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November 15, 2026 9:45 AM

# ***Come to the Table: The Table of Joy***[1]

*Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are a guest, we invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.*

*We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy in the side narthex! Additionally, after the children's message, children from 3 years old—6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday school in our classroom downstairs. They can choose to attend Sunday school or return to their seats to sit with their parents after the children's message. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**
**JOYS & CONCERNS**

**SETTING THE TABLE**

HYMN (see next page) *Come to the Table of Joy (x2)*
INTRODUCTION
*HYMN (see next page) *Come to the Table of Joy*

***TAKING OUR PLACE, OPENING TO OTHERS**

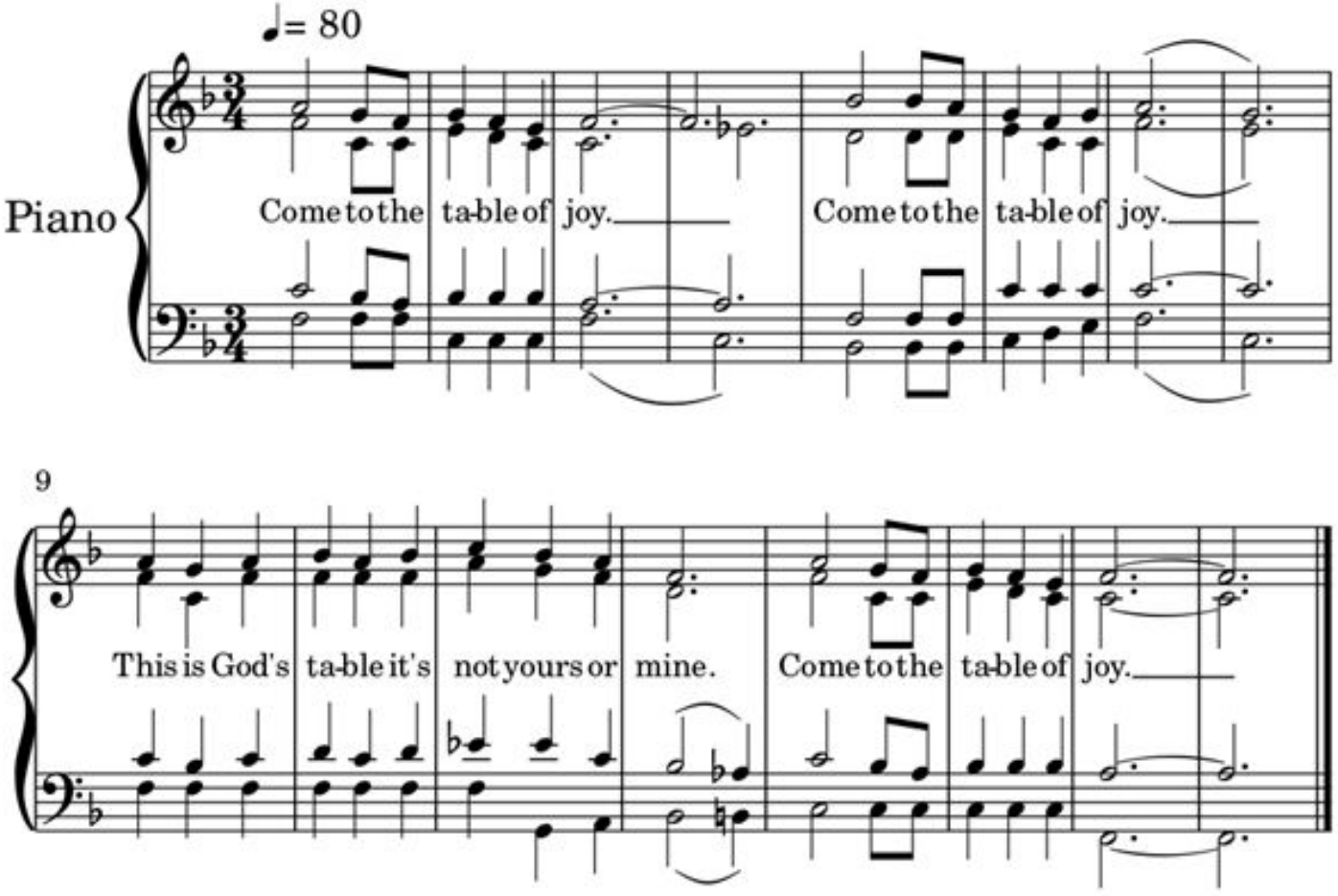
L: We hear God's calling to have joyful spirits as Christ's followers.
**C: We lift our hearts to be filled with vim and vigor!**
L: We know that sometimes it is difficult to be joyful in life.
**C: We recognize that joy is a practice, not just a happy feeling.**
L: We open ourselves to the joy that comes with justice.
**C: We make room at this table for joy in all its forms.**

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

# Come to the Table of Joy

Barbara Hamm, 2008

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***OPENING HYMN** (see next page) *Now Thank We All Our God*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**Now Thank We All Our God**

**[Verse 1]**
Now thank we all our God,
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices,
Who from our mother's arms,
Hath blessed us on our way,
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

**[Verse 2]**
Oh may this bounteous God,
Through all our life be near us,
With ever-joyful hearts,
And blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in his grace
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills,
In this world and the next.

**[Verse 3]**
All praise and thanks to God,
The Father now be given,
The Son and Holy Ghost,
Supreme in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was is now,
And shall be evermore.

**[Verse 1]**
Now thank we all our God,
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices,
Who from our mother's arms,
Hath blessed us on our way,
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

***PEACE AT THE TABLE: CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS BEFORE GOD**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

L: At God's table, we are invited to celebrate the joy of God's abundance. Yet we confess that we sometimes overlook the blessings before us, focus on what we lack, and forget to share what we have received. Trusting in God's generous mercy, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: God of joy,

**C: we confess that we often look at our world and see scarcity. When we take your blessings for granted, open our hearts to gratitude. When we focus on what we lack instead of what we have, remind us of your abundance. When we hold tightly to our gifts instead of sharing them, forgive us and teach us to give with joy.**

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P: Friends, hear the good news: God's love is abundant, and God's mercy never runs out. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and welcomed to the table. May we receive God's grace with gratitude and share God's love with joy!

**C: Amen.**

*ACT OF PRAISE NCH NO. 332 (black hymnal, v.1 see below)

*As We Gather at Your Table*

# As We Gather at Your Table (verse 1)

Carl P. Daw, 1989; Jack Schrader

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*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*How do we celebrate God's abundance together?*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** *Philippians 2:1-13 (The Message Interpretation)*
*Matthew 21:23-32 (The Message Interpretation)*

**SERMON**

***HYMN OF THE DAY (**see below) *For the Beauty of the Earth*

**[Verse 1]**
For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth,
Over and around us lies.

**[Chorus]**
Lord of all,
To thee we raise,
This our hymn,
Of grateful praise.

**[Verse 2]**
For the wonder of each hour,
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light.

**[Chorus]**
Lord of all,
To thee we raise,
This our hymn,
Of grateful praise.

**[Verse 3]**
For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild.

**[Chorus]**
Lord of all,
To thee we raise,
This our hymn,
Of grateful praise.

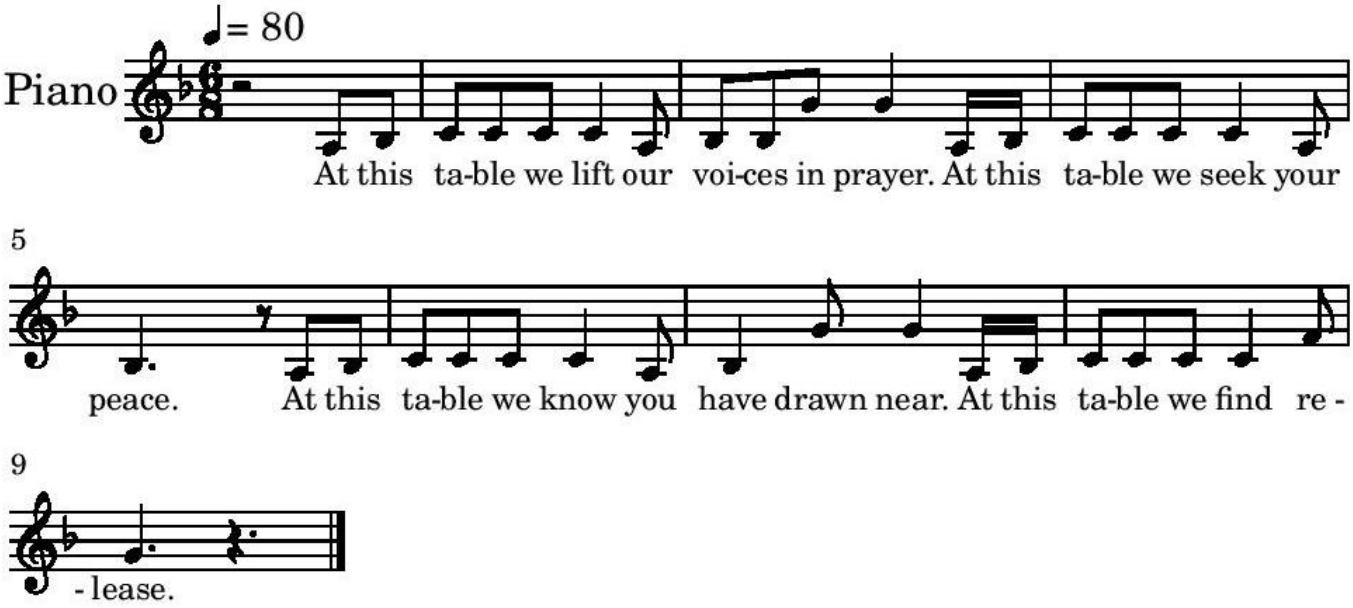
*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

HYMN (see below) *At This Table (x2)*

# At This Table

Marcia McFee and Chuck Bell, 2023
Used with permission.




PRAYERS

P: Gracious and generous God, today, we gather at your Table of Joy, giving thanks for the abundance of your blessings... We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, who welcomes us all to the table.

**C: Amen.**

HYMN (see above) *At This Table (x2)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: As we look to expand the welcome of God's table, let us join our hearts together to pray as Jesus taught us:

**ALL: Our Father, 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**TIME FOR SHARING**[1]

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE (to the tune of Doxology)

**ALL: Be present at our table, Lord, be here and everywhere adored; thy creatures bless, and grant that we may feast in fellowship with thee.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

**C: Generous God, we give thanks for the abundance of your blessings and the joy of sharing them. Receive these gifts and use them to nourish bodies, strengthen communities, and share your love with those in need. May our gratitude be reflected not only in what we give today, but in the generosity of our lives each day. In Jesus' name we pray.**

***CLOSING HYMN** (see below and next page) *We Are Marching with Marching to Zion*

**[Verse 1]**
Come, we that love the Lord,
And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord,
Join in a song with sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne,
And thus surround the throne.

**[Refrain]**
We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

**[Verse 2]**
Let those refuse to sing,
Whoever knew our God;
But children of heavenly King,
But children of the heavenly King,
May speak their joys abroad,
May speak of their joys abroad.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

**[Refrain]**
We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

**[Verse 3]**
The hill of Zion yields
A thousand sacred sweets,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Or walk the golden streets,
Or walk the golden streets.

**[Refrain]**
We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

**[Verse 4]**
Then let our songs abound,
And every tear be dry;
We're marching through Immanuel's ground,
We're marching through Immanuel's ground,
To fairer worlds on high,
To fairer worlds on high.

**[Refrain]**
We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

**[Verse 1] -** *We Are Marching*
We are walking in the light of God,
We are walking in the light of God,
We are walking in the light of God,
We are walking in the light of God,

**[Chorus]**
We are walking, walking,
We are walking, ooh,
We are walking in the light of God.
We are walking, walking,
We are walking, ooh,
We are walking in the light of God.

**[Verse 2] -** *We Are Marching*
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.

**[Chorus]**
We are marching, marching,
We are marching, ooh,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching,
We are marching, ooh,
We are marching in the light of God

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***BENEDICTION**

L: This Table of Joy requires much of us. It asks us not to rely on expecting to feel good all the time in order to do good in the world. It shows us that we can have fuller, more invigorating lives when we choose to cultivate a practice of joy by staying fully present to ourselves and one another and by staying open to the unexpected movements of Spirit.

P: The grace of God abounds! The invitation of Christ is wide! The power of the transforming Spirit will surprise us every time! May the blessings of joy you find here go with you and move through you to others wherever you go this week. Let the people say, "Amen!"
**C: Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

## References

[1]Our worship service is adapted from Marcia Mcfee's *Come to the Table* series © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/table. Used with permission.

## Service Participants

Thank you to the praise team for enhancing the service with their talents this morning.

**Guest Preacher—**Rev. Laverne DiNino
**Welcome Team Members—** Nancy Bodell, Kathy Sweeney
**Liturgist—** Jen Miller
**Tech Team—** Jim Beyer, John Kollasch, John Schriver

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.




*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.