



Feb 9, 2025

The Christian Journey in Spiritual Song Service of Word

† Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

Deep River

arr David Kidwell

Greeting

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship and service.
Thanks be to God!

† Call to Worship

Let us speak of mercy and justice.
For these are the things suitable for our God.

Let us follow the ways of mercy and justice,
for they are the ways of peace and community.
**Let us lift up our hearts in conviction and our voices in commitment and praise
to the Lord of peace and the God of justice; the hope and healing of humanity.**

Let us worship God!

† Invocation

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way; Thou Who hast by Thy might, led us into the light, Keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee. Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee. Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand, True to our God, true to our native land. **Amen.**

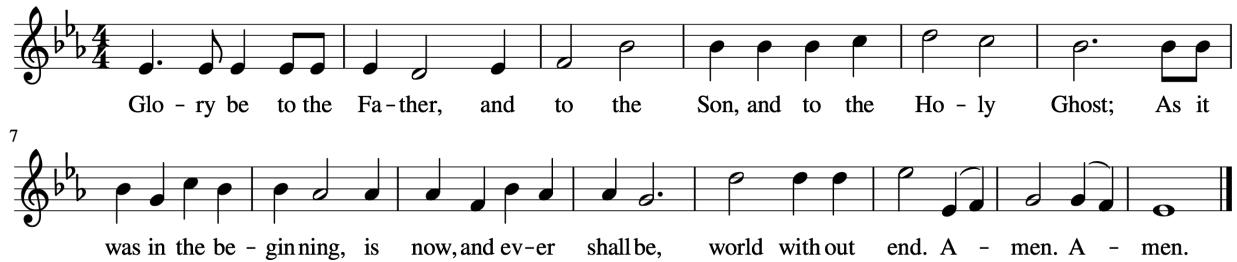
Let us sing praise to God.

We will continually praise God's holy name.

† Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX




Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it
7
was in the be - ginning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with out end. A - men. A - men.



1. Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
5
Lit - tle ones to him be - long; they are weak, but he is strong.

Children's Moment



Yes, Je-sus loves me! Yes, Je-sus loves me! Yes, Je-sus loves me! The Bi-ble tells me so.

Introduction to Spiritual Song

The African-American spiritual has long been a favorite form of Christian music in the United States. From the 1700s to the present day, worshipers have delighted in the use of spirituals for the purpose of musical prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. The history and evolution of these songs is a story that encompasses the life and times of the African slaves brought to this country; their emancipation after the Civil War; and their subsequent struggle for civil rights.

The spiritual may be considered religious folk art as in its pure form it is not composed by an individual but grew out the collective experience of a group of people, and passed along orally. Composed arrangements for choirs, instruments, and soloists have been made available to the world thanks to the creative powers of such African-Americans as the following: John W. Work, William Dawson, W. T. Burleigh, Moses Hogan, Hall Johnson, J. Jefferson Cleveland, and Lena McLin.

Our purpose here today is to walk through the church year using appropriate spirituals for each season. We celebrate the great flexibility of these songs and their timeless effectiveness as vehicles to express our human condition before God. As a part of the Black History Month 2025, we honor the contributions of the African-Americans that gave the spiritual to Christendom.

ADVENT SEASON – Advent, the first season of the Christian year, proclaims both comings of Christ, not only his Nativity, but also his coming in final Victory!

† Spiritual

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning KEEP YOUR LAMPS



1. Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps trimmed and burn -
 2. **Dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night lies be - fore**
 3. Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing soon is break -
 4. **Christian jour - ney soon be ov - er, Christian jour - ney soon be ov -**
 5. Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps trimmed and burn -



- ing, keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
us, dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, for the time is drawing nigh.
 - ing, lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
- er, Christian jour - ney soon be ov - er, for the time is drawing nigh.
 - ing, keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, for the time is draw - ing nigh.



Chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry, chil - dren don't grow wea - ry, chil - dren,



don't grow wea - ry, for the time is draw - ing nigh.

CHRISTMAS SEASON - Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Spiritual

Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev - ery - where; Go, tell it on the moun - tain That

7 *Fine*

Je-sus Christ is born! 1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by
 2. **The shep-herds feared and trem-bled** When lo! a - bove the
 3. Down in a low - ly man-ger The hum-ble Christ was

13 *D.C.*

night, Be - hold through-out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
earth Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 born, And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

EPIPHANY - Epiphany celebrates the coming of the Magi to bring gifts to the Child Jesus.
 The emphasis of this time is the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles.

Spiritual

This Little Light of Mine

LATTIMER

1. This lit-tle light of mine, this lit-tle light of mine,
 2. Ev - ery - where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, ev - ery - where I go, I'm goin'-a let it
 3. All through the night, all through the night,

8

this lit-tle light of mine,
 shine, ev - ery - where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 all through the night,

Baptism of the Lord – This Sunday marks the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by his cousin, John the Baptist. Often churches include a baptismal remembrance as part of their worship this day.

Spiritual

Wade in the Water

WADE IN THE WATER

Refrain

Wade in the wa-ter, wade in the wa-ter, chil-dren, wade in the wa-ter,

7

Fine *Leader*

God's a-gon-na trou-ble the wa-ter. 1. See that host all dressed in white,
 2. See that band all dressed in red,
 3. Look o-ver yon-der, what do I see?
 4. If you don't be-lieve I've been re-deemed,

11

All *Leader*

God's a-gon-na trou-ble the wa-ter. The lead-er looks like the Is-rael-ite,
Looks like the band that Mo-ses led,
 The Ho-ly Ghost a-com-ing on me,
Just fol-low me down to Jor-dan's stream,

15

All

God's a-gon-na trou-ble the wa-ter. D.C.

Transfiguration Sunday – The last Sunday before Lent recalls Christ’s transfiguration on the mountain with Elijah and Moses.

Spiritual

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

SWING LOW

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, coming for to carry me home; swing low, sweet

6 char - i - ot, com - ing for to car - ry me home. Fine

9

1. I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see, coming for to car - ry me
 2. If you get there be - fore I do, **coming for to carry me**
 3. I'm some - times up, I'm some times down, coming for to car - ry me
 4. The bright - est day that I can say, **coming for to carry me**

13 D.C.

home? A band of an - gels com - ing af - ter me, coming for to car - ry me home.
home; tell all my friends I'm coming too, coming for to carry me home.
 home; but still my soul feels heav - en - ly bound, coming for to car - ry me home.
home; when Je - sus washed my sins a - way, coming for to carry me home.

THE LENTEN SEASON - Lent covers forty days before Easter, minus Sundays, which are “fast days.” The time is symbolic of Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness being tempted.

Ash Wednesday - The First Day of Lent. On this day all the faithful according to ancient custom are exhorted to approach the altar, and there the clergy, dipping their thumb into ashes, marks the forehead

Spiritual *Fix Me, Jesus* FIX ME, JESUS
Talese Brown, vocalist

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday - The first day of Holy Week; Triumphal entry to Jerusalem

Spiritual *He Is King of Kings* HE IS KING

(He is) King of kings, He is Lord of lords, Je-sus Christ, the first and last, No one works like Him. O He is

5 No one works like Him. **1.** He built His throne up in the air, No one works like Him, And
2. He pitched His tents on Ca-naanground, No one works like Him, And
3. I know that my Re-deem-er lives, No one works like Him, And

8 called His saints from ev - ery - where, No one words like Him. O He is
broke op - pres - sive king - doms down,
by His love sweet bless - ing gives, D.S.

Maundy Thursday - Commemoration of the Last Supper

Spiritual *Let Us Break Bread Together* LET US BREAK BREAD
Talese Brown, vocalist

Good Friday - The Day of Crucifixion

Spiritual

Were You There?

WERE YOU THERE



1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there when they
2. **Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?** **Were you there when they**
3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you there when they
4. **Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?** **Were you there when the**
5. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there when they

6



cru - ci - fied my Lord?
nailed him to the tree?
pierced him in the side? Oh! sometimes it caus-es me to tremble,
sun re-fused to shine?
laid him in the tomb?

14



trem ble, trem ble. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

EASTER SEASON - Easter season focuses on the resurrection and ascension of Christ.
 This is the oldest and most joyous of all seasons.

Spiritual

He Rose

ASCENSUS



1.They cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior and nailed him to the tree, they
 2.Then Jo - seph begged his bod - y and laid it in the tomb, then
 3.Sis - ter Ma - ry she came run - ning, a - look - ing for my Lord, Sis - ter
 4.An an - gel came from heav - en and rolled the stone a - way, an



cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior and nailed him to the tree, the cru - ci - fied my
 Jo - seph begged his bod - y and laid it in the tomb, then Jo - seph begged his
 Ma - ry she came run - ning, a - look - ing for my Lord, Sis - ter Ma - ry she came
 an - gel came from heav - en and rolled the stone a - way, an an - gel came from



Sav - ior and nailed him to the tree, and the Lord will bear my spir - it home. He
 bod - y and laid it in the tomb,
 run - ning a - look - ing for my Lord,
 heav - en and rolled the stone a - way,



rose, he rose, he rose from the dead! He rose, he rose, he rose from the dead! He rose, he



rose, he rose from the dead, and the Lord will bear my spir - it home.

Ascension of the Lord - The elevation of Christ into heaven by His own power in presence of His disciples the fortieth day after His Resurrection.

Spiritual

Soon-a Will Be Done

SOON-A WILL BE DONE

Soon-a will be done-a with the troubles of the world, Troubles of the world, The troubles of the world.

5
Soon - a will be done - a with the trou - bles of the world. Goin' home to live with God. Fine

9
1. No more weeping and a - wail - ing, No more weeping and a - wail - ing,
2. I want to meet my moth - er, I want to meet my moth - er,
3. I want to meet my Je - sus, I want to meet my Je - sus,

13
No more weep-ing and a - wail - ing, I'm goin' to live with God.
I want to meet my moth - er, I'm goin' to live with God.
I want to meet my Je - sus, I'm goin' to live with God. D.C.

PENTECOST - This day is the last day of the Easter Season. It is recognized as the day believers received the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

PENTECOST

Ev-ery time I feel the Spir-it moving in my heart, I will pray. Yes, every time I feel the Spir-it moving

7
in my heart, I will pray. Fine
1. Up-on the mountain, my Lord spoke, out his mouth came fire and smoke. All a -
2. Jordan riv - er runs right cold, chills the bod - y, not the soul. Ain't but

14
round me looks so shine, ask my Lord if all was mine.
one train on this track, runs to heav - en and right back. D.C.

ORDINARY TIME – The Season after Pentecost, also called Kingdomtide, includes twenty-three to twenty-eight Sundays. The gospel lessons cover Jesus’ teaching ministry and tend to center on the theme of kingdom and reign of God.

Spiritual

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN



1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I
 3. Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I
 4. Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I



want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
 want to be more lov-ing in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
 want to be more ho-ly in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
 want to be like Je-sus in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,



Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart.
 Lord I want to be like Je-sus in my heart.

All Saints Day – November 1st, this day calls to remembrance those servants of God who died in the Faith.

Spiritual

When the Saints Go Marching In

WHEN THE SAINTS



1. O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go march-ing in,
 2. O when the sun re-fused to shine, O when the sun re-fused to shine,
 3. O when they crown Him Lord of all, O when they crown Him Lord of all,



O Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go march-ing in.
 when the sun re-fused to shine.
 when they crown Him Lord of all.

Christ the King Sunday – The Last Sunday after Pentecost, which is also the last Sunday of the Christian year, is a celebration of the coming reign of Jesus Christ and the completion of creation.

Spiritual

Steal Away to Jesus

STEAL AWAY



Steal a-way, steal a-way; steal a-way to Je-sus. Steal a-way, steal a-way home. I
 ain't got long to stay here. 1. My Lord he calls me, he calls me by the thun-der; the
 2. Green trees a - bending, poor sin - ners sand a - trembling; the
 3. My Lord he calls me, he calls me by the light-ning; the D.C.
 trum-pet sounds with - in - a my soul. I ain't got long to stay here.

Invitation to the Offering

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. Let us bring our tithes and offerings to build God's Beloved Community.

Offertory

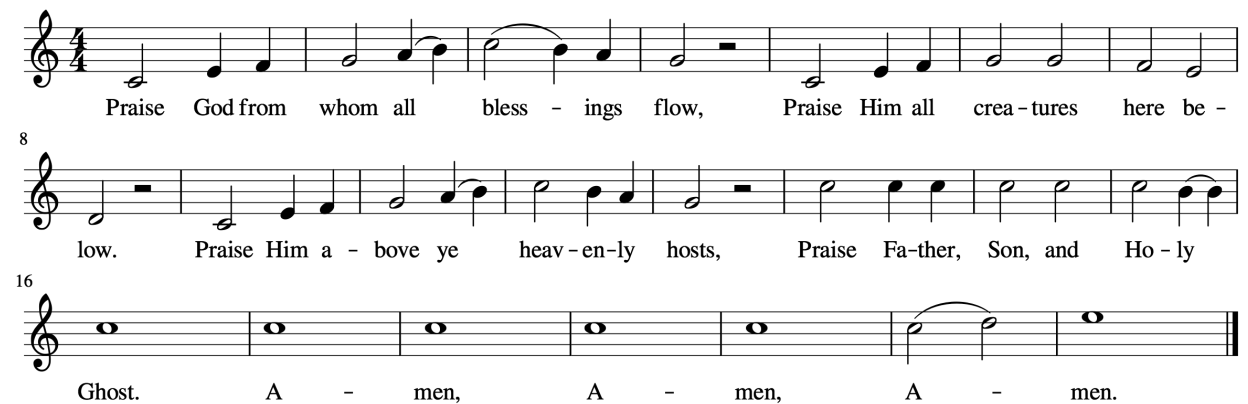
Give Me Jesus

arr David Kidwell

† Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

HATTON



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow, Praise Him all crea - tures here be -
 low. Praise Him a - bove ye heav - en-ly hosts, Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly
 Ghost. A - men, A - men, A - men.

† Prayer of Dedication

Giving God, We give You thanks and praise for all of Your gifts to us. We know that you are the source of every good thing, light and love come from You. You have created us, and you continue to breathe life into us through the power of Your Holy Spirit. You have given us so much, and it is because we recognize the gifts You have given to us that we now give to the work of Your kingdom. We now dedicate this offering to the work of Your kingdom here on earth. May this collection be used wisely and diligently, that Your love may be known widely. As we dedicate this offering, we offer ourselves too, for these gifts of money are but tokens of ourselves. Take and use us, that our hands may reach out in service, our feet may walk the difficult path of reconciliation, and that our words may be words of peace. For this we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Down By the Riverside
Talese Brown, vocalist

Benediction

Postlude

I Woke Up This Morning

arr David Kidwell

WISE FOR MENTAL HEALTH COVENANT

We, Enfield UCC, commit ourselves to providing and promoting education, activities, and resources for individuals and families, as well as advocating for legislative action and collaborating with other mental health organizations. To that end, we joyously extend our church's compassionate welcome and love to members and non-members alike who experience mental illnesses or are touched by them.

WELCOME STATEMENT

We covenant with God and each other to live as Jesus has taught. Following God's example, we strive to be a Christian Community welcoming you no matter who you are. No matter your physical or mental ability, race, ethnicity, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, marital status, or economic status, you are truly welcome. We acknowledge past hurts individuals may have experienced and look to offer a safe, non-judgmental space for all who want to know God in Christ. This covenant includes the right to participate equally and fully in all aspects of the life and ministry of this congregation. In a spirit of understanding, we strive for collaboration as we seek to become the fully inclusive community of faith that God calls us to be.

ENFIELD UCC GUN POLICY

Gun violence continues to exist in the United States as a public health issue, one that requires reform in policy and culture. Enfield UCC is a gun-free zone, and no one may bring a firearm on the premises unless explicitly authorized by the pastor and/or moderator.

The United Church of Christ is a proponent of gun safety and gun control and supports policies including:

- strengthen the licensing and registration of handgun transfers
- restrict firearm possession by persons convicted of violent crimes and by juveniles
- limit handgun purchases to one per month
- strengthen regulation of gun dealers
- increase civil and criminal liability for misuse of firearms
- prohibit semiautomatic assault weapons, Saturday night specials, explosive ammunition and large capacity magazines
- require gun safety devices
- require training in the safe use of firearms as a condition of licensing

We encourage everyone to be in touch with legislators, urging them to pass legislation that restricts the sale of firearms.