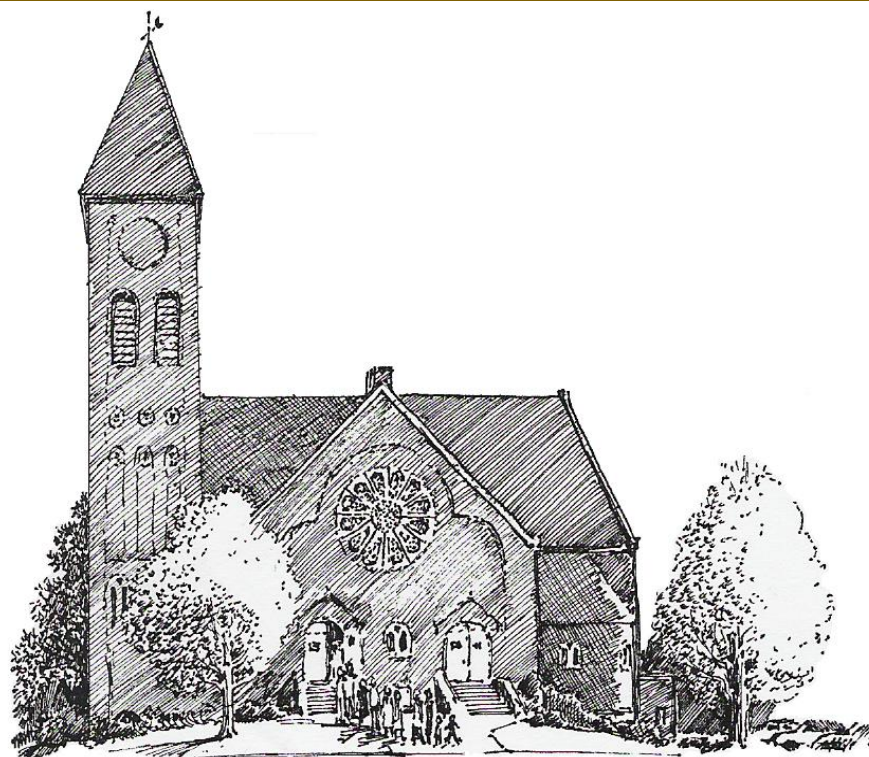




FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH “Center Church”



United Church of Christ - ONA
One Church Street
South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075
(413) 532-2262

email: centerchurch@verizon.net

website: www.centerchurchsouthhadley.org

Facebook: Center Church of South Hadley MA

Instagram: @centerchurchsouthhadley

We, the congregation of the First Congregational Church of South Hadley, MA, UCC, also known as Center Church, declare ourselves to be Open and Affirming. Our congregation is welcoming to all, embracing those of differing sexual orientation, transgender/gender identity and expression, marital status, age, mental and physical health and ability, racial and cultural background/identity, and educational/socioeconomic status. We are open to all to share in Christ's bountiful love through life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys. In the spirit of Paul in Galatians, we celebrate the diversity in which God has created us!



**** The two center sections of the sanctuary are equipped with a hearing loop.
Turn on the T-coil in your hearing aid and sit in one of these sections
for better hearing**

November 2, 2025
All Saints Sunday

"Fear is the glue that keeps you stuck. Faith is the solvent that sets you free."

— Shannon L. Alder

PRELUDE

Solid Rock
Union Seminary

R.J. Powell

D. Maxwell

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY MOMENT

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: For all the saints,

People: Who from their labors rest,

Leader: Who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,

People: Your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.

ALL: Alleluia. Allelulia.

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

***HYMN**

For All the Saints

black # 299

At the conclusion of the hymn, the children will leave to go to "The Promised Land " as the congregation sings the first verse of On River Jordan's Banks I Stand.

*On River Jordan's banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye,
Upon the fair and happy land where my possessions lie;
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land,
Oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.*

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING PRAYERS

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Gracious One, we confess that we sometimes find ourselves "up a tree," either by thinking ourselves better than those around us, or by recognizing that our actions have been out of keeping with your will and purpose. So may we hurry down the tree, as did Zacchaeus, so we extend the love of Jesus.

Assurance of Forgiveness

May we be eager to seek and to offer forgiveness; may we be eager to receive and to give hospitality as shown to us through Zacchaeus.

Pastoral Prayer

Silence

Lord's Prayer (debts)

Our Creator/Father/Mother, who art 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

Congregational Response



Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -



cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace. A - men.

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ² A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." ⁶ So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷ All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." ⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." ⁹ Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

SERMON

UP A TREE

*HYMN

Forward through the Ages

black #377

OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Marie Pooler

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore,
One God triune whom we adore. Amen*

Prayer of Dedication

***HYMN**

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

black # 337

COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

*It is our tradition to hold each of the elements until all are served
so that we may partake together.*

[Rice cake pieces are offered for those with allergies to gluten.]

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Make us instruments of your Just Peace, where there are seeds of hatred, let us sow seeds of love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light, where there is sadness, joy; O divine Gardener, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life.

Saint Francis

***HYMN**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

black # 403

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

POSTLUDE

Solid Rock

C. Phillips

We invite you to remain quietly and celebrate the conclusion of worship in the postlude.

The Deacons are asking you to refrain from clapping. If moved by the postlude or worship, please shout out "AMEN!" We are implementing this to move away from worship being a performance, to sharing a sentiment of having been filled by worship/music.

**Please stand if you are comfortable.*

In our Service Today

Preacher:	Rev. Lori J. Souder
Scripture Reader:	Wendy Williams
Organist/Choir Director:	Larry D. Schipull
Deacon:	Bill Giles

*We hope that you find your worship experience meaningful.
If you are new to the community, we invite you to make this your church home.*

*Please stay after worship for refreshments and fellowship
downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.*



If you are visiting with us today, **WELCOME**. At the close of the service, please take a small welcome gift found in the baskets located at the sanctuary narthex and crossway doors. It is our token of saying "thank you for sharing worship with us, we truly feel blessed and we hope to see you again soon."

THE MINISTRY AT CENTER CHURCH

Ministers:	All Church Members
Senior Minister:	Rev. Lori J. Souder

Christian Education Program

Children:	Vicki Scherer, Coordinator, - Emily Mulder, Teacher
Youth Coordinator:	Kenneth Mulder
Nursery Caregiver:	Annabelle Burke

Music

Organist:	Larry Schipull
Choir Director:	Ben Coakley
Associate in Music:	Cynthia Morrell
Office Administrator:	Cynthia Jubinville
Sexton:	Robert Farman



Please consider a donation for disaster relief, for the devastating destruction caused by hurricane Melissa, in the Caribbean. The scenes of Jamaica are sorrowful. We will send all donations through the UCC, later in November. Praying for all affected by this.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Continual:

Barbara Blank, on Hospice at Reeds Landing
Joan Duffy
Martha Guild's mother, June
Eileen Halkyard
Tom Hazen
Eunice Howes
Leila Mulder, attending boarding school
Fay Paquette
Nikki Wolf, Linda's granddaughter
Those struggling with addiction
Those struggling with cancer



If you have submitted one of these requests for prayer, please let us know when it is time to remove someone's name from the list.

Situational:

Rick Anderson, recovering from knee surgery
Bobbie Ayers and family, on the passing of her sister, Nancy Lutes
Cynthia Baker
Dennis Banks, friend of Karen and Estelle Anderson, with cancer
Audrey Heaphy, recovering from a fall
Elisa Morrison's mother Sandy, and brother Carl, with heart issues
Elisa's young friend Elija, for addiction recovery
Mary Nelsons father, Dave Nelson, with cancer
Katie (Daniels) Bobel's brother-in-law, Gary Nicolls, severely injured in a car accident
Nancy Perman's cousin Katherine, in rehab
Kendall Johnson-Smith, Preston Smith's daughter, with cancer
Vicki Scherer's grandfather, Sam Thompson, with cancer

Bombyx Brass Collective Presents

POPS ACROSS THE POND



Sunday, November 16, 2025 @3pm
United Methodist Church, 30 Carew Street South Hadley, MA

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 @7pm

Bombyx Center for Arts and Equity
130 Pine Street
Florence, MA



Suggested Donation of \$25 to Benefit the Food Bank of Western Mass

You are invited to The Bombyx Brass Collective's first program of the season, "Pops Across The Pond." We are planning **two delightful performances to benefit the [Food Bank of Western Mass](#)** on Sunday afternoon November 16 at 3PM at United Methodist Church in South Hadley and again Tuesday evening November 18 at the Bombyx Center in Florence. The goal is to raise \$5,000 to **support the Food Bank** in their ongoing battle to eliminate hunger and food insecurity in our communities. **In addition to your monetary donation, we will also be accepting donations of groceries and household supplies (unexpired dry goods please) at each performance to benefit [Neighbors Helping Neighbors](#) and the [Northampton Survival Center](#).**

All Saints Sunday

November 2, 2025

Virginia “Ginny” Johnston

November 16, 2024

Alicia L. Orlow

December 22, 2024

Lloyd Stanley Morrrell

January 20, 2025

Margaret “Peggy” Woods

January 21, 2025

Jean Harris

February 20, 2025

Phyllis Lacoste

March 3, 2025

James Roger Noonan

April 16, 2025

Eduardo Branco Da Cruz

June 9, 2025

Jim Baldwin

July 14, 2025

Lynne Bertram

July 14, 2025

David Driscoll

August 12, 2025

Joyce Roberts

August 17, 2025

Claudia Donald

September 1, 2025

Arthur Stanley

September 3, 2025

Bill Burke

September 12, 2025

Nancy Lutes

October 13, 2025

Mary L. Lafleur

October 23, 2025



Center Church Announcements

Reminder: There are pillow cushions and afghans available in bins at the back of the Sanctuary for your comfort and warmth. Please use them!

Please sign up to read Scripture during Sunday worship. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Bock Crossway. Also, please consider being a greeter as folks come into the Sanctuary – signup sheet also in the Crossway.

Breakfast and Conversation On November 12 we will have our monthly breakfast conversation on “End of Life” decision using an article from the *Christian Century*. Included is another article by the same periodical that says it is now legal for faith-based organizations to endorse candidates. Your thoughts? Separation of Church and State? I am sure you have them.

Join us for a light breakfast and hearty conversation. The articles will have been sent out to those who have attended in the past but a few will be at the table inside the Church Street entrance door.



On **November 7 from 5pm – November 8, 6pm**, people are invited to Center Church to **share their story about their roots**. This is a non- partisan event, meant to celebrate the rich voices that have informed our country and honor our ancestors. *Our Roots, Our Voices* provides a platform for adults and youth age 16+ from all walks of life to talk about their roots, their passions and dreams, and the futures they see for themselves and our country. As we approach our nation’s 250th anniversary, this is an opportunity to give voice to our own unique perspectives, and share stories of the courage and tenacity of our ancestors. When individual voices can be heard, respected, and valued, we learn and understand more about each other and our shared humanity.

There will be 15 minute segments (10 minutes speaking) with over 100 different people speaking during the 25 hours. We are co-hosting it with the DTC. In addition to be willing to speak regarding your own roots, we will need volunteers to help with refreshments and to serve as hosts during the 25 hours. Lori is committed to being present during the “wee hours.” This is our opportunity to bring community together peacefully. If you are interested, please talk to Rev Lori Souder.



""Growing a Harvest of Generosity: Our annual Center Church financial generosity season is underway! You may have already received the Center Church pledge packet in the mail. If not, it will be in your mailbox this week! Please read the materials and

prayerfully consider how your generosity provides a "harvest" of ministry locally & globally through Center Church. Make a plan for your financial pledge and bring your completed pledge form to worship on Nov 9th, where we will commit and consecrate our financial pledges, and celebrate after worship with an intergenerational lunch! Let's sow some seeds together, with our generosity! Thank you for your gift to Center Church!""

CELEBRATING THE HARVEST OF GENEROSITY - ACTIVITY AND LUNCH - NOVEMBER 9TH

All are welcome to share a family friendly activity and meal together following worship on Sunday, November 9th. Please save the date to celebrate our blessings and gifts on Stewardship Sunday - during and after worship! Vegetarian Chili will be served for lunch, and you are invited to bring cornbread, corn chips, or cookies. So that we may get an approximate idea of attendance, please RSVP electronically <https://forms.gle/KQRZFB6GDi4FLcNi7> , or sign-up in the Crossway or in Fellowship Hall. The gathering will begin with a seed planting activity, and then lunch served family-style. Please join this opportunity to give thanks for our collective generosity and the many blessings we share as a community.

Warmly, Kate Hoffman Khoffman0203@gmail.com

This Week at Center Church

Tuesday	Church Council 7pm
Thursday	AA 1:30pm Dance Lessons 6pm
Friday - Saturday	Our Roots, Our Voices
Sunday	Worship 10am Stewardship Sunday Intergenerational Luncheon following service



*Bazaar drop off - and help with set up of Bazaar - Mon - Friday 9am - noon.
Sunday November 9 will be the last day items may be dropped off!*



Holiday Bazaar NOVEMBER 22 and 23

In November donations will be accepted on Sundays - the 2nd and 9th, after services. Then, during set up times November 3 - 7, Monday through Friday, from 9am to noon, you may bring your donations to Fellowship Hall. **The VERY LAST day for donations is November 9th.** If these dates do not work for you, call the office, and leave a message. An Activities Team member will call you back to make arrangements. **Please respect the November 9th cut off for donations. There is only so much time in the day for the volunteers to do the work.**

**Donations accepted: Christmas merchandise Winter merchandise
Toys Puzzles Jewelry Books Unused gifts that need a new home**

Questioning your items? kindly ask. Donations need to be clean and in working order. We sincerely appreciate all the donations.

This is what makes the Bazaar successful!!!

To make the bazaar happen, **set up** needs to happen. In all honesty, a crew is truly needed. Getting ready starts 4 weeks out. What needs to be done is setting up tables and shelving in Fellowship Hall, unpacking and sorting merchandise to put into categories, then displaying, pricing, food preparation, wreath making, and continual cleaning as we move along. All of this takes time. **Volunteers make the difference at getting the bazaar ready. You are needed. Please consider lending a hand.**

Work Schedule Time:

November 3 to 7, 9am to noon

November 10 to 15, 9am to 4pm

November 17 to 21, 9am to 4pm

None of these times work? Only available evenings and weekends? That can happen. Please contact either Karen Anderson (413-374-9156) or Corinne Chartrand (413-219-6563) with the times you are going to help or would like to help. Come and enjoy working and getting to know fellow parishioners

For the **Holiday Bazaar November 22-23**, we will host talented crafters, as we did last November. We want to **open the invitation to crafters to plan to join us for the weekend of November 22-23**, and I will forward an application as soon as crafter inquiries arrive. Let us know if you have any contacts I should reach out to.
Corinne

For All the Saints

Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who to the
 2 You were their rock, their ref - uge, and their might: you, Christ, the
 3 Still may your peo - ple, faith - ful, true, and bold, live as the
 4 Ringed by this cloud of wit - ness - es di - vine, we fee - bly
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith con-fessed, your name, O Je - sus,
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you
 saints who no - bly fought of old, and share with them a
 strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet in your love our
 ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.
 were their one true light.
 glo - rious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 faith - ful lives en - twine.
 gain, and faith grows strong.

This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnal (1869) and set to a tune by that name, Sarum. It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring Sine Nomine in The English Hymnal (1906).

Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4.
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

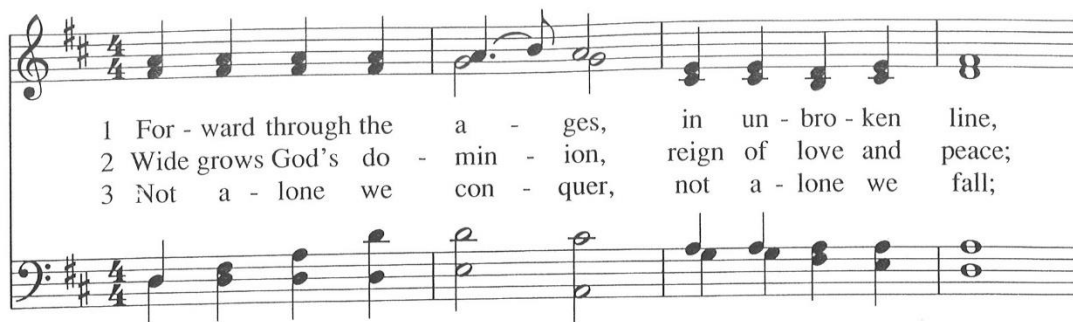
COMMUNION OF SAINTS

377

Forward through the Ages

Heb. 11; 1 Cor. 12

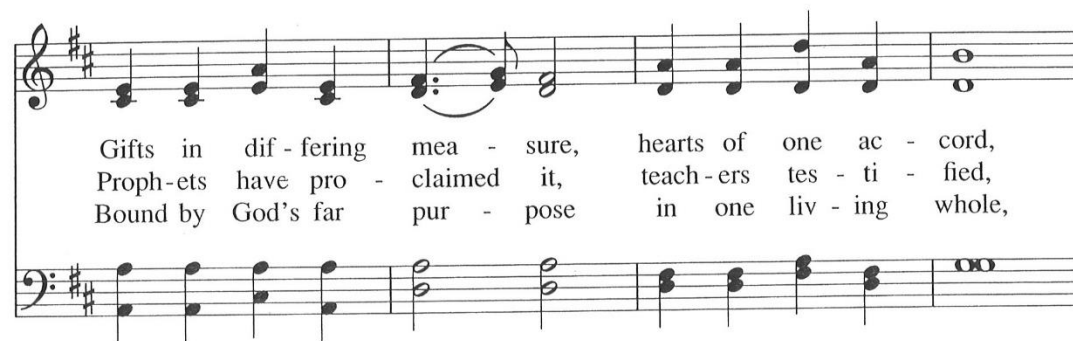
Frederick Lucian Hosmer, 1908; alt.



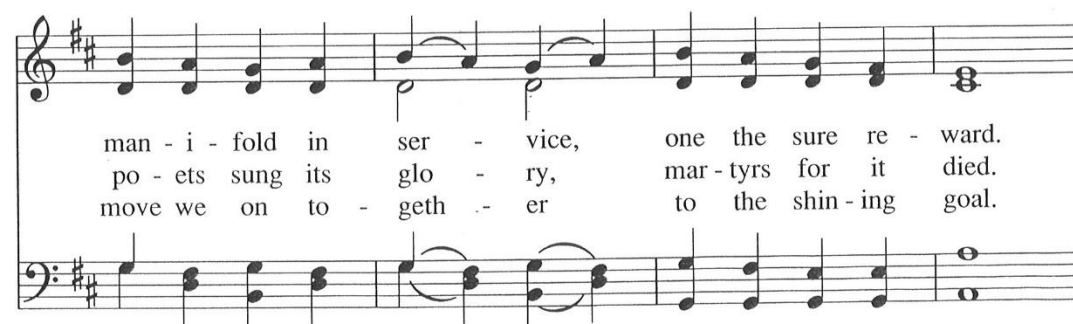
1 For - ward through the a - ges, in un - bro - ken line,
2 Wide grows God's do - min - ion, reign of love and peace;
3 Not a - lone we con - quer, not a - lone we fall;



move the faith - ful spir - its at the call di - vine;
for it we must la - bor, till all striv - ings cease.
in each loss or tri - umph, lose or tri - umph all.



Gifts in dif - fer - ing mea - sure, hearts of one ac - cord,
Proph - ets have pro - claimed it, teach - ers tes - ti - fied,
Bound by God's far pur - pose in one liv - ing whole,



man - i - fold in ser - vice, one the sure re - ward.
po - ets sung its glo - ry, mar - tyrs for it died.
move we on to - geth - er to the shin - ing goal.

Frederick Hosmer, educated at Harvard and ordained to the Unitarian ministry, served Congregational and Unitarian churches throughout the country. He was known for his concern for social issues, his service book for Sunday schools, and his lectures on hymnology.

Tune: ST. GERTRUDE 6.5.6.5.D. with refrain
Arthur S. Sullivan, 1871

COMMUNION OF SAINTS

Refrain

For-ward through the a - ges, in un - bro - ken line,

Move the faith - ful spir - its at the call di - vine.

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

337

Percy Dearmer, 1925; alt.

Matt. 18:20

Unison

1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
 2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
 3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name, two or three are met to - geth - er,
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the Giv - er,
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help-ing, giv - ing,

you are in the midst of them; Al - le - lu - ia!
 break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
 we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
 Al - le - lu - ia! So now bind our friend - ship up.
 Al - le - lu - ia! We may serve with faith a - new.

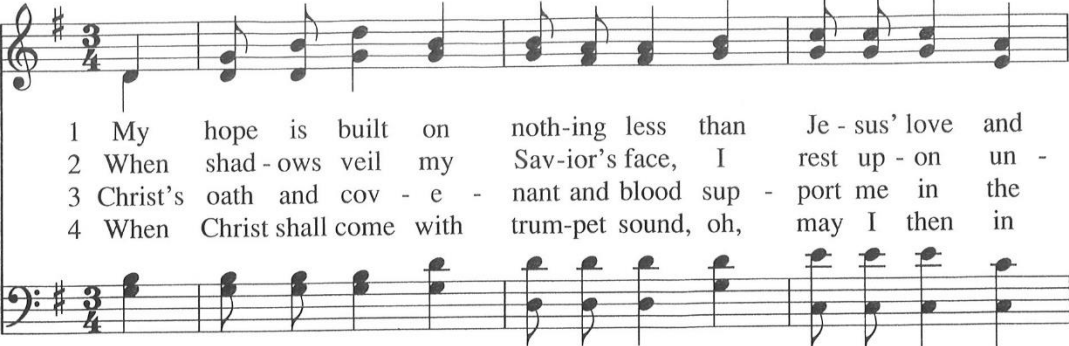
British hymnal editor Percy Dearmer originally wrote these stanzas under a pseudonym as part of a postcommunion hymn by George H. Bourne. The tune was adapted from an anthem by Harold Friedell and is named for Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Tune: UNION SEMINARY 8.7.8.7.4.4.7.
 Harold Friedell, 1957
 Adapt. Jet Turner, 1967

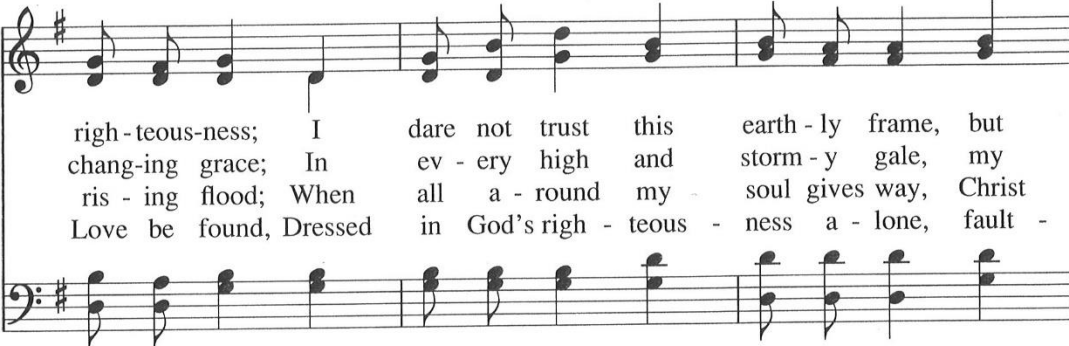
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Matt. 7:24-27; 1 Cor. 3:11; Heb. 6:19; Rev. 11:15

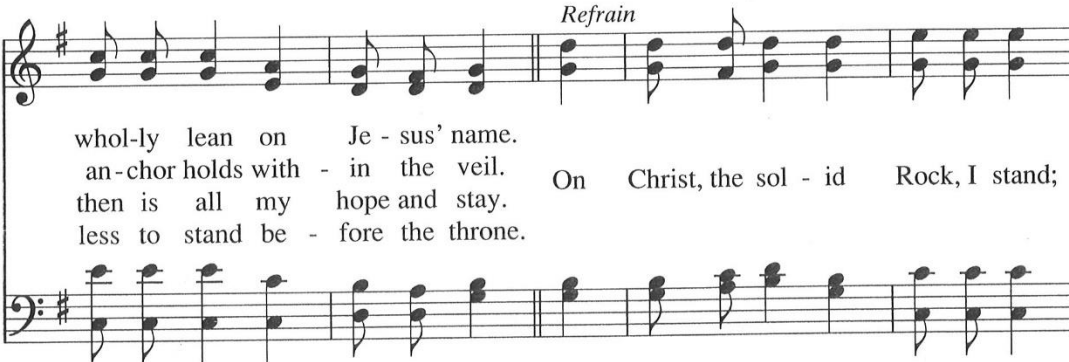
Edward Mote, c. 1834; alt.



1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' love and
 2 When shad - ows veil my Sav-ior's face, I rest up - on un -
 3 Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the
 4 When Christ shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in

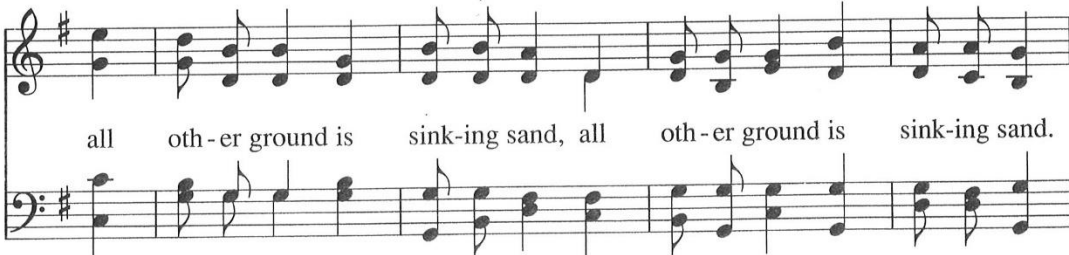


righ-teous-ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but
 chang-ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ
 Love be found, Dressed in God's righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -



Refrain

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an-chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.



all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

William Bradbury met great success by composing hymn tunes and religious songs in a lively, popular style. He also helped establish music programs in New York public schools, served a

Tune: SOLID ROCK L.M. with refrain
 William B. Bradbury, 1863