



Trinity Sunday

Payson Park Church

We are Growing with God, for the Good of the World.

Sunday, May 31, 2026 10:30am

Congregational - United Church of Christ

365 Belmont Street, Belmont, Massachusetts 02478

www.paysonpark.org 617/484-1542

Serving Watertown, Waltham, Belmont, Arlington, Cambridge, and beyond

Gathering for Worship

*We are a Community of
DOUBTERS, SEEKERS, & BELIEVERS
Pursuing HOPE in our world.*

Prepare for Worship

Zoom participants - as you check in, practice using your Mute Button, and finding your Chat Box.

Greeting you today: *Rachel Steely*

Everyone is invited to wear the color Red, as a sign of the Holy Spirit.

Prelude

“Tis the Last Rose of Summer”

poem by Thomas Moore, set by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

sung by Jayson Banton

Greeting

Pastor Eric

Welcome to all listening in or watching, whether near or far away.

We are growing with God. **For the Good of the World.**

For the Good of the World. **We are growing with God.**

Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

led by our choir

Words & Music below

Call to Worship

(inspired by Psalm 8)

led by Rachel Steely

Leader: O Holy One, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: **We admire the work of your hands in awe and thanksgiving!**

Leader: O Holy One, our Redeemer, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: **Who are we that you come to us, empower us, and give us rest?**

Leader: O Holy One, our Companion, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: **Let us worship the Triune God with honor and glory!**

How majestic are your many names in all the earth!

Prayer of Confession

(inspired by Isaiah 58: 1-9)

led by Mary Alice Wistman

Leader: Isaiah reminds us that our prayer, fasting, and worship must be lived out in compassion and justice:

(moment of silence)

When we forget the fast you desire—

To do justice, and stand up for the powerless:

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

leader: When we forget the prayer you love—

To show compassion, and care for those in need:

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader: When we forget the worship you require—

To create relationships of righteousness and peace:

People: **Lord have mercy.**

Assurance of Grace

given by YCOM Jenny Lane

Leader: God of love and mercy

People: **We are in awe**

Leader: God of love and mercy

People: **We are amazed**

Leader: God of love and mercy

People: **We praise YOU**

Leader: Divine One, we praise you in the prayers of our hearts and our hands, as we humbly do your work through us. Thank you for helping us remember that you are always with us.

All: **Amen**

Invitation to Light Seekers

Light Seekers is our Sunday school time that's just right for every age, from our littlest learners to our youth mentors! If you'd like to come, please meet us at the back of the church, and we'll head upstairs together for lots of learning and fun!

Receiving God's Word

Scripture reading

Isaiah 58:6-12 *New Living Translation* read by Melissa Mitchell

Message

Home is Where the Heart Is given by the Rev. Marc Fredette
Retired clergy, Chaplains on the Way

"Home is Where the Heart Is" is a comforting phrase, but what does it mean for those who have no physical place to call home? On May 31, we will explore the complex reality of homelessness through personal stories that challenge our preconceptions. We will delve into how social conditioning can lead us to see our unhoused neighbors as "other," and how Scripture calls us to break down those walls. Join us for a sermon that asks us to look into our own hearts to make room for others, discovering that true kinship is the only way we all find our way home.

Prayers of the People

led by Pastor Eric

People will be invited to say a one sentence prayer if you desire.

If in-person, please raise your hand. If on Zoom, please raise your hand or type in the Chat box.

Candles Prayer

People will be invited to come forward and light a candle, and speak a name, a prayer request, or be in silence. We will also light a candle for each prayer offered online.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: God, our Creator Parent, Loving Father, Caring Mother, we pray to you, saying-

People: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.**

Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also, with you.

Announcements

M4M: Moment for Mission

Carla Coltharp, chair, Mission & Outreach

Responding to God's Grace

Call to Generosity & Prayer

- www.PaysonPark.org to support the ministry of Payson Park Church
- Deacon's Fund, an emergency fund to help those in need
- Belmont-Watertown Welcome Circle – help resettle Ukrainian refugees locally
- Monika Foundation - help resettle Haitian refugees
- UCC Global H.O.P.E. - (Disaster Response to Wildfires, Earthquake relief, & more)

Choir Anthem

“Trinitarian Blessings”

by K. Lee Scott

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.**

Sending

Hymn

Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant
Words & Music below

led by our choir

Benediction

Postlude

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

arr. by Lloyd Larson

Today's Call to Worship was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ. Today's Confession was adapted from the by Rev. Susan A. Blain, and posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website.

We are grateful for our flowers

provided today by You Got Flowers.
www.YouGotFlowers.org



You Got Flowers



Fellowship after Worship

We are grateful for today's hosts.

Tom Best and Pam Curtis

Please check the schedule posted in the Kitchen & outside the Office. Please look for your spot. Let Lynda know at Office@PaysonPark.org if you need to update your assigned Fellowship Hosting date. Thank you!

If you or someone you know would like to use space(s) in the church for an event, please contact the Office Manager via email at office@paysonpark.org or via phone at 617-484-1542.

Upcoming Dates

- Sun May 31 guest preacher, Rev. Marc Fredette, Chaplains on the Way, Waltham
1pm Belmont Pride Parade, beginning at the Town Green
- Tue June 2 7pm Council
- Thu June 4 10am Weekly Thursday Bible Study by Zoom.
- Fri June 5 5pm weekly Children's Choir rehearsal
- Fri June 5 6pm "First Fridays" worship – featuring the Children's Choir.
. . . . with 6:30pm Dinner for Families, provided by the church.
- Sat June 6 Every two weeks we make sandwiches for The Outdoor Church.
Please contact [Pam Curtis](mailto:pambcurtis@gmail.com) if you can help. pambcurtis@gmail.com
- Sun June 7 9am TLC Theology, Literature, & Coffee, led by Rev Ragan, Ministerial Associate
10:30am Christian Education Appreciation Sunday
- Fri. June 12 10am Preschool Graduation Ceremony at Gardner Hall
- Sun June 14 Adult Choir last Sunday before Summer Break / Action Therapy: Postcarding
- Tue June 23 We prepare home-cooked meals for the hungry of Bristol Lodge, Waltham.
Please contact [Cynthia Lasker](mailto:laskercynthia@gmail.com) if you can help. laskercynthia@gmail.com

Payson Park Church – Congregational - United Church of Christ –

www.PaysonPark.org 365 Belmont Street Office@paysonpark.org

Leah Kosch, Music Director:

AMusicDirector@paysonpark.org

Pei-Chun Lin, Community Music Dir:

CommunityMusicDir@PaysonPark.org

Lynda Johnson, PPC Office Manager:

Office@paysonpark.org

Pam, Melissa, Kay, Assistant Treasurers:

AT@PaysonPark.org

Kumiko Jones, Preschool Director:

PreschoolDirector@paysonpark.org

Jenny Lane, YCOM:

YCOM@paysonpark.org

Rev. Bill Ragan, Ministerial Associate:

MinAssoc@paysonpark.org

Pastor Eric Wefald:

PastorEric@paysonpark.org



Thank you, Coffee Fellowship Hosts, for the 2025-2026 Academic Year!

*Rob Baxter, Tom Best, Lisa Clark, Susan Clark, Carla Coltharp,
Pam Curtis, Emily Dallman, Priscilla Elloit, Chip Gaysunas,
Kaska Gaysunas, Susan Harper, Kay Hudgins, Jane Marshall,
Michael Mitchell, Melissa Mitchell, Lise Paul, Patricia Pichette,
Kate Rodriguez-Clark, Rachel Steeley.*

Please email the church office (office@PaysonPark.org) if you would like to added to the host list for the 2026-2027 academic year. Thank you all for this nourishing community ministry!

Host a visiting researcher this Summer

This summer Emmanuel Sitole, a scholar from Zimbabwe, will be visiting the Harvard Libraries to do archival research on the African missions of the UCC. [Emmanuel has worked at the University of Kansas and](#), most recently, at Ball State University in Muncie, IN, the alma mater of one of the members of the Eliot Church of Newton, UCC. Mr Sitole is looking for a host who can offer a place to stay for about two weeks, preferably in the first part of July. If you have space or if you know of opportunities that he could consider, please let Yonder Gillian know: gillihan@bc.edu. You are also welcome to reach out to Emmanuel directly at nemashapa@ku.edu.



Chaplains on the way

hope is found in hearts connected

We Welcome Our Guest Preacher! The Rev. Marc Fredette

A native of New England, Marc attended Humboldt State University and the University of California at Santa Barbara, CA before returning New England in 1988. Prior to ministry Marc worked for many years as a computer programmer, training consultant, and software manager in southern New Hampshire. He earned his degree from Harvard Divinity School in 2004, and served congregations in Fayetteville, AK, and Waltham MA before retiring from parish ministry in 2021. He now volunteers for Chaplains On the Way, an organization serving unhoused women and men in and around Waltham, MA. Marc's personal passions include advocating for justice, nurturing community, cooking, baking, and gardening.

Chaplains on the Way:

Founded in 2008, Chaplains On The Way offers spiritual support to people experiencing homelessness in Waltham, MA. We believe that no person living in homelessness should feel they have to walk alone. We live out our mission by building trusting relations with people who are experiencing homelessness and struggling with mental health and/or substance use issues. We offer compassion and companionship through life's struggles and triumphs, welcoming all into relationship and loving community. Our chaplains sit with people of any and all faiths, or no particular faith, to listen, bear witness, and share spiritual resources.



Children's Choir

Day of Pentecost
May 24, 2026

"Enter, Rejoice, & Come In"



Mothers Are Amazing!

We celebrate mothers and the love and warmth they give everyday, with Church World Service Blanket Sunday on Mother's Day (May 10, 2026). Through the generosity of CWS partner organizations, congregations and individual supporters, our most vulnerable neighbors around the world can feel safe and keep warm with fresh linens and clean sleeping quarters.

CWS Mothers Day Blankets, May 10th, 2026

With Susan, Carla, & Hilandia

YOU ARE INVITED TO

GRADUATION CEREMONY

At Gardner Hall

JUNE 12 10:00 AM

Payson Park Preschool

365 Belmont St. Belmont, MA 02478

Class Of 2026



Preschool Trike-a-Thon

Friday
May 29, 2026

To date,
\$1,605
Raised!



Celebration Cake from Lviv, Ukraine!
Hand delivered by Mariia Yelizarova
for coffee fellowship on May 24, 2026.



Blessing of our Marathon Runners Dave & Mariia on April 19, 2026 for the Boston Marathon on April 20, 2026



**3D Printer shipped to Ukraine on April 30, 2026
Through the fundraiser Run for Ukraine.
Mariia presents the 3D printer to Lviv Hospital, May 11, 2026.**

We have joined with many others in supporting Mariia Yelizarova's Boston Marathon fundraiser, to provide a 3D printer to a hospital in Lviv, Ukraine, to make prosthetic limbs for children who have lost their arms and legs in the war.

May God bless this 3D printer, to bring a measure of healing and wholeness to all who need it. Amen!

Action Therapy **Sunday, June 14th**

Please join Lise Paul, Emily Dallman and others after coffee hour to write postcards to encourage non-voters to vote.

In these troubled times, would Jesus sit on the sidelines hoping for the best? No, he would speak out and he would teach. Postcarding is a way to teach and to act. As we write postcards encouraging our fellow citizens to vote who otherwise would not, we ourselves are actively participating in our precious democracy. As Mahatma Ghandi memorialized, "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

Through our hand-written postcards, let's convince people who feel so hopeless they don't even vote that we are their brothers and sisters. We are one people, and together we can force a change to work on OUR PRIORITIES. All addresses and materials will be provided.



Postcarding
March 22, 2026

*Won't you be my
penpal?*



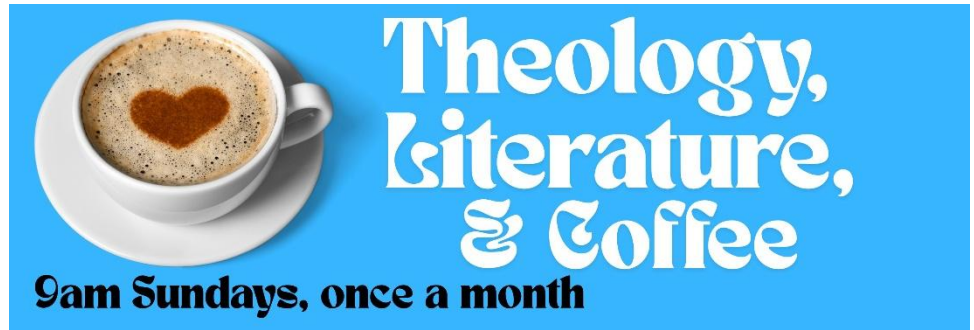
Letters of Light: A Penpal Ministry

Our youngest members, The Lightseekers, are seeking mentors to become pen pals as they grow in mind, body & spirit.

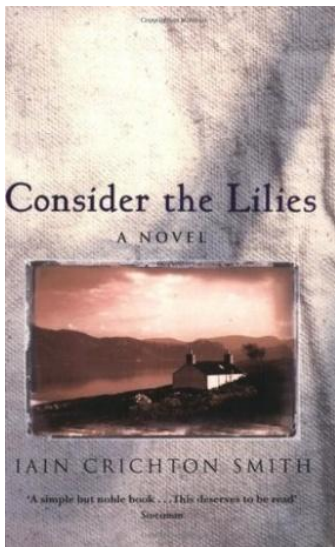
If you're interested in connecting & want to learn more, click the QR code below or ask our Youth & Community Minister Jenny for more details.



Theology, Literature and Coffee (TLC) News



TLC continues the discussion of *Consider the Lillies* by Iain Crichton Smith on Sunday, June 7. *Note: we are meeting on the first Sunday of the month in June, instead of our regular second Sunday.*



TLC will continue the exploration of the Highland Clearances in Scotland with *Consider the Lilies* (1968, 144 pp.) by Iain Crichton Smith who captures the impact of this upheaval through the thoughts and memories of an old woman who has lived all her life within the narrow confines of her community. Alone and bewildered by the demands of the factor, Patrick Sellar, she approaches the minister for help, only to have her faith shattered by his hypocrisy. She finds comfort, however, from a surprising source: Donald Macleod, an imaginative and self-educated man who has been ostracised by his neighbours, not least by Mrs Scott herself, on account of his atheism. Through him and through the circumstances forced upon her, the old woman achieves new strength.

Written with compassion, in spare, simple prose, *Consider the Lilies* is a moving testament to the enduring qualities which enable the oppressed to triumph in defeat.

So, get your copy of *Consider the Lillies* by Iain Crichton Smith and join us as we begin the discussion on Sunday, April 12 at 9:00 AM.

Please feel free to contact Bill Ragan at minassoc@paysonpark.org or on his cell: 484-860-4108 with any questions about this adult education opportunity.

Appeal for Deacons' Fund

Aid for people of Payson Park Church who need assistance with food, heat, housing, or other needs. Due to pressing needs in 2026, our Deacons' Fund needs to be refreshed.



Please use the QR code here, or go to the GIVE page on our website. Thank you for your generosity!



LITTLE WHEELS, BIG DREAMS

TRIKE-A-THON



Still
Open!

CHARITY EVENT FOR PAYSON PARK PRESCHOOL

This charity event will support our school floor improvements to create cleaner and healthier classrooms for children.

SCAN TO DONATE



2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

ENROLLMENT

Admission: 15 Months to 5 Years Old

PAYSON PARK PRESCHOOL

PROGRAM FEATURES

- School Hours: 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM
- Child Care Vouchers Accepted
- Experienced and Talented Teachers
- Stage for Music and Performances
- New HVAC for Healthier Classrooms
- Spacious Gym Area
- Variety of Enrichment Programs
- Community Events

CONTACT NOW

 preschooldirector@paysonpark.org

Celebrate Belmont LGBTQ+ Alliance's 25th anniversary with us!

BELMONT PRIDE PARADE



SUNDAY, MAY 31st
1 PM

All are welcome!

TOWN GREEN
404 CONCORD AVENUE
ARRIVE @ 12:45 PM
Parade, Live Music,
Kids' Activities,
Community Organizations,
Cake & Ice Cream, and more!



Cosponsored with



PLYMOUTH
Congregational Church



FOR MORE INFO OR TO DONATE: WWW.BELMONTLGBTQ.COM/



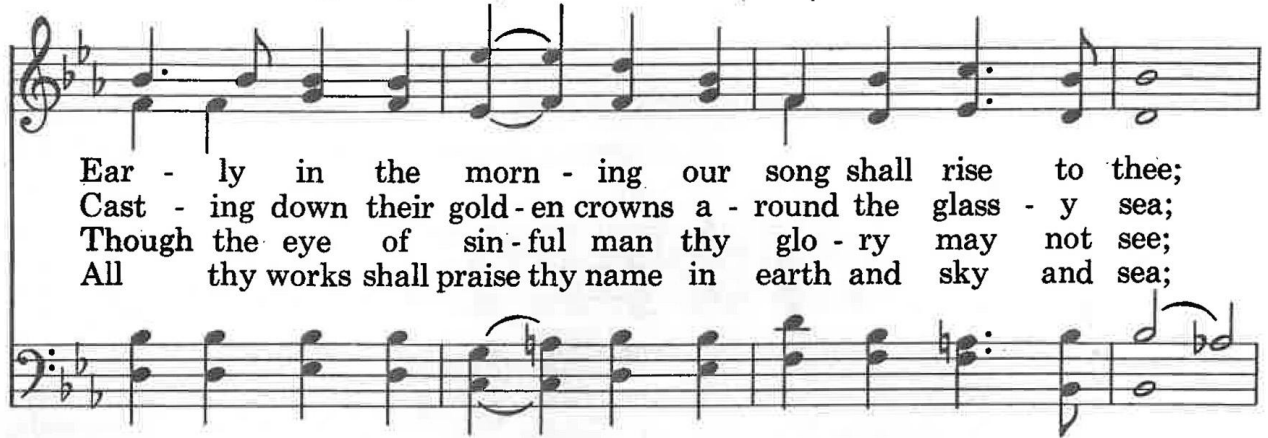
Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Reginald Heber, 1783-1826

NICAEA 11.12.12.10.
John B. Dykes, 1823-1876



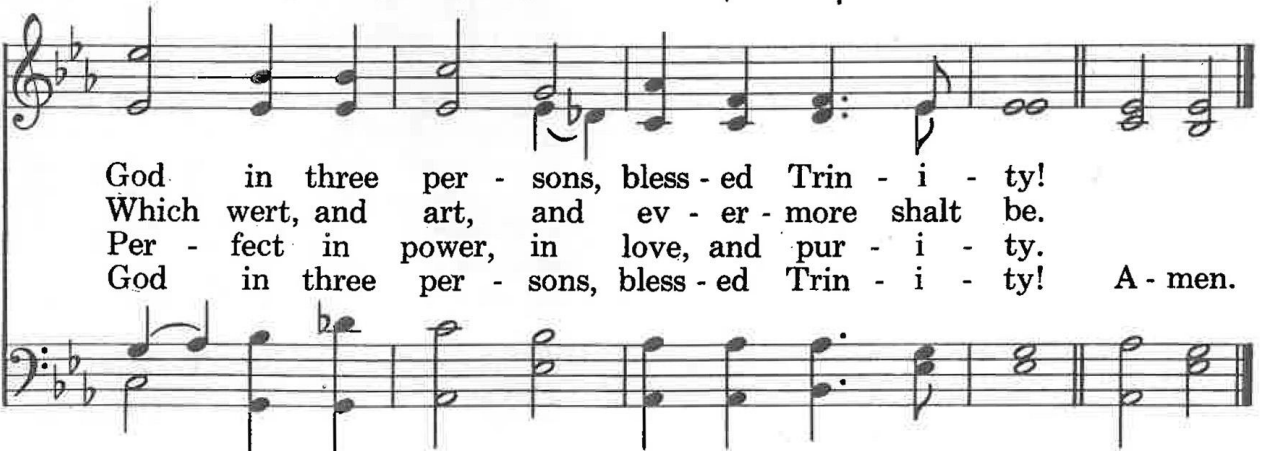
1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee;
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see;
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
On - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in power, in love, and pur - i - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty! A - men.

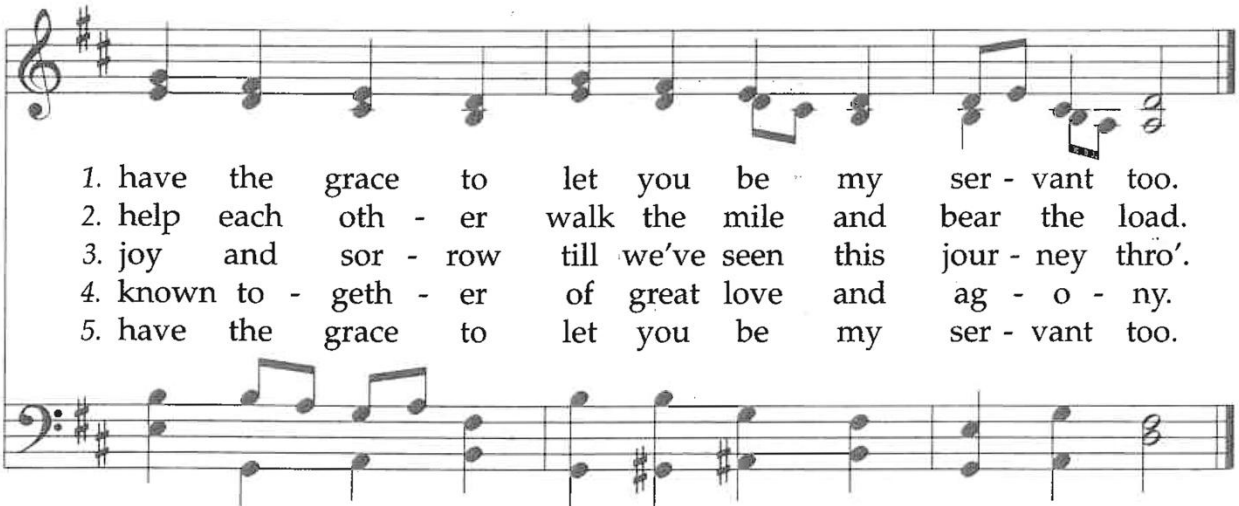
Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant



1. Sis - ter, let me be your ser - vant, bro - ther,
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low
3. I will weep when you are weep - ing, when you
4. When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall
5. Broth - er, let me be your ser - vant, sis - ter,



1. let me walk with you; pray that I may
2. trav - 'lers on the road. We are here to
3. laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your
4. find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've
5. let me walk with you; pray that I may



1. have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
2. help each oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
3. joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney thro'.
4. known to - geth - er of great love and ag - o - ny.
5. have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.

WORDS: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.
MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. A. Eugene Ellsworth, 1994

THE SERVANT SONG
87.87

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