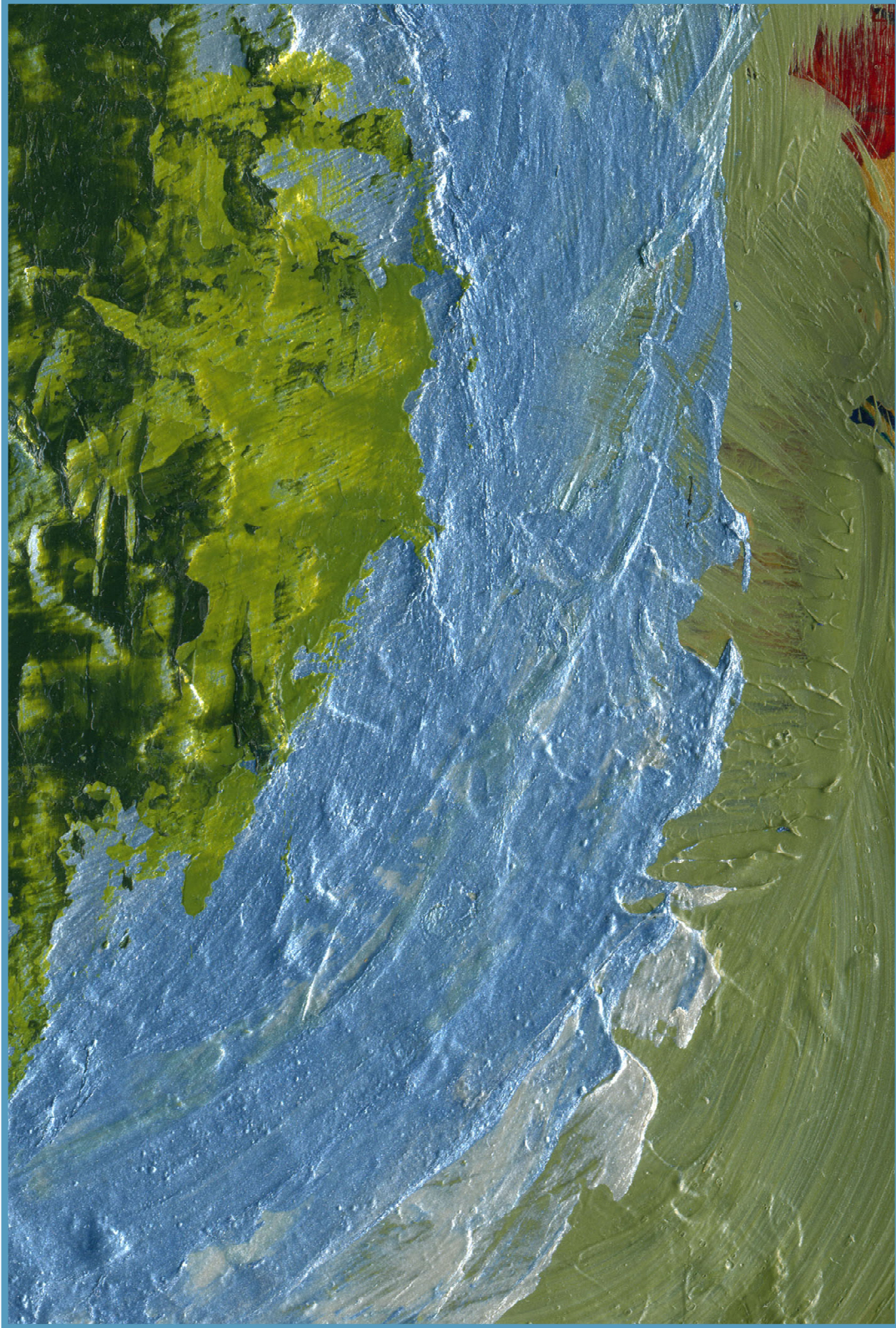


KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 A.M. GARDEN | 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | AUGUST 9, 2026



Rejoice | Jan Richardson | used with permission



A Note from Pastor Edwin!

Welcome to worship at the Kirk in the Hills. Whether you are a long-time member, a returning friend, or a first-time visitor, we are grateful that you are here. Summer offers a unique opportunity to slow down, reconnect, and enjoy many of the gifts God has given us—time with family and friends, travel and recreation, evenings on the lake, walks through beautiful gardens, and moments of rest and renewal.

This year, as our nation commemorates the 250th anniversary of American Independence, we give thanks for the blessings of freedom while recommitting ourselves to working toward *a more perfect union, with liberty and justice for all*. As Christians, we remember that our highest allegiance is to God, whose kingdom calls us to seek the common good and love our neighbors.

Throughout the summer, our worship series, **Summer in the Psalms: Songs from the Heart of David**, invites us to pray, sing, reflect, and grow through the Bible's ancient songbook. The Psalms speak honestly about joy and sorrow, gratitude and struggle, worship and wonder, helping us discover God's presence in every season of life.

As you worship today, take in the beauty around you, the sunlight hitting the stained-glass windows just so, the gardens in bloom, the music that lifts our hearts, the prayers we offer, and the community gathered beside you. May this be a time to connect more deeply with God, with your own soul, and with the people God has placed in your life.

May you experience the Holy God today through worship and fellowship.

Join us next Sunday for **Psalm 51** and **Summer in the Psalms: A Broken Spirit**.

Let us worship God!

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

Sr. Pastor | Head of Staff | Kirk in the Hills



A Note from Pastor Rami Almaqdasi!

Associate Pastor, Kirk in the Hills

Every one of us carries a story of God's faithfulness—moments of joy and gratitude, as well as seasons of challenge, uncertainty, and hope. The Psalms give voice to the full range of these human experiences, reminding us that we can bring every emotion and every circumstance into the presence of God.

Today we are invited to reflect on Psalm 40, a beautiful song of praise, trust, and confidence in the Lord. As we gather for worship, may its words open our hearts to God's presence, deepen our faith, and remind us that the God who has been faithful throughout the generations continues to walk with His people today.

Rev. Rami Michael Almaqdasi

9:00 a.m. Garden Worship

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Middle School Mission Trip | Micah 6

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 90

Rev. Matthew Means

**The Lord is our dwelling place
throughout all generations.**

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord!

*** HYMN 15**

All Creatures of Our God and King (See pages 9 & 10.)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Rev. Matthew Means

Eternal God,

Our days pass quickly

and we confess how often we fail to seek you.

We cling to what fades and neglect the treasure of your kingdom.

Forgive us for our pride, impatience, and unbelief.

By your Holy Spirit,

Teach us wisdom, deepen our trust,

And make us steadfast in faith and love;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy

John Merbecke



Lord, have mer-cy up - on us; Christ, have mer-cy up - on us; Lord, have mer-cy up - on us.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Matthew Means

Hear the promise of the gospel:

"If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

to forgive us our sins

and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

Alleluia, Amen!

* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sarah Ford

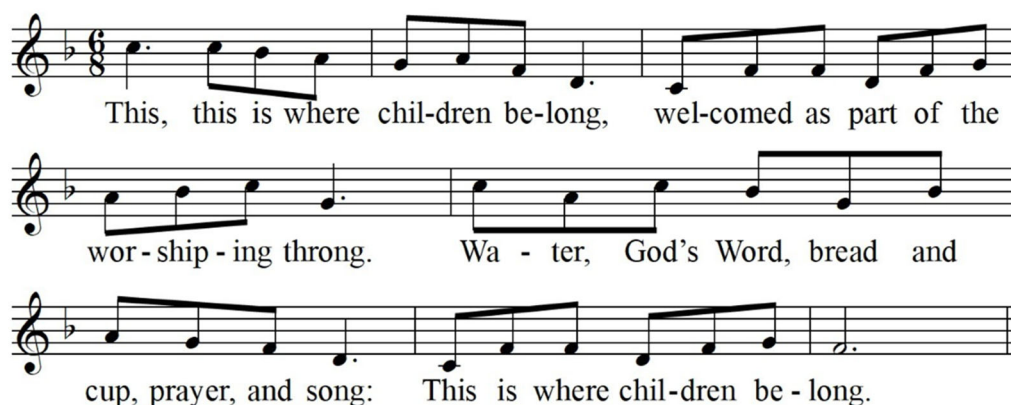
Children remain with their parent following the Word with Children during the month of August.

INVITATION HYMN

Where Children Belong

James Ritchie

Please join in singing.



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 debts, as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

WORD

SOLO

In God's Garden

Antonin Dvořák, ed. M. Biery

Lord, it's a pleasant thing to stand in gardens planted by your hand;
There grow your saints in faith and love, bless'd with your guidance from
above; not Lebanon, with all its trees, yields such a comely sight as these.
Well bless'd with fruits of life, they show that God is holy, just, and true.
All who approach your gates shall find that you are faithful, good, and kind.
Text by Isaac Watts

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 40:1-4, 9-11, 16-17

Elder Chip Tallinger

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: The God Who Lifts Us Up

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

SENDING

*** HYMN**

Love Lifted Me

(See pages 11 & 12.)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *(seated)*

POSTLUDE

Garden worshippers are encouraged to drop off donations in the baskets located at the Celtic Cross near ramp or at the door to the cloister as you exit to the front patio as you depart. Please see notes on page 6.

Join us for coffee and fellowship on the patio immediately following service!

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Musicians: Jinho Park, baritone, Marilyn Biery, James Biery, organists.

About the Music: Charles-Marie-Jean-Albert Widor (1844 – 1937) was a French organist, composer and teacher. He is best known for his ten organ symphonies, especially the toccata of his fifth organ symphony. He was the longest-serving organist of Saint-Sulpice in Paris, a role he held for 63 years (1870 – 1933). He was organ professor at the Paris Conservatory from 1890 to 1896 (following César Franck) and then became professor of composition at the same institution.

Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer **Gwyneth Walker** is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont before returning to live in her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut. (from gwynethwalker.com)

Antonín Leopold Dvořák (1841 –1904) was a Czech composer. Today's solo is a juxtaposition of one of his secular solos with a text by Isaac Watts (1674-1746), prominent English hymnwriter.

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Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer in the Garden after the 9:00 a.m. outdoor worship and in Melrose Chapel immediately following each service Sunday. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691. If you are interested in being connected with a Stephen Minister, please call Robin Brinks at 248-310-2034.

Feeling called to join the Kirk Church Family? Mercy Adams—Kirk Member, Stephen Minister, Usher, and staff support to New Member and Evangelism and Outreach & Mission Committees is here to guide you. Meet Mercy after Sunday Worship or call her directly at 248-973-8013.

Camera and Phone Usage Guidelines: Out of respect for your fellow worshipers and those leading worship, we kindly ask you to silence cellphones and other communication devices and to refrain from taking photos or video during worship. Recordings of past worship services and other sanctuary events are available at kirkinthehills.org/worship/past-messages.

Deacon Flower Ministry: If you or someone you know needs a little cheering up, our Deacon flower ministry has bud vases each Sunday in the narthex. Please take a flower to remind someone of God's love or to remind yourself of the same.

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Robert Cameron Jones and Mary Morris Jones by their daughter, Ann and Mark Chaffin and grandsons, Gordon and Neil Chaffin.

A garden memorial is presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Lorelee Susan Willard by her mother, Cherie Dubats (recently deceased), her son, Matthew James Willard, her daughter, Kathrin Patricia Willard, and her brother, Jim Simpson.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

PRELUDE

Andante Cantabile from Symphony IV

Charles-Marie Widor

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

* *Please rise in body or spirit at the ringing of the bell.*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 90

Rev. Matthew Means

Heavenly Father, teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wise hearts.

**The Lord is our dwelling place
throughout all generations.**

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 15

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Matthew Means

Eternal God,

Our days pass quickly

and we confess how often we fail to seek you.

We cling to what fades and neglect the treasure of your kingdom.

Forgive us for our pride, impatience, and unbelief.

By your Holy Spirit,

Teach us wisdom, deepen our trust,

And make us steadfast in faith and love;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy

John Merbecke



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us; Christ, have mer-cy up-on us; Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Matthew Means

Hear the promise of the gospel:

"If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

to forgive us our sins

and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

Alleluia, Amen!

* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 40:1-4, 9-11, 16-17 (OT, page 513)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Elder Ruth Reading

SOLO

Gaelic Blessing

Gwyneth Walker

*Deep peace of the running waves to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace.*

*Deep peace of the early Spring to you.
Deep peace of the budding flower to you.
Deep peace of the warming sun to you.
Deep peace of the life to come to you.
Deep peace of the Autumn rain.
Deep peace of the harvest grain.
Deep peace of the Winter night.
Deep peace of the fading light.
Deep peace when my life is done.
Deep peace to you. (Traditional)*

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: The God Who Lifts Us Up

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

* HYMN

Love Lifted Me (see pages 11 & 12.)

(Please be seated after the hymn.)

THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings are part of our worship of God and are used to support the Kirk's ministry. Text "KITH" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

OFFERTORY

In God's Garden

Antonin Dvořák, ed. M. Biery

*Lord, it's a pleasant thing to stand in gardens planted by your hand;
There grow your saints in faith and love, bless'd with your guidance from
above; not Lebanon, with all its trees, yields such a comely sight as these.
Well bless'd with fruits of life, they show that God is holy, just, and true.
All who approach your gates shall find that you are faithful, good, and kind.
Text by Isaac Watts*

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him* all creatures here below;
Praise him* above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
* or God**

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

Our Father, who art in heaven... (*debts & debtors*)

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

POSTLUDE

Finale from Symphony IV

Charles-Marie Widor

15 All Creatures of Our God and King

Unison



1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice
2 O broth-er wind with clouds and rain, you nur-ture gifts
3 O broth-er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad-
4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain



Harmony



and with us sing, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
of fruit and grain. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
ows of the night. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
or sor-row grieve, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!



Unison



O broth-er sun with gold-en beam, O sis-ter moon
O sis-ter wa-ter, flow-ing clear, make mu-sic for
Dear moth-er earth, who day by day un-folds such bless-
Christ bears your bur-dens and your fears; so, e-ven in



Harmony

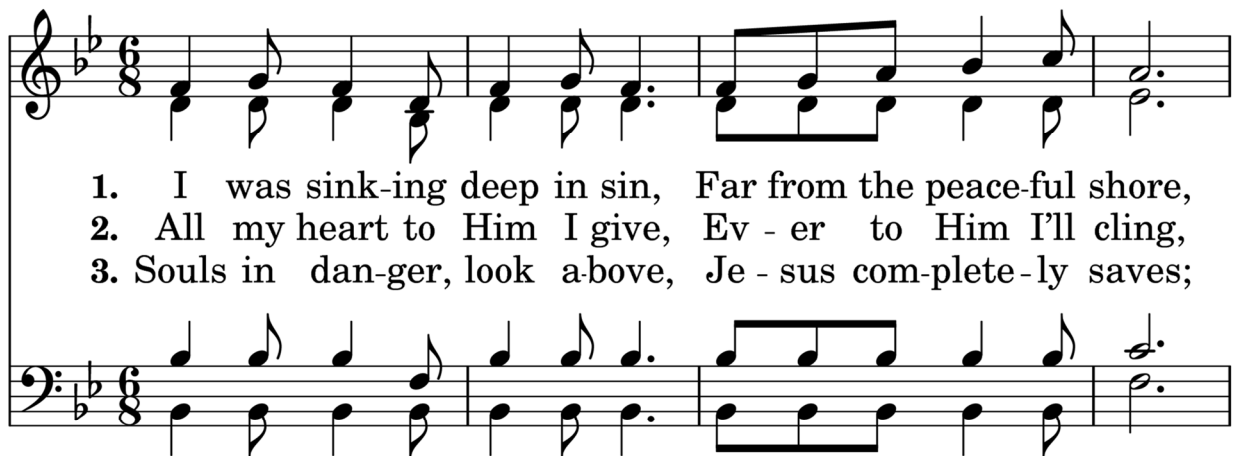
with sil - ver gleam, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 your Lord to hear. Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ings on our way, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 the midst of tears, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

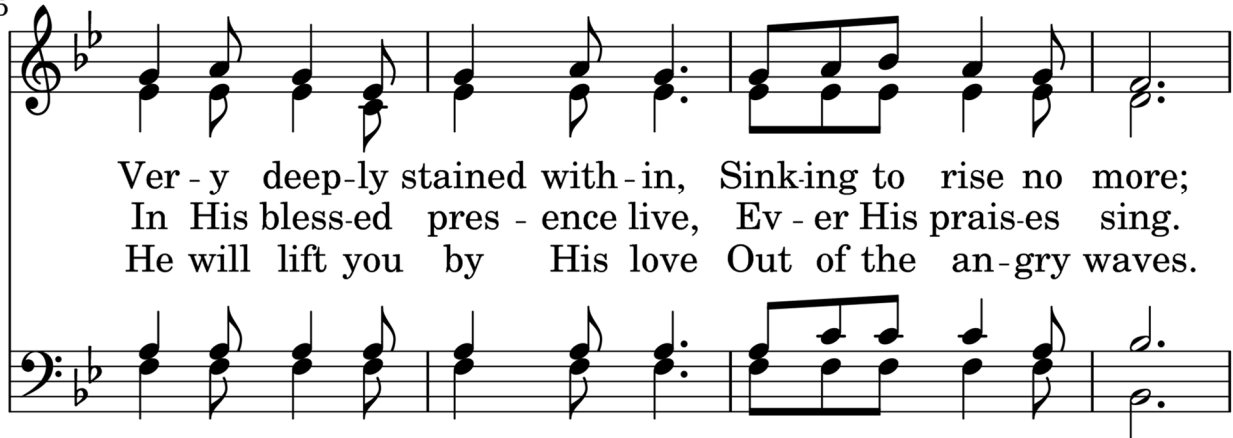
5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



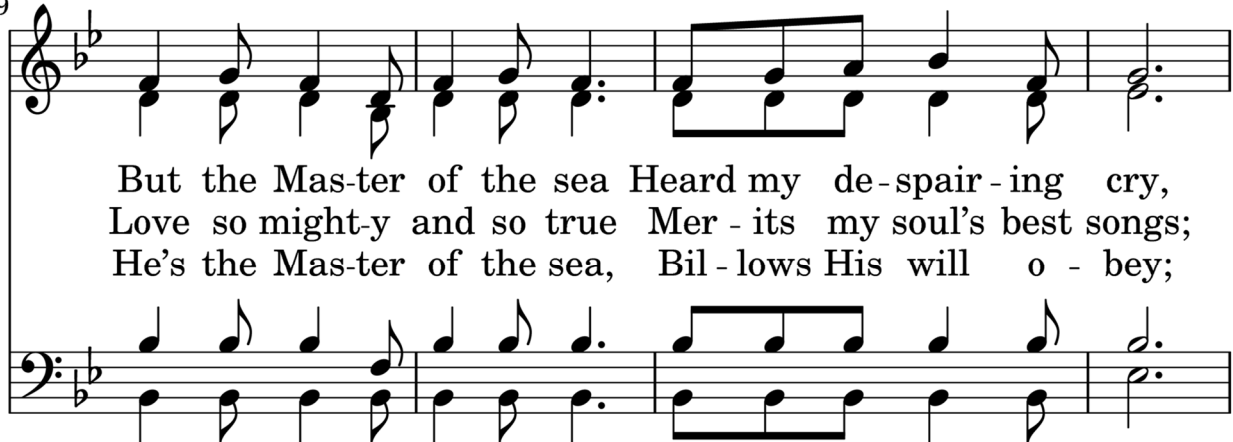
1. I was sink-ing deep in sin, Far from the peace-ful shore,
2. All my heart to Him I give, Ev - er to Him I'll cling,
3. Souls in dan-ger, look a-bove, Je - sus com-plete-ly saves;

5



Ver - y deep-ly stained with-in, Sink-ing to rise no more;
In His bless-ed pres - ence live, Ev - er His prais-es sing.
He will lift you by His love Out of the an-gry waves.

9



But the Mas-ter of the sea Heard my de-spair-ing cry,
Love so might-y and so true Mer - its my soul's best songs;
He's the Mas-ter of the sea, Bil - lows His will o - bey;

13



From the wa-ters lift - ed me— Now safe am I.
 Faith-ful, lov-ing serv-ice, too, To Him be - longs.
 He your Sav-ior wants to be— Be saved to - day.



me, me,

17



e-ven me, e-ven me,
 Love lift - ed Love lift - ed When noth-ing



1.

2.

22



else could help, Love lift-ed me; Love lift-ed me.



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