

Peacham Congregational Church

56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862

802-592-3330



"The Sower at Sunset" Vincent Van Gogh

Guest Leader: Rev. Jay Sprout

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

**Order of Worship
September 6, 2026**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: ""Polonaise" in G Minor, JS Bach

Lighting of the Candles

Responsive Call to Worship

Welcome! The God of seasons be with you! Let us offer our hearts to God who created the gift of our garden world.

We lift our hearts to God who sows seeds of grace in us.

May hope and wonder be on our lips this day.

We sing songs of grace and love to God who waters us with peace.

Opening Hymn #360: "I Love to Tell the Story"

Passing of the Peace

Leader: As Christ welcomed everyone, no matter what their background, no matter what their social status; as Christ welcomed enemies and friends, outcasts and leaders, foreigners and neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet. Peace be with you.

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

Leader: Now share the Peace of Christ with one another.

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

Response

***Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O God.
Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen.***

Anthem "The Garden Song"

Inch by inch, row by row,
Gonna make this garden grow,
All it takes is a rake and a hoe,
And a piece of fertile ground.
Inch by inch, row by row,
Someone bless these seeds I sow,
Someone warm them from below,
'Till the rain comes tumblin' down.

Offering & Mission

Doxology #45

***Praise God for love we all may share.
Praise God for beauty everywhere.
Praise God for hope of good to be.
Praise God for truth that makes us free. Amen.***

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, receive these gifts and magnify them to bless our community and world. May these offerings reflect our gratitude for your beloved community and trust in your kingdom. Amen.

Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-30

Sermon: "Not Your Garden Variety Wisdom" – Rev. Jay Sprout

Hymn #270: "We Plow the Fields and Scatter"

Invitation to the Lord's Table "Morning Has Broken"

May God be with you!

And with you also!

Lift hearts and voices gladly to God.

We come together at the Lord's table, to taste salvation, fresh from the Word.

Communion Prayer

Song of Adoration "Holy Holy Holy"

***Holy, holy, holy, God beyond our seeing,
thoughts and ways above the sky, and deeper than the sea.
God so far beyond us, yet closer than breathing:
come now among us at our holy feast!***

Words of Institution "On the Night"

Communion is Served

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

You have welcomed us to your table, O God, to nurture us with abundant grace. Your grace comes in creation's beauty and in your beloved community. So may we welcome all persons in the joy of your boundless love. through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn #527: "For the Fruit of All Creation"

Benediction

Response #345: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

Postlude: "Cora" (Chorus) from "Orfeo ed Euridice", CW Gluck (1714-1787)

Announcements
September 6, 2026

This week’s coffee hour is hosted by Brad and Nancy Toney. Melissa Hough will host next week.

Today’s Communion is served by deacons: Bruce Maclean and Rick Witt

The Church council will meet on Sunday, September 26th during coffee hour.

On the third Sunday of each month, coffee hour is an opportunity to share updates and answer questions about what’s happening at the Church. Please bring your ideas! If you’re unable to attend, questions or comments may be shared at peachammeetinghouse.org/contact.

Our 3rd quarter mission is the Northeast Kingdom Asylum Seekers Assistance Network (NEKASAN). Asylum seekers have fled persecution and often violence in their own countries due to religion, politics, or sexual orientation. Many have undertaken long, arduous journeys to reach our border. They are referred to NEKASAN while they are being held in detention centers or homeless shelters across the U.S. Once here in the Northeast Kingdom, guests stay with paid host families or in rental apartments and receive monthly stipends to help with food and personal needs. We help them get access to health care and immigration lawyers, and obtain work permits. Our goal is always to provide community and a road to self-sufficiency for these new Vermonters.

The Peacham Congregational Church collects food for the Danville Food Shelf every Sunday morning from 9-11 a.m. Food is collected in a basket at the back of the Sanctuary. During the week, donations of non-perishable food can be placed in the green bins on the covered walkway outside the kitchen door. Please note that the Food Shelf cannot use food that is beyond the expiration date or that has been opened.

The Danville Open Door Food Shelf is asking for the following weekly rotation of donations:

- 1st Sunday - Bread
- 2nd Sunday - Butter
- 3rd Sunday - Cheese (8oz. blocks)
- 4th Sunday - Eggs
- [5th Sunday - Cheese]

Upcoming Worship Schedule:

- September 13 – John Morris
- September 20 – Rev. Steve Winkler
- September 27 – Ed Nilson
- October 3 – Rev. Steve Winkler (Communion)

Information about Peacham Congregational Church

Weekly Worship – Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Join us online at peachamchurch.org/watch-us-live-on-sunday

For general inquiries, email information@peachamchurch.org

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

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

I Love to Tell the Story

1. I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2. I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 3. I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

WORDS: Katherine Hankey, c. 1868
 MUSIC: William G. Fischer, 1869

HANKEY
 76.76D w. refrain

Kate Hankey matured in the midst of the 'Clapham sect,' William Wilberforce's dynamic English anti-slavery evangelicals. She maintained a life-long activity in both missions and Christian education.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry, 'twill be my theme in glo - ry,

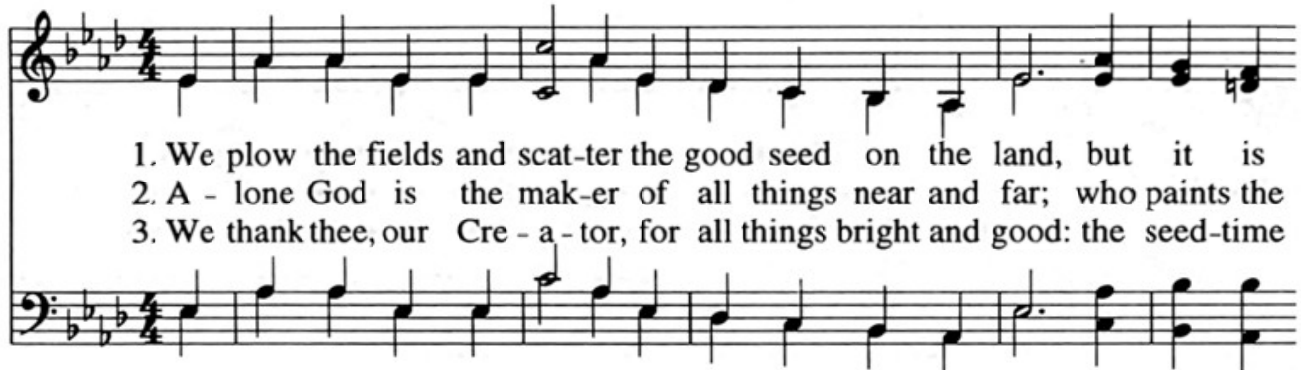
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

How beautiful upon the mountains
 are the feet of them that bring good tidings.
 who publish peace,
 who bring good tidings of good.
 who publish salvation,
 who say to Zion, "Your God reigns."

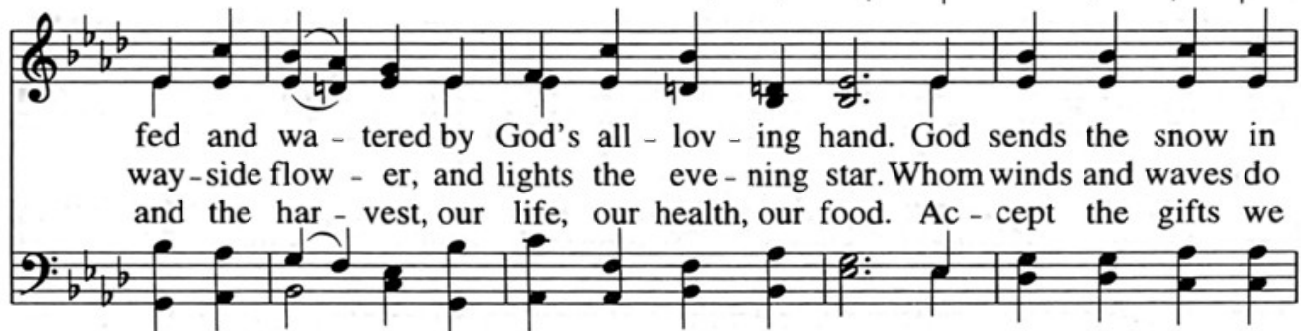
Hark, your sentinels lift up their voices,
 together they sing for joy;
 for eye to eye they see
 the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,
 you ruins of Jerusalem;
 for the Lord has comforted his people,
 he has redeemed Jerusalem.

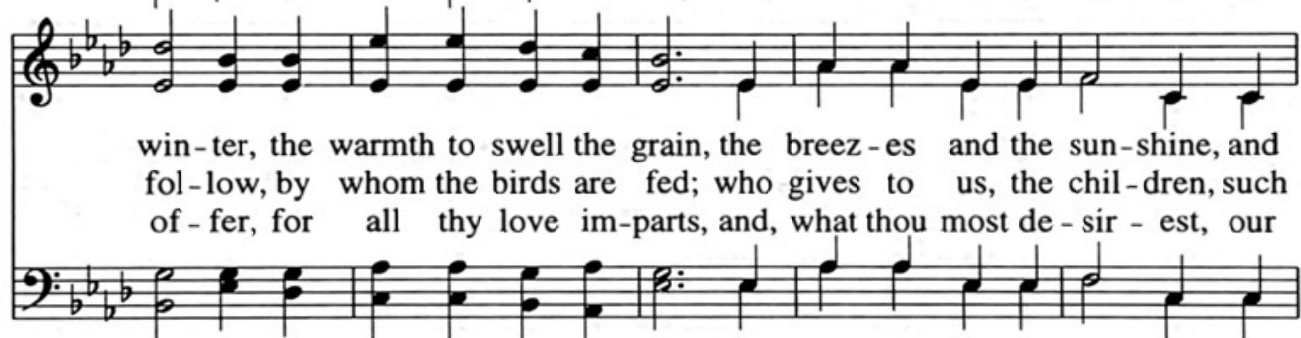
— Isaiah 52:7-9 RSV, adapted



1. We plow the fields and scat-ter the good seed on the land, but it is
 2. A - lone God is the mak-er of all things near and far; who paints the
 3. We thank thee, our Cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good: the seed-time

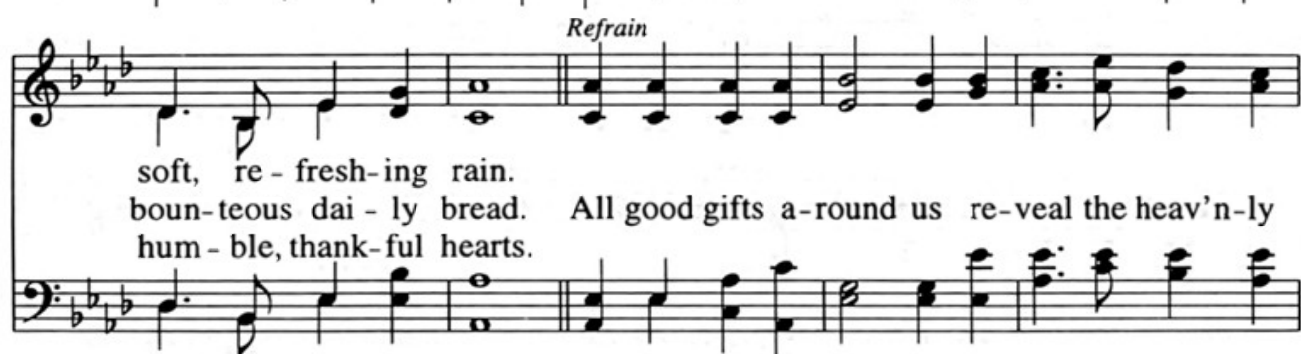


fed and wa - tered by God's all - lov - ing hand. God sends the snow in
 way-side flow - er, and lights the eve - ning star. Whom winds and waves do
 and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food. Ac - cept the gifts we

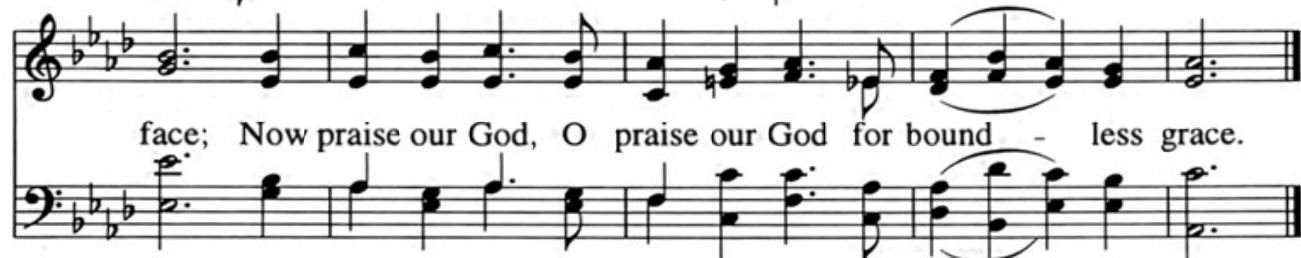


win-ter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breez - es and the sun-shine, and
 fol-low, by whom the birds are fed; who gives to us, the chil-dren, such
 of - fer, for all thy love im-parts, and, what thou most de - sir - est, our

Refrain



soft, re - fresh-ing rain.
 boun-teous dai - ly bread. All good gifts a-round us re-veal the heav'n-ly
 hum - ble, thank-ful hearts.



face; Now praise our God, O praise our God for bound - less grace.

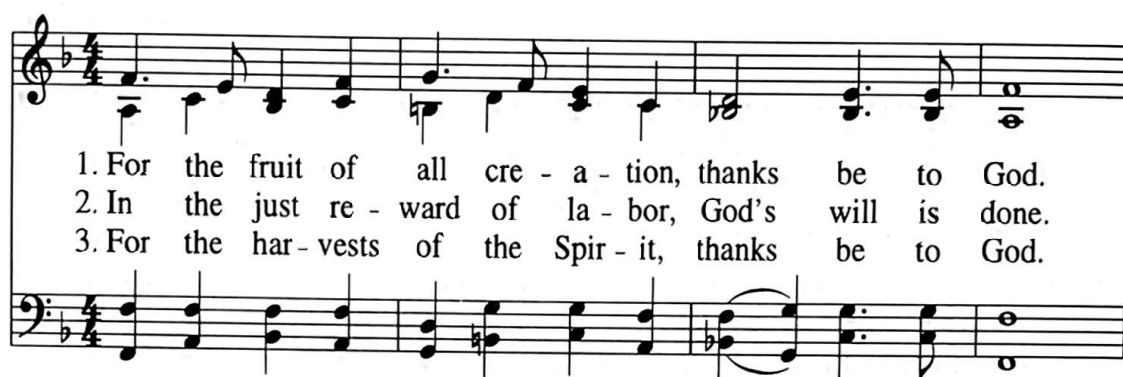
WORDS: Matthias Claudius, 1782; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1861, alt.
 MUSIC: Johann A. P. Schulz, 1800

WIR PFLÜGEN
 76.76D w. refrain

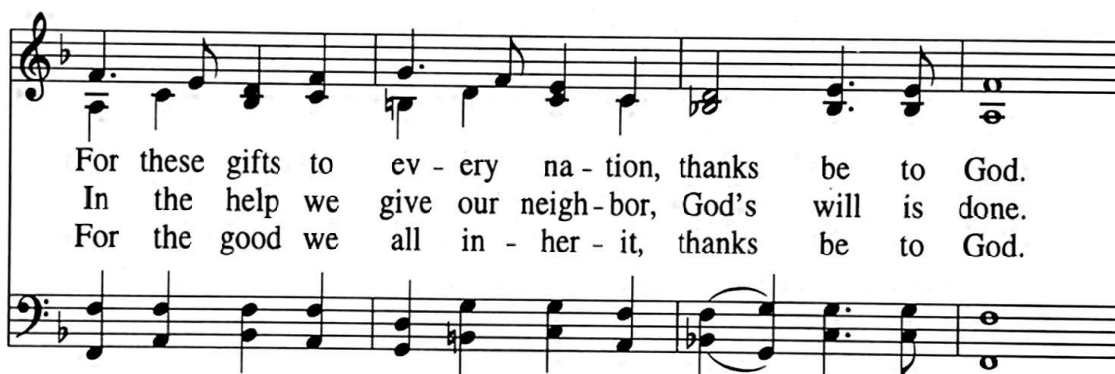
Claudius, son of a Lutheran pastor, became estranged from his faith until, at age thirty-seven, a severe illness caused him to rethink his beliefs. This text, part of a longer harvest festival poem, reflects his sturdy piety.

THANKSGIVING

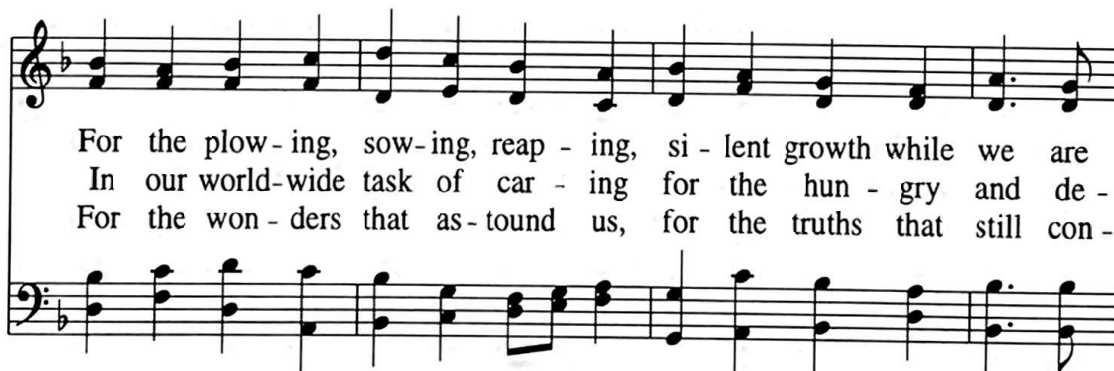
For the Fruit of All Creation



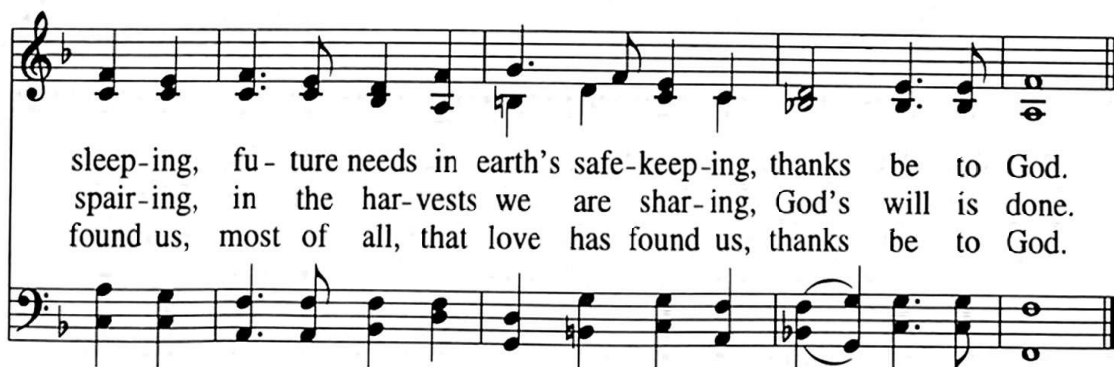
1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3. For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -



sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 found us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1970

MUSIC: Traditional Welsh melody, *Musical Relicks of the Welsh Bards*, Dublin, 1784

AR HYD Y NOS

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Though published in the English *Methodist Recorder* only in 1970,
 by 1982 Fred Pratt Green's words had already appeared in fourteen
 hymnals around the world.

Words © 1970 Hope Publishing Co.