

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30, 2026 | Order of Worship | *Congregational responses are in **bold***



Prelude

Gabby Vallee (she/her)

Welcome

Deacon Carl Johnsen (he/him)

Musical Call to Worship

Be Still and Know | John Bell

Led by Kim Spencer, Alyson Spencer-Reed & Martha Spencer

Centering Words

The Romero Prayer

Read by Deacon Carl Johnsen (he/him)

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

We Pass the Peace of Christ

Hymn *(please rise in body or spirit)*

Sing a New World into Being | Insert

Celebration of Gratitude

“If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough.”

-Meister Eckhart

As we name the abundant blessings of our lives (anniversaries, birthdays, clean-and-sober milestones, and many more!), we offer a gratitude gift in any amount, so that the blessings we have received from God may be multiplied and shared with all who long to experience God’s extravagant welcome in this church and beyond.

Please consider using a gratitude heart, located in the racks in the pews, if you choose to make a gratitude gift.

We Sound the Bell

A Message for all Children of God

♪ Go now in peace, go now in peace
May the love of God surround you!
Everywhere, everywhere you may go ♪

Sharing Our Sacred Story

Read by Deacon Carl Johnsen (he/him)

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

✦ Exoduse 1:6-21

Inclusive Bible Translation

Reader: This is the story of life for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

The Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (she/her)

Anthem

One Voice | Ruth Moody

Kim Spencer, Alyson Spencer-Reed & Martha Spencer

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering of Love & Promise

Nikki Johnsen (she/her)

Offertory Music

Great is Thy Faithfulness | arr. Hayes

Kim Spencer, Alyson Spencer-Reed & Martha Spencer

Words of Thanksgiving *(please rise in body or spirit)*

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

Prayer of Dedication *(please rise in body or spirit)*

Loving and Holy God, we ask that You would pour out Your blessing on this offering today. Guide us in Your way and use these gifts to make our church and our world even more:

We call out words like “joyful, kind, just” to bless our church and world

Benediction

Postlude

Gabby Vallee (she/her)



*All are warmly welcome to join us downstairs following worship for Snack & Chat!
Whether you bring a dish or simply bring yourself, there's a place for you at the table.*



Service Credits:

The centering words are from what's called “The Romero Prayer,” though the connection to Romero is unknown. The words are written by Bishop Ken Untener in a homily he wrote in 1979 for a celebration of departed priests.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AN INVITATION FOR WELCOMING NEW & FAMILIAR FACES

We're preparing to welcome two new staff members, we've welcomed seven new church members this summer, and we will soon welcome our program year crowd back from their summer travels. As we all connect and re-connect, thanks for helping us get to know each other by:

- Wearing your nametags! Please ask Kylie if you need one, or add your name to the clipboard in the sanctuary
- Introducing yourself when you speak in worship! If you're making an announcement, or sharing during the gratitude time, please say your name when you start speaking.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR SHELLEY WILKERSON

Shelley Wilkerson's Celebration of Life will be held on **Saturday, September 12th at 2 pm** followed by a reception lovingly hosted by the Guild. Service will include music from our choir as well as the Lake Region Community Chorus, and it will be a beautiful tribute to one of our own. All are warmly welcome to join us in honoring Shelley's life.

RALLY DAY

Rally Day will be on **Sunday, September 13, 10 am at First Church**. It will be a picnic with hamburgers and hot dogs. Details about what to bring for the potluck will be shared shortly!

UPCOMING KEYNOTE & PEACE COHORT ORIENTATION!

How do we build a church for all when each of us has different abilities and needs? What does it look like to love our neighbor who's a different age or ability status? Come explore these questions and more with Rev. Harrison Litzell on **Saturday, September 19 at 10 am**. A free, continental breakfast will be provided at 9 am, the keynote will begin at 10am, and childcare will be available. Harrison will also join us in worship on **Sunday, September 20th** as a guest preacher. Please email Pastor Spencer with questions & see the weekly email for more information!



Online
Giving



This
Week's Email



Subscribe to
the Weekly Email



FIRST CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers

All of Us

Senior Pastor

Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (*she/her*)

Minister for Intergenerational Innovation

Pastor Spencer Law (*he/him*)

C.E. Coordinator

Sandy Wissmann (*she/her*)

Director of Music Engagement

Cassie Cooper-Ricci (*they/them*)

Guest Musician

Gabby Vallee (*she/her*)

Office Manager

Kylie Morel (*she/her*)

Co-Moderators

Rosemary Wiser (*she/her*)

Marita Wiser (*she/her*)

Treasurer - Asst. Treasurer

Peter Clark (*he/him*)

Gail McBride (*she/her*)

Trustee of the Week

Kevin Murphy (*he/him*)

Deacon of the Week

Carl Johnsen (*he/him*)

Greeters-Hospitality

Leslie McAllister, Mary Stinchfield,
Stephanie Wilcher

C.E. Leaders

Jess & Edna Engstrom, Gail McBride

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

- Worship, 10 am, the Rev. Emily C. Goodnow preaching
- Snack & Chat, fellowship hall, following worship
- Council Meeting, 11:30 am

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- Jeanette's Closet, 9-11 am
- *Tiny Tots is on hiatus until September 15th*
- Staff Meeting, 10:30 am

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- Bible Study, 10 am

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

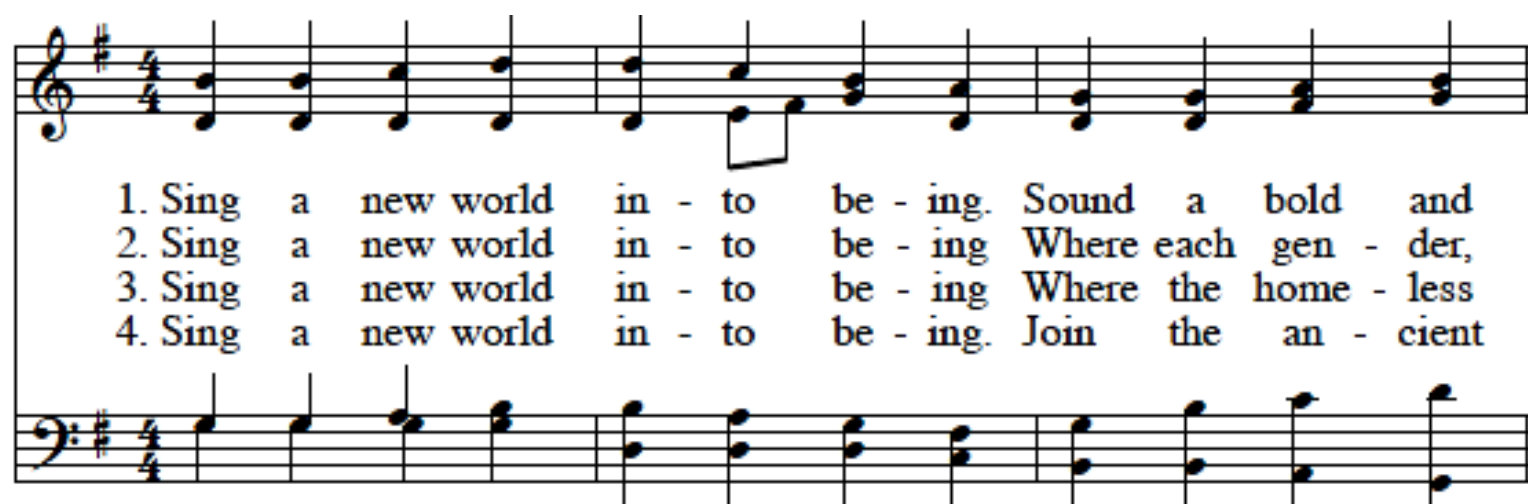
- Patrick Speckamp's 1st day as our new organist/pianist!
- Worship, 10 am, Pastor Spencer preaching
- Snack & Chat, fellowship hall, following worship
- GAT Meeting, 11:30 am

NEXT MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

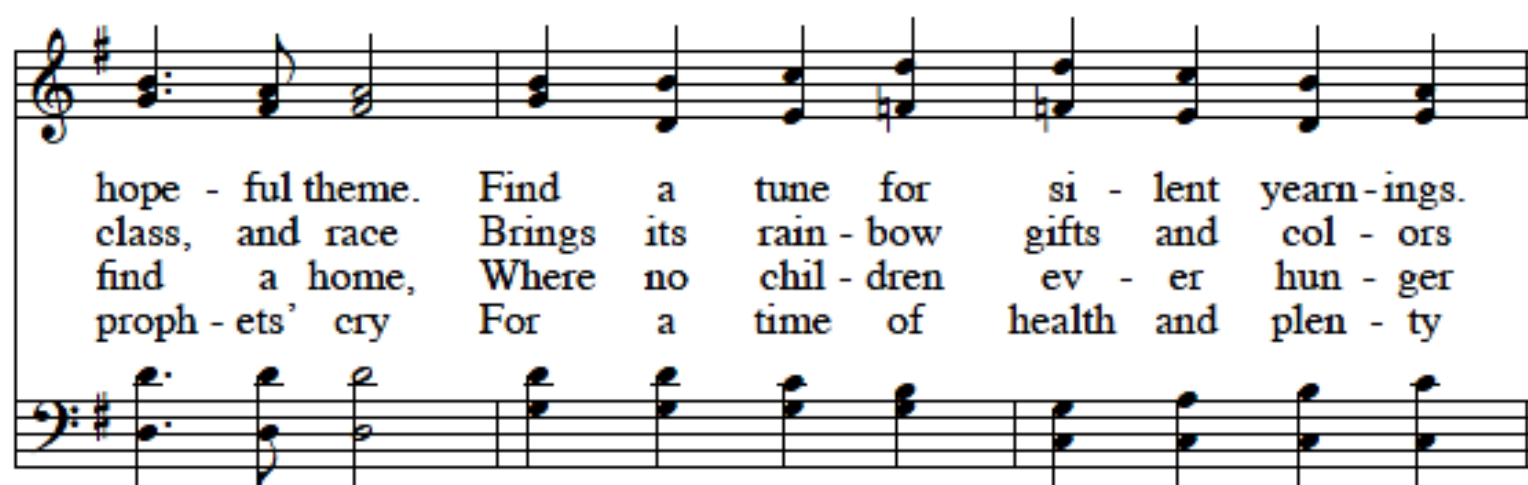
- Labor Day; Church Office Closed

Church office is open 9 am - 12 pm, Mon-Fri
33 S. High St., Bridgton ME 04009 | 647-3936
bridgtonucc.org | office@bridgtonucc.org

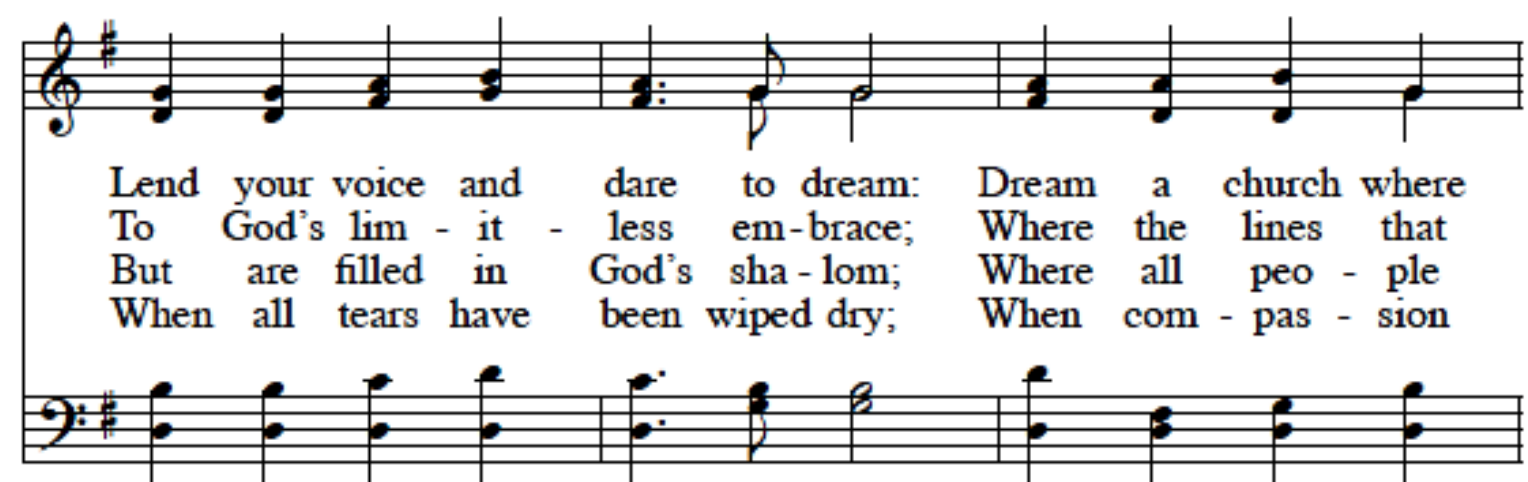
Sing a New World into Being



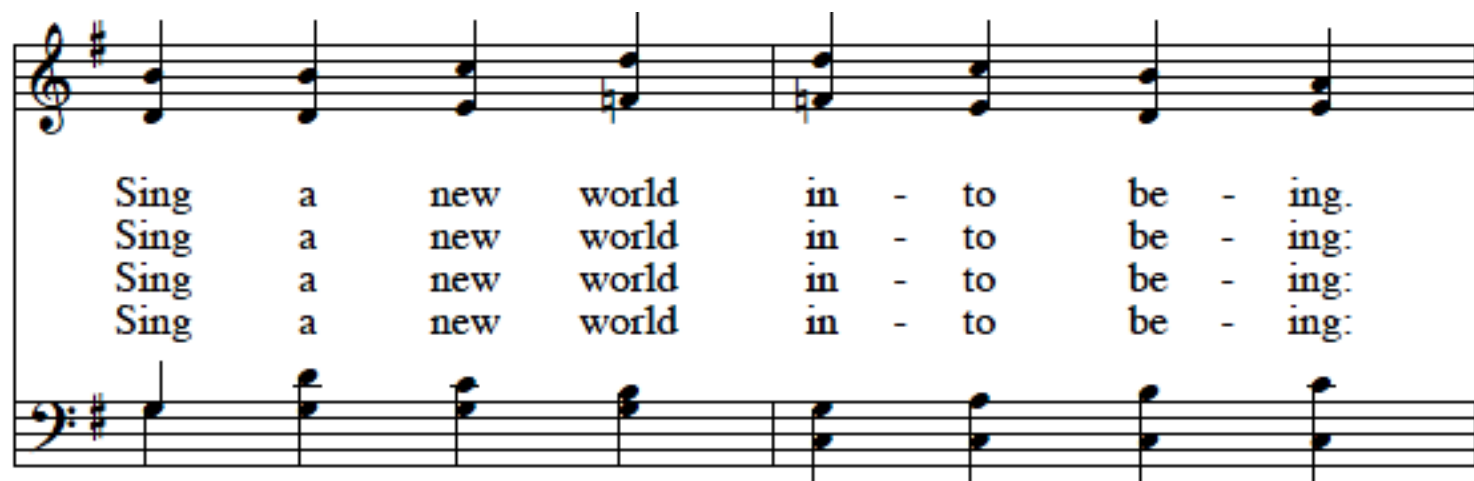
1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and
 2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing Where each gen - der,
 3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing Where the home - less
 4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient



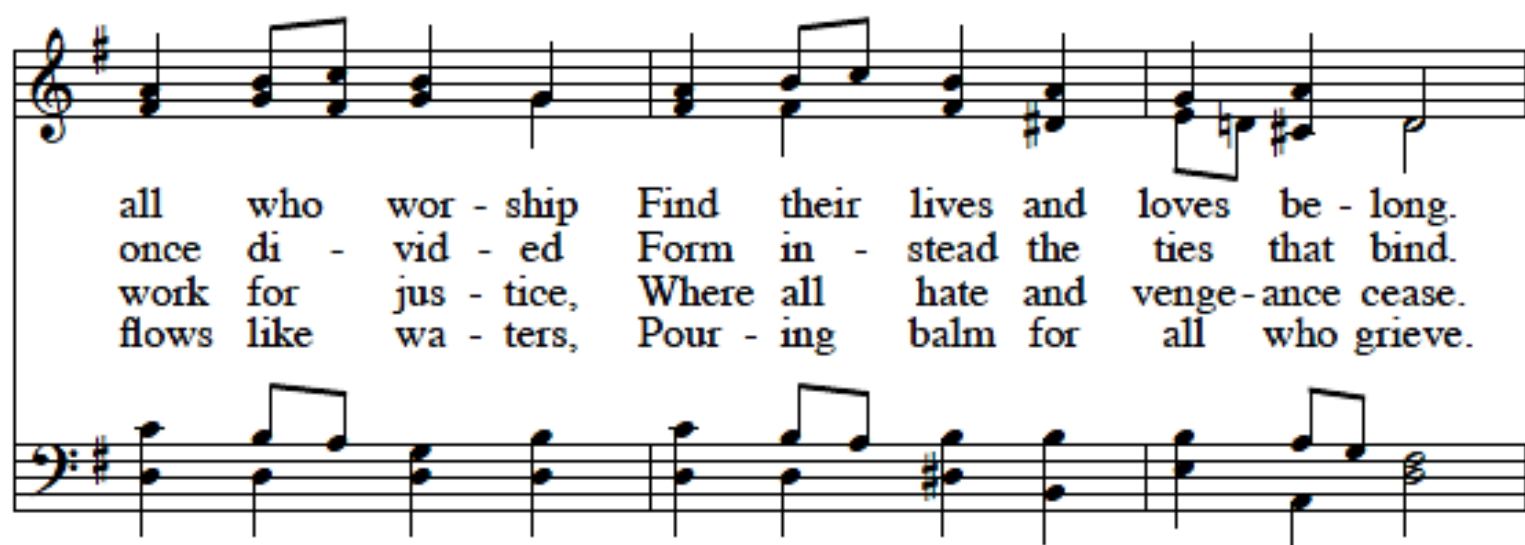
hope - ful theme. Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings.
 class, and race Brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors
 find a home, Where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger
 proph - ets' cry For a time of health and plen - ty



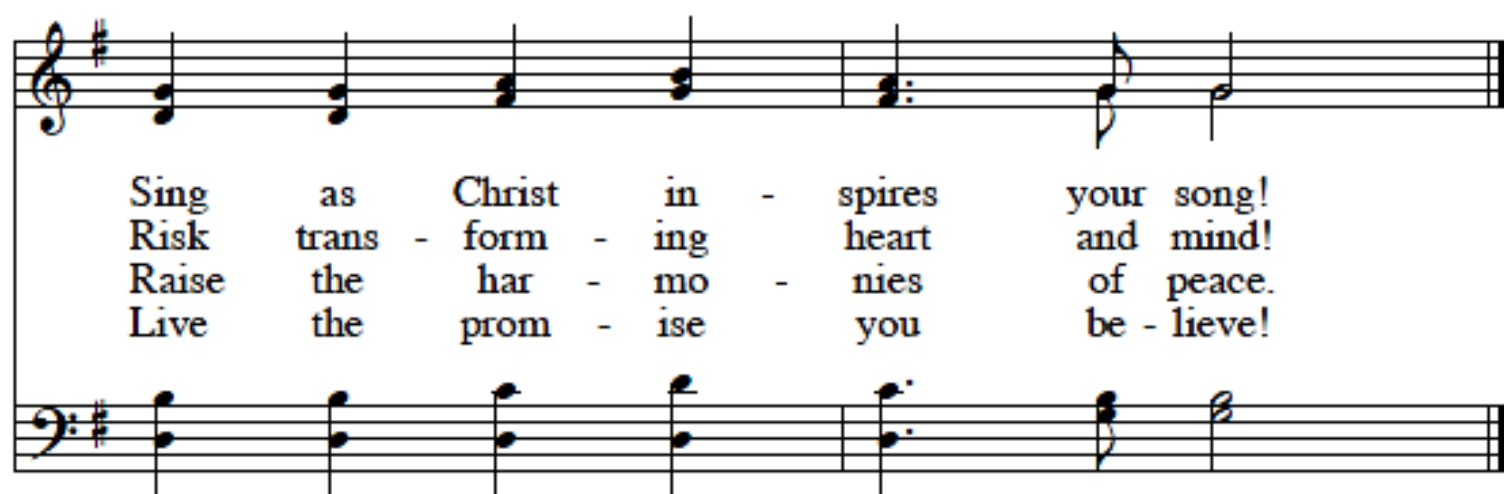
Lend your voice and dare to dream: Dream a church where
 To God's lim - it - less em - brace; Where the lines that
 But are filled in God's sha - lom; Where all peo - ple
 When all tears have been wiped dry; When com - pas - sion



Sing a new world in - to be - ing.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing:



all who wor - ship Find their lives and loves be - long.
 once di - vid - ed Form in - stead the ties that bind.
 work for jus - tice, Where all hate and venge - ance cease.
 flows like wa - ters, Pour - ing balm for all who grieve.



Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
 Risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
 Raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
 Live the prom - ise you be - lieve!