life, that we may all share life together. Send us forth in the power of your Holy Spirit to give ourselves in love until your entire human family is gathered at your table. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy* See page 7.

BENEDICTION Pastor Todd

POSTLUDE *Laughter Lit the Stars of Morning* Cyril Taylor
Give To Us Laughter Ron Klusmeier
Fill Our Mouths With Laughter Daniel Charles Damon

Laughter lit the stars of morning singing at the dawn of earth;
angel throngs rejoiced to witness so miraculous a birth.
As they marveled at its wonder, teeming life forms, multi-hued,
tenderly the world God cradled and pronounced it very good.

Laughter filled a barren Sarah: "Shall this ancient womb conceive?
When I feel new life within me, only then will I believe!"
Sarah's laughter turned to wonder at the thing that God had done
when her longing arms were cradling Isaac, her beloved son. - Lydia Pedersen

Give to us laughter, O Source of our life.
Laughter can banish so much of our strife.
Laughter and love give us wholeness and health.
Laughter and love are the coin of true wealth. - Walter Farquharson

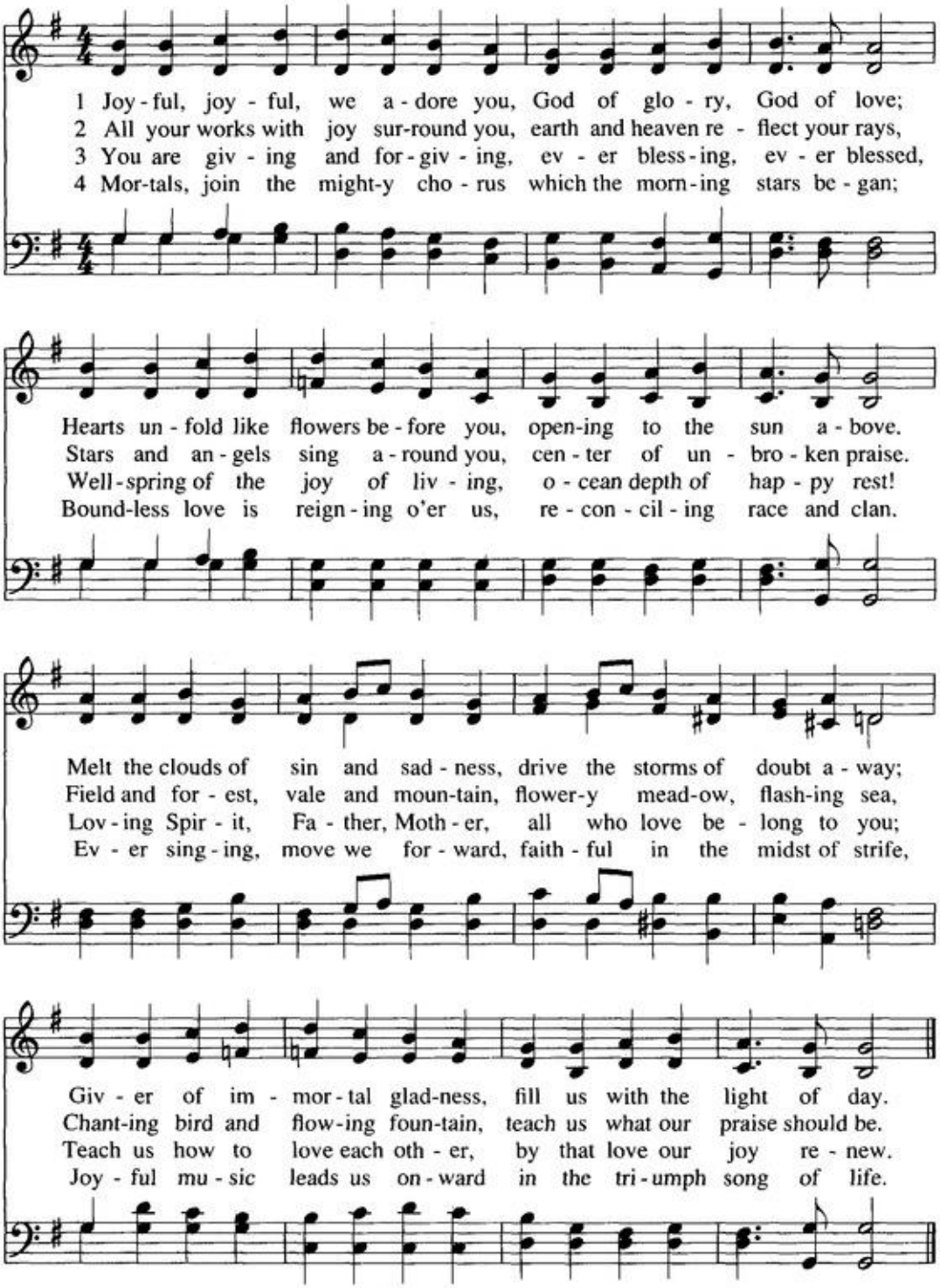
Fill our mouths with laughter, give us joyful tongues.
May all who come after know where praise belongs.
God, on us bestowing all that life esteems,
Love eternal, knowing all our hopes and dreams.

People from all nations ponder what good things
God, who loves all people, promises and brings.
Arid watercourses fed by falling rain,
like untethered horses freely flow again. - Brian Wren

4 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13

Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.

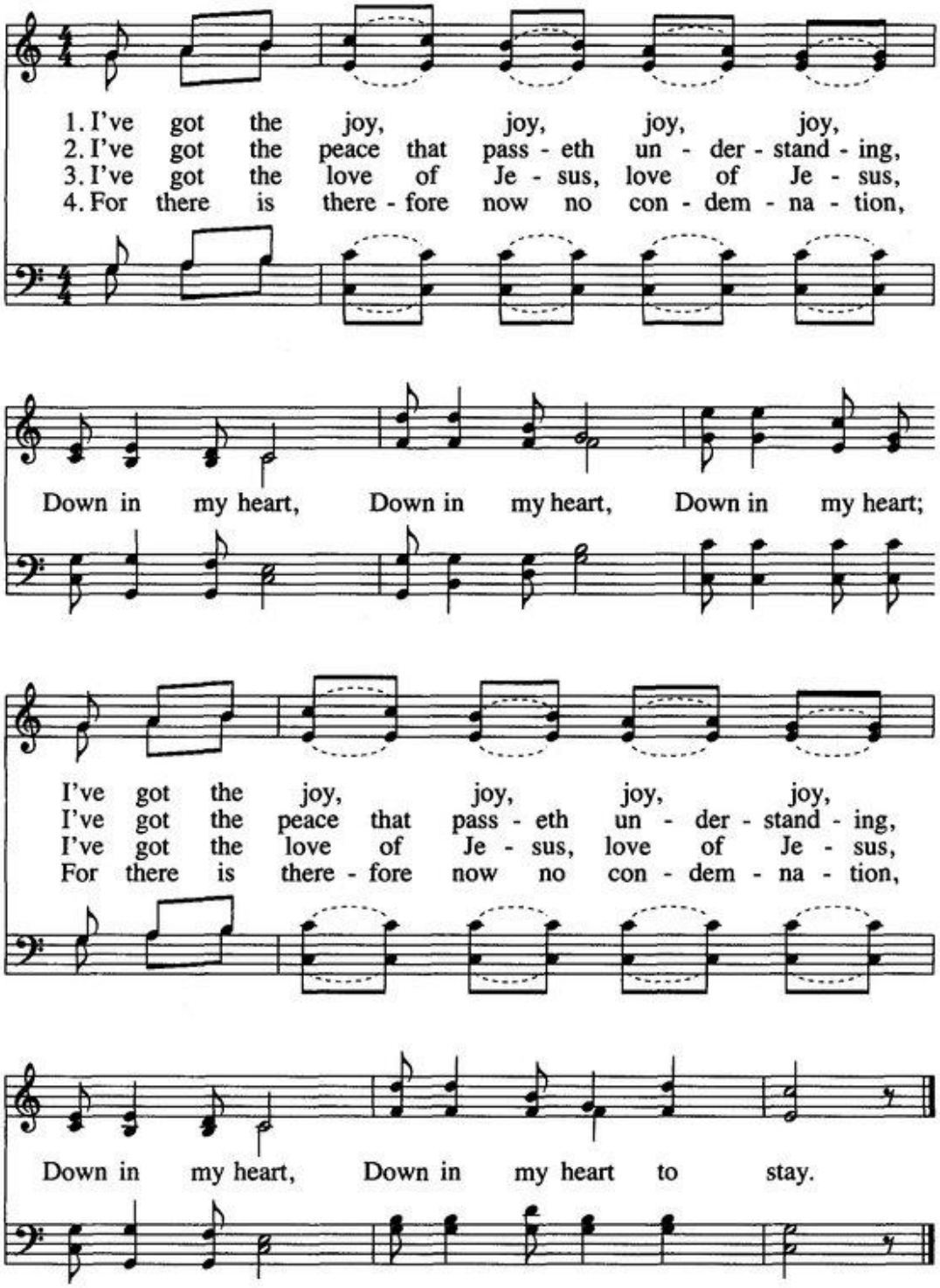


Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this hymn with Beethoven's ninth symphony, but few are aware of the original poem by the German classicist F. Schiller (1759–1805) that inspired Beethoven.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
Adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846

I'VE GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY 622

..and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.
1 Peter 1:8



Text: George W. Cooke
Tune: I'VE GOT THE JOY, Irregular; George W. Cooke

Announcements

If you would like to submit a prayer concern or joy for next Sunday's Zoom Worship, please email it to Pastor Eric at eric@danvillechurch.org.

To keep up-to-date on news and announcements during this time of social distancing, **please read your email** from DCC thoroughly! All communication related to church news and events will be communicated via email!

Fall Edition of the *Good News*

The Fall edition of the *Good News* is out. You can download and read your copy here. Special thanks to Chris Rauen for his excellent work on this issue!

Register for Annual Gathering!

Annual Gathering of the Northern California Nevada Conference of the UCC will be held on October 24, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Resolutions and other meeting materials have been sent or will be sent soon and posted on our website. Registration is now open. There is no charge but you must register.

Church Directory

Beginning last month, a team comprised of Emmaus Committee members and Deacons will be calling those listed in our church directory for whom we do not have Emergency Contact information.

Although infrequent, there have been instances when our pastors needed to reach a designated representative of a member of our church family, as in the case of a medical emergency, or when unable over a period of time to reach someone for a welfare check. When these occasions do arise, it is imperative that we have an alternate contact available.

Your assistance in getting our directory up to date will be greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, please email **Diane Stein.**

Upcoming Gatherings

Worship at DCC, *Sundays* at 9:30am
https://zoom.us/j/492975948?pwd=blJqZTNpNGo3S1o0YkNFM3FWQ1dIQT09
or by Zoom app: **492 975** 948, password **322**
or by phone: dial **669-900-6833**
and enter **492 975 948** as the Meeting ID and **322** as the password.

Youth Group, *Sundays* at 5:00pm
Physically distant, in-person. Contact Pastor Todd for details.

Youth Group Antiracism Book Chat, *Thursdays* at 5:15pm
Email Pastor Todd for the link.

Family Zoom Devotional, *Wednesday*, September 9 at 6:30pm

Youth Group Movie Night, *Friday*, September 11 at 7:00pm
Physically distant, in-person. See forthcoming email for details.

Children's Ministry Play Date, *Saturday*, September 12
Physically distant, in-person. See forthcoming email for details.

Ministers—The Entire Congregation

Church Staff
The Rev. Eric Sherlock, *Senior Pastor*
The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, *Associate Pastor*
John Kendall Bailey, *Music Director*
Mary-Marie Deauclaire, *Handbell Director*
Elizabeth Setlak-von Thury, *Office Manager*
Nicole Doyle, *Nursery Attendant*

The **DCC Prayer Team** prays daily for those in need of prayers.
If you would like to submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else,
contact a pastor or send an email to **prayers@danvillechurch.org**.
All requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

Kelley Mangels, *Dayspring Preschool Director*
dayspringpreschool.org

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