

**Peacham Congregational Church**  
56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862  
802-592-3330

Watts Chapel - Ceiling Apex with Four Seraphs (4)



*Interim Pastor, Nicole Klosterman*

*We are an Open and Affirming Church*

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*

[www.peachamchurch.org](http://www.peachamchurch.org)

**Order of Worship**

November 16, 2025

Nicole Klosterman, Interim Pastor, Lay Reader: Bruce Maclean

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude- Our Father (Leipzig, 1519): "O quickly come, great King of all;..."

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (1)**

**L:** Even though we don't always feel it, God is with us.

**P:** The darkness and doubt of the world can threaten to consume us.

L: Yet God is with us.

**P: All around us, there is fear and hopelessness.**

L: God brings to us hope and peace. We place our trust in God's abundant love.

**ALL: Let us freely and without fear open our hearts to God's healing words of hope. AMEN.**

**Opening Hymn: #426 – "I've Got Peace Like a River"**

Opening Prayer (2) – read by Bruce Maclean

Imagining your reign  
can be difficult, eternal God.  
It is difficult to picture a world  
governed by your justice  
and righteousness alone.  
Our minds are held captive  
by the worst images  
of human kings, rulers, and powers.  
When nobler visions fail  
and we settle for kingdoms  
of our own making,  
correct and forgive us.  
Free the borders of our imaginations,  
that we may envision your greater good  
and celebrate the coming of your reign  
on earth as in heaven. Amen.  
Anthem – Standin' in the Need of Prayer -

First Reading: Isaiah 65:17-19, 24-25

**Joys & Concerns**

**Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

**Response**

***Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O god.***

***Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen.***

**Offering & Mission (CWS)**

**Doxology #46 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

## RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: Restoring God, Maker of new heavens and a new earth, where sorrow is lifted, and joy takes root, as we bring our gifts this day, may they be seeds of your promised future—an offering of hope, justice, and mercy in a weary world.

**P: Use what we give and who we are to proclaim a kin-dom where none are forgotten, where the wolf and lamb lie down in peace, and where the sound of weeping is no more. In Christ's name, who is our joy. Amen.**

*(Isaiah 65:17-25)*

## Hymn #445 – “Be Thou My Vision”

Second Reading: Luke 21:5-19

Message – “A Phoenix First Must Burn”

## Closing Hymn #7 – “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

## RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION (3)

*(Inspired by Isaiah 65, Luke 21)*

Go forth into a world that needs new visions.

Bring the message of hope and love,  
of justice and peace, to all you meet.

**Alive with hope, we dream of peace.**

Celebrate endings and new beginnings,  
challenges and promises.

**We live in the New Creation. May it be so. Amen.**

## Response #345– God Be with You Til We Meet Again, vs. 1

Postlude - "Picardy" (17th c. French Carol), Arranged: James Gilbert

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(1) Nancy C. Townley, “Call to Worship 4,” *Worship Connection: November 6, 2022*, *Ministry Matters*, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/4369/worship-connection-november-10-2019>.

(2) Hans Holznagel, “Worship Elements: November 20, 2022,” *Ministry Matters*, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4410/worship-elements-november-20-2022>

- (3) Adapted from Joanne Carlson Brown, "Worship Elements: November 13, 2022," Ministry Matters, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4387/worship-elements-november-17-2019>.
- (4) Cover Art: "The mortuary chapel at Compton in Surrey, England, was designed by Mary Seton Watts in 1895 and executed by local people using local materials. This...chapel...explicitly registers despair and locates it with a narrative of purpose that is varied enough to engage a wide range of human conditions...Art is not so much an activity at the disposal of the Christian faith as the standard way in which religious faith is expressed." [from: *The Art of the Sublime: Principles of Christian Art and Architecture*, by Roger Homan, 2006, p. 37-38.] <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/diglib-fulldisplay.pl?SID=20251113125943038&code=act&RC=59664&Row=4>

## **Announcements November 16, 2025**

Our 4th quarter mission is Church World Service. If you would like to donate to CWS please indicate on your check in the memo line "CWS".

Please don't forget to return your annual pledge envelope. The Business Committee is counting on early returns so they can begin preparing for the 2026 Budget.

During Coffee Hour today, we will talk about an additional Christmas Eve Service. Please plan to stay so you can hear the options.

The **Memory Tree Order** forms are available on the back table in the sanctuary and downstairs on the table near the kitchen door. Please return them in the collection plate, hand them to Ann or Patty or mail them back to Peacham Congregational Church, PO Box 205, Peacham, VT 05862. Thanks!

11/16/25	Nicole Klosterman Coffee Hour: Dart Thalman
11/23/25	John Morris – Message: "Giving Thanks" Coffee Hour: Lynne Lawson
11/30/25	Nicole Klosterman – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Advent participants: Katherine Siner w/Wren & Louisa Coffee Hour: Patty, Anita & Carolyn
12/3/25	500 pm - Memory Tree Lighting and soup/sandwich meal
12/5/25	North Country Chorus sings Handel's Messiah
12/6/25	North Country Chorus sings Handel's Messiah
12/7/25	John Morris – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Coffee Hour: Nancy & Brad Toney Advent participants: Deasy & Hovey Families 3:00 p.m. North Country Chorus – Handel's Messiah Sing

**Interim Pastor.....Nicole Klosterman (510)-452-0285**

Email: peachamchurchpastor@gmail.com

**Nicole's availability for scheduled visits:**

Mon 1-2:30

Tues 11-2:30

Fri 8:45-11

**Here is a link to schedule a 45 min pastoral care visit with Nicole using days listed above:** <https://calendly.com/peachamchurchpastor/30min>

Nicole will be available the **Wednesday before Thanksgiving in the morning from 8-11.**

Church Admin.....	Patty Gardner
Treasurer.....	Bruce Westcott
Collector.....	Ann Goss
Accompanist .....	Bruce Westcott
Sexton.....	Jeff Lane
Church Council President & Moderator.....	John Marshall
Web Ministry .....	Jonathan R. Potter

Deacons:	Susan Chandler	Chris Danielson
	Carolyn Deasy	Patty Gardner
	Anita Vann	Rick Witt
Deacon Emeritus:		Bruce Maclean

## I've Got Peace Like a River

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a  
 2. I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a  
 3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an  
 4. I've got faith like an an - chor, I've got faith like an

1.  
 riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, in - a my  
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain, in - a my  
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, in - a my  
 an - chor, I've got faith like an an - chor, in - a my

2.  
 soul. I've got riv - er in - a my soul.  
 soul. I've got foun-tain in - a my soul.  
 soul. I've got o - cean in - a my soul.  
 soul. I've got an - chor in - a my soul.

WORDS and MUSIC: African-American spiritual

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

77.10 D

Spirituals draw heavily from Old Testament imagery, including 'peace like a river' from Isaiah 48:18. The New Testament also provided imagery for this song in the fruits of the Spirit—love, joy and peace (Galatians 5:22).

This won't be a love song till we know the words by heart.

— Bob Gibson

# Be Thou My Vision

445

Unison

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

nought be all else to me save that thou art.  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - it - ance, now and al - ways;  
 may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 thou my Re - deem - er, my love thou hast won;  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
 Rul - er of heav - en, my treas - ure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

WORDS: Ancient Irish, tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.  
 MUSIC: Traditional Irish melody, harm. David Evans, *Revised Church Hymnary*, 1927

SLANE  
 10 10.9 10

The original Irish text dates from c. A.D. 700. SLANE is an ancient  
 ballad tune named for the hill where St. Patrick lit Easter fires.

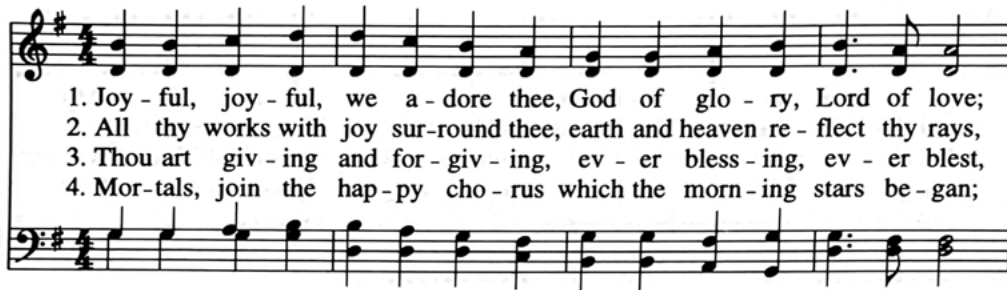
Harm. © 1927, by permission  
 of Oxford University Press

PRAYER AND GUIDANCE

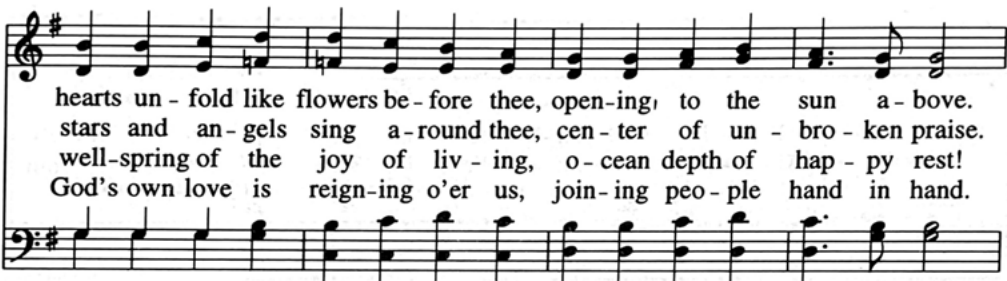


# Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

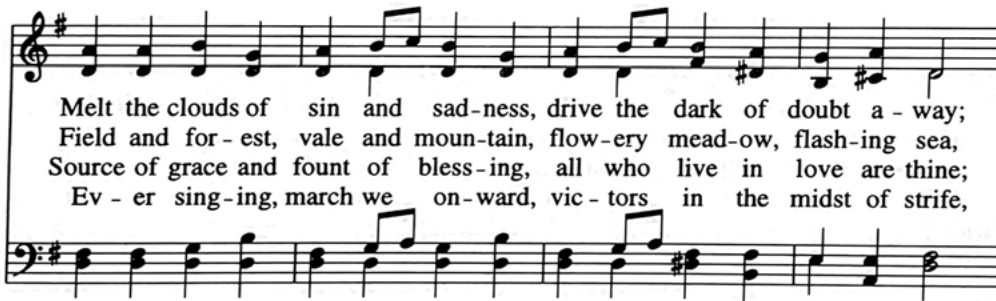
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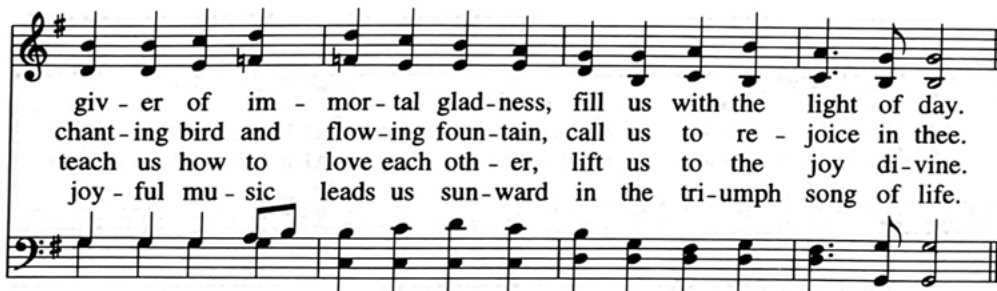
1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
 2. All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,  
 4. Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open-ing, to the sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!  
 God's own love is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing peo - ple hand in hand.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-ery mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
 Source of grace and fount of bless-ing, all who live in love are thine;  
 Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife,



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di-vine.  
 joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

WORDS: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1864

Henry van Dyke was ordained a Congregational minister, but his varied life included teaching and writing at Princeton and a critical 1913-1916 ambassadorship to Luxembourg and The Netherlands.

HYMN TO JOY  
 87.87D

PRAISE TO GOD